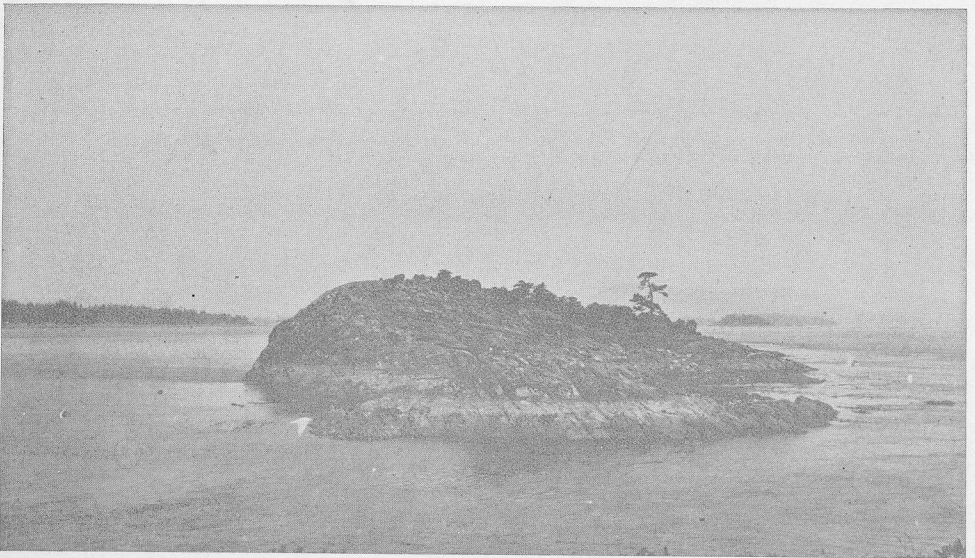


The
**VICTORIA
NATURALIST**

Vol. 19, No. 1

September, 1962



Bare Island

Published by the
VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
VICTORIA, B. C.

THE VICTORIA NATURALIST

Published by
THE VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Vol. 19, No. 1

SEPTEMBER 1962

BARE ISLAND

This rocky islet, about half a mile in length and one hundred twenty-five yards across, is situated close to the eastern edge of Sidney Island and approximately twenty miles north of Victoria.

Here are the largest nesting colonies of glaucous-winged gulls, pelagic and double-crested cormorants, and possibly pigeon guillemots in British Columbia, a rough estimate of the numbers being as follows:

Glaucous-winged gulls	2000 pair
Pelagic cormorants	350 pair
Double-crested cormorants	150 pair
Pigeon guillemots	100 pair

A few black oyster catchers can always be found as well as two pair of tufted puffins.

In addition, about fifty pair of song sparrows nest each year in a concentrated area of thick bush, composed of hawthorn, willow saskatoon and other native shrubs.

Since 1957 two students from the University of British Columbia have lived on the island during the summer months, making a study of these sea birds, and also incidentally protecting the colonies from human interference.

Bare Island, or Mandarte, as it is named on the hydrographic charts, is an Indian reservation, and virtually a bird sanctuary.

Each summer our bird group charter a launch and pay the island a visit, being careful not to disturb the birds. In fact, this year they merely circumnavigated the island without making a landing.

Putting statistics to one side, this is a wonderfully interesting place, a living island, as the nests of these birds practically cover the whole surface, the gulls on the more or less flat surfaces, the double-crested cormorants on top of the cliffs, and the pelagic on the precipitous and sometimes overhanging rocky walls, while the pigeon guillemots favour the crevices in the rocks.

A.R.D.

The following pages contain the reports of the President and Officers of the Society for the year which ended on May 31st, 1962:

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

My report will be brief, in view of the fact that other members of the committee will report on the activities of their own group.

The past year has been an exceedingly active one for our Society.

