

The **VICTORIA NATURALIST**

Vol. 19, No. 9

May, 1963



(F. L. Beebe)

Rein Orchid

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VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
VICTORIA, B. C.

OUR COVER

Wood Rein-Orchid

Can we see this plant now? Yes, but only its two to three broad bright-green leaves, which lie almost flat on the ground. Where? In woods or in bushland or even on quite open slopes, where it appears to thrive on either dry or moist soil.

It is one of six fairly common species of the genus *Habenaria* to be found on Vancouver Island out of a total of eleven species in the entire province. Our wood rein-orchid is *Habenaria unalascensis* var. *elata*. Quite a formidable name! So, call it wood rein-orchid and by the time this plant comes into flower you will have had plenty of time to learn the scientific name -- it won't be in bloom until late June or early July.

Then why start looking for it now? Better mark the spot where you see those broad flat leaves because by the time the plant produces its greenish-white flowers those handsome green leaves may be considerably or completely dried up. That's a characteristic of some members of this group.

A close relative of the wood rein-orchid is the slender-spire orchid, a plant with fewer and smaller flowers which are much less crowded on the stem, and with each flower bearing a much shorter spur. In the Provincial Museum Handbook #16 "The Orchids of British Columbia", you will find illustrations and descriptions of these two orchids on pages 55 and 59 among the other nine British Columbia species of *Habenaria*.

The most outstanding feature of the wood rein-orchid is its extremely long spur, which is twice the length of the "lip" or more. The spur, incidentally, is actually a nectary whose contents attract the insects so essential to the cross-pollination this plant requires.

Like all orchids, wood rein-orchid is a perennial herb. During the early part of the season much of the food made in its green leaves is stored in the tuber-like roots to

enable renewal of growth in the following season. Its crop of seeds is enormous but the seeds are minute, almost microscopic, and contain no stored food. Therefore, unless germination conditions are ideal as to temperature, type of soil, moisture, etc., thousands of seeds die for every one that succeeds. Quoting from Dr. A.F. Szczawinski's Handbook "If only a small percentage of the seeds from each plant could grow to maturity orchids would soon be as common as grass". As it is, our orchids become scarcer and scarcer as the areas of their natural habitats shrink before the advance of settlement.

Let us admire these little beauties but leave them all right where they stand.

M. C. Melburn.

A NORTH PACIFIC CRUISE

Mrs. Soulsby loaned me the March Newsletter issued by the Nova Scotia Bird Society, containing an article by one of their members, Mr. Fred Dobson, giving an account of a cruise round Vancouver Island on an oceanographic vessel. It is so interesting that I am taking the liberty of purloining a few extracts for the benefit of our readers, and feel sure our fellow bird watchers on the Atlantic will not mind.

"June 18. On the North Pacific cruise, the weather was good... I saw a few, but not too many, whales; sperm and finback. The most frequently seen mammal was the fur seal. What an animal! Not very large, about four feet long usually, but can they play! Whenever they see the ship, over they come, popping their inquisitive heads out of the water, and swim round and round us, sniffing at our bottles and bathythermographs; jumping and somersaulting, rolling on their backs and scratching themselves. Another favorite trick is to sneak up, underwater, and scare the pants off the albatrosses which settle round us when we stop. These birds, being dignified and immensely stupid, fly off resentfully a few yards, settle, and almost immediately rise with a squawk again, while a playful brown form makes a swirl below them.

Birds were sometimes good, sometimes non-existent, except for the ever-present albatrosses, which follow the ship in flocks up to twenty. These are the black-footed; we occasionally see the Laysan albatross, but it generally stays farther away from the ship. Pacific fulmars, petrels - fork-tailed and Leach's - sooty and slender-billed shearwaters were the only members of

of the tube-noses I saw. Of the alcids, pigeon guillemots, common murrelets, tufted and horned puffins, rhinoceros auklets, marbled murrelets, ancient murrelets and (perhaps) parakeet auklets. Saw a couple of common (I think) terns, glaucous, herring, glaucous-winged and mew gulls, black-legged kittiwakes, and a number of Bonaparte gulls. The kittiwakes stay with us through the worst of gales; they seem to enjoy it better as the wind gets stronger.

