

April 1969  
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# THE VICTORIA NATURALIST



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VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Vol. 25, No. 8

April, 1969

COVER PICTURE: LINGCOD

by Alan Hook

COVER STORY

## JUST ANOTHER PRETTY FACE

by Alan Hook

The picture is of a twelve pound male lingcod, photographed at a depth of 45 feet. The lingcod, at the time, was guarding its eggs which were wedged into a rock crevice. The female of the species will grow to a length of five feet and to a weight of up to 80 pounds. The male seldom achieves more than 15 pounds.

While diving in Saanich Inlet in the months of September, October and early November, I have often counted as many as 15 lingcod, none of them under 20 pounds, in an area of about 25 square yards. This would be at a depth of 100 feet and the lingcod would be found lying on the gravelly bottom. On several of my underwater photographic excursions, I have turned around only to find a lingcod following me. At the end of a half hour dive, this number has increased to as many as seven, always behind me, stopping when I stop and coming so close I could almost touch them. It must be remembered that this occurs in areas where divers have not penetrated before, and it could be an amusing experience if it were not slightly unnerving.

Cannibalism is practised by the lingcod. I once speared a large female lingcod which could not close its mouth because of the tail of its victim, one of its own kind. Later, when I weighed the fish, the large female weighed 45 pounds, the victim, fifteen pounds.

However, they are not fussy eaters, and have been known to eat almost everything from octopus to herring.

Lingcod may be found from the waters of Southern California north to Alaska. They are not a migratory fish such as the salmon, and I have personally seen some old timers in the same area over a period of years.



For the camera enthusiasts, the cover picture was taken by a 35 mm single lens reflex, set into my homemade underwater housing. Plus X film was used, with F 5.6 taken at 1/60, using electronic flash.

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### THE FIRST DOZEN

In each of the past five years we have had at least 50 species of wild plants in bloom by this date of writing, i.e. March 8th. But so far 1969 has brought to my notice only the following twelve:-

- January:- Shepherd's purse - *Capsella bursa-pastoris*  
 Groundsel - *Senecio vulgaris*  
 Chickweed - *Stellaria media*  
 Cat's ear - *Hypochaeris radicata*  
 (These four are all hardy naturalized weeds)
- February:- Spring gold - *Lomatium utriculatum*  
 Skunk cabbage - *Lysichitum americanum*  
 Perennial daisy - *Bellis perennis*  
 Bird cherry - *Osmoronia cerasiformis*
- March:- Hazelnut - *Corylus cornuta californicum*  
 Hairy manzanita - *Arctostaphylos columbiana*  
 Scouler's willow - *Salix scouleriana*  
 Satin flower - *Sisyrinchium douglasii*

Based on records kept for the past eighteen years only two of the above twelve plants have flowered this year the latest ever i.e. the willow and the hazelnut. On the other hand skunk cabbage is relatively early, its date (Feb.22nd) ranking 8th in the eighteen-year period.

However, as the sun climbs higher no doubt the pace will quicken and plant succession will march along to approach or even catch up with normal flowering dates.

Shooting-star, early saxifrage and wild easter lily are in bud; by the time the April "Naturalist" comes off the press we will have added many more to the year's list.

M.C. Melburn

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### THE CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEE

The chestnut-backed chickadee (*Parus rufescens*) occupies a long, narrow range from the Sitka district of southern Alaska southward along the humid coast belt to just south of Monterey Bay in California, with an isolated interior colony in the coniferous forest of northern Idaho and western Montana. These birds are permanent residents throughout their range, and anyone who hangs up a suet feeder in the winter is bound to become familiar with these friendly, cheerful little acrobats.

On Vancouver Island, this chickadee is found everywhere, but seems to be particularly abundant in the deciduous woodlands around Victoria and the lower island. This habit seems to be in contradiction to its habits on the mainland. Recent workers in Vancouver, B.C. found that 83% of feeding records were in coniferous trees. Arthur Cleveland Bent wrote some years ago in his Life Histories of North American Jays, Crows and Titmice that "The favorite haunts of the chestnut-backed chickadee are the heavy dark forests of firs, spruces and pines, dense cedar, tamarack and hemlock woods, and in California, the redwood forests". Other workers on the mainland seem to agree on the chestnut-backed chickadee's preference for coniferous woods. This does not seem to be the case on Vancouver Island. Do we have a different subspecies, or are other factors at work here?

