

# *The* **VICTORIA NATURALIST**

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THE VICTORIA NATURALIST

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Vol.20, No.1September 1963.

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President's Report (abridged)

The year has, I think, been characterised by a growing awareness of a service to be performed for the community in which we operate. As I pointed out when you conferred this office upon me a year ago, naturalists, who as a group, are only seen by the public when on their bird-watching, botanizing and bug-hunting forays, and only heard in feeble expostulation when anyone cuts down a tree, live in constant danger of being regarded as harmless cranks and figures of fun.

But when the membership of a society such as ours is well laced with sober-minded business people, as well as with serious experts and professionals in the various fields of biology; when the Society is prepared to underwrite scholarships at our local university for biology students; when it sponsors and brings to town the world-famous Audubon Screen Tours; when it is prepared to administer, and accept responsibility on behalf of the Government for important tracts of sanctuary territory; above all, when it sponsors, in the persons of some of its most dedicated supporters, the training and leadership of our children in the healthiest and most rewarding of outdoor pursuits, the study of wildlife, then the Society is a force to reckon with and should be, and is, the right and proper referee for all matters in which wildlife conservation is involved. I feel that the past year has seen important steps in achieving and maintaining this position in the community. It does, however, lay an increasing responsibility on all of us. A responsibility to see that others who support our aims and motives are brought into active membership. A responsibility, too, to be always on the watch for impending violations of the principles of Conservation, and, when we detect one, to act soberly, through our Society, in order to achieve the best and most lasting solution to the threat.

P. J. CROFT.

## COVER PICTURE

A departure from the usual, our cover presents Miss Nancy Chapman, an ardent and able member of the Junior Group. She is portrayed in the act of identifying various mosses gathered during a field survey conducted by the juniors while in camp at Goldstream Park in July. By promoting the interest of young people, an organization perpetuates itself and its ideals. Youngsters whose interest is stimulated by us today may not remain with us forever -- they may do even better and leave us to start a Natural History Society in some other community.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF BOTANY FIELD TRIPS, 1962.

Our first trip of the season was to Thetis Sanctuary where 56 species of wildflowers were observed. These ranged from little two-inch white-flowered poppies to big showy balsam root with sunflower heads.

May 12 was annual picnic day at Eavos Park, and since interest was divided between birds, botany and scenery, only 29 species of plants in flower were listed; most of these were found on the high knoll where the view was unusually fine.

In June, Goldstream Park can always be counted on to yield a good "bag". Several species found there are not often encountered elsewhere on our trips, e.g. blue currant, enchanter's nightshade, hazelnut, water-leaf and bishop's cap. After lunch, we went to Bamberton Park where we found more people than plants. However, a few typical species were noted, such as seaside sandwort, orach, and glasswort. Total for the day, 75 species.

July's all-day jaunt took us up the west side of Saanich Peninsula and back via Pat Bay Highway, with a side trip to Island View Beach. Our first stop was the Scout Hall grounds, where we listed 45 species. The next halt was at a pool belonging to Chew's Excavating Company where growth ranged from floating duckweed (smallest of our flowering plants) to various sedges and rushes, pale persicaria, neckweed and marsh foxtail. After several more roadside stops, we arrived at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Newton, where we spent a very pleasant noon hour. After dinner, we went to a mud flat, a short distance past Swartz Bay, to renew our acquaintance with alkali

grass, seaside plantain, parasitic dodder, and *Jaumea carnosa*, named for the French botanist, Jaume St. Hilaire. It is worth mentioning that this small, yellow-headed composite is found nowhere else in Canada except on Vancouver Island. It occurs here and there in saline marshes on down the coast, into California. There are only five other known species of the genus in the world and these are found in tropical South America and tropical Africa.

The last trip of 1962 season was the November 3rd fungus foray at Francis Park. This outing was reported in the December issue. It is sufficient to say that on that occasion, 32 observers found more than 80 species of fungus.

### SUMMARY OF BOTANY FIELD TRIPS (summer)

Date	Area	Plants	People
April 21	Thetis Sanctuary	56	23
May 12	Eavos Park	29	?
June 23	Goldstream and Bamberton Parks	75	24
July 21	North on West Saanich Road and south on Pat Bay Highway	90	18
Nov. 23	Fungus foray at Francis Park	80	32

M.C. MELBURN.