Saw some beautiful male common eiders at Kodiak and both mergansers. Ducks are in great abundance, inshore as a rule, coot, scaup, goldeneye and occasionally baldpate.

The only other bird of note was a poor wanderer. He flew in, a small, striped warbler, out of the fog, off the west coast of Vancouver Island, settled in the captain's alleyway and tucked his head under his wing. Here the radio operator found him and took him to me. I let him sleep beside my pillow, out of sight, till we got ashore, when I let him go. That afternoon when I got back to Nanaimo, whoever had borrowed my Peterson had returned it, and I located the bird at once - a northern water thrush, my first, and what a way to get acquainted! I'll never miss one of those, if I ever see another....

In January, the first week of the cruise, we zig-zagged up the west coast of Vancouver Island, going into Quatsino Sound on one of our zigs. And the birds there were fabulous - marbled murrelets, murrelets by the hundreds, and bald eagles. The Sound, as all B. C. inlets are, was beautiful. We came down it at sunset, and there was a gray, sometimes pink, sometimes brilliantly white mist up in the mountains, which were perfectly reflected in the glass-smooth water.

Then away again up the west coast of the Queen Charlottes, and I found myself, at five in the morning, balancing on a heaving deck against a 35-knot gale. The weather, from then on, got steadily worse. We rolled into Prince Rupert on Monday, where we stayed and licked our wounds. The weather just blew harder Tuesday, so we were treated to a trip inside from Rupert to Victoria. Most of the way is through narrow, completely calm waters, among green-wooded and snow-capped mountains, which drop steeply to narrow beaches. Deer and bear on the beaches. Once again, bald eagles, at least one pair a mile, and there are a lot of miles in the Inside Passage. In my eyes, it ranks with the best scenery anywhere."

A.R.D.

BEACHCOMBING

by J. M. Barnett

Since the sea is the most prolific habitat of nature, Victoria naturalists are blessed with a facet of study denied those who live any distance from salt water.

Our first venture into this interesting field was along a small stretch of beach along Dallas Road, where there were pebbles and a few rock formations. Starting with the seaweed cast up at the high tide mark, we found most of it too chewed up by the rocks to make identification possible for a beginner. However, there was no mistaking the hollowed stipe and bladder of bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*), large beds of which could be seen a little distance offshore.

Among the debris we found the shell of a shore crab, which was probably the victim of one of the glaucous-winged gulls, which are common here. Whenever we disturbed the debris a number of beach fleas hopped away. They belong to a group of crustaceans known as Amphipods, and are a part of the food supply of shore birds. We were once fortunate in watching a black turnstone toss a piece of seaweed aside to find these amphipods underneath.

From here to the water's edge were barnacles of all shapes and sizes. First were the small ones high up on the tide zone, scattered singly on small stones and rocks almost out of reach of the high tides. In the mid-tidal zone were larger ones of varied sizes, scattered individually and in groups, while lower still on the rocks, which are exposed to the full force of the pounding surf were large rugged ones closely packed together. The identification of barnacles is difficult, but their study may be enhanced by Handbook No.7, published by the Provincial Museum.

On bare spots on the rocks all along the inter-tidal zone we saw a number of limpets, which were brown with light radiating markings on the shell. Although when out of their watery element these animals are so firmly attached to the rocks that they cannot be moved unless a knife blade is inserted under the shell, they have to move around to secure their food, which consists of young seaweeds which are constantly developing from spores that settle on the rocks. This they do when the tide comes in, but strangely enough they always return to the same spot when the tide goes out. Limpets are eaten by our oyster-catchers which

insert their sharp red bills under the animal when it is under water, and not firmly attached.

