

The  
**VICTORIA  
NATURALIST**

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April, 1956



Erythronium.

(F. L. Beebe per Victoria Colonist.)

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**VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**  
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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT 1955 - 1956

It is again my privilege to present to you the President's report at the close of another year of activity. To many members it will appear to have been a year much the same as most of those in the past. It has been a very busy year for your executive. Early in the year it was felt by many members that we should protest vigorously against the threatened flooding of Buttle Lake. Letters were sent to the B.C. Power Commission, to various members of the Provincial Government, the Press and to other interested persons. The Executive also protested to Mayor Harrison against the suggestion made in the City of Victoria Council that the Thetis Lake park should be logged indiscriminately.

The Vancouver Natural History Society sent to the executive copies of a brief it had submitted to Justice Gordon Sloan, Commissioner for B.C. Forest Commission. Dr. G.C. Carl, Professor J.A. Cunningham and myself were appointed a committee to study the Vancouver brief and if advisable support it. A short brief was forwarded to the Commissioner stating that the Victoria Natural History Society fully and completely endorsed everything in the Vancouver brief emphasizing certain paragraphs and making a number of suggestions.

During the year two officers of the National Audubon Society visited the executive. Mr. Livingston came from Toronto, Ontario to ask us to help in informing those interested that there was a Canadian Audubon Society in Canada with its offices in Toronto, and to assist in forming small local Audubon Clubs in Victoria or other places on Vancouver Island. There is a recent recommendation in the minutes of the executive that this society affiliate with the Canadian Society. The other visitor was Mr. Wayne Shortt from the head office of the National Audubon Society in New York, N.Y. His purpose was to put before us some of the aims of the Audubon Tours committee and if possible get us to increase

the charge for season tickets, general admission, to try using tickets for reserved seats and so bring the fees more in line with those charged in other cities.

During the year unforeseen events caused a number of changes in the personnel of the executive. All members of the executive were loyal workers and I wish here to express my appreciation for their cooperation. I particularly wish to thank Dr. Carl and Mrs. Gladys Soulsby who shared with me the Audubon lecture work which would have been done by Mr. and Mrs. Berry if illness had not prevented them from doing so.

The Audubon Tour lectures were a great success. The auditorium of the Oak Bay Junior High School was filled on every night. An interesting feature of the series was the lecture given by one of our own members, Dr. G.C. Carl, with the film "Secrets of the Sea". I also wish to thank those ladies who opened their homes to the Audubon lecturers and members of the executive for refreshments and social hour after each lecture.

Respectfully submitted,

"C. W. Lowe"

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REPORT ON BOTANY FIELD TRIPS

The Botany Group made four field trips in 1955, all in good weather and with an attendance numbering 18 to 23.

April 30 - Mount Douglas  
 May 28 -- Thetis Lake Park  
 June 18 -- John Dean Park  
 Sept. 24 -- Goldstream Park

On the Mt. Douglas trip 33 species were identified (exclusive of trees). Already satin-flower (*Sisyrinchium Douglasii*) and spring gold (*Lomatium utriculatum*) had passed their peak, but there was an abundance of shooting-star, stock's bill, montia, and blue-eyed Mary. Most admired was the small monkey-flower (*Mimulus alsinoides*). New to most of the group was wood-rush (*Luzula campestris*) which somewhat resembles a sedge. Dr. and Mrs. Stansfield kindly hosted the group during refreshment period.

In Thetis Lake Park 46 species were found in bloom, the

most showy being balsam-root (*Balsamorhiza deltoidea*) whose roots and seeds are edible. This sunflower cousin has yellow heads, three inches in diameter, and heart-shaped leaves of burdock size. Most common shrubs in flower were salmonberry, gooseberry, false-box and the two species of oregon grape. Good splashes of colour came from patches of columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*), larkspur (*Delphinium Menziesii*) and yellow pound-lily (*Nymphaea polysepala*).

John Dean Park affords a nice contrast between species growing among the towering firs and red cedars and those species in the two adjacent and very different habitats, namely, the open ground of the Lookout and that marshy margin around the pond below. High up there were wild hyacinths (*Brodiaea* sp.), wild onion (*Allium* sp.), stone-crop (*Sedum* sp.) and five species of wild clover (*Trifolium*). In the shade of the conifers were silver-green (*Adenocaulon bicolor*), tarweed (*Madia sativa*), white hawkweed (*Hieracium albiflorum*), vanilla-leaf (*Achlys triphylla*) and sweet cicely (*Osmorhiza divaricata*). On the pond margin, manna-grass (*Glyceria elata*) and water forget-me-not (*Myosotis laxa*) were most abundant.