### REPORT OF THE BOTANY GROUP - WINTER '62-'63

Meetings of the Botany Group began on Monday, September 17, with a very enjoyable evening visit to the Nature House in Francis Park. Freeman King kindly acting as host, gave a short talk describing various trails in the park, and other points of interest.

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, 32 members attended an interesting slide show entitled "Fun With Fungi", given by Miss Enid Lemon, and accompanied by an excellent commentary by Miss M. C. Melburn.

Pouring rain literally "washed out" a meeting planned for the evening of November 19. Freeman King, who was to speak on "Plant Identification" arrived with a



good supply of specimens, but when only Miss Sartain, Miss Melburn and one other member arrived, it was decided to postpone the meeting.

On Thursday, December 6, 22 members of the group had two meetings in one. Miss Lemon and Miss Melburn gave the second part of the slide show "Fun With Fungi", and Freeman King gave his talk on winter identification of trees and shrubs without foliage, which had been postponed the previous month.

An interesting, enlightening talk on "Heredity in Plants", illustrated by slides and blackboard sketches, was given by Mr. W.R. Foster, Provincial Plant Pathologist, on January 22. Mr. Buckley thanked the speaker on behalf of 22 members attending.

A well-attended meeting on February 26 welcomed Mr. George Hardy, retired Provincial Botanist, who gave a delightful, slide-illustrated, talk on "Wildflowers as They Grow". Mr. King thanked the speaker on behalf of 22 members.

Winter season programme for the Botany Group was concluded on March 26 by Mr. Ted Underhill, Provincial Parks Branch Naturalist, who spoke and showed slides of "Alpines of Manning Park". Mr. Alec Grey expressed the feelings of 44 members when he thanked Mr. Underhill for an excellent presentation.

All of the aforementioned meetings, held in the Provincial Museum were apparently much enjoyed and appreciated by all who attended.

EMILY SARTAIN.

## SEPTEMBER BRITISH COLUMBIA NATURE COUNCIL v9 63

On May 11, 1963, the second meeting of representatives from Natural History Societies in British Columbia took place in the Aquatic Club, Kelowna, and the British Columbia Nature Council was formed. Dr. J.E. Armstrong, President of Vancouver Natural History Society acted as Chairman, and Mrs. H. Lamoureux of Central Okanagan Naturalist Club of Kelowna was secretary. We had agreed at our previous meeting in Victoria, on February 23, that this Council was desirable, not only as the voice of the naturalist in conservation matters, but also to aid in the formation of other natural history groups through the Province.

At this meeting in Kelowna, Dr. T.M.C. Taylor of

U.B.C., a member of the Vancouver Society, was elected President and Mr. Eric Garman, Vice-President of Thetis Lake Park Nature Sanctuary Association became treasurer. The Secretary, according to our Interim Constitution, will be appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Council. Each member Society of the Council is entitled to one voting delegate. There must be at least one meeting during the year, and these shall be rotated geographically.

Dr. Jack Hocking, President of the Kelowna Society, was chairman of the buffet supper which followed the afternoon meeting. The Mayor of Kelowna also came and spoke words of welcome to us. Many members of both Kelowna and Vernon Societies were present along with representatives of outside societies. Mr. Jack Gregson, President of the Kamloops Outdoor Club, gave a very interesting account of the beautiful slides he showed of "The Rim of the Interior Dry Belt". Dr. Taylor gave a very inspired talk outlining some steps the new Council could take. Dr. Carl of the Provincial Museum spoke informally and humorously on the "birth" of the Council.

Sunday morning, at 8:15, Mrs. Lamoureux was hostess, to all delegates and hosts, at a breakfast in the Royal Anne Hotel, after which most of us took part in a field day led by Mr. James Grant of the Vernon Society. It was a lovely day; beautiful country; good leadership and plenty of ornithology and botany. A few out-of-towners stayed and were guests that evening at Vernon's Annual Banquet, when Dr. Carl was guest speaker.