I am studying the habits of the chestnut-backed chickadee on Vancouver Island, and especially its habitat preference, for my master's thesis in biology. I have distributed a number of sighting cards to interested individuals to supplement my own observations. In this way I hope to gather together a large enough sample to define to a statistically significant degree the habitat preference of this chickadee. Also, I intend to do some experimental work to compare the mainland situation with the Vancouver Island situation.

I should like to thank all those individuals who have filled out and returned sighting cards to me. If these people would like more cards, or if anyone else would like some cards, please write or phone me, as I am anxious to obtain a larger sample than I now have. My address is 48 Foul Bay Road, Victoria, B.C. (386-1793)

Michael R. Corry

SCAVENGERS (No.4)

Many years ago in Holland I noticed a dead mole on the other side of a high iron fence, but at that time I had no opportunity to retrieve it. The next day I received permission to enter this property but the mole had partially disappeared. This was the work of Burying or Sexton Beetles and it was the only time I have ever actually seen them at work. The group is known as Necrophaga because of their partiality for decomposing animal matter.

They are the scavengers par excellence. When a body is discovered - and I believe it is detected by smell - the beetles begin to dig alongside and underneath. As the excavating proceeds, the carcass sinks into the ground and when below surface the excavated earth is pushed back in order to cover it. The females then lay their eggs and eventually the larvae dispose of the remains. In British Columbia there are several species of Necrophorms. They are average size beetles and often have a spot or two of dull orange.

In cattle country the excrement of many large herbivores would soon cover all available grass if it was not for another group of scavengers, the best known of which are Scarab beetles or pill rollers. Here the adults, singly or working in pairs, make a ball of manure and push it to an excavation previously made by the female. Here it is kneaded and an egg placed in the centre. Sometimes the adults will make a ball for themselves, put it in a dugout and enjoy it at leisure.

When lifting the excrement, one may find other species which dig their burrows straight down and drag their food supply with them. Often they are surprisingly bright-looking specimens.

The darkling beetles, Tenebrionidae, are also represented in this province, and have many members feeding on decaying vegetable matter. Much as we usually dislike their habits, the Blowflies and their relatives also assist in cleaning up any organic waste they may find.

The earthworm is also a scavenger. When the ground is damp, the worms come to the surface at night and feed on decaying plant and animal material. During dry periods they stay underground and ingest earth, from which they extract any organic material it contains.

These are a few of Nature's sanitary workers and they can be observed at work in the local area and even in our gardens.

Anthony Dehen

(This is the last of a four-part series. Earlier parts appeared in October, December and February. Editor)

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WHAT VANCOUVER SAW

In November, 1793, Captain George Vancouver, exploring the coastline of what is now the State of California, anchored overnight in Santa Barbara Channel. His Journal entries for November 9 and 10, 1793, are of special interest in 1969. His old-fashioned letter s's have been modernised for the magazine, but otherwise the entries read:

"The surface of the sea, which was perfectly smooth and tranquil, was covered with a thick, slimy substance which when separated or disturbed by any little agitation became very luminous, whilst the light breeze that came principally from the shore, brought with it a very strong smell of burning tar, or of some such resinous substance. The next morning the sea had the appearance of dissolved tar floating upon its surface, which covered the ocean in all directions within the limits of our view; and indicated that in this neighbourhood it was not subject to much agitation".

Vancouver's Journal was printed in London in 1798 under the title of A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and Round the World. This is in our Provincial Archives. Volume 2 contains the passage quoted above.

Although the journal entries are interesting, they do not lessen the damage done by the 1969 oil slick. Seismologists may know that the great Murray Fracture runs along the sea bottom for 3,300 miles from Ventura to past Hawaii. But nobody seems to know for sure what the results will be if this fracture is pierced too often by off shore drilling for oil.

The Torrey Canyon disaster, and the recent Santa Barbara oil slick have made millions of people conscious of the fragile ecology of the sea. Meanwhile, off the West Coast of Vancouver Island -----

Editor

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CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS AT TUCSON, ARIZONA

The people of the Tucson area take their birding and bird counts seriously. Within a sixty-mile radius of Tucson there are at least seven separate Christmas Counts. The parent organization is the Tucson Audubon Society whose main interest is birds. Through the kindness of the officers and members of this society I was able to participate in three of the counts.