One might have expected the late September trip to Goldstream would be the least rewarding. Not so; the group listed more than 50 species of plants in flower, in fruit or both. Some not found on earlier trips were false hellebore (*Veratrum viride*), false bugbane (*Trauvetteria grandis*), blue currant (*Ribes bracteosum*), seashore sandwort (*Arenaria peplodes*) and western water hemlock (*Cicuta Douglasii*). The difficulty of recognizing a well-known plant when its flower had given way to equally attractive fruit was well appreciated in examining wild lily-of-the-valley (*Mianthemum bifolium*), twisted-stalk (*Streptopus amplexifolius*) and fairy-bells (*Disporum oregonum*), all of the Lily Family.

Probably the most interesting find was a large patch of western aster (*Aster accidentalis*) and silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*) completely over-ridden by the parasite, dodder (*Cuscuta pentagona*). Most of the dodder had fruited but there were still a few clusters of creamy flowers. Other nearby patches of aster and silverweed free of dodder afforded a good opportunity to measure the punishment dodder had inflicted on its hosts.

A brief unscheduled plant hunt took place June 20th at the conclusion of Prof. Cunningham's Marine Biology Island

View Beach excursion. On flat ground a few hundred yards to the north-west of the parking area there was a good showing of silvery rabbit-foot grass (*Polypogon Monspeliensis*), toad rush (*Juncus buffonius*), mouse-tail (*Myosurus minimus*) and mud-disk (*Cotula coronopifolia*) with its little bright-yellow button-like flowers.

Two killdeer plovers were flying and crying over this field and soon Prof. Cunningham found and photographed their nest. This tied up a good day of life observed at the sea, on land and in the air.

M. C. Melburn.

#### REPORT OF THE WINTER PROGRAM, BOTANICAL GROUP

The Botany Group was unfortunate in losing the services of Mr. W. A. Hubbard when he left the Provincial Museum for a Federal appointment on the mainland. He was to have arranged the winter programme for the group and so this responsibility became mine.

Only four meetings were arranged. On November 8th, a special group meeting was held in the Museum when Dr. Adam Szczawinski, the new provincial Botanist, ably and interestingly described the Museum exhibition "Know Your Fungi". A large exhibit of models, specimens, photographs and paintings had been gathered together and scientifically arranged. About fifty members and guests were present. Numerous questions were asked and answered.

On January 31st of this year I had the pleasure of introducing the group to the first of two or more talks upon "Fresh-water Algae" taking two species of simple plants that are the organisms causing "Red Snow" and "Red Rain".

On February 28th Dr. Szczawinski treated the group to an interesting account of "Lichens within our Reach". He illustrated his talk with numerous specimens and a number of Kodachrome slides shown by Professor L. J. Clark.

The last meeting of the group will be at the end of this month when I am to give another talk on the fresh-water algae.

Respectfully submitted,

C. W. Lowe.

## VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Year 1955-1956

### TREASURER'S REPORT

#### INCOME:

|                                             |           |                 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Bank Balance from previous year             | - - - - - | \$ 301.96       |
| Membership fees - Seniors                   | - - - - - | 272.00          |
| " " Juniors                                 | - - - - - | 23.00           |
| Receipts Social Evening                     | - - - - - | 15.75           |
| Bank Interest                               | - - - - - | 6.35            |
| Audubon Account - Advertising in Naturalist | - - -     | 40.00           |
|                                             |           | <u>\$659.06</u> |

#### EXPENDITURES:

|                                    |           |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Monks Multigraph Letter Service,   |           |                 |
| Printing & Mailing "Naturalist"    |           | \$292.66        |
| " " Stationery                     | - - - - - | 32.34           |
| " " President's Letter             | - - - - - | 2.89            |
| Buckle Printing Co. for Envelopes  | - - - - - | 35.81           |
| Petty Cash, Treasurer              | - - - - - | 10.00           |
| Secretary, Supplies and Postage    | - - - - - | 4.50            |
| Mr. Davidson " " "                 | - - - - - | 4.10            |
| Mr. J.O. Clay, Long Distance Calls | - - - - - | 3.65            |
| Bank Service Charge                | - - - - - | .60             |
| Gifts of Flowers                   | - - - - - | 11.38           |
| Expenses Social Evening            | - - - - - | 11.60           |
| Advertising October Meeting        | - - - - - | 13.11           |
|                                    |           | <u>\$422.64</u> |
| Balance in Bank                    | - - - - - | 236.42          |
|                                    |           | <u>\$659.06</u> |