Victoria Natural History Society was well represented by Dr. G.C. Carl, Mr. A.H. Marrion, Mrs. L. Rutherford, Miss Irene Latimer, Mr. York Edwards, Mr. David Stirling, Mrs. T. Briggs, Mrs. Mary Winstanley, Comdr. H.W.S. and Mrs. Soulsby. Mr. and Mrs. Garman were there for Thetis Park N.S.A. and Mrs. Parris, Miss D. Page and Mrs. Bell-Irving, also from T.P.N.S.A. Mr. Macdugald represented South Okanagan Naturalist Club of Penticton. The only Society not represented was Cowichan Valley Natural History Society of Duncan. We missed them and hope they will be represented at the next meeting.

GLADYS E. SOULSBY.

BIRD GROUP REPORT, 1963

Field Trips: Eleven field trips were organized and led by Mr. T.R. Briggs. Attendance averaged 24 members per trip. Bird species recorded averaged 63 per trip. Seventy-nine species were recorded on the September trip to Discovery Island, the highest total of the year. A few of the rarer species observed during the year were Sabine's gull, red phalarope, ancient murrelet, Wilson's phalarope, sandhill crane, American bittern, great horned owl and brown pelican.

Audubon Field Notes: Information on birds in Victoria area was gathered and submitted to the Field Notes regional editor by Mr. D. Stirling.

B.C.Nest Record Scheme: Several members participated in the nest record scheme. Completed cards were submitted to U.B.C. by Mr. G. A. Poynter.

Victoria Naturalist: Many short articles and notes about birds were printed in The Victoria Naturalist.

Christmas Bird Count: Forty-six adults and seven juniors participated in the Christmas Bird Count. One hundred twenty-one species (highest count in Canada) were positively identified. Eight additional species were observed during the count week. Total of individual birds was 44,146. The count was the subject of favourable comment in the press, on T.V. and radio. The Christmas Count is without doubt the most important natural history event of the year. Results are published in the February issue of The Victoria Naturalist and the April issue of Audubon Field Notes.

T. R. BRIGGS.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS, 1962-'63

Although a number of other lectures were offered concurrently in the City, Audubon Wildlife Films was once again a success. Financial returns were not as high as they have been. Profit, however, is not as important as the service given to people of this area. It was gratifying to note a high proportion of young people in the audiences, and it is hoped that even a higher percentage of the youthful population will attend in the future. The Society wishes again to express its sincere thanks to all who helped with the film programmes.

REPORT OF THE FRANCIS PARK BOARD

Francis Park, and its Nature House, has been more than successful during the past year. Approximately 9,000 people visited the park. Many were "repeaters", showing a continuing interest. Among the visitors were people from England, Europe, West Indies, the Far East, U.S.A. and all parts of Canada.

Two new trails were opened, giving more variety of scenery. All trails have been named, marked and signs erected. Trail cards were placed and changed with the seasons. The public has been very co-operative in keeping the trails clean and tidy.

The Nature House was manned throughout the year. Every Sunday, members of the Junior Group were on duty. They also took charge of displays, which were changed every week. All trail work was done by the Junior Group, and to them we owe thanks.

Last summer, David Gray was on full time during holiday season. He collected and mounted a large number of insects, including moths and butterflies, abundant in the park.

The interior of the Nature House was re-painted in anticipation of a busy season. New display cards, etc., are being made.

A new pumphouse was built and a drinking water tap installed next to the cabin. Mr. Percy Dumbleton, our caretaker, has done an excellent job of keeping the place tidy. He has re-painted the outside of the cabin and is starting on the interior. All fallen trees and broken limbs have been cleared up and used for firewood. The parking lot is in first class order.

It is proposed to produce a booklet on the park, covering flora, fauna and history. We hope to publish it this coming year.

A full time attendant will be on duty during the holidays this summer. A permanent collection of all plant life in the park has been started. A survey of plant life in a given area is also being made.

It is hoped to extend the Nature House to include a workshop and laboratory for older students who wish to continue their studies in the natural science field.

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## EAVOS PARK, WESTHOLME

Very little has been done with Eavos Park. Mrs. Janet Goodall is still in residence, therefore, it will be left as it is until Mrs. Goodall goes to the Interior. When she will be leaving is not known.

A survey of the studio roof was made by the Provincial Parks Branch to determine the advisability of making repairs.

FREEMAN KING.

## PROGRAMME COMMITTEE REPORT, 1962-'63.

During the past year, we had a panel of speakers on a variety of subjects:-

September; Mr. J. Withler, Fish and Game Branch.

October; Dr. J. Brett, Biological Station,  
Nanaimo.

