

October, 1967
Vol.24 No.2

THE VICTORIA NATURALIST



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VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Victoria B.C

BRITISH COLUMBIA NATURE COUNCIL

The fourth Annual meeting of the B.C.N.C. was held in Vernon, Saturday and Sunday, May 7th and 8th, 1967, in the Goldstream Motor Hotel. The President, Dr. R. Stace-Smith, was in the chair. Miss Harmon came as a visitor from the newly-formed society in Banff Alberta, the Bow Valley Naturalists. Dr. N.T. Myers was also a visitor. He is from the Dept. of Biology, University of Calgary, and is president of the Calgary Bird Society. There were about twenty people present as Observers during most of the meetings. Saturday was taken up with reports of Standing Committees and discussions on Conservation projects, etc. including the following:

Incorporation of the Society, necessitating change of name.
Use and abuse of "Ski-doo's".
New regulations "Firearms".
New approach in dealing with the questions about Provincial Parks.
Information re flooding, etc. of Mica, Libby and other Dams.
Stirring up public opinion against misuse of swamp lands.
Summer Camp in Science Discovery, Point Roberts, July 12th - 25th.
Charter Flight to East Africa for Safari.

In order that we may have funds for projects, we have very attractive HASTY NOTES for sale. Each society was urged to have a member especially in charge of these Notes. Mrs. Bridgen has been doing this for Victoria Natural History Society, and I am happy to report that she will carry on.

There was a dinner on Saturday evening to which a large number of the Vernon society members also came. Dr. Dave McMullen of the Dominion Experimental Station, Summerland, gave a lecture on Biological Control of Insects. Dr. N. T. Myers of Calgary University and Calgary Bird Society, presented a film depicting the migration of birds as recorded by radar and revealed on the radarscope.

Sunday there was an all-day field trip, which was led by James Grant of Vernon. It rained a bit, but everyone voted it a complete success.

R. Y. Edwards has been this society's delegate to the B.C.N.C. for several years. He has now accepted a position with the Canadian Wildlife Service in Ottawa. We are indeed sorry to lose him, but our best wishes go with him. Before he left Victoria, he completed a Taped Talk, with Slides, "The Face of British Columbia" which is the property of the B.C.N.C. This can be sent to any group desiring to see it, but especially those groups contemplating the formation of a Natural History Society. He also has compiled, with David Sterlings' assistance, a pilot project, "Naturalists' Guide for the Victoria Region", and this is something that all the other Natural History Societies in the Province will follow in making their own Region's Guide. The B.C.N.C. is very proud and grateful for these works completed.

There is always an open invitation for any member of any of the affiliated societies to attend these Nature Council's meetings. We believe the Council will succeed in proportion to the support and loyalty given by the members. Those who attend, meet each other and enthusiasm is engendered. I was your substitute delegate this year and drove to Vernon in Mrs. Parris' car. She was the delegate to the Council from Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association. Mrs. Betty McKinnon, was delegate from the Cowichan Valley Natural History Society in Duncan and she came with us. Mrs. Lavender Monckton came along as an Observer. We all shared expenses and had a very happy time.

The B.C.N.C. holds at least two meetings a year, Spring and Fall. An invitation was extended for the Fall meeting to be held in Victoria this year. This will be hosted by the Victoria NHS and the Thetis Park NSA together. The dates are:

-----Saturday & Sunday, October 21st and 22nd-----
Place -----"Thomas Francis Park" Nature House-----
Plan to attend some part of the meetings which go on all day Saturday.
Give your name to Freeman King, 479-2966, for reservation for dinner,
Saturday evening.

Join the Field Trip on Sunday morning. Details will be given on Saturday.

Gladys E. Soulsby.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE COUNCIL

Executive Officers of the B.C.N.C. now are:—
Dr. R. Stace-Smith, U.B.C., Vancouver Natural History Society, President.
Mr. Peter Legg, Box 751 Vernon, Vice-President. Member of North Okanagan Naturalists Club.
Mr. Eric Garman, 936 Heywood Ave., Victoria. Treasurer and President of the Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association of Victoria.
Miss M. A. Briault, 2250 York Ave., Vancouver, Secretary. A member of the Vancouver Natural History Society.

It may not be generally known that a NEWSLETTER was published in February, 1964, and has come out three times a year since that date. Gladys E. Soulsby is the Editor. Two hundred copies are printed each time, one going to each Executive member of each affiliated Society. There is a Mailing List of 80 names of individuals, other societies, and heads of departments of both Federal and Provincial Governments. The intention is that members of each affiliated society who would wish to see this Newsletter, can let the Secretary know and it will be arranged. We think that each member would like to know what is going on, so please speak to Mrs. Sherman.