Audited and found correct: "J.H. Whitehouse"

Total paid members including family memberships 121  
 Previous year 109  
 Increase of 12 over last year. Our membership comprised  
 as follows: Family 37  
 Single 84  
 Juniors 23

All of which is respectfully submitted,

"Gladys E. Soulsby" Treasurer.

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was held at the Museum on Tuesday, March 13th. The President, Mr. C.W. Lowe, called the meeting to order and the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and adopted.

The slate of officers for the ensuing year, April 1st 1956 to March 31st 1957 was presented, and it was moved and adopted that the officers as selected by the nominating committee be accepted.

The reports of the President and Treasurer, also the reports of the chairmen of the different groups will be found in this issue.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Theed Pearse of Comox, who showed slides of water colour drawings of birds of the Pacific North-west which he had obtained from the British Museum. These water colours were the work of Mr. W.W. Ellis of the Cook Expedition which visited this area in the month of May 1778.

Mr. Pearse had a most interesting subject and his address was much enjoyed. He also strongly urged the Society to use its influence in combatting the continual encroachments of our parks by the powerful industrial companies, and also to make its voice heard in connection with the lengthening of the hunting season, specifically mentioning the extension of the brant season. He stated that there was no sportsmanship in the shooting of brant when they were on their way north to the nesting areas; that they are as easy to shoot as sheep in a field, and being already paired, the loss of either bird means no brood that season. Mr. Pearse also asked that the Society be constantly on the alert to fight for the cause of conservation at every opportunity.

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### REPORT OF THE GEOLOGY GROUP

In April Mr. George Winkler gave a talk on prospecting. In his able manner, he gave details of interesting experiences in the interior.

On June 4th, the group went to Goldstream and examined outwash glacial gravels and the Leach River-Malahat formations. About twenty members enjoyed the afternoon and

finished by having refreshments and watching the life of the Goldstream river as it wended its way into Finlayson Arm.

On September 17th twenty members met at the foot of Douglas Street and spent an interesting afternoon examining the rocks and glacial effects along the shore. A report was given in full in the November magazine.

On September 29th about twenty members met at Ten Mile Point under the leadership of Dr. A. O. Hayes. Although the weather was bad much was learned. See the full report in December and January issues.

On February 21st a talk was given by the group chairman, on our rocks. The possible origin of the Leach River schists was dealt with, illustrated by coloured sketches. Twenty members attended.

A. H. Marrison.

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### NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK

Few men in the history of conservation have captured the popular imagination like the late Jack Miner. In 1943 George VI conferred upon him the Order of the British Empire, and in 1947, three years after his death, the Canadian legislature set aside the week of his birthday, April 10th, as National Wildlife Week.

It is unfortunate that Jack Miner had the firm conviction that all creatures of prey should be pursued relentlessly and killed. He imputed human feelings and motives to wild creatures, and passed moral judgment on them, and divided wild life into the good and the bad. He had a list of eighteen birds and animals which he advocated should be destroyed with shotgun and trap. Hence, the Miner Refuge is not a sanctuary for all species; it is a baited trap for some.

It is obvious that to try and favor certain creatures by protecting them from all the dangers of existence in the wild state we take on a formidable if not impossible task, and we may find that we are doing so at the expense of many other living creatures.

Nature indeed is a never ending puzzle, but as our understanding grows, we are coming to appreciate more fully that every wild creature has its place (even with man on

the scene), and that, by attempting to alter the natural relationships among wild creatures, we are tampering with a complex mechanism, where our fumbling efforts may be harmful, not only to the best interests of wildlife, but to our own as well.

(Condensed from an article by Harold Mayfield in the Annual Bulletin, Spring 1955, of the Toledo Naturalists' Association.)

#### DOGWOOD, THE FLORAL EMBLEM OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

by Adam F. Szczawinski,  
Botanist, Provincial Museum  
Victoria, B.C.