First the Annual Picnic, the addition of the Entomology section, the building and maintaining of the Nature House at Francis Park, the sponsorship of the new Provincial Park at Westholme (Eavos Park) which was donated to the Province by Mrs Janet Goodall, the excellent count of birds at Christmas time, and the appreciative audiences we have had at the Audubon Screen Tours.

It has been gratifying to see the general appreciation and activities of the Society as a whole.

The press, radio and television have given us very good covering, for which we owe them our thanks.

I would be remiss if I did not draw to your attention the step for the future generation in the form of a scholarship fund set up by the Society.

To the members of the Executive Committee and all members of the Society I would like to express my thanks for the help and tolerance that has been shown me during my term of office, and I can assure you I will continue to give my full support to those who will guide the affairs of the Victoria Natural History Society during the coming year.

Freeman King.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE on THOMAS S. FRANCIS PARK

On November 7th, 1961, by motion taken at a General Meeting of the Society, the members of the Board appointed by the Minister of Recreation and Conservation to administer the Thomas S. Francis Park, being all members in good standing in the Victoria Natural History Society, were constituted a Standing Committee of the Society for the purpose of establishing a continuing line of contact for the Society in the operation of the Park.

As this is the first opportunity of the Standing

Committee to report, as such, to the Society, the activities of the Board from the time of its inception, will be briefly dealt with.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD:

Meetings of the Board have been held at suitable intervals at the Provincial Museum, those during the Society's current year having taken place on April 14th, 1961, June 9, 1961, September 27th, 1961 and March 9th, 1962. A regular order of business has been followed, Minutes have been kept and serially numbered, and copies of these Minutes have been submitted to the Deputy Minister of Recreation and Conservation. The Minute book is available for the inspection of the Society's Executive at all times.

CARETAKER'S HOUSE:

The house originally built for the late Thomas Francis has, since his decease, been occupied, rent-free, by Mr. Percy Dumbleton, in return for his services as caretaker of the Park property and firewarden during the season. A telephone has been installed for this purpose. Mr. Dumbleton has the interests of the Park at heart, and his tenure has been fully satisfactory in every way.

TRAILS, ETC.

Nature trails in the Park have been steadily extended and improved, thanks to valuable work by Junior members of the Society, and are now suitable for guided tours by members of the public.

FINANCES:

In October, 1960, the Society set aside a sum of \$200 into the Treasury of the Park Board, for the carrying of minor items of expense in the operation of the Park. The balance in this account at the Royal Bank of Canada stands currently at \$134.81. A major item of expenditure, the funeral expenses of Thomas S. Francis, was fully refunded by the Provincial Government.

Expenses connected with the building and furnishing of the Nature House, have not been passed through the Treasury of the Park Board, but are being financed separately by the Society. Further funds for the normal operation of the Park will be requested of the Society as they become necessary, and an accounting of disbursements is available to the Society's executive at all times.

NATURE HOUSE:

At the September, 1961 meeting of the Society, a drawing

of a suitable small building for use as a Nature House, having been designed by a member of the Board and approved by the Parks Branch, Department of Recreation and Conservation, was displayed for the interest of the membership. At the December 6th, 1961 meeting of the Society's Executive, the Treasurer was authorized to pay invoices up to a total of \$750 for building materials sufficient to make a substantial start on the Nature House. During the Winter months, using the volunteer labour of members of the Society, the Nature House has been built complete, furnished and equipped, and an interesting initial display arranged. The Nature House was officially opened by the Minister of Recreation and Conservation on May 1st, 1962, and is now in full operation, staffed on week-ends and during the holidays, by the more advanced members of the Junior Natural History Society.

Bills for building materials, amounting to something less than \$600, have been submitted to the Society's Treasurer for payment. Further bills, amounting to \$466.98, have been forwarded to the Parks Branch, Department of Recreation and Conservation, and it is confidently expected that substantial assistance in the settling of these accounts will be forthcoming from the Provincial Government. Any residue of expense not underwritten by the Government will be submitted to your Executive in due course for any additional approvals that may be required for payment by the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted

Standing Committee on Thomas Francis Park

Freeman King
Chairman.