It was decided to form the British Columbia Nature Council at a meeting in Dr. Carl's office, Provincial Museum, in April 1963 at which there were representatives from:

The Vancouver Natural History Society
North Okanagan Naturalists' Club, Vernon.
Central Okanagan Naturalists' Club, Vernon.
South Okanagan Naturalists' Club, Penticton.
Cowichan Valley Natural History Society, Duncan.
Thetis Park Nature Sanctuary Association, Victoria.
Victoria Natural History Society.

At a meeting, held in Kelowna in May, 1963, officers were elected as follows:

President: Dr. T.M.C. Taylor, U.B.C.
Secretary: Mrs. H. Lamoureux, Kelowna.
Treasurer: Mr. Eric Garman, Victoria, Thetis Park NSA.

The AIMS and OBJECTIVES of the Council are;

1. To provide the naturalists of B.C. with a unified voice in Conservation.
2. To promote co-operation of Natural History Societies and groups of similar interests.
3. To encourage and aid in the formation of Natural History Societies.
4. To promote other activities of interest to Naturalists in B. C.

In the Spring of 1966, a new Society joined the B.C.N.C. It is Comox-Strathcona Natural History Society, with Mr. David Guthrie as President.

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COVER PICTURE

Photo by Ralph Fryer

MOCKINGBIRD NEST IN VICTORIA

By Enid K. Lemon

On July 7, the writer heard the surprising news that a mockingbird had been in the Ten Mile Point area since June 27. On further inspection by Mr. Fryer, a nest with four blueish-green, blotched and spotted with brown eggs was found in a cotoneaster bush.

I spent many hours observing the behaviour of this very rare visitor. I was fascinated by the bird elevating its wings and holding them high, not unlike the manner of the killdeer, before folding them again. This would happen frequently as she ran a few feet in her search for insects. Some think that this action may help to startle unseen insects. Presumably owing to the fact that a mate was never seen, she was quite nervous and when off the nest was "bombed" by robins, violet green and barn swallows.

On July 25, the eggs were "candled" and of course found clear. They were collected with the nest and part of the cotoneaster shrub, and are now in the Provincial Museum as the first record in British Columbia of the nest and eggs of the mockingbird.

The nearest recorded nest of the mockingbird was at Didsbury, Alberta. This was also quite unusual as the range normally extends to the northern part of California.

The thanks of many should go to Mr. and Mrs. L.S. Hope, who were the first to identify the bird, and to Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Fairweather on whose property the nest was found. They kindly allowed many members of the Society to observe and photograph.

TERMITE TAKE-OFF

At 6:25 on the evening of September ninth, my wife, daughter and I were looking through the living-room window when we noticed dozens of winged insects rising from the flowerbed. The weather was calm, overcast, and with a hint of moisture in the air. The binoculars showed them to be emerging from a saucer-shaped depression in the soil. Two towhees were already on the scene, picking the insects off the ground, or fluttering into the air to take one on the wing. Five white-crowned sparrows joined in the feast, while several house finches performed like flycatchers in the higher shrubbery. A flock of 16 quail coming to feed as usual on the crushed oats, disregarded the crawling insects.

We walked over for a closer look, and noticed that the loose soil kept falling back to block the exit hole, until, after a pause of 20 seconds or so, one or more - sometimes four together - would come struggling upwards, their long and delicate-looking wings unharmed by this rough treatment. Then each would walk around for a minute or two before rising in flight. This continued for an hour.

We first thought that we were witnessing the nuptial flight of winged ants, but the absence of any "wasp-waist" contradicted this. Reference books were consulted, and we concluded that this had been the emergence of the dark-bodied, winged, reproductive individuals of the soil-dwelling termite. Before darkness fell, we dug into the earth at the site of the exit and found, just below the soil, an old tree stump, from within which they had emerged.

Gordon N. Hooper.

A ROBIN'S PLIGHT

During the latter half of May this year, there was a widespread emergence of large black ants.

A friend noticed a robin, apparently in trouble, on his lawn, so he went to see what the matter was, and found the bird lying on its side and struggling with something. He picked it up and found it had tried to eat an ant, which, in defence, had impaled the robin's tongue with its mandibles. To release the bird, the ant had to be taken to pieces, as it either would not, or could not, let go.