The dogwoods comprise about fifty species of herbs, shrubs and small trees, mostly confined to the temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere. Fourteen species are found in Canada, of which two are herbs and four either large shrubs or small trees. The remainder are distinctly shrubby at all times. Among the Canadian species, two are especially beautiful because of their striking blossom. One of them occurs in British Columbia and is scientifically known as Cornus nuttallii Audubon. The other, Cornus florida L., commonly known as Boxwood or Eastern Flowering Dogwood, is a small bushy tree, more than 30 feet in height and occurs in the Niagara districts of Ontario and westwards to Lake St. Clair.

These two species have a certain resemblance to each other, as far as their blossom is concerned, but are easily distinguished by the shape of the flowering bracts surrounding the cluster of flowers. In Eastern Dogwood these bracts, four in number, are roundish in shape and often indented at the top. Those of our Western Dogwood, four to six in number, are pointed at the top. This characteristic is so pronounced that there can be no doubt as to the identification of either species.

A great deal of interest has arisen in the Pacific Dogwood since it has become the official floral emblem of British Columbia. Here are a few pertinent facts which all of us should know:-

Botanical name - Cornus nuttallii Aud.

Common names - Pacific Dogwood, Flowering Dogwood, Western Flowering Dogwood and Mountain Dogwood.

Derivation - John James Audubon, who first illustrated this species in his famous work, "Birds of America", named it in honour of Thomas Nuttall (1786-1859) an American botanist and ornithologist of English origin. It was first collected in the Columbia River valley. Skewers or "dags" were once made from its wood. Hence it became known as "dagwood" and its name was later popularized to dogwood.

Description - Pacific Dogwood is a small tree, commonly 20 to 40 feet in height and about 7 to 10 inches in diameter. Its leaves are dark green on the upper side, lighter on the under side and are three to four inches in length. In the Fall the leaves become tinged with an orange-red and add a magnificent splash of colour to the landscape. The blooms appear from April to June and sometimes again in the Fall. Small cream to greenish flowers (thirty to forty) are arranged in clusters and are surrounded by four to six large, petal-like inflorescent bracts. These bracts are often taken for petals. The fruit which ripens in October in dense spherical heads is composed of berry-like drupes. They are bright red or orange in colour and resemble beads.

The wood is heavy exceedingly hard, strong, close-grained and is used occasionally for cabinet-making and handles of tools.

Distribution and Habitat - Dogwood grows in moist, well-drained soil. It is common in British Columbia along the east coast of Vancouver Island, in the Alberni region and on the mainland in the lower Fraser River valley, extending into the Fraser Canyon for about thirty miles north of Hope. Its occurrence has been reported along the Seymour Arm of Shushwap Lake. Southwards its distribution extends through western Washington and Oregon, on the ranges of California to the San Bernardino Mountains, and on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. It is interesting to note that in British Columbia the upper elevation range does not exceed 1000 feet, while in California its range reaches 4000 to 5000 feet above sea level. Its growth is most vigorous and luxuriant near the shores of Puget Sound and in the Redwood Forests of northern California.