Philip J. Croft,
Secy-Treasurer.

Philip Monckton

David Sterling

Alan Poynter

REPORT OF AUDUBON LECTURE COMMITTEE

Our most sincere thanks are due to our ever faithful public, and many willing members for another successful Audubon Screen Tour, 1961-62.

I feel that the Screen Tours are a very worth while

community effort, leaving a message of conservation to all who attend. It was very gratifying to see that there were many more young people at the lectures, which is as it should be. Our net profit for the tour was \$648.24, which figure includes fifty per cent of the amusement tax paid.

Respectfully submitted

"Enid K. Lemon"
Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF BOTANY FIELD TRIPS, 1961

by M. C. Melburn.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Species Observed</u>	<u>No. of Observers</u>
March 25	Thetis Sanctuary	26	31
April 22	John Dean Park	73	19
May 13	Blinkhorn Hill	95	?
May 27	Cowichan Lake and Skutz Falls	131	16
June 24	Island View Beach and adjacent areas	62	27
July 22	Goldstream Park	80	12
Nov. 4	Francis Park Fungus Foray	65	33

The March 25th Botany field trip was the earliest recorded, but on the slopes of Seymour Hill we found such spring favourites as satin-flower, erythronium, spring gold, shooting-star, camas, blue-eyed mary and little monkey flower -- 26 in all. The only species new to many of the party was cream-cups, a tiny white-flowered poppy, the only native member of the poppy family on Vancouver Island.

John Dean Park is our best near-by area for study of trees and shrubs, and under their cover a good show of calypses and trilliums can be counted on in April. We were interested to find a small colony of pink erythroniums in a secluded spot. In all we listed 73 species there.

Blinkhorn Hill showed us three species of saxifrage (early, tufted and ruddy); also that queer-looking relative of broom-rape called poque (*Boschniakia hookeri*). It was a good location for observing kinnikinnick and manzanita together with their hybrid (*Arctostaphylos media*) which is a real betwixt-and-between. Blinkhorn also is a good

area for ferns, we saw six species.

Our trip to "Greendale", the home of Mr. Trever Green at Cowichan Lake, gave the group an opportunity to see great masses of pink erythronium. There was also a good show of spotted coral-root, queen's cup and fairy-bells. And I am sure none of us ever saw such a concentration of maiden-hair fern. The forenoon spent there and the afternoon at Skutz Falls gave us a list of 131 species.

Island View Beach area affords a good opportunity to compare its characteristic species, such as sand-bur, yellow sand verbena and beach buckwheat, with the grasses, sedges, legumes and composites of the adjacent meadowlands. Sixty-two species were observed.

At Goldstream on July 22nd we observed 80 species, many of them already noted on earlier trips. Two others were hazelnut and blue currant both in fruit. Salmonberry was still putting out flowers; this is a remarkable hanger-on when you consider that its first flowering date in 1961 was January 21st. In the cool damp shade of the big cedars and firs we found 7 species of ferns.

The fungus foray at Francis Park, November 4, was reported in the December Naturalist. On that occasion 33 observers found 65 known species and many others which we could not name.

REPORT OF THE BOTANICAL GROUP'S WINTER PROGRAMME

There were five meetings of this group held in the Provincial Museum, and the Annual Fungus Foray, which was held on November 4th in charge of Miss M. C. Melburn, which was interestingly reported in the December number of the Victoria Naturalist.

The first of the indoor meetings was on October 17th when the chairman gave a talk on various plant characters which aid the recognition of plant families in the field. On November 7th there was an exhibition of fungi collected at the Fungus Foray a few days earlier by Miss Melburn and other members. This was followed by a talk on some of the more interesting features of spore dissemination of fungi by the chairman.

On January 23rd the subject was "Ferns, their features and life history". On February 20th the characters of the Liliaceae and related families were discussed. These last two meetings were in charge of the chairman, Miss Melburn providing specimens from her collection of pressed plants.