My first experience was the Tucson Valley Count on December 26 when another visitor and myself helped an experienced local birder who drove a four-wheel drive unit. Our territory was the Rillito river area and must have included nearly ten square miles. It was a day of wind and rain (most unusual in Arizona) and while we did a lot of our counting from the car we walked in many places and got thoroughly wet and cold. We were in the field for eight and a quarter hours, walked two miles and drove 28 miles.

I had been assigned the job of differentiating between the blue-gray gnatcatcher and the black-tailed gnatcatcher. Fortunately for me, perhaps, we didn't see either on this day, but we did see both on a later count. Our area included many horse and cattle corrals so we saw hundreds of blackbirds, cowbirds, house sparrows and house finches. We saw a total of 50 species and 3809 birds, among which was my first green-tailed towhee.

My second count was the Santa Catalina Mountain Count. The Santa Catalinas are a range of mountains north-east of Tucson, the highest peak being Mt. Lemmon (9185 feet) where there is a ski area. I was with the same team of birders as before and we were assigned Sabino Canyon which included some desert foothills and a beautiful picturesque canyon through which a small creek flowed. This day, December 28, was frosty when we started off at daylight but the brilliant sun when it came up raised the temperature to 70 degrees. Before the day was over we were perspiring freely.

One of our problems was to distinguish between three similar birds - Hutton's vireos, ruby-crowned kinglets and beardless flycatchers. We saw all three and managed to identify them successfully. Five different kinds of wren were seen - Bewick's, cactus, canyon, rock and long-billed marsh, and seven varieties of warblers. We saw 52 species but only 505 individual birds - considerably less than in the Tucson Valley Count.

On December 29 I took part in the Tucson Mountain Count. The Tucson mountains are west of the city and are not as high as the Santa Catalinas but are rugged and rocky. The group I was with was assigned an area that included the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and the Saguaro National Monument and extended into the cultivated land of the Avro Valley. Again we started out in the frosty dawn and watched the sun rise over the hills, and again we were really sweltering in the heat by noon.

In the desert section of our area we saw many of the typical desert birds, such as black-throated sparrows, brown and Abert's towhees, phainopeplas, cardinals, pyrrhuloxias, gnatcatchers, verdins, ladderbacked and gila woodpeckers as well as Inca and white-winged doves, gilded flickers and even a yellow-bellied sapsucker.

In the Avro Valley the cultivated areas were swarming with white-crowned (Gambel's) sparrows as well as other sparrows and finches. It was just impossible to count them. Our group came up with a total of 838 white-crowned sparrows, but I'm sure that many thousands more were not counted. The high spots of the day for me were two Harris hawks, a golden eagle, sage sparrows and a large flock of lark buntings.

Of all the counts in the Tucson area, Nogales produced the largest total with 134 species and 25,861 individuals. This is a species total that Victoria might aim at in 1969.

Douglas Turnbull

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### OPERATION SKYLARK

The weather of January, 1969, was possibly the worst in living memory; certainly it ranks in severity with the legendary winters of 1916 and 1886. There is no doubt that wildlife suffered this year and although most species will "bounce back" in a year or two there is always the possibility that some, especially exotic species and those with limited ranges, might be wiped out in a severe winter. Man has so altered the habitat that most wild animals now live, to some degree at least, in an artificial environment so that it seems only reasonable that man should provide some food or shelter during a natural emergency.

It became apparent early this year that skylarks were having difficulty finding food. Only a few weeds could be seen above the deep snow and bird tracks around these plants seemed to indicate that food supplies would soon run out. Also, flocks were "drifting", that is moving about in an aimless manner, another sign of trouble. (This same phenomenon was noticeable with ducks which had been frozen out of ponds, and with robins after the berries were cleaned up about January 26.) These signs warned us that this was no time for arguments regarding the feeding of birds - this was an emergency and we would have to act.

Food was put out on December 29 but the skylarks didn't find it. Two more attempts brought no response but on January 11, 120 skylarks, six horned larks and one Lapland longspur were seen at the feeding area on Martindale Road. Our main problems were keeping plenty of food in sight, for snowfalls were almost a daily occurrence, and providing enough food so that after the crows and starlings got their share there was still something left.

The skylark population at the feeding areas continued to increase until February 2 when a thorough but conservative count produced 777 birds. 757 of these were counted in the central and north Saanich areas. Only five were seen in the University-Gordon Head area and 14 elsewhere. On January 1, 67 were counted in the Gordon Head area. Parker Avenue still had 30 on January 25 but only three at the end of the month.

