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(See also inside back cover)

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ELTON A. ANDERSON : AN APPRECIATION

by RUTH CHAMBERS

Elton Anderson, who died in Victoria on July 9, was too downright and determined to have much use for fancy words or fulsome praise. But his fellow-conservationists had great respect for Elton. And respect is perhaps the key word for this blunt honest man who worked tirelessly for conservation measures in this province he knew and loved so well.

Honorary Life Member of the Vancouver Natural History Society, and of the Victoria Natural History Society, Elton had also been awarded the Ted Barsby Trophy for outstanding work in conservation.

Elton's main work was done through the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists.

In 1970, the Federation had eight member clubs. By 1975, 33 member clubs ranged from the Queen Charlottes to the Kootenays, from the Peace River country to Victoria. This increase was largely due to Elton's perseverance and plain hard work, especially in the writing and distribution of the Federation's Newsletter which he edited from 1968 until his last issue in June, 1975.

Anybody writing the story of conservation in B.C. would find good source material in the Federation's Minutes, in all issues of the Newsletter, and in the many briefs which Elton encouraged, or wrote or presented.

Elton was no extremist and no quitter. But his persistent pressure, practical knowledge and moderate common sense approach were often effective, and some of our legislators were

undoubtedly influenced by this former logger turned conservationist.

Elton did a good job for us, our children and grandchildren. We can thank him by continuing to support the Federation for which he worked so hard as long as he could draw breath.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1974-1975

by R.Y. EDWARDS

This, I hope, will be the shortest president's report on record; and perhaps it will prove unique by being more concerned with the future than with the past.

I think it proper that such a report should in large part be a reflection of the reporter. I happen to believe that deeds speak far truer than words; and that dwelling on the future is far more productive and more much fun than dwelling on the past. This is to criticize neither words nor history, but is to say that we often have more of both than we need.

I believe that the year was a good one. The annual parade of birds and flowers, insects and starfish, scenery, and stimulating social issues, was as good as any, and yielded an abundant harvest of pleasure for our members. Also in the past year there were unique events to remember it by: the generous bequest of Mr. A.H. Nehring became ours, and elevated the club to new heights of affluence; preparations for the C.N.F. conference - soon to take place - have gone smoothly and capably and cheerfully because of a small army of dedicated volunteers; we have given money to other organizations, notably the Swan Lake - Christmas Hill Nature Centre, and the Greenpeace

Foundation; our magazine, the Victoria Naturalist, changed considerably - as must all good things - and a large part of its audience is applauding the result; and our meetings have changed, I might add experimentally which is the most productive approach to change, the result to us has been educational, and some changes at least have met with enthusiastic approval while attracting members.

The role of President can be a frustrating one. He must try to be a leader to all, and not just to this or that biased faction which may be his private inclination. While he is the leader, to do his job well he must not be far in front campaigning for the others to follow in his private choice of direction; rather he should usually be just ahead of the crowd, guiding gently to where the people seem to want to go, sometimes leading to where he suspects they would want to go if they only knew enough to want to, and once in a while having to stretch democracy to the limit when the group seems headed for trouble and a wiser route is being ignored.

Trying to lead is always a stimulating challenge. In this case it was also easy, thanks to many helpful people who have agreed with me and many who have not. Both, of course, are equally helpful and are essential to a viable and useful organization of people.

I have been too busy this year to do many of the things I hoped to do. Being still too busy, I step aside tonight, and this is best for you and for me. But I might have stepped aside anyway. For twenty years I have been apprehensive over too much of what I call "professional leadership" in our nature clubs, and there were times when I seemed to be walking where I had advised others not to tread. The value of the naturalist is his seeing into the grassroots. The professional has often forgotten how to explore on his knees. My advice to such clubs as this has always been to

have useful experts on tap, but to be careful about which of them get on top. I tried hard to "think naturalist" as your President, and I hope that in most cases I succeeded.

As to the changes that we might explore together in the future, I suggest the following as among those of major importance:

- * I see a need to do more for people in the two groups we might call "intermediates" and "young adults". The younger and older are the easy ones, and like most Canadian naturalist groups, these have been our easy successes. The dominant group, of course, is what an Ontario friend calls "the silver thread Sunday strollers", and this is fine. The problem here is not who is in, but who is not in. I suggest that if our interest is nature, and the people involved with nature, that our duty is to broaden our activity base to include the young and energetic doers in our society; or perhaps even better, that we should help initiate and support into independence another local club or two to serve these extremely important age groups.
- * I suggest a local intermediate naturalist organization based on major outings perhaps once a month that offers exciting activity, attractive adventure, and valuable experience.
- * I suggest for us occasional unusual field trips for adults that are aimed at the vigorously active weekend rather than at the social half day.
- * I suggest at least occasional indoor meetings designed to attract outsiders rather than to always routinely serve us insiders.