The last meeting was on March 20th, when our president

gave an interesting and instructive talk on "Identification of trees and shrubs in winter". Some thirty specimens were presented to the group for identification.

Respectfully submitted

Chas. W. Lowe

Chairman

REPORT FOR FEDERATION COMMITTEE

Quite the best bit of news in regard to FEDERATION this year is the fact that two more Natural History Societies have been formed in our Province of British Columbia. Heretofore we had the Three V's, that is, one Society in Vernon, one in Vancouver, and our own in Victoria! Now we have one in Kelowna and one in Penticton. The Secretary of the Kelowna Society, Mrs. Lamoureux, has been in Victoria recently and we have exchanged ideas and she has seen our Nature House and Tom Francis Park! Dr. Carl, who is the other member of the Federation Committee, spoke to both these new Societies in May this year.

On the week-end of April 14-15th, 10 cars, with 28 people came over from the Vancouver Natural History Society, under Dr. Katherine Beamish, for Botany. Our Miss Melburn and a few others met with them on Saturday afternoon at Mill Hill and Thetis Park. Sunday afternoon, about 1 o'clock, on their return from botanizing at Sooke all morning, they came to Tom Francis Park for lunch. The President of our Society, and some of our senior members were there to greet them and we also had two girls and two boys of the senior Juniors, who showed them the Nature House and conducted them around the Park. The flowers were lovely. The President of the Vancouver Society Dr. R. Stace-Smith was among the party and he had had a meeting with Dr. Carl and me on Saturday morning, suggesting some new steps towards Federation which will have to come up before the new Executive and be discussed later.

Three of our members attended for one week the Camp put on by the Vancouver Society near Penticton last July. This was a most rewarding experience and is open to anyone who will pay their annual subscription and camp dues.

For the benefit of new members I would like to say here that about 5 years ago the idea of having a Federation of B. C. Naturalists was first brought forward by the Vancouver Natural History Society. It was thought that we should bring together all the Naturalists that are scattered over

this large Province, in outlying places. Each one would benefit by meeting together, say once a year, and pooling our knowledge, and we would have "THE VOICE OF THE B. C. NATURALIST" when some issue of Conservation was in the news. So far this has not yet been accomplished, but we do feel that now such an organization will very soon come into being, so we carry on!

Gladys E. Soulsby
Chairman.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT JUNE 1st 1961 to MAY 31st 1962

INCOME:

Bank balance from previous year, less O/S cheques	\$2,776.10
Membership Dues - - - - -	615.79
Bank Interest - - - - -	150.04
Amusement tax remission - - - - -	137.72
Bird check lists sold - - - - -	7.50
Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Ass'n 50% cost of microphone - - - - -	12.81
Premium U. S. funds - - - - -	.50
Transferred from Audubon Account - - - - -	510.52
	<u>\$4,210.98</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Registration - - - - -	.50
Juniors - - - - -	51.14
Purchase of photograph of Society in 1890 - - -	10.00
Stationery and postages - - - - -	88.79
Cost of meetings - - - - -	60.39
Printing and mailing "The Victoria Naturalist" -	558.45
Donations - - - - -	37.75
Library - - - - -	63.26
Cost of Microphone - - - - -	25.62
Bond purchase. Ontario Hydro - - - - -	1,002.91
Bank Balance, May 4th 1962, less O/S cheques - -	1,149.66
Nature House, Thomas Francis Park - - - - -	1,162.51
	<u>\$4,210.98</u>

AUDUBON ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Receipts from ten lectures - - - - -	\$2,799.20
--------------------------------------	------------

EXPENDITURES:

Contract payment to National Audubon, plus exchange	1,273.58
Advertising, Printing and Stationery - - - - -	213.39
Rent of Oak Bay Junior H.S. Auditorium - - - - -	580.00
Amusement Tax - - - - -	221.71
Transferred to Victoria Natural History account - -	510.52
	<u>\$2,799.20</u>

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH

Net Savings Account - - - - -	\$ 1,149.66
Bond: Ontario Hydro 5% Scholarship Fund - - -	992.50
Interest on above Scholarship Fund - - -	10.41
	<u>\$ 2,152.57</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our expenses, during the past financial year, exceeded our income by \$623.53.