We don't know whether the southern populations moved to Central Saanich and helped to account for the increase in numbers there or if most of these birds succumbed to the weather. We do know, however, that there are 800 or more skylarks on the Saanich Peninsula now and that they came through the winter in fine shape thanks, perhaps, to our feeding campaign.

In 1962, the skylark population was estimated to be about 1,000 birds on the basis of a count of 694 (Stirling and Edwards, 1962). Of this total, 520 were in Central and North Saanich, 157 in Gordon Head area and 17 elsewhere.

The skylarks, and incidentally many other species, including 14 gray partridge, accounted for 1340 pounds of grain costing \$55.25. We fed crushed oats at first but found we could not keep ahead of the crows so we switched to chick scratch and screenings.

Thanks to a Victoria paper, and to Freeman King and Humphry Davy, a news item produced a gratifying response from the public. And in this connection, we should like to thank those organizations and individuals who contributed a total of \$40.25, and by their generosity helped to make "operation Skylark" a success:

Victoria Natural History Society; the S.P.C.A.; U VIC Outdoor Club; Miss R. Petticrew; Mrs. A.S. Catt; Mr. David Palmer; Mr. Wiper; Mr. Murray Matheson; and Mr. Henry Ford.

#### Literature cited:

D. Stirling and R.Y. Edwards 1962, Notes on the Skylark on Vancouver Island. Canadian Field Naturalist Vol.76 #3.

David Stirling and Ray Beckett

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### THE RIGHT TO FEED

I was interested in an article by Gladys Prior in the March number of the Victoria Naturalist. It described the unusual behaviour of a male junco. I observed a female purple finch acting like a hummingbird last summer.

At my place on Fork Lake Road in the Munn Road area, I had a log feeder used regularly by three pairs of finches, and near it was a sugar feeder in almost constant use by three pairs of hummingbirds. After a while, one of the female finches started flying to the glass lip of the hummingbird feeder. Beating her wings violently, she would take a sip of the sugar syrup. This she would do two or three times a day. Unfortunately, with her more clumsy beak, she always managed to spill a small stream on the ground. This helped the ants but meant even more frequent refills of the glass container.

Incidentally, I noticed that juncos tend to be "right-handed". My feeding log has a number of feed holes and each has a perch. The juncos almost always perched and ate at the holes to their right and only ate from holes which required them to perch and peck to their left when the "right" holes were nearly empty. The purple finches appeared to be "ambidextrous", and fed indiscriminately from holes on either side of the perches. Juncos would often cling to and feed on the suet hung up for the two pairs of chickadees.

Jack Carter

### JUNIOR JOTTINGS

During the last month meetings have been very successful with beautiful weather and many members attending.

The Intermediates had a workbee at Francis Park cleaning up after the long winter. Surprisingly, snow damage was quite light. On their next trip the older members spent an enjoyable afternoon visiting an area of Thetis park that was new to us - the area on the south side of the Island Highway.

The Juniors have also had several profitable field trips. They attended the matinee showing of the Audubon Wildlife Film "Wings of the Wild", which was a pleasant change from the usual outings. Later in the month they visited Mill Hill which is off Atkins Road,

and observed many signs of spring. The next trip was again to the Newcombe Auditorium, and this time was to see Mr. Lyons' show "This Earth, This Realm, This England" which everyone enjoyed greatly. This was a joint outing for both Intermediates and Juniors. Intermediates have also been ushering at evening and matinee showings of recent Audubon Wildlife Films.

Several Sundays ago, the Leaders had a paintbee at Francis Park and painted the interior of the Nature House. We have also been very busy working on new displays and plans to give the Nature House a "new" look. A few hours spent at Francis Park would be a worthwhile use of your time, especially in this fine spring weather.

Genevieve Singleton

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### ON THE EDITOR'S DESK

VACATIONING NEAR CALGARY? THE ADDRESS of the Calgary Bird Club is P.O. Box 981, Calgary.

A NET OF NATURALISTS. The Department of Education has put our Society's booklet on the Teaching Aids Circular which goes to all public schools in the province. This booklet was truly a co-operative effort since many members and non-members of our Society have helped to produce and recommend it. Our Treasurer is in charge of it.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK. Each April, Canada observes this special week. In other parts of Canada the emphasis is likely to be on the wildlife of the land. Here, on the Pacific coast, we have a chance to emphasize the wildlife of the land and sea. Hence, for this month's Cover Picture an underwater photograph was chosen.

THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS. Our Society and magazine have now existed for a quarter of a century. The Society's aim is to encourage the study of natural history, and to stimulate active interest in the conservation of natural resources. Its operation is chiefly carried out in southern Vancouver Island.

JOHN WILLIAM EASTHAM (1879-1968)

With the passing of John William Eastham, Honorary President of the Victoria Natural History Society, the science of botany in British Columbia lost a brilliant, talented man who devoted his entire life to the collecting and study of plants.

The late Mr. Eastham, known to many of us as J.W., died in Vancouver on November 26, 1968. He would have been 89 on December 4. With his passing, we lost a cheerful friend and a most dedicated, talented pioneer of botany.

Born in Liverpool, England, Mr. Eastham attended the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, where he earned his B.Sc. degree in 1899. After teaching chemistry and biology in Britain until 1906, he came to Canada to teach at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. In the academic year 1910-11 he took postgraduate work in Plant Pathology at Cornell University, and in the same year was appointed Chief Assistant in the Division of Botany with the Dominion Department of Agriculture. In 1914 he moved to British Columbia, and in May, 1914, was appointed to the newly created position of Department of Agriculture Plant Pathologist for the province of British Columbia. (Ours was the first province to establish such a position). He held this post until his retirement in 1946. From 1921-24 he lectured on the science of plant pathology at the University of British Columbia. From 1953 until just before his death, he served as an Honorary Curator of the herbarium at the University, devoting most of his time to plant identification and other curatorial duties. Study of the flora of British Columbia was both his profession and hobby.

During his lifetime, he managed through tremendous efforts to collect, identify and label some 16,000 specimens which is one of the largest floristic collections of British Columbia and constitutes the basis for the supplement to J.K. Henry's Flora of Southern British Columbia, published in 1947 and also several papers and articles dealing with the flora of our Province.

Mr. Eastham brought two "firsts" to the field of Plant Pathology. In British Columbia, in 1912, he diagnosed fire-blight on Transcendent Crab-apples in Okanagan. In 1921, he identified the White Pine Blister Rust on the Coast.

His cheerfulness, quiet friendly nature, and his willingness to help will be sincerely missed by his many friends and colleagues.

Adam F. Szczawinski

SUMMER LOW TIDES

A few of the summer's lowest tides are given here. These are for the Victoria area. The times are Standard. If Daylight Time is in effect, add an hour to times given here. If you can, get to the beach an hour before the tide turns. In summer, the low tides are morning tides. Tide times vary from place to place. If you are buying a tide table from ship chandler, marina, or the Canadian Hydrographic Service, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Victoria, B.C. be sure you get the Volume you need. Volume 5 will give you Juan de Fuca and Georgia Straits. For the Long Beach area you will need Volume 6, Barkley Sound and Discovery Passage to Dixon Entrance.

<u>April</u>	*6	11.45	.8			
	7	12.45	.7			
	8	13.40	.9			
<u>May</u>	2	9.10	.7			
	*3	9.50	.0			
	*4	10.35	-.3			
	5	11.25	-.3			
	6	12.20	00.0			
<u>June</u>	1	9.35	-1.0	<u>July</u>	1	10.05 -1.0
	2	10.20	-1.0		2	10.50 -.3
	3	11.05	-.7		3	11.35 .6
	4	11.55	0.0		*26	6.45 .1
	27	7.05	.4		*27	7.35 -.4
	*28	7.50	.4		28	8.20 -.7
	*29	8.35	-1.0		29	9.05 -.6
	30	9.20	-1.1			
<u>August</u>	*24	6.30	.5			
	25	7.15	.3			
	26	8.00	.5			
	27	8.40	.9			

Dates marked with \* are Saturday or Sunday. Dominion Day and the two days before it are good this year.



BOOK NEWS FOR NATURALISTS

February additions to the Greater Victoria Public Library were:

Kurten, B.	The age of the dinosaurs.
Disney Productions	Wonders of the oceans.
Neufeld, J.B.	Wild flowers of the Prairies.
Millar, M.	Birds and the beasts were there.
Gilroy, D.	Album of prairie birds.
Soule, G.	Undersea frontiers.
Maloney, T.	Telescopes.
Keen, M.J.	Introduction to marine geology.
Mead, M.	Science and the concept of race.
Ashley-Montagu, M.F.	Man and aggression.
Crisler, L.	Captive wild.