- * I suggest even more attention to planning our regular meetings so that they will attract and hold the outsider who should become one of us. Our past record has its bright spots - but in general we have done little to upgrade our approach in 25 years.
- * The magazine can be even better. It needs more member contribution; and more attention to the reader who knows us mainly through the magazine. Unfortunately, when you have an editor doing his job, manuscripts are often in need of editing - or even of rewriting. That is simply a fact of all printing that is worth the expense. Here the formula for success is an editor who can give a little in the name of encouragement, and writers willing to grow a healthy thick skin, and with the flexibility to learn to write what people - including good editors - consider to be acceptable quality.
- * Finally, we need to think much about how to use, and use to the best fulfillment of club objectives, our newly acquired wealth. Actually it is not much in today's dollars. I do urge careful avoidance of simply helping ourselves. I hope for clear thought on such other possibilities as encouraging converts, preserving nature, participating in education, and joining other groups and reaching farther together than either might reach alone. Remember that the safe way is not necessarily the best way. And remember above all that the purely emotional cause, not thought carefully through, and not studied carefully, can be the quickest way to maximum expenditure for minimum gain. As an example, buying land is possibly the quickest way to major error, which I say even though for twenty years I

have advocated that when conditions are right, clubs like ours have no greater accomplishment than buying and looking after a choice bit of real estate.

So, there it is, and perhaps not as short as I intended. Thank you for your help. I enjoyed every minute of it.

SIDNEY ISLAND, MAY 31

by JACK WILLIAMS

A beautiful day greeted 30 birders at Sidney Wharf to board the good ship "Black Goose" (appropriate) for a day on Sidney Island.

On the short trip across we saw Pigeon Guillemots, Marbled Murrelets and Rhinoceros Auklets as well as numerous Pelagic and Double-crested Cormorants and 2 Bald Eagles.

On the Island we decided to walk the spit first because the day was going to be warm. One of our first sightings on the spit was of a single late Brant followed by a couple of Black Oystercatchers. On the water, Arctic Loons in fine summer dress were also spotted and Song and White-crowned Sparrows sang in the sparse bushes at the end of the spit. Returning we found Rough-winged Swallows and a Kingfisher near the bank where the spit and Island join.

Now we started our walk through the woods and the shade felt good. Swainson's Thrushes were singing from their leafy hideaways as were Orange-crowned Warblers and a Western Flycatcher. A Brown Creeper was found and a Solitary Vireo, also Chestnut-backed Chickadees and a Fox Sparrow. A Savannah Sparrow's nest with young was located in the middle of a field and several Brown-headed Cowbirds sat on the nearby fence.

A good spot was found for lunch with birds singing all around us, but there was much ground to cover so we didn't tarry long. We headed for the end of the lagoon and the heronry. On the way Alf Porcher stayed behind to check out a Hermit Thrush which was singing loudly. At the lagoon, about 80 Great Blue Herons were wading, flying and in the trees at the heronry.

On the return trip we added Olive-sided Flycatcher, Chipping Sparrow, Red-tailed Hawk and many more including one of the resident Peacocks (Tim Murphy dares me to put it on my life list.)

Back at the dock we had time for a rest before our boat arrived. Our captain had agreed to take us around Mandarte Island before heading back to Sidney. Everyone was interested in the nesting Cormorants, the many Glaucous-winged Gulls and some Pigeon Guillemots as well as 4 Harlequin Ducks having a rest on the rocks.

A good day was had by all with the co-operation of the birds and the weatherman. Total count was about 50 species for the day.

THE BEST TO VERSE

by AL GRASS

Once upon a time, it was quite proper to express thoughts and emotions in the form of poetry. This was especially true of nature writing, as reference to many of the nature-study books of half a century ago will prove. This passed out of fashion as we move to a more scientific approach to nature writing. I thought it might be fun to look at the ways poets have described some of our plants and animals.