The cost of building the Nature House at the Thomas Francis Park, as per the item above, was \$1,162.51. This was reduced by a Provincial grant of \$200.00. The wiring expense, which is not included in the cost figure, amounted to \$133.16, which makes the total amount \$1,095.67

Our membership now stands at 160 single, 50 family and 42 juniors. In addition over 40 juniors are included in family memberships.

Respectfully submitted,

(Mrs) Eleanore Davidson.

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our regular meetings have been held in the Douglas Building Cafeteria. Speakers included Miss Enid Lemon and Mrs. Maeford Slocomb, Mr. Jack Barnett and Mr. David Stirling, Dr. F. G. Roe, Mr. York Edwards, Dr. T.M.C. Taylor, Mr. P. J. Croft and Mr. R. Fryer, and Mr. C.P. Lyons. At the April meeting we had two moving picture films from the City Library.

Our membership now stands at 160 single, 50 family and 42 juniors and approximately 40 juniors are included in the family memberships.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Stirling.
Mrs H.M. Matheson
Co-Chairmen.

JUNIOR BRANCH REPORT

We have at the present time 77 young people taking part in the Junior Branch activities. Of these, 11 comprise the Leader Group. Attendance for the 46 regular outings averaged about 25.

An eight-week course of instruction drew a full and enthusiastic attendance.

Leaders took part in the annual bird counts, and ushered at the Audubon shows.

Juniors have done splendid work in stocking the Nature House, which they also helped to build, with specimens from the park area.

A display of work held in the Douglas Building was officially opened by the Reeve of Saanich, Mr. Chatterton. The quality of the collections shown was indicative of the keenness of the Juniors.

Our thanks to Mr. Clendenning for the many hours given during the year to the task of organizing transportation, and to the parents who have provided cars -- also for their untiring interest and co-operation at all times.

Respectfully submitted by

(Mrs) K. Osborne

Assistant.

THE AUDUBON LECTURES: SEASON 1962-1963

During the coming season these lectures will be held, as usual, in the Oak Bay Junior High School Auditorium at 8 p.m. The prices are the same as previous years: \$3.00 for season tickets and 75 cents for single admission. Season tickets for students cost one dollar, with single admission at 25 cents. Tickets can be obtained from the office of the Provincial Museum, either of the Dogwood Gift shops, 2224 Oak Bay Avenue and 1801 Fort, and at the home of the treasurer, Mrs Eleanore Davidson, at 825 Monterey Avenue.

Details of the lectures are as follows:-

Friday and Saturday, October 5th and 6th, 1962

Lecturer, Allan D. Cruickshank.

Subject: "The Bear River"

Friday and Saturday, November 2nd and 3rd, 1962

Lecturer, Albert J. Wool

Subject: "Ranch and Range"

Friday and Saturday, November 30th and December 1st, 1962

Lecturer, Chester P. Lyons

Subject: "Nature's Plans and Puzzles"

Friday and Saturday, January 11th and 12th, 1963

Lecturer, Robert C. Hermes

Subject: "Nova Scotia - Land of the Sea"

Friday and Saturday, March 22nd and 23rd, 1963

Lecturer, B. Bartram Cadbury

Subject: "Pastures of the Sea"

Tickets will be available at the monthly meeting on Tuesday September 11th. Members are advised to purchase them at this time as they will be on sale to the general public after the meeting.

- - - - -

One evening late in August three bird watchers, Alan Poynter, Mrs. Davidson and the writer were standing at Gibraltar Point, at the extreme tip of the golf links. The rain was pouring down, we were wet and cold, but just as we were turning to go home, we saw flying in front of us a brown pelican! Though all three saw it well, it was Alan who was sure of its identity, and he had seen them on his sea travels in the war years.