In a small crevice we found some sea anemones which were closed, but so covered with bits of shell, gravel and sand that they were perfectly camouflaged. We were surprised to learn that these animals do the camouflaging themselves. In another crevice where there was a rock pool we saw some more of these anemones which were partly open showing a green colour with beautiful shades of pink radiating from the centre. These soft fleshy creatures are voracious feeders and can digest almost anything offered them.

Cast up on the rock was a piece of bead coral, which belongs to the group of sea plants which can form a covering of lime over their tissues very much as the little coral animals do. When exposed they are brittle and turn a lovely pink-purple shade.

Clinging to the rocks were a number of delicate green algae with long silky blades which we were able to identify as string lettuce, and another with smooth gelatinous branches with many small flattened outgrowths which we think was Lyall's seaweed. We saw one of the latter in the water, and the small outgrowths were fascinating to watch as they waved around every which way continuously.

We found an alga with a number of circular blades in a clump which we identified as sea cabbage, and a dark brown one with curious rounded bumps on the blades, which was probably searsucker seaweed.

A few tufts of eelgrass were located, and we were surprised to learn that although it grows submerged in the sea, it is nevertheless a flowering plant, and not a seaweed. Hidden under the eelgrass we found a small isopod, a member of the crustacean group.

Looking down into the water from a high spot we saw a rock just out of the water draped with a number of large seaweeds which dropped down into the water. With every pulse of the sea the blades waved around, giving the impression that we were looking at a large green octopus. This was the winged kelp, and we learned that it was once eaten by Scottish and Irish residents along the coast.

On a rock at the edge of the sea we saw our first snail, which proved to be a channelled purple. These 'purple' snails are not named for the colour of their shells but because they are said to be the snails from which the Tyrian dye of ancient times was made. The snail is carnivorous,

and often along the beach you may find a shell with a tiny hole bored through it, indicating where the radula of this animal had done its work.

The identification of the species of some of the marine life is difficult for a novice, but "Between Pacific Tides" and a book of Pacific algae, both of which are in the Society's library, can be very helpful. In addition, two other publications, "The Barnacles of British Columbia" and "The Intertidal Bivalves of British Columbia" both the work of our Museum, can well be recommended.

Armed with these we feel sure that a stroll along our beaches can be full of interest and entertainment.

THE VICTORIA NATURALIST

This issue will complete the nineteenth year of publication of the Victoria Naturalist. The first number came out in April, 1944, under the editorship of Mr. A. L. Meugens, who was followed the next year by Mrs. R. G. Hobson. Dr. Carl then took over until April, 1949. From then on Dr. Carl has been co-editor. On him has been the responsibility of scrutinizing and correcting all manuscripts submitted.

For the year following April, 1949, Mr. W. T. Tildesley and Mr. J. R. J. Llewellyn Jones acted as editors, then Mr. Tildesley and Mrs. A. F. Sarratt, and the next year (1952-1953) Mrs. Sarratt and Mrs. E. J. Woodward. In April, 1953, the present editor was appointed along with Mr. John Nutt, and the year following that, with Mr. H. D. R. Stewart. From then on there were only two editors, Dr. Carl and myself.

With this issue, having completed ten years, I am relinquishing this office.

It has been the desire of all the editors to make the magazine interesting to the members, eliminating, as far as possible, technical matter, which, it is felt, only appeals to a small number of people. Much of the material has been contributed by the members, and, to a large degree, the articles have been confined to the natural history of Victoria and its surrounding area.

A.R.D.

A WREN RECORD

In the 'Naturalist' for March 1962 there was an account, by Madeline Till, of a number of winter wrens roosting in a nest box during a cold spell. Mrs. Till wrote as follows:

"On a gloomy January evening I stood at the kitchen window thinking what fun it would be when the nesting season arrived, and the empty house would be occupied again. Then I became aware that the roof of the garage was alive with small dark-brown feathered shapes - winter wrens - seemingly dozens of them flying in from every direction and making for THE house! One went into it, and another and another. Then one came out or was pushed out, and still they came, more and more of them. I lost count, and it got too dark to see, but I swear there were a dozen or more crammed into the box."