The common dandelion, is to many, a hated plant. One has only to look at the vast sums of money spent every year on so-called weed killers. Joseph Wood Krutch has called the dandelion, "a gay little miracle". He draws our attention to the words of Walt Whitman:

*"Simple and fresh and fair from winter's
clothes emerging,
As if no artifice of fashion, business,
politics, had ever been,
Forth from its sunny nook of sheltered
grass -- innocent, golden, calm as
the dawn,
The spring's first dandelion shows its
trustful face."*

Spring is the time of bird song. Visit any marsh in the early morning and you will be amazed at the dawn chorus. The poet Tabb gives us these words:

*"Ere yet the earliest warbler wakes, of
coming spring to tell,
From every marsh a chorus breaks, a choir
invisible,
As if the blossoms underground, a breath
of utterance had found."*

And what of our attitudes toward living things - especially those creatures we call ugly (the animals nobody loves), toads, worms, spiders and snakes. A very beautiful philosophy has been expressed by poetess Christina Rossetti:

*"Hurt no living thing;
Ladybird, nor butterfly,
Nor moth with dusty wing,
Nor cricket chirping cheerily,
Nor grasshopper light of leap,
Nor dancing gnat, nor beetle fat,
Nor harmless worms that creep."*

Remember the words of R.W. Emerson when next you see a bumblebee buzzing:

*"Thou, in sunny solitudes,
Rover of the underwoods,
The green silence dost replace
With thy mellow breezy bass."*

Cleaning cobwebs out of a basement or attic is not a pleasant job. Perhaps the words of Elizabeth Akers will make the task a little easier. In fact, after you read these lines you may want to leave the cobwebs where they hang:

*"Here shy Arachne winds her endless thread,
And weaves her silken tapestry unseen,
Veiling the rough-hewn timbers overhead,
And looping, gossamer festoons between."*

Lastly, the words of Lowell (from *Festina Lente*):

*"From lower to the higher next,
Not to the top is Nature's text;
And embryo good, to reach full stature,
Absorbs the evil of its nature."*

CIVILIZED MAN'S EIGHT DEADLY SINS
- A REVIEW -

by KAY SUTTILL

Since last autumn, when a friend mentioned Konrad Lorenz' Civilized Man's Eight Deadly Sins, I have been waiting to find it in Victoria. In England it has been available in both hardback and paperback editions, but only the hardback seems to be on our bookstore shelves, the edition put out by Methuen and Co. Ltd., London, 1974, price \$5.95. As in Lorenz's previous books, Marjorie Latzke is the translator.

Civilized Man's Eight Deadly Sins is rather like Pemmican, high energy food (for thought) compressed in the small space, 78 pages. It ranges from Overpopulation, and Devastation of the Environment, through Man's Race Against Himself, "his blinding greed for money and his enervating haste", Entrophy of Feeling, "the waning of all strong feelings and emotion, caused by self-indulgence", Genetic Decay with its concomitant crime by juveniles, The Break With Tradition and its polarization Youth/Age antiness, Increased Indoctrinability by both East and West, to Nuclear Weapons. These are the Eight Deadly Sins of mankind, as elucidated by Konrad Lorenz.

How does all this relate to Natural History? Most importantly because Man today controls the destiny of our planet - and Lorenz clarifies the Why of these Now forces. This slim, small book could well aid in preventing cataclysmic catatrophe if only enough STOP CHANGES could become action, i.e. if enough pressure-through-people seeing these grave dangers could be brought to bear on those who have power to reverse or modify them.

Reading Lorenz helps us to understand these current "pathological disorders" of human society which he says are "threatening to destroy not only our civilization but mankind as a species." Whereas to some extent we know the results of overcrowded cities, the worth of saving our human environment and the out-of-control greed and haste engendered by Man's Race Against Himself, more light is shed on these dangers as well as on the manipulation of human masses in both Eastern and Western countries today. His chapters on Entrophy of Feeling, the exchange of JOY achieved through hard work for "pleasure" of "instant gratification", and Genetic Decay, where Lorenz talks of "progressive infantilism" and the "asocial defective", i.e. criminal, and The Break With Tradition and its poisoning reaction of Hate, these I think the most stimulating parts of the book. Also his ideas re the importance of fashion and the uniformity-of-dress in indoctrination of groups, as well as the indoctrination by fashion and fad of current science.

It is the need for HUMANIZATION, for GOODNESS which Lorenz pleads for over and over throughout this book.