A.R.D.

SOME OF OUR LESS COMMON WILD PLANTS

My list of flowering plants for 1962 now stands at 560 species, eleven of which are plants I had not observed in any previous year.

While on a wild goose chase in the vicinity of Kangaroo Road Miss E. K. Lemon laid down her camera long enough to collect Howell's violet (*Viola howellii*); Mr. Davidson took his eye off the birds on Victoria Golf Course for a moment and spotted a yellow-flowered bedstraw (*Galium verum*); Mr. F. King brought in *Psilocarphus tenellus* from Francis Park and also a species of lungwort (*Mertensia*) from Evos Park.

The other seven "new" to me are as follows:-

Veronica filiformis (slender speedwell) from a city lawn;

Montia saxosa, from the rocky base of Oak Bay Memorial;

Sagina occidentalis (western pearlwort) from the east summit of Mt. Newton;

Epilobium minutum, a tiny fireweed relative, from Bedford Road woods;

Epilobium alpinum clavatum, from a logging roadside at Sooke Pot Holes;

Callitriche stagnalis (water starwort) from a mudhole near Duncan;

Carex aurea (golden sedge) from Englishman's River Falls Park.

Of these eleven plants the most interesting is *Psilocarphus tenellus*, a specimen of which was sent to Dr. A.E. Porsild, Chief Botanist, Ottawa. In his acknowledgment Dr. Porsild wrote "Of *P. tenellus* we have Macoun collections only from Victoria, Burnside Road and Cloverdale. The most recent was made in 1908".

Thanks to Skipper King's eagle eye the National Herbarium now has a 1962 collection of this species which is found nowhere else in Canada except on the southern tip of Vancouver Island.

Let's all keep looking!

M. C. Melburn.

THE NATURE HOUSE LIBRARY

At a committee meeting of the Society in May, Mr. Croft brought with him a new encyclopedia of animal life which had recently been published by the Greystone Press of New York.

The members of the executive were so impressed by these books that they decided to purchase a set among themselves, and have it placed in the Nature House at the Thomas Francis Park for the benefit of the Junior Branch.

These sixteen volumes are entitled "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Animal Life", and are written in a most interesting and entertaining fashion by some of the most prominent naturalists of the day, members on the staff of the American Museum of Natural History and the New York Zoological Society. While scientifically accurate, no technical language is used.

'Animal Life' includes all living creatures; amphibians, birds, fishes, insects and mammals, and, as the set has a fifty page index, information on almost any form of life can be easily found.

Other than the very readable contents, what impressed me was the style of the books, the format, the size of the printing, the wide margins and the excellent colour reproductions.

I was asked to review them, and started to go over the books in a casual fashion, but found myself absorbed by the contents. Some natural history books, as we all know, can be informative but dull, but these are a joy to read and can be heartily recommended to all those interested in the natural world.

To quote part of the introduction: "This is a library of animals alive. The distinguished authors, although outstanding scientists, are no mere dry as dust museum specialists. They have a deep love of animals, and have tracked and observed them in the remote vastnesses of the earth. In these pages they share many a thrilling adventure with you, many a startling encounter they have had in the wilds with giant brown bears and the wolves of the Arctic tundra, with the lions of the African veldt, the poisonous reptiles of the American deserts and woodland, the exotic birds of the rain forests of New Guinea, the strange insects of the jungles of South America. You will read of hairbreadth escapes, and the curious ways of primitive peoples in the remote lands of these animals"

The cost of this set is \$50. It contains 2870 pages, 570 full colour photographs, plus 134 in black and white, and 550 accurate drawings.

A.R.D.

REPORT OF THE BIRD GROUP MEETINGS

Most of the activities of the bird group were published in the May issue taken from a detailed report compiled by the co-Chairman of the group, Mr. David Stirling.

