Nov. 1970 Vol. 27, No. 3

THE VICTORIA NATURALIST



published by the VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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CLARK'S NUTCRACKER

The raucous cries, and flashing black and gray plumage of Clark's Nutcracker is familiar to all those who have visited the Okanagan and the Rocky Mountains of British Columbia. The nutcracker belongs to the cosmopolitan crow family but there are only two species in the genus <code>Nucifraga - Clark's</code> and the Eurasian bird called just "the nutcracker". Both species are very similar in their habits.

Clark's Nutcracker can be easily recognized by its plumage, long black bill, short tail and characteristic flight which might be described as an "undulating swoop".

This bird feeds mostly on vegetable matter, the nutlike seeds of certain species of pine being its favourite food. It is a great hoarder. Its food caches are used during the winter and early spring when nothing else is available. Possibly, too, these stores allow the nutcracker to nest in early spring at high altitudes when the ground is still snow covered and food is scarce. Studies in Russia indicate that isolated pine groves have sprouted from seeds hidden by nutcrackers.

In British Columbia the seeds of yellow pine and white-barked pine are the staple diet of the nutcracker. Sometimes, usually when there is a cone failure, these birds wander far from their normal range. It is at these times that we are likely to see nutcrackers on Vancouver Island, but scattered white-barked pines at higher elevations here and infrequent reports of nutcrackers in the Forbidden Plateau area in summer might indicate a small resident population. (We might even suggest that these pines came originally from seeds brought here from the mainland by wandering nutcrackers).

A few years ago there were reports of strange, gray birds at Metchosin and Colwood. Grace Bell and I went out to investigate and soon we saw a Clark's Nutcracker, a rare visitor to Victoria.

Ruth Stirling Photo by Ralph Fryer

NOVEMBER SKY

A clear night sky will present a sight of beauty, wonder and interest, which requires no particular knowledge of astronomy to appreciate.

The star groups, the Constellations, were marked out by ancient peoples, hence the name by which most of them are known. To the north appears the "Big Dipper" which is so well known. The "Dipper" is part of the "Great Bear" (Ursa Major). If an imaginary line be projected through the two stars in the side of the dipper opposite the tail, it will point almost exactly to Polaris, the Pole Star. These two stars are the "Pointers". The middle star of the three which form the handle of the Dipper, appears, telescopically, to be four, binoculars will reveal two stars only. Alcor and Mizar, the Horse and the Rider, and to make this separation with no optical aid, is a test of good eyesight. Polaris is in the constellation of Ursa Minor (The Lesser Bear) not so clearly defined as the Big Dipper. Between the Bears, Draco, the Dragon winds a sinuous way, his head forming a diamond shaped outline with one of the stars of Hercules.

To the west is Cygnus, the Swan, flying down the Milky Way. Cygnus is often called the "Northern Cross" a form it certainly resembles, the head of the cross being marked by the bright star Deneb. In a small constellation, Lyra, the Harp, below the arm of the cross, is Vega, the brightest star in the northern heavens. With Altair, in Aquila, Vega and Deneb form the "Summer Triangle". Among the other star groups, the W form of Cassiopeia is prominent.

Now, turn around to the south. The most conspicuous constellation, Orion rises in the east, four bright stars, Betelgeuse, Bellatrix, Saiph and Rigel, two above and two below a line of three - Orion's Belt - below which appears a somewhat misty patch - the Great Nebula of Orion. This Nebula, many light years in extent, is a cloud of dust and gas made visible by the light from bright, hot stars embedded in it. In this cloud, it is believed, that stars are in the process of formation.

Just above Orion, the Twins "Gemini" will appear, also a lone, but bright star, Procyon in Canis Minor whilst below and to the east, the brightest star of the entire heavens will rise. This is Sirius, the "Dog" star, in Canis Major. Sirius is relatively close to us at a distance of between eight and nine light years - that is,

the light from it takes that length of time to reach us.On this scale our Sun is but eight minutes away.

Sirius and Procyon and Betelgeuse form the Winter Triangle.