November; Mr. Don Robinson, Fish and Game  
Branch.

December; Mr. Glen Gallison, Olympic National  
Parks.

January; Four Leaders of the Junior Group.

February; Mr. York Edwards, Provincial Parks Branch.

March;      A social evening.

April; Mr. Gerald Burch, Forester, B.C.  
Forest Products Ltd.

The Programme Committee wishes to thank all the other committees for their excellent co-operation in submitting their programmes to us and to the Editor of our magazine.

FREEMAN KING.

## JUNIOR GROUP REPORT, 1962-'63

Junior Group membership is growing -- 100 girls and boys currently attend weekly outings. Membership has been as great before, but never before have the youngsters so earnestly striven for knowledge.

Junior Camp, in July, at Goldstream Park, with 11 girls and 14 boys, was acknowledged a success, although there was a disappointing lack of interest on the part

of the Senior Group.

Junior Leaders, as in past years, took part in the Christmas Bird Count, and ushered at Audubon Wildlife lectures.

The Nature Exhibition, in the Douglas Building on February 8, officially opened by Dr. Turner, Deputy Minister of the Department of Recreation and Conservation, was better than ever. Many of the collections were of professional calibre.

Recently, Dale Rickard won the Grand Championship Award at the Science Exhibition in the City, plus a trip to Toronto to enter his insect collection in the eastern competition.

Junior Leaders have assisted the newly-organized Cowichan Valley Natural History Society. Throughout the year, Juniors worked hard clearing trails in Francis Park, and kept the Nature House stocked with specimens. The Junior Leaders did a magnificent job of guiding visitors on the nature trails. A Certificate of Merit was received for a forty-foot display entered in the Horticultural Fall Show. During the Christmas holiday, Dr. Brett showed the Leaders through the Federal Biological Station at Nanaimo.

The Junior Group wishes to sincerely thank Mrs. Chapman, to whom they are deeply grateful for so efficiently taking charge of supply purchasing, and cooking, for camp. Thanks also go to parents who assisted with transportation to and from camp, and throughout the year.

KAY OSBORNE.

## FRANCIS PARK NOTES, SUMMER '63

by Freeman King

We have had a steady flow of visitors to the park and Nature House during the summer -- approximately 1500 since May.

With Nancy Chapman in charge, the main burden of park and Nature House operation fell to the Juniors. Displays and trail cards were changed weekly to keep pace with the changing field scene. A new trail, the "Rain Forest", was surveyed and opened. Collecting and cataloging of park flora continued. Drinking water was made available near the caretaker's house. The Nature House interior was painted and a covering laid on the floor.

Mrs. Beatrice Mist kindly donated \$1,100 towards the building of a laboratory and workshop in addition to the existing building. It is hoped to start the new building in the near future.

Equipped to assist high school and college students with biological studies, the proposed building will cost about \$2,500. Mr. John Davis will be in charge of construction.

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#### AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS, 1963 - '64

Season tickets, for the Audubon Wildlife Films, will be available at the monthly meeting of the Society on September 10. The price will be the same as last year, i.e. Adult Season Ticket \$3.00. Student Season Ticket \$1. Dates, speakers and subjects are as follows:-

October 4 & 5, Walter J. Breckenridge, "Island Treasure".

November 1 & 2, Walter H. Berlet, "The Living Wilderness".

January 3 & 4, Edgar T. Jones, "Alberta Outdoors".

February 12 & 13, Emerson Scott, "Our Changing Heritage".

March 13 & 14, Alfred G. Etter, "Awake to Nature".

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#### BIRDS FOR THE RECORD

Bonaparte Gulls - an unusual spring migration -  
seen by A.R. Davidson, April 20 - May 10.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (2) - rare spring migrant -  
seen by A.R. Davidson, May 11.

Cinnamon Teal (pair) - rare (nesting) -  
seen by A. Poynter, May 16.

Sandhill Crane (2) rare spring migrant -  
seen by A.R. Davidson, May 17.

Harris Sparrow (1) - accidental -  
seen by D. Stirling, May 17.

Yellowheaded Blackbird (1) - accidental -  
seen by Mrs. R. McKenzie-Grieve, May 18.

Lapland Longspur (1) - rare spring migrant -  
seen by A.R. Davidson, May 25.

Black-crowned Night Heron (1) - rare -  
seen by T. Briggs, August 3.