The robin flew away, and presumably will select its prey more carefully in future.

A.R.D.

BALDY JUNIOR TAKES A WIFE

At Waterlea we often had a visit from a pair of bald eagles who lived on Prevost Island, two miles away, across the channel. Usually we just saw one of the adults at a time, perched on the topmost branch of a Douglas fir on the little off-shore island. One day one of their offspring turned up, a two-year-old with still a lot of speckle in his plumage. Young Baldy had caught a fish, a nice grilse about a foot long, and was enjoying his meal out on a rock. Mom saw him and came down to join in the feast. Junior respectfully withdrew about ten feet, and watched while Mom went to work on his salmon. But Mom only got a few mouthfuls before she had to withdraw in her turn, and let Pop eat his fill. We could only hope there was enough for three.

Some time later young Baldy turned up again, by this time with the white head and tail of an adult almost complete. He brought with him a young, still speckled girl-friend. At intervals all one sunny afternoon we watched them courting. The girl-friend would soar up above the trees and her suitor would climb after her and chase her all around the sky, but never quite catch her. Then she would perch in the top of a tall fir, and he would show off his flying skill, diving and swooping and soaring all around her tree, and then coming to sit beside her. A few days later they came again, and this time he landed on the topmost branch, while she settled about ten feet lower down, like a modest and dutiful wife - young Baldy's proposal had evidently been accepted. From then on, they were frequent visitors, and it soon became clear that they were making their home somewhere along the cliffs of Otter Bay. However, for a long time we could not find any sign of a nest, until finally friends who lived in that direction reported having seen the characteristic platform of tangled sticks, in a tree well back in the woods, away from any human habitation.

It was remarkable that once Junior was safely married, we never saw old Baldy or his wife again. The parents had evidently conceded that the little island's fishing and perching rights now belonged to their son and his bride.

Hugh Grayson-Smith.

CAPE FLATTERY

Last September (1966) my wife and I set out to see Cape Flattery. We had visited various parts of the Olympic Peninsula before but had never seen this northwestern tip of the state of Washington. It was a calm cloudy day with occasional showers of rain when we boarded the MV Coho for Port Angeles. We did not see many birds on the crossing but had an excellent view of a large school of porpoises which seemed to appear from underneath the ship. There were at least one hundred animals in the school and they put on quite an exhibition of leaping and diving.

From Port Angeles we drove along the shoreline of Juan de Fuca Strait to Neah Bay, keeping our eyes open for birds. I was surprised to find that most of the gulls were California. There were a few western, herring and Heermann's gulls but most were California.

Cape Flattery and the village of Neah Bay are on the Makah Indian Reservation. There are some white business men but many businesses, including the Thunderbird Motel where we stayed, are operated by Indians. A paved road runs from Neah Bay to the Makah Airforce Base on the south side of the Cape (about four miles) and there is a good gravel road for a further three miles. From there the visitor must hike over a rough trail which was muddy on the day we went. It leads through big trees and a thick growth of salal and other shrubs to a lookout on the point of the Cape.

Cape Flattery is a rocky promontory perhaps 100 feet high and battered by wind and waves from the open Pacific. The vegetation has been shaped by the wind and the waves have carved huge caverns in the rock at shoreline. From the lookout, Tatoosh Island with its lighthouse, coast guard and weather station is a few hundred yards across the water. It is a wild, windy and rugged spot.

Walking through the forest, I heard several flocks of red crossbills but did not see them properly until the next day when we saw several flocks near the seashore. Near the Makah Airforce Base, the Waatch River provides muddy, marshy banks where we saw some hundreds of shore birds, including dowitchers, feeding.

We also drove to Hurricane Ridge above Port Angeles. A paved highway climbs to five thousand feet. The weather was not clear, and, above three thousand feet, we were usually in the clouds. We caught glimpses of the mountains but could see nothing of the strait below us.

We saw several marmots, while a doe and two fawns browsed unconcerned just a few feet from the path where we walked. There were few birds, but we saw juncos, pipits, flickers, Savannah sparrows, golden-crowned kinglets, red-breasted sapsucker and, in the distance, chickadees. I didn't get close enough to see if they were of the mountain variety.

On the return ferry trip to Victoria, a flight of phalarope alighted on the water in the middle of the strait.

A. Douglas Turnbull

THE IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER

GOOD NEWS FROM TEXAS - The ivory-billed woodpecker has been found alive and well according to John V. Dennis said to be America's leading expert on woodpeckers.