Toward the Zenith, another conspicuous object will be seen. This is not a star, but the Planet Saturn, a member of the solar system. It appears in the Zodiacal constellation of Aries, the Ram, and is about 758 million miles from the Earth. Saturn is notable for its "Ring" system composed of finely divided matter, the particles of which circle the planet just as the moons of which Saturn has ten. It is not possible to see the rings without a telescope. Through binoculars, the planet appears elongated but Titan, the largest of Saturn's moons, is easily seen.

This is but a little of what may be seen. Repeated observations will reveal much more of the Splendour of the Heavens.

C. Lucienne Bridgen

OCTOBER MEETING

At the October meeting which was well attended, Ralph Fryer showed us some of his close range motion pictures of nesting birds and a few of our uncommon visitors. At the business meeting which preceded the film, Andrew Harcombe, a former Junior Member of the Society, and this year's Society Scholarship winner, was introduced. The book Exploring Manning Park of which he is joint author with Robert Cyca, was reviewed in the September Naturalist. There was some discussion about the badge which appears on our cover and after a show of hands it seemed that one—third of those present was definitely against it, while the remainder was in favour of retaining it. Members were reminded that some current dues still remained unpaid.

Katherine Sherman

IT MAKES YOU THINK ...

Most people are a little cowardly when it comes to letting the world know their feelings.

(Kurt Horn of the Society for Pollution and Environmental Control [S.P.E.C.])

The last few months have been eventful ones and there

is a lot to tell you since the last Junior Jottings. Owing to the bad fire hazard we closed down Saturday afternoon outings for the summer. However, the beginning of September saw us back into full swing. Our latest field trips have been very successful with an excellent

attendance. The Intermediates spent two afternoons exploring various areas of Francis Park. Our most recent meeting was held at the Provincial Museum where we attended the matinee showing of the excellent Audubon film "Outback Australia". Quite a number of the older Inter-

mediates ushered at all three performances. The Juniors have also been busy, spending one afternoon at the marsh flats at Goldstream, and another studying the ecology of

a fireburn.

We had a wonderful summer season at Francis Park, with at least 2,500 visitors coming during a ten-week period. They were people of all sorts and all were keenly interested in learning more about the outdoors. Two of the older Intermediates, Genevieve Singleton and Ross McMillan, were Park Naturalists for the summer season. One of our big highlights was the visit of fifty naturalists who hailed from about every country imaginable. They were taking a course in Park Administration which was sponsored by an American University. They spent several hours at Francis Park and were very pleased with what they saw.

Another exciting event in the summer was the fire we had, caused by lightning next to one of the trails in the Park. Although there were some frightening hours, what could have been a serious fire was held in check by the capable Saanich firemen to whom our thanks go out.

The Park is becoming increasingly popular and many are coming here again and again. Fall is at its peak here. The falling leaves are beautiful, and the air is fresh and clean. Come, relax, climb out of your rut and listen to what Mother Nature can tell you.

We look forward to seeing you.

Genevieve Singleton

Ron Satterfield and I started out at seven on a glorious birding day (dull and gloomy) with the hope of adding Grey Partridge to our year lists. With the memory of the Rusty Blackbirds from the previous week I had dreams of getting something better, but little did I know what was in store.

Our first stop was Panama Flats. As we walked in the dim light, calls of flushing Snipe and the "keek" note of the Long-billed Dowitcher could be heard. Silhouettes of thirty-five of these birds could be seen moving and feeding among the gray pools. Four Pectoral Sandpipers and a lingering Least Sandpiper were with them.

At Poynter's Puddle an immature Marsh Hawk skimmed over the sedge putting out the Snipe in all directions.

At Mill's Cross Road, we began walking the north section of the airport. Meadowlarks and Skylarks predominated over the ever common Savannah Sparrows and the odd Lincoln Sparrow seen in the brushy areas.