But read it yourself! For Civilized Man's Eight Deadly Sins is so rightly expressed by Konrad Lorenz that no synthesis of it can adequately and correctly communicate its essence. Each chapter is like having Lorenz discuss problems and ideas with you, yet they are all inter-related and the whole is the One of man's direction to self-suffocation.

Do reread the "Foreward with a silver lining" again afterwards, to renew your spirit of optimism. Through Konrad Lorenz's book we are more aware of the S.O.S.'s to Mankind, and the forces needed to counter Civilized Man's Eight Deadly Sins.

AUDUBON FILMS 1975/76

The Audubon Film series this winter will take its viewers from the tropical jungles of Papua to wild Scandinavia, with stops on the Rio Grande and the Malheur National Wildlife Regue in Oregon, along the way. And, to top it all, will be a timely presentation on migration and its mysteries in March.

Leading off, October 3 & 4, is John Taft with his film Papua, New Guinea; Twilight of Eden, an examination of the people and wildlife of this little-known island north of Australia.

Remember the details: 8 P.M., Friday and Saturday, October 3 & 4, Newcombe Auditorium.

Inflation has struck here -- as in just about all other parts of our lives -- and mounting costs have forced a raise in admission prices. For this reason they are:

Adult Season Ticket, \$6.00 (5 films); Adult Single Admission, \$1.50; Senior Citizen Season Ticket, \$4.00; Senior Citizen Single Admission, \$1.00; Students, 75¢.

FRANCIS PARK, JUNE 7by *ELSIE G. TURNBULL*

Perhaps it was because the group was small and could often pause to listen, but Thomas Francis Park seemed full of birds that day when Doug Turnbull led ten ardent birders along the Centennial Trail. Leafy trees, festooned with caterpillar tents, provided food for unabashed juncoes and their young and for a family of towhees, while bark and bough of conifers harbored insects for tiny chickadees and Bushtits and the dull Brown Creeper. Robins were everywhere, busy and cheerful but above their songs were others with a slightly different lilt which we found came from several Western Tanagers, radiant in yellow, black and scarlet. Flitting through the firs and spruces were chunky gold and black Evening Grosbeaks, while the occasional Pine Siskin, Purple Finch and Western Flycatcher darted among the branches.

The trail was lushly green with bracken and sword fern, peavine and honeysuckle, small-leaved montia and stonecrop. Trailing blackberry vines carried white flowers although the Oregon Grape's bloom had turned to clusters of green berries. In the dark woods, broom glowed vivid against rocky outcrops and on the hydro right-of-way it covered the whole clearing in a wash of gold. The calypsos had gone but the first briar roses were showing pink while in the swamp the arum lilies had given way to giant leaves of skunk cabbage. Imagination walked the trail with us and the bulky, moss-covered stump of a fallen tree assumed the aspect of a grizzly bear. Sprouting from its head was a maple sapling.

As usual the woods seemed quiet and birdless but soon bird calls betrayed the presence of Yellow Warbler, Solitary Vireo and Yellowthroat. Well hidden in thick foliage, they were most elusive as they darted into the heart of a willow

bush or hid behind the broad leaves of the maple. How exciting it was for the silent group of birders to finally uncover their hiding place and doubly exciting to find the lemon-yellow and black-capped Wilson's warbler in the thicket and the drab Black-throated Gray Warbler in nearby pines. Then there was the usual hassle over flycatcher songs -- was that melodious whistle the "Quick-three-beers" of the Olive-sided, or was it the "fitz-bew" of Traill's Flycatcher? Luckily, we spotted both songsters and a Western Flycatcher as well.

From far off came the loud raucous croaking of a raven family.

Of course the old favorites were there -- Chipping, Song and White-crowned Sparrows, a couple of darting Rufous Hummingbirds, Cedar Waxwings, a Flicker and Winter Wren, and high in the sky a lazy Red-tailed Hawk.

Out at Boulton's farm we found cowbirds, Barn, Cliff, and Violet-green Swallows, a goldfinch pair and many blackbirds but a keen disappointment was the big busty raptor perched on a dead spar. From his size and bearing he seemed undoubtedly the lordly Golden Eagle, but before identification could be made he dropped out of sight into the wooded canyon. Cautious members of the group settled for a Red-tail. As consolation three coal-black Turkey Vultures soared in dipping flight over our heads. It had been a good day with a count of 38. Never again would those birders say that Francis Park lacked bird life.