The North American winter wren and the European wren are identical even the technical name, (a formidable one) *Troglodytes troglodytes*, is the same. It also appears they have the same habit of crowding into a nest box during severe weather, as the following account shows. This item appeared in the English magazine "Country Life" last month.

"The enclosed photograph shows Mr. T.V. Pretty, a school welfare officer in the Isle of Wight, examining a nesting-box in his garden at Parkhurst. Recently this box achieved fame, when on the night of January 9th it became the temporary roost for no fewer than 51 wrens. Mr. Pretty, with the help of the local natural history society, has kept a very careful check. It has been found that a period of from 20 to 25 minutes is required for all the birds to enter or leave."

The nesting-box in the photograph appeared to be about six inches square and five inches in depth, with a small compartment under the peaked roof. This is an extremely small space to house so many of these birds. True they average only four inches in length, with a very small tail, but even so, it is surprising they all survived, but apparently they did, as the report did not mention any casualties.

A.R.D.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, MAY 8th, 1962 to May 14th, 1963

INCOME:

Bank Balance from preceding year, less O/S cheques	\$1,149.66
Membership dues - - - - -	520.50
Remission - Amusement Tax - - - - -	122.69
Bank Interest - - - - -	28.90
Francis Park, - Parks Branch Refund - - - - -	200.00
Junior Camp Refund - - - - -	50.00
Bird check lists sold - - - - -	9.70
Donations towards cost of microscope - - - - -	7.00
Bond Interest - - - - -	50.00
Transferred from Audubon Account - - - - -	220.46
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	\$2,358.91
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AUDUBON ACCOUNTINCOME:

Receipts from ten lectures - - - - -	\$2,632.75
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	\$2,632.75
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VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH

Net Savings Account - - - - -	\$ 959.43
Bond: Ontario Hydro - Scholarship - - - - -	992.50
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	1,951.93
Less Scholarship fund to date - - - - -	136.35
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Total - - -	\$1,815.58
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LIST OF OUTSTANDING CHEQUES APRIL 22, 1963:

Empire Printers - - - - -	\$ 52.45
Monks Multigraph Letter Service - - - - -	49.62
Douglas Building Cafe - - - - -	5.00
Peninsula Printing Co. Ltd. - - - - -	5.00
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	\$112.07
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EXPENDITURES:

Printing and Mailing "Victoria Naturalist" - - \$	596.10
Stationery and postages - - - - -	76.56
Cost of Meetings - - - - -	65.10
Thomas Francis Park - - - - -	378.16
Library - - - - -	98.06
Evos Park - - - - -	30.00
Donations - - - - -	10.50
Microscope - - - - -	75.00
Junior Camp - - - - -	50.00
Juniors - - - - -	20.00
Bank Balance April 22, 1963, less O/S cheques - -	959.43
	<hr/>
	\$2,358.91
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EXPENDITURES:

Contract payment at National Audubon US funds -	\$1,488.93
Rent of Oak Bay Junior H.S. Auditorium - - - - -	670.00
Advertising, Printing and Stationery - - - - -	253.36
Transferred to Victoria Natural History account	220.46
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	\$2,632.75
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TREASURER'S REPORT:

The fiscal year ends with the Annual Meeting. All business being completed at the April executive meeting, the books were balanced and audited in time to be included in this issue.

Expenses exceeded income by \$336.99. This amount includes the Scholarship Fund to date, as per statement of Society's net worth. The caretaker's cottage and the Nature House at Francis Park are not allowable as assets, same being the property of the Provincial Parks Branch.

Our membership now stands at 180 Single, 46 Family, and 49 Juniors. In addition about 40 juniors are included in the family memberships. This is an increase of 20 Single, and a reduction of 4 Family over one year ago.

Respectfully submitted,
"Eleanore Davidson" Treasurer

THE GEOLOGY OF OUR WATERFRONT

by A. H. Marrion

Article No.8: Ross Bay Cemetery to Hollywood Crescent:

From the west boundary of the cemetery at Memorial Crescent, eastwards to the end of the breakwater is a low-land about twenty feet above sea level, about which an article will be written later.