As we came to Robertson's hangar, our attention was attracted by a bird sitting on a wire. From its rusty breast I presumed it to be a Bluebird and began moving closer to get a better look. As I reached a decent range, the bird took wing exposing the white rump and characteristic inverted "T" pattern on the tail. It was a Wheatear! Having looked for one in the Eastern part of Canada for many years, I had a picture in my mind of its main features, and Ron confirmed the identification. While common enough across the Northern parts of the continent, the Wheatear does not normally winter in these parts. What forces cause these occasional aberrations of flight? Is it wind and weather that produces the lone stray, or is it some fault in the bird's built-in navigational device? Unaware of the excitement he was causing, the bird moved around in the hangar for a few minutes and after landing on the chimney, wagged its tail and headed out towards the runway where we lost it. We were glad that others had the opportunity later to see the bird and add to their lists, and our only concern was that unfamiliar crowds and noise may have caused too great a distraction to our visitor.

We searched for Grey Partridge once more and found only a Northern Shrike. After a hamburger and coffee we went on to get three Hawks at Martindale Road - a Marsh, a Pigeon and a Sparrow Hawk; in the long yellow grass on the north side of Martindale we spotted a Short-eared Owl. Also saw two White-fronted Geese in a dugout there and another at Elk Lake.

Home by two o'clock. Eighty-one species this day.

Keith Taylor

SEA OTTER NEWS

Members will be interested in the following item from Pacific Search for September 1970, submitted by our former editor, Mrs. Ruth Chambers. It would help if you can refer to back copies of the Naturalist for January 1968, and October 1969 for the cover stories on the Sea Otter.

"SEA OTTER PREGNANT AT TACOMA

The first sea otter ever known to breed in captivity has her keepers guessing about when she is due.

Cecil Brosseau, aquarium director at the Point Defiance Park Zoo, where four sea otters are thriving and one is pregnant, says that the sea otter's gestation period is not precisely known. It has never been studied extensively in its natural habitat off the coasts of Alaska and British Columbia, and since no other large groups of sea otters exist in captivity, little is known about the needs of a pregnant sea otter. Brosseau, considering a gravid mother's need for privacy, takes her to a separate smaller otter pool each day. But so far, she prefers to stay with her companions — her mate and two young females.

Brosseau attributes the successful breeding to the otter's good health, a diet of rock fish and squid and to their feeling of safety from man, provided by the fully glassed—in salt water otter pool. The fifty—six pound silver—furred mother—to—be and her three companions were given to the Aquarium a year ago by the Fish and Wildlife Service. They come from Amchitka Island off the coast of Alaska."

THE END AND THE MEANS

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? What would happen if an irresistible force met an immovable object? Does the end justify the means? These are age-old philosophical problems which no one has ever fully answered.

An example of the last problem is currently a matter of controversy. All of us are conservationists and we are concerned about the preservation of our wetlands for ducks and other species of birds and plants. Wildfowlers, too, are concerned, and, with enormous finances at their disposal, have done more than the amateur naturalist can do. They have not only managed to save many marshes from the realtors, but have created new reserves and new breeding habitats, they have turned down large numbers of a variety of species and have done much research on the life-histories and feeding habits of wildfowl. The principal such organization on this continent is Ducks Unlimited, and in the U.K. it is WAGBI (Wildfowlers' Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). In Britain, wetland conservation has made incredible progress through the remarkable co-operative ventures between WAGBI, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Wildfowl Trust.

Yet there are other points of view, as recent correspondence in the RSPB magazine has shown: "Conservation must be seen to be a humane and responsible activity, allied to killing only when there is no option, and at no point deliberately indulging in destruction of life". "The ethics of the matter lie in whether a species should be conserved so that pleasure can be gained from shooting it". "Gunmen ask that we refrain from making emotive statements. If we are not to be emotional about deliberate, self indulgent killing, what are we to be emotional about?" "We imagine a majority are opposed to people who release Mallard, in order to be able to ensure the birds' survival, to be able to kill it".

It is a nice point, and one that is likely to be debated in the light of current proposals that would permit the hunting of such inedible species as scoters and Harlequin in the Saanich Peninsula. Does the end justify the means?

YOUR DELEGATE'S REPORT

The Federation of B.C. Naturalists held its autumn meeting in Prince George on Thanksgiving weekend hosted by the newly formed Prince George Natural History Club.