This group is active twelve months in the year, twelve field meetings having been held during the 1961 - 1962 season, not including the Christmas Count held on December 23rd last.

Three of these trips were taken by boat, the first one to Discovery Island in April. The second excursion took us to Sidney Island, after first circumnavigating Bare Island. On this occasion 26 members attended. This was on July 7th, and, as the weather was fine, it was a very successful trip. The last boat trip was on August 11th, and, as the long sandspit on Sidney Island is a favourite point of call for migrating shore birds, the group disembarked there about 11 a.m., and explored the spit and the nearby lagoon until 4 p.m. As expected many wandering shore birds were found, including 13 Baird sandpipers, 6 semi-palmated plover, 36 sanderling, 11 black-bellied plover and hundreds of western and least sandpipers.

To most of the group the Baird sandpiper was a new bird, and as they were quite tame, would come within a few feet of us, provided we kept still. Only one Hudsonian curlew was seen, and one dowitcher. The coming and going of the western and least sandpipers, 'peeps' as they are collectively called, is always interesting, as they twist and turn with military precision like one bird, alternately displaying their white breasts and gray-brown backs.

Before landing on the spit a visit was made to Imrie Island, (a small island close to Moresby) which is another nesting site for glaucous-winged gulls, 270 nests having been found in 1960. On this island we found about 150 surf birds resting, and on Reah rock, not far away, another 50 of these birds. Around these islands harlequin ducks can be seen, at the present time all of them being in eclipse plumage, giving no hint of their spectacular colouring later in the season.

On the trip many other sea birds were seen, including approximately 50 marbled murrelets, a few black oystercatchers, many pigeon guillemots, most of them still feeding young. Gulls were present in thousands, mostly glaucous-winged, but also seen were Bonaparte, Heerman, California and short-billed (mew), as well as the three cormorants, pelagic, double-crested and Brandts. T.R. Briggs,
Co-Chairman.

THE BLUE GROUSE

On May 19th we went on a hunt for these birds, and although we covered all the country between Victoria, Jordan River and six miles beyond, excellent country for grouse, we neither saw or heard any. (Game Department please note)

The next day a friend of my wife told her she had heard one at Albert Head, so the next week we went there, and sure enough we heard one hooting. The soft notes seemed to come out of the atmosphere, without direction. After covering a lot of territory thereabouts we came to the conclusion the bird was up a tree. Searching each tall tree in turn my wife finally located one high up in a fir. It was hooting gently, but did not move, so we sat on a log about a hundred feet away and had our lunch. Suddenly it flew, or rather crashed to the ground, making a lot of noise in the underbrush, and as it walked sedately away we saw it was the hen bird. Then things started to happen. The male bird appeared out of the bush we had been searching so diligently, and immediately fanned out its enormous white tipped tail to a full 180 degrees, hunched itself up, displaying its yellow shoulder patches, and bright chrome yellow massive eyebrows, or whatever they are, opened its beak, took a deep breath and started to hoot.

It did not go too near the hen bird, which stopped for a short while and then slowly walked away, but kept up this remarkable display, hooting at short intervals, each time opening its beak and taking a breath, for as long as we watched it. It turned every way, giving us a wonderful picture of its courtship display. To us it was a dignified proceeding, no jerking of the head or excited behaviour like so many of the ducks, but quietly walking around, giving out its deep resonant note from time to time. It was not blue to us, but a deep greyish-brown, enlivened by the bright orange and the white of the strong short feathers which supported the magnificent tail.

A.R.D.

The other day we were having lunch in the car at Uplands Park when a Cooper hawk made its appearance. It was immediately attacked by two hummingbirds, which were re-inforced shortly by a small group of barn swallows.