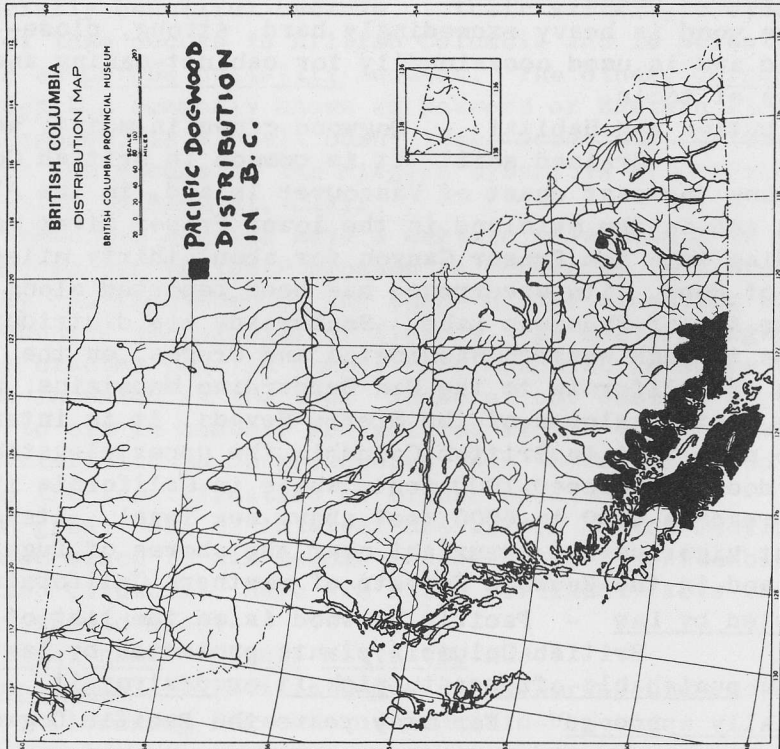
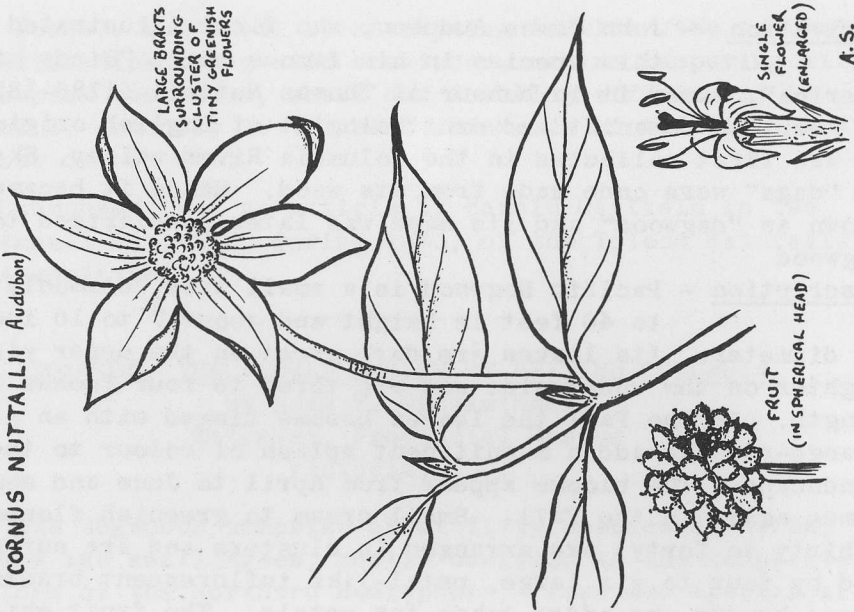
Protected by Law - Pacific Dogwood is on the list of British Columbia plants protected by law and it is a punishable offence to pick it or destroy it.

Officially approved - For many years the Pacific Dogwood

(Continued on page 11)

PACIFIC DOGWOOD

(CORNUS NUTTALLII Audubon)



(continued from page 9)

has been the unofficial floral emblem of this province, but now it has become officially approved. The history of the floral emblem in our province is quite a long one and has involved several other suggested flowers, such as, columbine, calypso, dog-tooth violet, honeysuckle and a few others. Finally dogwood has won the battle. The strongest argument against choosing dogwood as our floral emblem was its limited range. In spite of this we must all agree that it is a thing of beauty all the year around and has great possibilities for use in artistic design.

REPORT ON BIRD FIELD TRIPS

During the year 1955-1956 seven meetings were held. One - to Esquimalt Lagoon - had to be cancelled owing to the weather. The following districts were visited:-  
 Patricia Bay: Metchosin: Bare Island: Sidney:  
 Island View Beach (Keatings):

A very satisfactory average of 24 people were present, many turning out when the weather could have been better.

An account of these field meetings has been published in the various issues of the 'Naturalist'.

J. O. Clay.

DATES TO WATCH FOR BIRDS

To assist those interested in the arrival of migrants, the following are the dates recorded at Victoria in April last year:-

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| American pipits        | 2nd  |
| White-crowned sparrows | 2nd  |
| Band-tail pigeons      | 3rd  |
| Lutescent warblers     | 3rd  |
| Townsend warblers      | 6th  |
| Warbling vireos        | 16th |
| Cassins vireos         | 14th |
| Chipping sparrows      | 16th |
| Western flycatcher     | 17th |
| Savannah sparrows      | 24th |
| Western sandpiper      | 26th |
| Least sandpiper        | 29th |
| Barn swallows          | 29th |

SKYLARKS

In the field opposite Gordon Head army camp bordering Finnerty and Sinclair Roads may be found skylarks in courtship behaviour. This includes song, pursuit and display, and is, to use descriptive slang, out of this world.

It is an encouraging fact that in recent years these birds have increased their territory on the Saanich peninsula. In this past winter how have they survived the blizzards and snow of their adopted country?