On our way to Prince George we stopped briefly at Chasm Provincial Park to admire the vast dry gorge left as a remnant of the last glacial age. As we walked along its rim the better to see its empty cascade the setting sun bathed the sedimentary rock walls in an orange glow high-lighting their eroded formations. A low whistle brought us to a halt. A pygmy owl landed in a lodgepole pine just ahead while another called down from its perch in a nearby Douglas fir. After a few flips of its long tail and more whistles it flew off along the canyon with its companion.

Gold and yellow aspens and birches contrasted vividly with the dark greens of pine and spruce to add the beauty of colour to the northern scene.

To us Prince George represented the home of a new member club and the need for conservation of natural resources. The city has an air of emergent respectability the beginnings of big town glitter and glamour. It seems to want to forget its past of muddy streets and beer parlour brawls. Just upstream on the Fraser are two huge pulp mills, modern representatives of our industrial economy. Their pulp odours blow upstream while their liquid wastes flow downstream, together offering a colossal insult to the environment of man and fish.

The meeting on Sunday was attended by some thirty people from clubs as far away as Victoria, Comox and Penticton.

Parks were the subject of most concern to the delegates. Discussion about the Mount Edziza Volcanic Park proposal, the Wood River extension to Hamber Provincial Park, and the Ross Reservoir park proposal involved provincial parks, while the proposed National Parks for Yukon's Kluane Lake and on the Queen Charlottes were also given Federation support.

It was agreed to send Dr. Bert Brink as the Federation's representative to the Winnipeg meeting of the National Audubon Society on October 17th. The proposal for discussion there is to change the Society's name to the

Canadian Nature Federation in order that it may act on conservation matters as the national voice for Natural History Societies.

B.C. Federation fees were discussed with the concensus being that greater financial support should be provided by member clubs. Only Victoria and Vancouver clubs were opposed. It was the general opinion that the B.C. Federation was the only voice that could speak for all naturalist clubs in B.C. and was therefore worthy of greater support. The resolution was tabled until the next meeting.

Another important item was the amendment to the constitution providing for the election of Regional Vice Presidents. This will broaden the scope of the organization and provide a useful means of communication toward an understanding of regional conservation problems.

The delicious roast beef dinner was followed by Kerry Joy's slides of Mount Edziza Volcanic Park proposal and by Dr. T.M.C. Taylor's excellent talk on insectivorous plants. His slides of butterwort, pitcher plant, sundew, and bladderwort were outstanding. Many delegates gathered around afterwards to look at his living collection of carnivorous plants.

Monday's field trip to Crooked River Provincial Park was well attended in spite of early morning snow flakes. The trip was a happy ending to a good meeting with B.C.'s northern naturalists.

Kerry Joy

ENVIRONMENT TOMORROW

The first issue of the new quarterly Environment Tomorrow will be on the newsstands on Friday October 30. This is a new venture of the University of Victoria Biology Club, and will be of interest to most of our readers. Annual subscription is \$2.00. Address applications to:

Environment Tomorrow, c/o Doctor Reid, UVic Biology
Department, for copy of this undergraduate publication.

NEW MEMBERS

| Mr. a | nd | Mrs. D | J. McGavin | | 1515 (| Camosun |
|-------|----|--------|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Mr. a | nd | Mrs. J | . Anderson | | 706-450 | Simcoe |
| Mr. a | nd | Mrs. J | . Brydon | | 3331 Gibb | s Road |
| Mr. a | nd | Mrs. J | .W. Kenwood | 3210 | Aldridge | Street |
| | | | . Lundgren | 3961 L | exington | Avenue |
| Miss | L. | Mathie | son | 931 | McClure | Street |
| Mr. a | nd | Mrs. J | .A. Maxwell | 1277 Qu | eensbury | Avenue |

We offer these new members a hearty welcome and hope that they will use and enjoy the opportunities the Society offers in the way of outings, lectures, library and magazine.

SHORE BIRDS AT LONG BEACH

On a recent visit to Long Beach in September, several members of the Society derived keen enjoyment in observing flocks of shorebirds feeding and resting for their long migration flights which take them as far as the coasts of South America. The Sanderlings in particular seem to have no fear of us and came almost to our feet as we watched them play with the waves. They would chase each retreating wave and stand with head tucked under wing until the next wave sent them running before it. Part of the game which they repeated endlessly, and which caused me great concern until I realized it was only a game, was to hop on one leg. The greatest thrill for us came when they took wing and performed their aerial dance, flashing and turning in waves of pure delight. On one occasion when an osprey from a nearby tree hovered above them, they remained in the air, circling and dipping. Apparently this is a form of defence against danger.