The last confirmed sighting of ivory-billed woodpeckers was one bird on the Chikola River in Florida in 1950. Since that time, experts have insisted that the bird was extinct. In Louisiana, in 1964, Dr. Lowery, State Ornithologist, flatly said that we had no hope of seeing this bird because it was extinct.

In recent years, reports of sightings were made and dismissed by authorities. Then Secretary of State, Stewart L. Udall contracted with Mr. Dennis to search out any possibility of the bird's survival. Three pairs were found in the Neches River Valley in the Big Thicket County of Eastern Texas where the birds have apparently adapted to a different habitat and variety of food. It is estimated that there may be at least ten pairs according to the reports that stimulated Mr. Dennis' search.

This report originated from Washington and was published in the New York Times and the San Francisco Chronicle of August 30, 1967.

D.B. Sparling.

* * * * *

JUNIORS On page 23, you will find a piece on Thomas Nuttall. Crowded out was mention of some of the western birds that bear his name. Among these are - Nuttall's woodpecker, *Dryobates nuttalli* - Nuttall's sparrow, *Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli* - Olive-sided flycatcher, *Nuttallornis mesoleucus*.

JUNIOR JOTTINGS

Now that the forest closure is off, the Juniors are meeting regularly again. Many thanks to Bob Fleischer, the Nature House attendant, who worked so well during the fire in Thomas S. Francis Park.

Nature Camp, 1967, was held at Goldstream Park. Two Juniors, Sheilagh Watts and Genevieve Singleton reported on it in the September issue of The Victoria Naturalist.

The auditorium at the Nature House is being put up by the Independent Order of Foresters. The money for it that was originally collected from Society members will not be wasted. It will be used for furnishings. In fact, the chairs are ordered already.

At the September 12 General Meeting of the Society, Miss Nancy Chapman was introduced and congratulated on winning the Freeman King Scholarship. Miss Judy Cameron was also introduced and congratulated as winner of the Victoria Natural History Society Scholarship.

Dave Grey, winner of the Freeman King scholarship in 1966, was also present and recognized at the meeting.

But when those chairs come for the auditorium, let's not sit around taking it easy. For there is always plenty to do, and plenty to learn about our wonderful world of Nature!

Freeman King.

SALMON, THE LIVING RESOURCE: In November, with the fish spawning in Goldstream, thousands of Victorians are likely to be salmon-conscious. Many might be interested in a 24-page, illustrated-in-colour book, Salmon, the Living Resource. This can be obtained by sending 25¢ to Salmon Book, Room 400, 100 West Pender, Vancouver 3, B. C. Its centre page, easily detached, is a map of British Columbia that shows the major spawning areas (rivers and lakes) of the Pacific salmon. Also shown are fishways, slide removals, hatcheries and field stations. It might be a gamble, but 100 copies, purchased for sale along with the usual doughnuts and coffee might sell very well. Even if only a small percentage of the buyers learned a few facts, there is always the chance that one bright young brain might be directed towards this important area of knowledge. This applies equally to the thousands of spectators who will likely go to watch the Adams River run.

Editor.

CONSERVATION AND OTHERWISE

These days conservation is a popular subject. Most of us are gradually realizing that the world is rapidly becoming over populated, and that natural life must be protected, or we will suffer.

At the start of the century, the burning of forests, the traffic and killing of mammals and birds by the million was commonplace.

However, in 1903, a State game warden system was started in the United States. This was sponsored by Thomas Gilbert Pearson, who, in 1905, formed the National Association of Audubon Societies, later known as the National Audubon Society. So the fight against unlimited slaughter started. Five years later, the Audubon and other natural history societies, now unified and powerful, were able to get legislation passed to stop the killing of birds for their feathers, and also the importation of bird plumages.

Until his death in 1943, Gilbert Pearson, with the help of the Audubon Society, continued his conservation activities. In 1916, a treaty was signed between Canada and the United States to protect migratory birds, thus putting the governments of these countries in control. Game departments were created. In 1922, an International Committee for Bird preservation was formed in England. Gilbert Pearson was its first chairman. This committee had a Pan-American section.

In the same year, 1922, the game department of British Columbia paid bounty on the killing of 17,625 owls and 7,095 eagles. In 1923, they were down to 172 owls and 20 eagles. In 1937, under the heading of "vermin destroyed", the game wardens got 89 eagles, 515 hawks and 239 owls. (Figures from the 1937 report of the British Columbia Game Commission.)