Leaving the road, down to the beach, one may see some large boulders which have been dumped there to stop sea erosion. Some of them are very attractive and interesting. They are almost black and shiny, due to the solid accumulation of long crystals of hornblende. One boulder near the beach gives a hint to the probable origin of the minerals. It shows a contact of Colquitz Gneiss, with its banded structure of Wark Gneiss with its larger darkish crystals. Mr. C.H. Clapp, in his memoir N.36, explains the origin of the hornblende as a result of contact metamorphism and a recrystallization of the minerals, after the Colquitz intrusion. A similar rock may be seen in the area around the intersection of Cook and Quadra Streets in Saanich.

Below the little bluff there is a delightful little white sand beach, the pleasures of which are somewhat restricted due to the sewer outlet at Clover Point. The higher land level hereabouts has been protected from erosion by an outcrop or spur of the Vancouver Volcanics, which do not show any sign of the intrusive rocks mentioned in earlier articles. The western area of the rocks have been worn down to sea level, the great eroder being the glacier movement, which left the series of north-south grooves, which were developed in the faults and joints, running in the same direction. A large shear zone is very noticeable, because it gets deeper and wider as it extends from the high ground into the sea, in an east to west direction.

Contortions of the old lava beds and flows are seen in many places. At one place, a vertical section exposes what appears to be layers of ancient ash about three feet thick. It has the appearance of narrow banded Colquitz Gneiss, and dips steeply to the east.

Deformation is seen everywhere. A fault running north and south divides to form a 'Y'. Its centre portion forms a core, which dips steeply on one side to the east and on the other side to the west. Not far away the rock dips

almost vertically, but its top, which is more or less flat, shows flow lines, which have been pressed around into a wide curve of about 90 degrees. At the same place, embedded in the lava are some small masses and stringers of greyish-white material which effervesces when acid is applied to it. And so the homes of ancient shell life have come down to us as a crystallized mass of rock after being buried in volcanic material for millions of years.

At the foot of Beechwood Avenue there was to be seen at one time one of the better examples of ice smoothing, fluting and grooving on a freshly exposed rock surface. The spread of homes over the landscape is one more example of factors cutting down opportunities of seeing geological effects.

THE THOMAS FRANCIS PROVINCIAL PARK

by Freeman King

During the past month we have had a steady stream of visitors, many of them 'repeaters', which is what we like to see.

The erythroniums are now at their best, and, mixed with the dodecatheon (peacocks), make a brilliant show. The calypsos, too, are just beginning to come into bloom.

A new trail has been established, which is named the 'Rain Forest Trail'. It takes you down to the south boundary, along the little stream.

For those who like to hear the 'Frog Chorus', go down to the swamp; the songsters croak in many different pitches.

A new pump house has been built, and a tap for drinking water has been installed close to the cabin.

New signs have been placed, also trail cards, showing the different species of plants.

The interior of the Nature House is now in the process of being re-decorated, and new displays are planned.

Mr. Dumbleton, our caretaker, has cleared all the debris resulting from the winter storms, and also repainted the outside of the cabin. The parking lot is in first class condition.

JUNIOR JOTTINGS

by Freeman King

Recent field trips have taken us into the Pike Lake area, where the country is broken into many sharp rock outcrops, and many little depressions and swamps.

In the panhandle we saw some of the old stand of

Douglas firs, which are now being logged. In this area there are ponds which are clear around the edges, giving a prairie or old world effect.

On our trip to Mount Newton Park, pink erythroniums were seen in bloom, and the trilliums in this locality are really worth taking this trip to see. The many red flowering currants are now at their best, and round a little lake there we found many young dogwood trees growing.

We also made a trip to the East summit of Mount Newton where many kinds of flowering plants were seen including several patches of satin flower. The old 'Indian Ring' was pointed out, as well as the 'Sacrifice Rock'. It is there that the original blaze mark was made by the first surveyors, when they laid out the Saanich peninsula.