PITT MEADOWS, JUNE 21by *DOROTHY WILLIAMS*

Eight enthusiastic birders met at the Wild Duck Inn at Port Coquitlam on a slightly drizzly Saturday morning but with high hopes of good birding ahead.

Our first stop was at the pumping station on Sturgeon Slough where we were greeted by several Black Swifts gliding overhead accompanied by Cliff, Barn and Violet-green Swallows and, in the bushes around the slough, by Willow Flycatcher, Goldfinches and large flocks of Brewer's and Red-wing Blackbirds which seem to be the most predominant species in the area.

We decided to keep to the roads as much as possible because the grass was wet so headed for the road which leads along Sturgeon Slough to the quarry. On our way we met the Robinson's who live at Sheridan Hill nearby. They had just seen 6 Sandhill Cranes so directed us to the spot. The Cranes were not far off the road, 2 adults with one yellow fledgling on the west side and 3 more adults on the east side. The baby was quite hard to find in the long grass.

We hated to leave the Cranes but headed for the quarry road to see what else we could find. We soon added many more species to our list as the bushes and trees came alive. A large flock of Band-tailed Pigeons took off noisily as we approached, a Western Wood Pewee was busy from its perch along the ditch and every tree seemed to be full of Cedar Waxwings. We hardly knew whether to watch the ditch side of the road or the slough for fear of missing something. Several Chestnut-backed Chickadees and Bushtits fussed through the bushes and down in the willows at the edge of the slough a Common Yellowthroat sounded off and was soon located. Swainson's Thrushes kept up a constant roundelay in the background while Orange-crowned Warblers were heard but not often seen in the heavy foliage.

As we neared the quarry we spied some birds in a tall leafy tree. It was some time before we decided that they were Black-headed Grosbeaks. Later they came much lower and nearer for us to confirm them.

As we turned back 2 Green Herons wheeled across the dike and disappeared into the ditch ahead. As we approached they emerged again and after making a circle around the slough disappeared across the Pitt River.

Now ready for lunch, we drove to Pitt Lake and sat along the shore hoping to see more birds as we ate. An Osprey was sitting on a piling out in the lake having lunch too, a House Finch sang in the trees behind us and the sky above was thick with Black Swifts, some just over our heads, others as high as we could see in the low clouds. Their numbers were hard to estimate as they milled about but we thought 200 was about right.

After lunch we walked the main dike as far as the mountain and added several more species.

Pied-billed Grebes "Kow-kowed" in the marsh, Snipe winnowed nearby and one crossed the road quite near us. Many Yellowthroats sang from the Hardhack and now and again a long-billed Marsh Wren could be heard. As we continued on, Rufous Hummingbirds and a Hairy Woodpecker appeared and then suddenly in the bushes ahead 6 Eastern Kingbirds. On the other side of the dike we saw a Solitary Vireo, while flying across in front of us a Spotted Sandpiper. What to look at first?

At the far end of the dike a Red-eyed Vireo sang monotonously and a Winter Wren also made itself heard.

Time was running out so we retraced our steps quickly. Several Great Blue Herons flapped across the marsh and 2 more Ospreys appeared on a fishing trip and a Mourning Dove passed us on the road as we left.

Everyone agreed the birds had put on a pretty good show but our only regret was we didn't find a Catbird.

Score for the day, about 50 species.



BIRD REPORTS

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by JACK WILLIAMS

Bird-of-the Month

RUFF - July 24, Oak Bay Golf Course (1), Ron Satterfield, confirmed by Vic Goodwill and Peggy Goodwill. This looks like a first for Victoria (there was a possible in 1969) and about the fourth for B.C.; July 31, McIntyre Reservoir (1), VG, the Davidsons, Harold Hosford and Jack Williams.

The Rest

WHISTLING SWAN - May 24, Quick's Pond, (1), Ervio Sian and Glen Ryder.

BRANT - June 18, foot of Rothsay, Sidney (1), JW.

PINTAIL - May 13, Quick's Pond (1), JW.

CINNAMON TEAL - May 13, Quick's Pond (4), JW.

CANVASBACK - May 6, Esquimalt Lagoon (1), VG.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE - July 26, Cordova Channel (1 imm.) the Goodwills.

OLDSQUAW - July 21, McNeill Bay, RS and the Goodwills.

HARLEQUIN - June 7, Willows Beach (30), Alf Porcher.