It was a privilege to have had this uplifting experience of close contact with creatures of such exquisite beauty and grace, and only reluctantly did we leave them to their preparations for the long flight ahead of them.

Edith M. Valens

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM

The opening film and lecture for the 1970-71 season was certainly a success to judge from the enthusiastic audiences which overflowed the capacity of the Newcombe Auditorium for all three showings from October 9 - 10. Eben McMillan, a Californian who successfully combines his vocation of rancher with his avocations of biologist, ecologist and photographer, narrated his film "Outback Australia". To judge from the calls of "coo-ey" heard from the back, there were quite a few "Aussies" in the audience. The Canadians liked it too, for who can resist the leaps of the Red Kangaroo or the cuddly Koala Bear and the startlingly colourful birds of the tropics. Mr. McMillan and his wife had taken a 15,000 mile trip through the rugged, almost uncharted expanse of Australia known as the Outback in a rented "Avis" camper-bus, and not only did he treat us to a pictorial journey through the continent's scenery, but also he gave us some insight into the life of the Aborigines as well. If a criticism might be offered, he tried to cover too much in too short a time, and there was a tendency to jump from one subject to another rather jerkily.

As always, without moralizing or boring platitudes, the Audubon speaker has a message to offer about conservation and preservation. Mr. McMillan felt that Australia had failed to learn from the mistakes of other countries and was in danger of losing rare species of animals and birds unless she wakes up very soon.

The next film is "The Untamed Olympics" on November 6 and 7, and is bound to attract good audiences. If you plan to come to the Saturday evening performance, come early because those coming after 7:45 were turned away in disappointment. The Saturday matinee is proving popular, so why not give it a try. It is always a help to the ushers if the season ticket holders will display their tickets as they walk down the aisle. The middle section is reserved for them if they want to sit there. The price of a single admission ticket is \$1.00 for adults, 50¢ for students. A real bargain.

FREEMAN KING SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

It may be of interest to members to hear something about the young people who have won Freeman King Scholarships in the past. The careers of young people of such calibre are always worth watching, and if they were stimulated and assisted by the contact with the Natural History Society, we can take pride in their achievements. The first three named below were members of the Junior Branch.

Gail Moyer, now Mrs. Steven Mitchell, went on to do some postgraduate work at UBC under Dr. Thomas Taylor. She now has two children, but still finds time for a lot of hiking and back-packing trips. At present she is trying to organize some of the other young mothers on the Campus so that they will understand the environment in which they live. She hopes some day to get back to helping with the Junior Branch of a Natural History Society.

David Gray is at the University of Edmonton, and has had many valuable experiences. One summer he spent wandering about England and Scotland gathering information about the flora and fauna. For the past two summers he has worked at Bathurst Island where he made a study of the Musk-ox for the Wildlife Service of Canada. This winter he is back at Bathurst working on his Ph.D. thesis on the Musk-ox, and his studies will no doubt produce more information on the animal than has yet been known.

Nancy Chapman, now Mrs. Bob Turner, is attending UBC for her Master's Degree in Ethnic Botany. During the past summer she did field work in the Queen Charlottes and will be returning there next summer.

Sylvia Drought is now teaching and in Biology.
Adrian Harrison married Joyce Chope who was a former member of the Junior Branch. He also is teaching.
The most recent award winner was Heather
Heppenstall who is attending the University of Victoria.
We wish these young people the best of success.

Katherine Sherman

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The date of this year's census will be December 26.

If you are interested in taking part,

please phone Jeremy Tatum.

QUIET WATERS

Mention of the B.C. coast immediately conjures visions of long sandy beaches, towering black cliffs and a booming surf propelled by a stiff westerly wind fetching all the way from Japan. All this is true of the exposed coast but in effect we have a double coast line and a large part of the inner shore is normally as quiet and undisturbed as a mountain tarn nestled in its rock cradle. There are thousands of small bays and narrow twisting inlets on our coast which, apart from the rise and fall of the tides, normally present a mirror surface to the world around them.

