

Edward W. Hadel

An Ohio merchant for more than 50 years and an outstanding authority on birds and coins, Edward W. Hadel was well known throughout the county. A quiet, home-loving, unassuming man, he avoided social gatherings and preferred long walks in the woods and fields to any other form of entertainment.

Mr. Hadel was born in Painesville February 10, 1868, the son of William and Eliza Duke Hadel. His father, a tailor by trade, came here from Germany when he was a young man. His mother was born on the Isle of Man.

After the death of his father, when Mr. Hadel was only 14 years old, he went to work at the Curtis and Son dry goods store where he worked for ten years. He then became associated with the firm Judson and Smart for another ten years. After working for a short time with Chapman and Heartwell, he opened his own business and worked there until retiring.

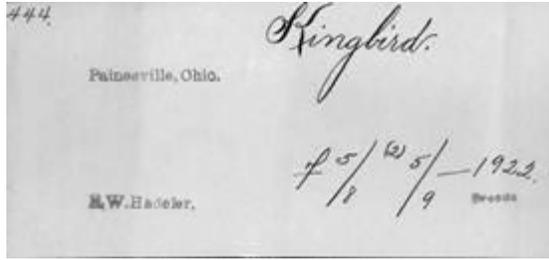
After suffering a nervous breakdown in his late 40's and upon the advice of his physician, he took up the study of nature in order to stay outdoors as much as possible. He soon became deeply interested in bird lore and made a comprehensive study of bird habits and migrations.

A member of the National Geographic and Audubon societies, he was a frequent contributor of articles for various nature magazines. He became an authority in the field of ornithology and was called upon by the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey for reports on the migratory and nesting habits of birds in Lake county.

His work took him for long walks through Mentor marsh, along the county's beaches, into its deep woods, and over its broad fields in quest of the desired information. It was said that on these trips, the smallest number of different species or varieties of birds he ever saw during the year was 155 and the largest number 202. The year's period included the spring and fall migrations.

His actual knowledge of birds was supplemented by the study of many books and magazines which make up his nature library. Two bookcases are filled with authoritative texts on the subject and his magazine rack was always crammed with periodical bulletins and current magazines. He was credited with having been the first person in this locality to see a Gannet, a rare water bird which nests in the cold stretches along the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Mr. Hadel married Etta Olivia nee Landphair. They did not have any children. Mr. Hadel died at the age of 68 on June 8, 1936.



Migration Card recorded by Edward Hadelor