List supplied by Mr. George McBride  
Circulation Department, G.V.P.L.

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BIRDS FOR THE RECORD

by G.N. and G. Hooper, 2411 Alpine Crescent (477-1152)

Golden eagle (1) - off Gillespie Road - A.R. and Eleanore Davidson and Lavender Monckton	Feb.15 -
Pine siskin (1000) - North end of Saanich Penin. -	Feb.22 -
Oldsquaw (200) - Walker Hook, Saltspring Island -	Mar. 1 -
Barrow's goldeneye (12) - European widgeon (1) - Booth Inlet, Saltspring Island - A.R. and Eleanore Davidson	Mar. 2 -
Yellow-billed loon (1 imm.) - Clover Point - Allen Poynter and Gerry Bennett (Toronto)	Mar. 7 -
Violet-green swallow (8) - Blenkinsop Lake - Ralph Fryer	Mar. 8 -
Screech owl (1) - 610 Foul Bay Road - Enid K. Lemon	

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OUR SECOND TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

The first number of the Victoria Naturalist appeared in April, 1944, just a month after the Victoria Natural History Society was formed.

The first number had a photograph of Easter lilies on the cover. At the Society's first meeting, Dr. Clifford Carl "gave a very interesting address" on Wildlife and Man. A summary of it appeared in the first number of the magazine.

One paragraph reads, "In this conservation work, organizations such as this newly formed Society can play an important part. Our activities can be directed along three main lines. First, we can act as collectors of information concerning the wildlife of our Province, information which may be of use later to officials in formulating their policies of control. Second, we can function in an advisory capacity in matters concerning the intelligent use of our wildlife. Third, we can aid in educating the public, by lectures, demonstrations and informative articles both for school children and adults so that they will come to appreciate the value which exists in the world of nature around them".

Another pertinent portion of the magazine reads, "The annual subscription is now due and should be paid to the Secretary-Treasurer - it is very necessary that these dues be paid promptly as the Society and magazine are entirely dependent on them for support". The Annual Meeting was in March then, not May. In 1969, our fiscal year ends on April 30.

The special groups existing in 1944 were - Botany, Marine Biology, Entomology, Zoology and Geology.

Robert Connell, president, hoped that the first number of the magazine might be the precursor of a long line.

As we enter our second twenty-five years of (we hope) unbroken publication, we wish the magazine and its future contributors well. 1994 seems a long way off right now. What will it, the Society, the magazine and its editor be like?

Ruth Chambers

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PROGRAM FOR APRIL

- EXECUTIVE MEETING: 8:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs.S.Prior  
Tuesday, April 1 1903 Shotbolt Road
- GENERAL MEETING: Douglas Building Cafeteria 8:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 8 Mr. R.H. Ahrens, Director of Provincial Parks Branch will speak on "Provincial Parks and Outdoor Recreation".
- AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM: Harold J. Pollock presents "Wanderings of a Naturalist in the Australian Bush". Newcombe Auditorium, Provincial Museum.  
Friday and Saturday April 11 & 12 - 8 p.m.  
Saturday April 12 - 2:30 p.m. (South Entrance)
- BOTANY FIELD TRIP: Meet at parking lot, Douglas and Hillside 10:00 a.m. for trip to Thetis Park Lake. Bring lunch. Leader, Miss M.C. Melburn 592-2069  
Saturday, April 12
- BIRD FIELD TRIP: Trip to Cowichan Bay for spring migrants. Meet at parking lot, Douglas and Hillside 9:00 a.m. or Robert Service Memorial 9:45 a.m. Bring lunch. Leader, Allen Poynter 477-3230  
Saturday, April 19
- B.C. NATURE COUNCIL: Annual Meeting at Comox, B.C.  
Saturday and Sunday April 26-27 Delegate, Mr. H.D. Walker 477-2851
- JUNIOR GROUP: Meet each Saturday at parking lot, Douglas and Hillside 1:30 p.m. Leader, Mr. Freeman King 479-2966

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CORRECTION: The date of the B.C. Nature Council Meeting was given wrongly in the March magazine. Any member who was inconvenienced has my apologies as the fault was mine.

Editor



# VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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