Solitary Sandpiper (1) - rare -  
seen by A.R. Davidson, August 4.

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#### SEPTEMBER BIRDING

by Alan Poynter.

September is a month of activity. Birds of every family group and species are on the move. With summer season over, and immature birds capable of fending for themselves, massive southward migration progresses, making this month most fascinating of all for birders.

Take along last look at swallows, flycatchers and elusive warblers, because it will require only one or two chill nights to send them on their way. Already they are silent, collecting into small flocks, and moving constantly.

Coming in from the north, our "soon to be" winter residents will be seen in small numbers -- pintails and green-winged teal on fresh water, while ducks increase daily on salt water.

This is the month to brush up on shore birds as they move through. Some of our rare birds appear only at this time of year - knots, pectoral sandpipers, Baird's sandpiper, ruddy turnstones, and maybe a "lifer", in the form of a sharp-tailed sandpiper or a marbled godwit, may appear.

Terns and jaegers will be at peak abundance. If you are up early, and if climatic conditions are right in the Pacific, it might be possible to see a sooty shearwater or a rhinoceros auklet, with his nuptial plumage horn still showing, as they fly through the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

I think a birder feels the approach of winter at least a month before other people. Southbound migrations in July, plumage changes, and less daylight hours to indulge in his (or her) favourite passtime, indicate the waning of summer. But summer is never over until one has walked the woods and seen a wintering fox sparrow scratching amongst crisp, newly-fallen leaves. Then, and only then, can we say it is Fall.



AN INVITATION

by A.Poynter.

If you normally watch birds on shore or water, try the woods and fields this Fall, and vice versa. If you don't watch birds, (I've heard that some people don't) then accept this as an invitation, and join us in September.

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JUNIOR NATURALIST CAMP, 1963

by Nancy Chapman

"This has been the best camp I've ever had," said Skipper King, after this year's Junior Naturalist camp, "And believe me, I've had many of them!"

Our camp this year was held at Goldstream Park, from July 20th to 27th. As well as 18 Juniors from Victoria, we had the pleasure of having with us two people from Kelowna, where they are hoping to start a group, and seven from Cowichan Valley, where there is already a Junior Group well under way.

Staff consisted of Skip King, chief naturalist, story teller, organizer and leader; Mrs. Jane Chapman, chief cook and bottle washer; Mrs. Doreen Gregg, Mrs. Chapman's helper; Mrs. Margaret McKinnon from Duncan, camp matron and first-aider; Mrs. Ernestine Lamoureux from Kelowna, field worker and Skip's helper. It was through their hard work and help that the camp was so successful, and we would like to thank them for doing a wonderful job.

As well as routine activities, such as swimming, campfire, nature stunts, and games, we hiked up Mt. Finlayson, where the Juniors had a taste of rescue work when Jim Cowie, a member, fell off a cliff near the mountaintop.

Another expedition went to Goldstream Delta to survey plant and animal life on the flats. Some groups found and named over eighty different living things in the few hours we were there.

On the third day in camp, we started on our "Projects". Each of four groups was assigned an area of about 30 acres, within which every living thing, mosses, lichens, liverworts, fungi, flowering plants, trees, shrubs, mammals, reptiles, fish amphibians, insects, birds,

etc., were to be identified, if possible. In addition to this, a rock and soil survey was made to determine the reason for the existence of particular plants and animals. Anything which could not be named on the spot was collected and brought back to the "office" for identification and study. These projects were a great success, and with the exception of a little help with insects by Dr. John Chapman, the girls and boys did the whole thing themselves.

We had several visitors during camp, including parents, and several Senior Group members. Doctor and Mrs. Taylor from Vancouver spent one evening with us, and Mr. Arthur Mayse of the Victoria Times, and Mr. Bill Reith, Public Information Officer of the Provincial Parks Branch, each spent an afternoon with us.

It rained heavily for the first three days and the tents leaked badly, but I didn't hear one person complain, nor of course, did anyone grumble when the sun came out on the fourth day!

I think every boy and girl in camp agreed with Skip that it was the best camp they'd ever been to, and everyone is eagerly looking forward to next summer's camp.

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MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

BOTANY MEETING: First meeting of winter season will be held on TUESDAY, SEPT.17, 7:00 p.m. at Francis Park Nature House.