Boot Cove, Pirates Cove, Narrows Inlet, Refuge Cove, Pendrell Sound, Call Creek, Fish Egg Inlet, Pruth Bay, Poison Cove, Mussell Inlet, Bottleneck Inlet, Foch Lagoon, Curlew Bay, and Kumealon Inlet sound like a schedule for the old Union Steamships but are all places of quiet waters. Over hundreds of miles of shoreline these and many places like them are ringed by vegetation that pushes right to the high tide line. There is no splash zone for that requires waves big enough to hurl themselves up the rocks. Away from the creek mouths there are few beaches for beaches are a product of wave erosion. Without the ceaseless pounding of waves, boulders don't become gravel nor gravel sand.

In such a place we anchored and the disturbance of our entrance echoed back and forth across the surface water to gently sway the rock weed clinging to the shore. In the later afternoon a dark and glossy mink humped his way along the rocks and a river otter slid across the bay from the creek mouth to a favourite lookout at the entrance. Fire had swept part of the sidehill two years before and fireweed, like a magenta magnet, drew swarms of bees and hummingbirds. As darkness fell the evening chorus of robins and varied thrush was replaced by the plaintive call of a hermit thrush. A turned stone in the creek mouth drew our attention and in the last light we could dimly make out a doe with her half-grown fawn tiptoeing across the creek and up onto the burnt hillside.

At first light the mirror was briefly shattered by a squadron of merganzers in line astern who patrolled the perimeter of the cove. Near the entrance a few tide swirls told of the current running outside and a ruffling of the water foretold a stiff breeze in the main

channel. The rattle of our anchor chain startled a heron out of its concentration and with heavy wing beat and ponderous croaking he led us out into the channel.

Far to the south as the second half of winter begins, there are days when the waters of Stuart and Trincomali channels take on a smooth slickness like a heavy glaze on rough pottery. In the peculiar flat light of winter schools of driftwood tower like miraging cliffs and seabirds in their thousands add sound and movement in an otherwise lifeless vista.

On such a morning I rowed out through the tattered remnants of a dawn fog to a small islet where a pair of gulls had raised their family that year. The gulls had long since departed and my only company was the hollow whistling cry of a startled white winged scoter. Off to the south puffs of steam and arcing black sabres marked the presence of a bull killer whale and his pod feeding on the winter run of herring, but even their bulk barely roiled the slick surface. The scoters had returned to their drifting sleep and on the rock the only sound was the gurgle and chuckle of the fast running tide sucking at the islet as it flooded through the pass to refill the straits.

A few years ago I went back to that spot but my quiet waters had gone. The beach where I kept my boat had been cut in half by a launching ramp that dumped tons of rock and gravel on the eel grass bed, the high tide line was knee deep in wood chips from a nearby mill and the silence was rent by the screams of saws on a twenty-four hour shift. The birds still flocked in the channel but on the ebb tide grey mounds of foam occasionally swept through the pass as a grim warning of things to come. In earlier years I had never been aware of the fresh sea salt tang of the air but on my return what I took to be low lying sea mist turned out to be the unmistakable sulphur-dioxide stench of progress.

Murray Matheson

IT MAKES YOU THINK ...

There are many fields where opportunities exist for the dedicated amateur to improve the quality of living. (Roderick Haig-Brown, Chancellor of the University of Victoria)

BIRDS FOR THE RECORD

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

| Pomarine jaeger (1) - Clover Point - | Sep.21 - |
|---|-----------------|
| Walter H. Berlet presents | Ralph Fryer |
| Barn owl (1) - UVic - | Sep. 25 - |
| 6-7 Newcoube Auditorium | Jeremy Tatum |
| Rough-legged hawk (1) - Martindale/Lochside | e - Oct. 2 - |
| Rusty blackbird (2) - Taylor Road - | Oct. 4 - |
| Virginia rail (1) - Albert Head Lagoon - | Oct. 4 - |
| Pygmy owl (1) - China Beach - | Oct. 6 - |
| of OD p.ph. Newcombe Audiforium | Keith Taylor |
| Wheatear (1) - Mills Cross Road - | Oct.10 - |
| Keith Taylor and | Ron Satterfield |
| PROBABLY A FIRST RECORD FOR BRITISH COLUM | MBIA. |
| Seen by many observers and photographed. | |