TURKEY VULTURE - July 28, Victoria Airport (1), JW.
- July 30, Langford (1), HH.

MARSH HAWK - May 6, Metchosin Lagoon (1), the Goodwills.

PEREGRINE FALCON - July 16, Cowichan Bay (1), RS & VG.

VIRGINIA RAIL - May 1, 4, 9, Ascot Pond (1), the Goodwills. July 18, Prospect Lake Rd. pond (1), Rob Duncan.

SORA - May 9-11, Ascot Pond (1), RD and the Goodwills,
- May 25, Ascot Pond (1), Tim Murphy.

KILLDEER - July 6, Witty's Lagoon (73), JW.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - May 4, Esquimalt Lagoon (6), Leila Roberts.

SURFBIRD - May 3, Billings Point (100), The Goodwills & RS. - July 11, Clover Point (8), the Goodwills.

RUDDY TURNSTONE - May 4, Esquimalt Lagoon (1), LR.

- May 7, Esq. Lagoon (1), Eric Counsell.

BLACK TURNSTONE - July 5, Roberts Point (2), JW.

- July 11, Clover Point (4), M & VG.

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COMMON SNIBE - May 7, Ascot Pond (1), RD.

WHIMBREL - May 4, Esquimalt Lagoon (7), LR.

- July 1, Saan. Inlet (2), K & D Suttill.

WANDERING TATTLER - July 21, McMicking Pt.(1), RS, M & VG.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER - July 4, Clover Pt.(2), VG.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER - July 15, Metchosin Lagoon, (2), VG.

WESTERN SANDPIPER - July 6, Witty's Lagoon (125), JW.

HEERMANN'S GULL - June 18, Clover Point (1), MG.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE - June-July, Clover Point, M & VG, RS, JW, Chauncey Wood.

CASPIAN TERN - June 6, Clover Point (1), M & VG.

June 6, Esquimalt Lagoon (2), S & C Wood.

TUFTED PUFFIN - June 25, Cadboro Pt (1), S & C W.

MOURNING DOVE - May 9, Quick's Pond (1), D. Brix.

- May 18, Witty's Lagoon (1), EC.

GREAT HORNED OWL - June 27, Haro Woods (1), RD; June 28, Beaver Lake (1), Ann Knowles; July 12, Goldstream Park (1), Tom Briggs.

BARN OWL - May 14, View Royal (1), S & C Wood.

VAUX SWIFT - May 3, Oak Bay Golf Course (1), VG, RS.

WESTERN KINGBIRD - May 17, Cow. Lake (1), Tim Murphy.

WESTERN WOOD PEWEE - May 11, Munns Rd. (1), M & VG.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - May 8, Haro Woods (1), VG.

BANK SWALLOW - May 7, Cordova Bay Rd. Gravel Pit, (2), R. Fryer.

MOCKINGBIRD - May 2, Colwood (1), Mrs. R.E. Giles (last date seen).

HERMIT THRUSH - May 31, Sidney Is. (1), Alf Porcher.

SWAINSON THRUSH - April 27, Honeymoon Bay (1), Kevan Brehart.

WESTERN BLUEBIRD - May 3, Jordan Meadows (1F), M & VG, RS; June 11, near Oak Bay Golf Course (2), Mrs. Mumford, reported by Elton Anderson.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE - May 3, Tugwell W. Main (1), M & VG, RS, Rick West; May 14, 31, Mt. Douglas (1), M & VG.

WARBLING VIREO - May 9, Prevost Hill (1), M & VG.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER - May 13, Little Saanich Mountain, (1), JW.

WESTERN TANAGER - May 13, L. Saan. Mt. (2M), JW; May 14, Granville (2F 1M), Marg Gillie; May 15, Beach Drive (1), Phil Downey; May 22, Wilson Rd. (1M), JW.

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK - May 14, Lochside nr. Blenkinsop L. (1M), M & VG.

LAZULI BUNTING - May 31, Mt. Douglas (1M), M & VG.

EVENING GROSBEAK - April 27, Honeymoon Bay (20), KB; May 4, Lochside & Cordova Bay (flock), Doris Page; May 12, Beaver Lake (4), John Fitch; June 7, Granville (20), MG.

VESPER SPARROW - July 7, Cobble Meadow (6), LR, M & VG.

LINCOLN SPARROW - May 4, U Vic (1), M & VG.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR - May 12, Clover Pt. (1 winter male), RS, M & VG.