The Leader section made a re-survey of the experimental block at Francis Park, and took part in a cross country compass orienting run.

An expedition to Spectacle Lake, in which the Duncan leaders took part, proved interesting. This was a 'cook-out' trip.

Leaders have rotated on duty at the Nature House, and also conducted parties around the trails.

We would like to congratulate Dale Rickard on his winning the grand prize at the Science Fair, and we hope that his forthcoming trip to Toronto will be rewarding. Dale's entry was a collection of mounted and named insects, and was one of the outstanding exhibits at our show held during the winter.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE that the first Bird Field Trip, by Capt. Beaumont's motor launch to Discovery Island, takes place on Saturday, May 4th.

This is a popular excursion and reservations should be made as early as possible.

OLD WIVES TALES

by Dorothy Palmer

Ian Niall writes in the COUNTRY LIFE of January 31st, 1963, that he was never sure we were winning in the use of pesticides. Warned by the now well-known book by Rachel Carson SILENT SPRING, he agrees that we must return to old fashioned methods (Editor's note: This magazine has been published in London for the past 133 years).

Ian Niall's column is read around the world. These words from a popular-type gardener may awaken some of those otherwise normal people who are persistently addicted to the use of poison sprays.

We know many horticulturists and gardeners who have always stayed with the old fashioned pest precautions, and with quite satisfactory results.

It could be helpful if every gardener, bird watcher, wilderness conservationist and others, pooled any information they may have on successful alternatives to poisons. Clubs or Societies of, say, DAWN CHORISTERS' (in reply to Silent Spring) could be organized across the continent. They might sponsor experiments in alternatives, sharing, forethought with preparedness, and might even make awards.

Alternatives: Of course there is the old soap and water spraying at the right times and often enough; brushing the carrot tops with a corn broom at the right time, penning two or three hungry Wyandottes in with the gooseberry and currant bushes in winter (to keep fly off in summer). A bother? Sure it is, but the fruit won't harm you, it will be free of poison.

Sharing: A little extra for the birds, preferably planted farther from human activity than the main crop. Worth doing for our cheeky, colourful jays, since we have watched them clean out broods of tent caterpillars on roadside trees.

Forethought with preparedness: Farmers and orchardists could take thought and act defensively in advance by preparing for co-operation from birds and other helpful creatures instead of eliminating them with sprays. As an example of this, it was reported last year that farmers in Kenya opened up vast new lands to cultivation, which naturally brought a horde of hungry little birds to the bonanza. SIX MILLION Sudan diucks (small African birds) were exterminated. Perhaps setting aside acreage planted to food for birds could have been less costly. The birds

would have eaten millions of pests. In this case forethought and willingness to share may have resulted in some pest control BY THE BIRDS.

Organic farmers and gardeners claim that by organic methods pests are greatly reduced and even eliminated. If they do not at first succeed they can step back and use the vegetable pesticide Pyrethrum, which is claimed to leave no harmful residue. Pyrethrum, (*Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium*), the bug killing daisy, figures in another ancient tale. The Chinese knew it two thousand years ago, and modern dog-lovers know the dust as Keatings Powder.

Experiments are being made with *Tagetes minuta*, an insect repelling herb which can be grown in the infested area. The virtues of this *Tagetes* is the source of an old wives tale, for the Aztecs of ancient time claimed that this plant protected their crops from being cursed by the gods.

Recently, South American Girl Guides have been pressed into service collecting seeds of this species for growing in experimental stations in Britain and Europe. It grows wild on the Pacific coast of South America, but is not the *Tagetes* grown in our gardens.

Further investigation of *Tagetes minuta* and other plants with pest-repelling qualities would lead to scientific articles and what-not, but the theme of this article is not scientific, but just a note of warning to the many garden lovers of Victoria.

Two items in Sunday's Colonist adds punch to these rather wandering remarks of mine.