BIRD FIELD TRIP: SATURDAY, SEPT.7, meet at Monterey Parking Lot at 9 A.M. or at Island View Rd. and Pat.Bay Highway at 9:30 A.M. The morning will be spent at Island View Beach, the afternoon covering Bear Hill. Please bring "Peterson's" and your lunch. Alan Poynter will lead.

GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP: Meet at the Museum on SEPT.14, 2:00 P.M. for a trip to Dallas Road, to follow up articles written by Mr. Marrion in recent editions of The Victoria Naturalist. Mr. A. H. Marrion will lead.



MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS (cont'd)

JUNIOR GROUP: will meet regularly at 1:30 p.m. every SATURDAY at Monterey Parking Lot.

Members will be responsible for maintaining the Nature House at Francis Park.

The Junior Group will place an exhibit in Victoria Horticultural Fall Fair in the Curling Rink on September 13th and 14th.

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GUEST SPEAKERS

A full list of guest speakers for the coming months will be published in the October issue of this magazine. Freeman King assures us that he has an interesting slate lined up, and judging by the past, he likely has.

At the Sept. 10th meeting, Bill Reith, Public Information Officer, Provincial Parks Branch, will show slides shot during a recent 40-mile hike along Vancouver Island's west coast.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

At the last Annual Meeting of the Victoria Natural History Society, thanks for many years of faithful and devoted service as co-editor of The Victoria Naturalist Magazine were expressed to Mr. A.R. Davidson. There can be no doubt that he deserved these thanks, for 10 years of voluntary service to any organization is a tremendous contribution of time, interest and energy.

For such service, it is fitting that Mr. Davidson was granted an Honourary Life Membership. It is impossible to visualize any waning of interest on his part, but it is to be hoped that with the shedding of a great burden of responsibility, he will be more able to enjoy his membership in our Society to the fullest extent.

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EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

It is regrettable that I do not know many of you better than I do. Time, however, will I hope remedy that deficiency. I do wish to become better acquainted with all members of the Society. I am honoured to have been asked to share the editorship of your magazine and will do my best to fittingly uphold the position.

My position, however, is a unique one in as much that while I am open to criticism, and will be happy to accept any suggestions, I must also be something of a taskmaster. I must spur you on to produce articles and notes to be the meat of your magazine. Without your efforts, mine will be worthless. Please put your pens to paper and send me the results. If at all possible, please type your submissions, but do by all means submit.

You will have noticed that the Junior Group has been featured prominently in this issue. We hope to hear more from them. They are an integral part of our organization.

You will also have noticed other experimental changes in the magazine. If these experiments prove their worth, they will, with your permission, become accepted practice. Bear with us awhile and hope for the best.

W. D. REITH.

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ANNUAL DUES

Annual dues, including a subscription to The Victoria Naturalist are: Single \$2.00; Family \$3.00; Junior, \$1. Life Membership \$30.00: Life Membership, husband and wife, \$50.00.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Ask a friend to join the Victoria Natural History Society. You will add to their enjoyment, your own, and ours. Our strength is in numbers. The larger our membership, the more we contribute to the community.

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PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED

Photographs, good black and white photographs, are needed for future issues of The Victoria Naturalist. To be acceptable, the photographs should show some phase of nature study -- a plant, an animal, a bird, a scene, someone doing something in or with nature, etc.

We have a few photos in stock and will use them if we have to, but would prefer to use member-contributed material. Please send the negatives with your photos; they will be carefully handled and will be returned to you as soon as we have made print for our use.

Editor.

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THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE

The most precious things of life are near at hand, without money and without price. Each of you has the whole wealth of the universe at your door.

One has only to sit down in the woods or fields or by the shore of the river or lake, and all around him will be things of interest -- the birds, the animals, the insects; and presently, after his eye has got accustomed to the place and to light and shade, he will probably see some plant or flower that he has sought in vain for, and that is a pleasant surprise for him. So, on a large scale, the student and lover of nature has this advantage over people who gad up and down the world seeking novelty and excitement; he has only to stay at home and see the procession pass; the great globe sweeps around him like a revolving showcase; the change of the seasons is like the passage of strange and new countries; the zones of the earth, with all their beauties and marvels, pass one's door and linger long in passing.

JOHN BURROUGHS.

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# VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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