A.R.D.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

1962

Tuesday,
Sept. 11:GENERAL MEETINGAt the Douglas Building Cafeteria on
Elliott Street, at 8 p.m.Speaker for the evening will be a member
of the staff of the Provincial Fish and
Game Branch.Saturday,
Sept. 15:BIRD FIELD TRIP:To Discovery Island, courtesy Capt. Beaumont.
Meet at Royal Victoria Yacht Club, Ripon Rd.,
Uplands at 10 a.m. Please contact Mr. T.R.
Briggs, GR 8-4145 for reservations.
Bring lunch.

THE BOTANY Chairman will announce the details of their
meeting at the general meeting on September 11th.

A panel of speakers has been lined up for the season, in-
cluding Dr. Rollie Brett of the Fisheries Research Board
at Departure Bay; Dr. W.R. Orchard of the Dominion Experi-
mental Laboratory at Saanichton, Dr. Edwin M. Hagmeier of
Victoria College, one of the staff from the U.S.A. National
Park Service, and other interesting speakers.

THE JUNIOR BRANCH will meet each Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at
the Monterey parking lot, Hillside and Douglas Street, for
field trips. Anyone who is interested please phone the
leader, Mr. Freeman King at GR 9-2966.

The Junior Branch intend to keep the Nature House at
Thomas Francis Park open during the week-ends through the
fall and winter months.

A TIMELY REMINDER

'Tis in the merry month of May,
That we our rightful debt should pay,
Now June has come with flowery bliss,
And we alas! are quite remiss,
To put us in a state of grace,
To look our brethren in the face,
This cash accept; our lapse excuse,
And make a note:- "They've paid their dues".

J.A.B.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

OFFICERS, 1962-63

Honorary Presidents

HON. EARLE C. WESTWOOD
Minister of Recreation and Conservation

MR. J. W. EASTHAM
Former Provincial Plant Pathologist

Honorary Life Members

DR. G. CLIFFORD CARL
Director, Provincial Museum

MR. GEORGE A. HARDY
Former Provincial Botanist

Past Presidents

ROBERT CONNELL - - 1944-48
G. CLIFFORD CARL - - 1948-49
GEORGE A. HARDY - - 1949-50
MRS. R. G. HOBSON - - 1950-52
J. A. CUNNINGHAM - - 1952-54
C. W. LOWE - - - - 1954-56

A. O. HAYES - - - - 1956-57
P. M. MONCKTON - - 1957-58
MRS. G. E. SOULSBY - 1958-59
RALPH FRYER - - - 1960-
FREEMAN KING - - - 1960-62

President

P. J. CROFT
1954 Waterloo Road
Telephone EV 5-6155

Vice-President

MISS ENID LEMON
Telephone GR 7-2194

Editors

A. R. DAVIDSON
825 Monterey Avenue
Telephone EV 4-9595

G. CLIFFORD CARL
410 Queen Anne Heights
Telephone EV 3-8524

Secretary

MISS EDITH VALENS
239 St. Andrews Street
Telephone EV 5-8855

Treasurer

MRS. ELEANORE DAVIDSON
825 Monterey Avenue
Telephone EV 4-9595

Chairmen of Groups

Programme and Publicity

FREEMAN KING
Telephone GR 9-2966

Ornithology

T. R. BRIGGS GR 8-4145
DAVID STIRLING GR 9-4646

Botany

MISS M. C. MELBURN (Summer)
Telephone EV 4-9052

Entomology

DR. JOHN A. CHAPMAN
Telephone EV 4-5568

Zoology

DR. G. CLIFFORD CARL, EV 3-8524

Audubon Lectures

MISS ENID LEMON, GR 7-2194

Federation

MRS. G. E. SOULSBY, EV 6-5028

Marine Biology

PROF. J. A. CUNNINGHAM
Telephone EV 4-3897

Geology

A. H. MARRION
Telephone EV 4-1983

FREEMAN KING GR 9-2966
MRS. K. OSBORNE EV 5-8164

Annual dues, including subscription:

Single, \$2.00; Family, \$3.00; Junior, \$1.00; Life Membership, \$30.00;
Life Membership husband and wife, \$50.00.