Residents, migrants and winter visitors

| Arctic loon (20) - Sidney Island Spit (ARD) - | Oct. 3 |
|---|---------|
| Brandt's cormorant (200) - Clover Point (ARD) - | Oct.10 |
| White-fronted goose (1) - Langford Lake (TE) - | Oct. 1 |
| (2) - Martindale (KT, RS) - | Oct.10 |
| (1) - Elk Lake (KT, RS) - | Oct.10 |
| Snow goose (5) - Esquimalt Lagoon (KT) - | Oct. 4 |
| European widgeon (1) - Esquimalt Lagoon (RF) - | Oct. 4 |
| Turkey vulture (25-30) - Stadacona Park (RM,MM) - | Sep.26 |
| (33) - Esquimalt Lagoon (ARD) - | Sep.26 |
| | -Sep.19 |
| (1) - Island Road (LP) - | Sep.26 |
| Sparrow hawk (2) - Island Road (LP) - | Sep.26 |
| Ring-billed gull (2, adult) - Esquimalt L. (IJ) - | Sep.28 |
| Franklin's gull (2) - Clover Point (RG) - | Oct. 3 |
| Short-eared owl (1) - Martindale/Lochside (RS) - | Oct. 6 |
| (1) - Oak Bay Golf Course (ARD) - | Oct.10 |
| Horned lark (3) - Oak Bay Golf Course (ARD) - | Sep.13 |
| Varied thrush - Robertson Street (RF) - | Oct. 5 |
| (flocks flying west to east for 20 minutes) | |
| Myrtle warbler (2) - Esquimalt Lagoon (ARD) - | Sep.26 |
| Lapland longspur (1) - Oak Bay Golf Course (RS) - | Sep.18 |
| (1) - Cattle Point (MF) - | Oct.12 |

PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER 1970

Executive Meeting: 8:00 p.m. at home of Mrs. S. Prior Tuesday November 3 1903 Shotbolt Road

Audubon Wildlife Walter H. Berlet presents

Film: "The Untamed Olympics"

Fri., Sat., Nov. 6-7 Newcombe Auditorium
at 8:00 p.m. Provincial Museum
Saturday November 7 (South entrance)
at 2:30 p.m.

General Meeting: 8:00 p.m. Newcombe Auditorium
Tuesday November 10 (Provincial Museum)
Dr. Richard A. Ring will speak on
"Some Alternatives to Chemical

Insecticides"

Bird Field Trip: Meet at Mayfair Lanes parking lot Saturday November 14 (North side) 9:30 a.m. or Esquimalt Lagoon 10:00 a.m. Leader: Mr. Morehen

Tide Pool Exploration: Meet at Cattle Point 8:00 p.m.
Saturday November 14 Bring rubbers, raincoats and flashlights

Entomology Field Trip: Meet at the University (Elliott Building, one with the dome on top) 9:00 a.m. Bring lunch

Botany Meeting: 8:00 p.m. Room 216 Oak Bay Junior Tuesday November 24 Secondary School

Junior Group: Meeting every Saturday 1:30 p.m.
at Mayfair Lanes parking lot
(North side) for field trip

Leader: Freeman King - 479-2966

LIBRARY NOTICE

In the hope that our library may be more useful to the membership at large, our librarian has compiled a list of the approximately one-hundred-and-fifty books which it contains. Some sixteen periodicals are received each month, and the back numbers of these have all been stored for future reference. This list will be available at our General Meetings. See Miss Maureen Collins.

VICTORIA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Honorary President

Honorable W. K. Kiernan, Minister of Recreation and Conservation

Honorary Life Members

Freeman F. King, Albert R. Davidson, George E. Winkler Miss M. C. Melburn, Miss E. K. Lemon, Mrs. L. E. Chambers

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