If what we heard and saw on February the twenty-eighth is any indication - all is well. There was no sun, otherwise conditions were favourable: little wind, cloudy and fairly mild. Crossing the soggy field our movements abruptly ceased as hearing centered entirely on the most sublime singing. There were skylarks rising from many places, rising so high they almost disappeared from sight. The glorious, pure music continued on from declining heights as two birds came down nearer and nearer into view. One was singing, the other alighted in a clump of grass at the foot of the fence post close by. The singer from the skies took the top of the post. From here the spring message was addressed to the one on the ground below. Now the notes were whispered tones, the crest raised, wings slightly drooped, relaxed, and the white feathers in the tail showing as it spread and lifted with each pirouette. The song was for and to the bird in the grass. We watched the trembling throat and our ears picked up the almost inaudible utterances. In this there was no song competition between two males. Biologists notwithstanding, we heard tenderness and saw courtesy in the bending tip-tilted figure. Presently she arose and flew, he following; and others of their kind appeared from here and there. We left them; rare music and the whole a picture of utmost beauty in the realm of nature.

While the skylarks were intermittently rising, hovering, ascending and descending accompanied by their own music, a large female sharp-shinned hawk swept overhead, flying directly above the birds.

The skylarks remained and continued singing; one in the air so near this presumed mortal enemy, the binoculars could cover them both at the same time. One might postulate reasons for this, possibly none of which would be right. -- A predator of small birds flies merrily amongst little skylarks without pursuing prey and they in turn exhibit no

fear in its presence.- Comments solicited. Mr. Morris Jackson of Fanny Bay, in last month's magazine of the VNHS may have given the answer in his article, "Variation in Bird Behavior."

G.M.B.

Comment: It is a universally known and accepted fact that predator and prey species live side by side paying no attention to one another until the predator shows indications of actually beginning to hunt. This applies to mammals and fish as well as birds.

C.J.G.

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VANCOUVER ISLAND'S PETROGLYPHS

By

Wilmer H. Gold, Youbou, B. C.

Ages ago after the last great ice-cap had receded from Vancouver Island, authorities tell us, our shores were peopled by aboriginal racial groups, and probably there were successive invasions by migratory peoples who came to conquer and destroy the original inhabitants or be assimilated by them.

Whence came these groups of primitive nomads? From Asia via the Bering Sea? Were they subsequently merged with succeeding Indian peoples; were they exterminated or were they driven north or south? Anthropologists do not know all the answers, but they appear to regard Asia as the cradle of the human race, the best part of a million years ago.

In any case these different groups, or societies, pecked with stone chisels or rubbed with abrasive rocks on solid rocky outcroppings or on boulders to leave graven picture stories, many of which are still to be found. Those incised are called petroglyphs and those painted are known as pictographs.

There are recorded many thousands of these petroglyphs and they range the Pacific Coast from Alaska to California. They are not found many miles inland and to date have been found generally on the Eastern side of Vancouver Island, in protected waters, and on many of the Gulf Islands. There is one known exception and that is Clo-oose on the West Coast of Vancouver Island where I found a large, varied collection



of carvings on the beach depicting birds and human figures about life size mostly badly weathered by the Pacific Ocean's restless surf. Also it has been reported recently that a series of carvings showing seal, sea lions and fish have been discovered on the beach, near the ruins of an old Indian village, between Ucluelet and Tofino.

On Vancouver Island petroglyphs are widely distributed from Port Hardy in the north to Sooke, near Victoria, but Nanaimo's Petroglyph Park contains what is probably the finest and most elaborate display so far discovered. Here you may find a weird, fantastic pattern of interwoven carvings, quite obviously those of deer, fishes, crabs, gulls and elementary human figures incised on the flat sandstone outcroppings. Across the bay at Jack's Point, nearby, may be found a boulder measuring some six feet in length showing a series of carvings - all well preserved. On the shore of Sproat Lake, near Alberni, on a perpendicular rock wall may be seen more excellent carvings.

Regarding the petroglyphs at Nanaimo, Jack's Point and Sproat Lake, Mr. Wilson Duff, anthropologist at the Provincial Museum, Victoria, states that these particular carvings are quite unique in art style and conception. They seem to be related to each other, but not closely related to petroglyphs found elsewhere in North America.