The first from Regina re traces of dieldrin anti-grasshopper poison being found in butter. Apparently 360 pounds of butter were seized for investigation and eight farmers were notified they will be prosecuted for allegedly shipping dieldrin-tainted cream. (The cream of the joke is that this is a governmentally sponsored poison.)

The second from Ottawa, where Dr. V.E.F. Solman of the Canadian Wildlife Service told the federal-provincial wildlife conference that there is already widespread evidence that pesticides are affecting wildlife.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

1963

Saturday May 4th: **BIRD FIELD TRIP:** Boat trip to Discovery Island, courtesy Capt. E. G. Beaumont. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. Bring lunch. Phone Mr. T.R. Briggs GR 8-4145 for further information and reservations.

Tuesday May 14th: **ANNUAL MEETING:** At the Douglas Building Cafeteria on Elliot St., at 8 p.m. Election of officers and other business.

Saturday May 18th: **BOTANY FIELD TRIP:** Meet at Monterey Parking Lot (Hillside & Douglas Sts.) at 1:30 p.m. for a Field Trip to John Dean Park. Bring Tea. Leader: Miss M. C. Melburn.

Saturday May 25th: **THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL PICNIC** at the Guide Camp on the Cowichan River in conjunction with the Cowichan Valley Natural History Society; meeting there at 11 a.m. Bring lunch. Further particulars at the Annual Meeting, or phone Mr. Freeman King at GR 9-2966.

Saturday June 22nd: **BOTANY FIELD TRIP:** Meet at Monterey Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. for field trip to the George Pringle Memorial Camp on the west side of Shawnigan Lake. Bring lunch and tea. Leader: Miss M. C. Melburn.

Saturday July 6th: **BIRD FIELD TRIP:** Boat trip to Bare Island and Sidney Island. Meet at Sidney wharf at 10 a.m. or at the Monterey Parking Lot at 9 a.m. Bring lunch. Phone Mr. T.R. Briggs GR 8-4145 for reservation.

Saturday July 20th: **BOTANY FIELD TRIP:** Meet at the Monterey Parking Lot at 1:30 p.m. for field trip to Thomas Francis Park and Snag Valley. Bring tea. Leader: Miss M. C. Melburn.

(continued over)

NOTICE OF MEETINGS Continued:

Saturday,
Aug. 10th: BIRD FIELD TRIP: Boat trip to Sidney Island, Shell Islands and others. Meet at Sidney Wharf at 10 a.m. or at the Monterey Parking Lot at 9 a.m. Bring lunch. Phone Mr. T.R. Briggs for reservation.

Saturday
Aug. 17th: BOTANY FIELD TRIP: Meet at the Monterey Parking Lot at 1:30 p.m. for field trip to Goldstream Park. Bring tea. Leader: Miss M.C. Melburn.

THE JUNIORS will continue to meet during the summer as usual at 1:30 p.m. at Monterey Parking Lot. Leader: Mr. Freeman King. Anyone who would like to join these trips is very welcome.

THE NATURE HOUSE at Francis Park will be open on Sundays from 10 a.m. until 4:30 and during July and August will be open all day every day. Conducted trail nature walks will be given. If special parties would like tours, please contact Mr. Freeman King at GR 9-2966.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

If it is the wish of the members to keep the dues at their present level, then some work will have to be done, and plans made, to increase the number of members, which has not kept pace with Victoria's increase in population.

For the past sixteen years part of our revenue has been derived from our sponsorship of the Audubon Lectures, but, with the increased cost of lecturers and the devaluation of the Canadian dollar (payments are made to New York in U. S. funds), this once excellent source of revenue has seriously diminished.

The annual fees of \$3.00 for family membership, \$2.00 for single, and \$1.00 for juniors has not changed since the Society was formed in April of 1944.

The Society is entirely self-supporting, receives no grants or legacies, and all work done by members is honorary. We hope it will continue that way, but it will need the help of members by endeavouring to increase membership by interesting their friends. We can all try to do our share.

A.R.D.

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
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