In the spring of 1959, legislation protecting all bird predators was passed in British Columbia, a law in which our Society took a hand.

A. R. Davidson.

FALL MIGRATIONS

The following is the result of studies at Kleena Kleene. It could be expected to apply elsewhere also.

Species of passerines tending to be more or less gregarious start flocking some days or weeks before their actual southward movement so that by the time they start on their journey the flock may be quite large. Now and then one or two birds find themselves left behind through what might be described as carelessness. But a flock that is feeding as it travels may pick up one or two stray birds as it goes along.

It is quite common for two species of warblers to travel together, but what some people overlook is that "stray birds" do not always travel with species of their own family. They may be seen travelling with other quite disparate species:-

- August 9: chipping sparrows with three species of fly-catcher and a warbling vireo.
- Sept. 1: song sparrows with fox sparrows and a couple of Tennessee warblers.
- Sept. 1: black-capped chickadees with two immature Oregon juncos and two Townsend warblers.
- Sept. 8: Oregon juncos with ruby-crowned kinglets.
- Sept. 9: Oregon juncos with Audubon and orange-crowned warblers.

Adrian Paul.

(This piece was received in spring, 1967, so fall dates given are obviously not for this year. Editor)

MUSHROOMS, MOLDS, AND MIRACLES: With the fungus season rapidly approaching, members might like to be reminded that Mrs. Lucy Kefaver's "Mushrooms, Molds, and Miracles" is now out as an unillustrated, but unabridged Signet pocketbook.

It was available in Victoria earlier this year. It might be worth phoning the various book stores to see which currently has it in stock.

At less than \$1.00 it makes a cheap but lasting gift for the right kind of recipient.

ARTHUR LIONEL MEUGENS

1881-1967

A year or two after I came to the Museum in late 1940 a local naturalist Mr. A. L. Meugens came in to make himself acquainted. At that time Mr. Meugens was operating a photographic studio in Victoria but as a hobby he was greatly interested in natural history particularly the nesting habits of birds.

After numbers of discussions he suggested that the time was ripe for the formation of a natural history society. Together we drew up a list of persons whom we thought would be interested, called a meeting and had the satisfaction of seeing this Society launched. This was in March 1944.

Mr. Meugens agreed to act as editor of a proposed monthly bulletin. The first number which he designed and produced was published in April of that year and it has continued uninterrupted more or less in its original format since that time.

The next year he took on the additional task of Treasurer of the Society and carried the treasurer's post until 1948, in the meantime writing numerous articles for the bulletin. He continued an active interest in the Society, particularly in the bird group, until his move to the mainland some years later.

At the May meeting in 1965, the Twenty-first Birthday of the Society, Mr. Meugen's role as founder was publicly recognized when he was made an Honourary Life Member.

We are all saddened by his death on July 27 of this year.

G. C. Carl.

BIRDS FOR THE RECORD

by Gordon and Gwennie Hooper (477-1152, evenings)

- Solitary sandpiper (1) - Colwood area - August 24-31 -
John Palmer
Caspian tern (2) - Hollywood Crescent - August 26 -
Mrs. M.H. Matheson and Ralph Fryer
(first record for Victoria)
Steller's jay - city area - from August 26 -
(largest influx since fall of 1960)
Black-throated gray warbler (2) - near Duke Road -
Western tanager (2) - September 9 -
A.R. and Elinore Davidson

Fall migration to September 10:

Red-necked grebe, horned grebe, scaup, shoveller, widgeon;
dowitcher (15, Sept.9); northern phalarope; Brandt's
cormorant (2,000 in line); parasitic jaeger (2, Oak Bay
Golf Course, Sept.8) -

A.R. Davidson

W H E A T

If you will look at a grain of wheat you will see that it seems folded up: it has crossed its arms and rolled itself up in a cloak, a fold of which forms a groove, and so gone to sleep. If you look at it some time, as people in the old enchanted days used to look into a mirror, or the magic ink, until they saw living figures therein, you can almost trace a miniature human being in the oval of grain. It is narrow at the top, where the head would be, and broad across the shoulders, and narrow again down towards the feet; a tiny man or woman has wrapped itself round about with a garment and settled to slumber. Up in the far north, where the dead ice reigns, our arctic explorers used to roll themselves in a sleeping-bag like this, to keep the warmth in their bodies against the chilliness of the night. Down in the south, where the heated sands of Egypt never cool, there in the rock-hewn tombs lie the mummies wrapped and lapped and wound about with a hundred yards of linen, in the hope, it may be, that spices and balm might retain within the sarcophagus some small fragment of human organism through endless ages, till at last the gift of life revisited it. Like a grain of wheat the mummy is folded in its cloth.