In a booklet written on British Columbia's petroglyphs by C.F. Newcombe, in which are recorded and illustrated thousands of carvings he found during the many years he spent cruising up and down the coast, he states that it is still a matter of doubt whether the carvings were intended as a memorial, or whether they were done during prolonged periods of solitary probation through which candidates for admission into secret societies had to pass when they had to illustrate the spirits they held in communion. And I might add that the many carvings of human beings left by these early aboriginal people show evidence of phallic worship, and that such a marked continuity of patterns and methods of workmanship found everywhere cannot be attributed to mere coincidence or idle doodling.

In the Nanaimo Bastion (museum) may be found the "Hepburn Stone", a water washed boulder measuring some 18 inches in height carved with human features. Deep lines radiating from the top of the stone would seem to signify the setting sun. This stone was found buried many feet underground on the banks of the Nanaimo River, several

miles distant from Nanaimo's Petroglyph Park but in each case the carving is almost identical. On Vancouver Island stone statues (idols probably) and bowls have been found indicating the culture of one or more of the successive populations which anthropologists claim peopled the coast, predating the present natives.

The cultural background of these ancient Indian races must forever remain somewhat obscure, but certainly they were venturesome in spirit; they roved the coast in crudely fashioned dug-out canoes, or rafts, enabling them to cross over from Asia as has been done in modern times. They knew the art of kindling fires for warmth and cooking in natural caves or rudely constructed shelters. No doubt they found abundant food in the way of salal, saskatoon and other berries, fish and game birds, while deer furnished meat and skins to be fashioned into wearing apparel, and the inner part of cedar bark cut into long strips and woven into garments and hats would afford protection against the elements. Apart from carvings and odd artifacts these nomadic people who were few in number apparently left little evidence of their primitive mode of living, which was so long ago that their bones have since mingled with the dust so that no trace remains.

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NOTICES OF MEETINGS1956

Tuesday AUDUBON SCREEN TOUR  
 Apr. 3: Dick Bird  
 "Newfoundland" to be held in Oak Bay Junior High School at 8 p.m.

Tuesday GENERAL MEETING  
 Apr.10: Provincial Museum at 8 p.m.  
 Speaker: Dr. F. G. Roe  
 Subject: "The Legend of the 'Bad' Indian"

Tuesday GEOLOGY GROUP  
 Apr.17: Provincial Museum at 8 p.m.  
 Speaker: Mr. G. F. Winkler  
 Subject: "Prospecting on Vancouver Island"

Saturday ORNITHOLOGY GROUP:  
 April 21: Bird Walk.  
 Meet at Cadboro Bay P.O. at 10 a.m.,  
 Monterey Cafe at 9:30 a.m.  
 Leader: Mr. J. O. Clay.

Saturday BOTANY GROUP  
 April 28: Field Trip to Mt. Douglas.  
 Meet at Junction of Blenkinsop Rd. and Cedar Hill Cross Rd., at 1:30 p.m.  
 B.C. Electric Bus leaves the Depot at 1:05, arriving at above 1:25 p.m.  
 Leader: Miss M. Melburn.

STOP PRESS: We have just had a letter to say that at least 10 members of the Vancouver Natural History Society are arriving on the 8:15 a.m. plane on Sunday, April 15th. Mr. Clay will be communicating with those who have offered transportation. A few members are bringing their cars and arriving Saturday morning to have the week-end in Victoria. We hope that many members of our Society will take the opportunity of meeting our friends from Vancouver. Further details if unable to make the early start will be obtainable from Mr. Clay so that we can all meet for a picnic lunch.

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MEMBERS WILL PLEASE NOTE THAT DUES FOR THE YEAR APRIL 1st, 1956, to MARCH 31st, 1957, ARE NOW PAYABLE, and THAT NO INDIVIDUAL NOTICES ARE SENT TO MEMBERS.

# Victoria Natural History Society

OFFICERS, 1956-57

**Honorary Presidents:**

HON. RAY WILLISTON,  
*Minister of Education.*

J. W. EASTHAM,  
*Former Provincial Plant Pathologist.*

J. A. MUNRO,  
*Former Dominion Wildlife Officer.*

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ARCHDEACON ROBERT CONNELL.

G. CLIFFORD CARL.

GEORGE A. HARDY.

MRS. JAMES HOBSON.

JEFFREE A. CUNNINGHAM.

C. W. LOWE.

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*Ornithology:* J. O. CLAY,  
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