Richard Jefferies,
English naturalist, 1848-1887

THOMAS NUTTALL (1786-1859)

Of the thousands who know the beauty of British Columbia's floral emblem, the Pacific dogwood, few would recognise it by its specific name, Cornus Nuttallii. Fewer still would know much of the tough Lancashire character in whose honour it was named.

Thomas Nuttall, son of a printer in Blackburn, was apprenticed to that trade. Failing to find a niche in London, he emigrated to Philadelphia at the age of 21, and, under the influence of Professor Benjamin S. Barton, devoted his life to the study of botany. In 1809-11, he accompanied the Scottish naturalist, John Bradbury, on an expedition from St. Louis, across the Kansas and Platte rivers, and up the Missouri, during which he was captured by Indians and endured great hardships. After a visit to England during the war of 1812, he published The Genera of North American Plants in 1818. In October, 1818, he left for the Arkansas territory and, in six months covered over 5,000 miles of unexplored Indian territory, fell ill, was robbed and nearly died of thirst. In 1821, he published Journey into the Interior of Arkansas.

From 1822-33, he was curator of the Botanical Garden at Harvard University, and was honoured by John Torrey who, in 1824, dedicated to him the Flora of Northern & Middle States, and named for him a Rosaceae genus, Nuttallia.

He was on Capt. Wyeth's expedition to the far west, reaching Fort Vancouver in 1834. There he recognised - as David Douglas had failed to do - that the Pacific dogwood was a separate species. His description is too long to quote here, but he notes that the berries provide food for the band-tailed pigeon; hence Audubon, in his Ornithological Biography was the first to publish a description of "a superb species of dogwood, discovered by our learned friend, Thomas Nuttall -- which I have graced with his name."

Nuttall was a single-minded enthusiast, undergoing incredible hardships, and earning the title of "Le Fou." In an age of keen competition and deadly rivalry, he seems to have made many friends and few enemies, although Sir William Hooker does refer to him as "a queer fellow".

In 1842, he inherited a small estate in Lancashire where he spent the remaining 17 years in retirement.

N. T. Porter.

MEETINGS AND FIELD TRIPS

EXECUTIVE MEETING: 8 p.m. Dr. Carl's office
Tuesday, Oct. 3. Provincial Museum.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS:
Friday & Saturday Charles T. Hotchkiss presents
October 6 and 7. "Wilderness Trails" at 8 p.m. at
Oak Bay Junior Secondary School.

GENERAL MEETING: "The B.C. Nature Council" by
Tuesday, Oct. 10. speaker Mrs. Gladys Soulsby, and
slides "The Face of B.C." and taped
talk by R. Y. Edwards. Questions
invited. Douglas Bldg. Cafeteria
at 8 p.m.

NATURE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES:
Saturday & Sun. Oct. 21 & 22.

On the Saturday, meetings will be at the Thomas S. Francis Park. Meeting starts 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch is provided for delegates and out of town visitors. At 7p.m a no-host dinner at the Dominion Hotel. The speaker will be Mr. J. Gilbert, and his topic will be "Pollution of the Sea." Everyone is welcome. Sign your name on list at the General Meeting, or phone Mr. Freeman King (479-2966) before October 15, if you plan to attend.

On Sunday, October 22, there will be a Field Trip to Fort Rodd and Esquimalt Lagoon. Meet at Monterey Parking Lot, Douglas and Hillside at 9:30 a.m. or at Fort Rodd at 10 a.m. Bring Lunch.

BIRD MEETING Provincial Museum, 8 p.m.
October 24. "Record Keeping" by G. Allen Poynter

BIRD OUTING Meet at Monterey Parking Lot,
October 28. Douglas & Hillside at 9:30 a.m. or
at Bazan Bay, Sidney, at 10 a.m.
Bring lunch.
Leader: M. C. Matheson.

JUNIOR GROUP: Meet every Saturday at Monterey
Parking Lot, Douglas & Hillside, at 1:30 p.m. for
Field Trips. Leader: Mr. Freeman King 479-2966.

NOTE that the Nature Council Activities are a week after the date given in the September issue of the magazine.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Former Provincial Plant Pathologist

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