Not a bad list for the summer. Some don't look like great rarities but are either late stayers or early arrivals. Hope to be hearing from more contributors now that all the scarce migrants are on the way.

KIDS COUNTRY

by GAIL MITCHELL

THE COMING SEASON

Attention all Junior Naturalists (ages 8 - 18): An exciting program is being arranged for the coming season. Dues (\$2.50) should be paid as soon as possible.

OUTINGS

Juniors (8-11 years) - possibly 2 afternoon outings per month. Watch the Victoria Naturalist for details.

Intermediates (12-18 years) - one day outing per month or an overnight trip if fund raising projects can be arranged.

FRANCIS PARK

Both Juniors and Intermediates will help to maintain Francis Park. An exhibition of projects and collections is planned for Spring - so start thinking about what you would like to do NOW!

LITERATURE

There is an excellent magazine for young naturalists appropriately called The Young Naturalist.

You can get it from the -

Federation of Ontario Naturalists,
1262 Don Mills Road,
Toronto, Ontario.

It costs \$3.50 for one year (4 issues) and \$6.00 for two years, and is worth every cent.

KIDS COUNTRY

Remember to send your stories, poems, games, quizzes, recipes and drawings in for Kids Country. Your drawings should be in black ink or good black pencil. Send them to the editor, Harold Hosford, 303 Daniel Place, Victoria.

And one last reminder. Pay your dues, then you won't miss out on the Naturalist. Also, think about some of your friends who might like to become naturalists too. Why not tell them about the fun you're having and maybe they'll join us too.

A MINK IS CAUGHT

by NEAL WHITTAKER

One day in August, me and my brother were playing in the back yard and I spotted a mink. We called our mom and she came out. It ran to the corner of the yard and hid under the wood pile. As we got closer we fed it some food and it ate it all up.

The mink talked to us in a high-pitched squeal. Bit by bit we moved the wood. As we got close to it he ran and bumped into my cat. Then it ran into the basement. We shut the door. Then we set a trap and I was ready to pull the string but after an hour, my brother caught him with a net. We were able to get him into a cage and give him some food.

Many people came to see him, even the RCMP. We took him to the Saanich Wildlife Reserve and they released him on Salt Spring Island.

PROGRAM

ADULTS

- * Sun. Sept. 7 - Ornithology - Esquimalt Lagoon and Fort Rodd. Meet Mayfair Lanes 9 a.m. or Esquimalt Lagoon, near bridge 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch. Leader: Jack Williams
- * Tues. Sept. 9 - Monthly Meeting, 8 p.m. Newcombe Auditorium. Speaker: Enid Lemon. Enid has a great night planned -- a trip to the Isles of Scilly, by helicopter

and stops at Point Pelee, Kew Gardens, Peakirk (Slimbridge's little brother) and the home of Sussex Craft. Why not bring a friend. (We wanted to title this one A Lemon Goes to Scilly but hadn't the heart). Remember: We're back in the beautiful Newcombe Auditorium again so let's fill the place!

*Sun. Sept. 14 - Botany - Thetis Park - 2 hour hike around the lake featuring late flowers and wild fruit. Leader: Stephen Mitchell. Meet 9:30 a.m. Mayfair Lanes or 10 a.m. Thetis parking lot.

*Sat. to Monday, Sept. 20/22. - Birding Weekend, Whidbey Island, Wash. Deception Pass State Park on Whidbey Island will be our destination. It is an excellent spot for birding but the trip properly requires a two night stay. There are lots of motels in Oak Harbour, or you can camp in the Park. Ferry leaves Sidney, for Anacortes, at 12:15 p.m. Saturday. Takes 3 hours with lots of birding along the way. Deception Pass is only 10 miles from Anacortes. Returning ferry leaves Anacortes at 8:30 a.m. so, unless you stay over Sunday night as well, you'll have little time at the Park. If you must be home Sunday, you can drive the 80 miles to Tsawwassen and take the B.C. Ferries home. Try not to pass this one up. It's a worthwhile trip to an area of sand beaches, lagoons, rocky shores, a large lake and a variety of woodlands. Phone Jack Williams for details.

JUNIORS

*Sat. Sept. 13 - Francis Park, Drivers: Askey & Callow.

*Sun. Sept. 28 - Witty's Lagoon Park. Drivers: Whitney and Mothersill.

All outings leave from the Oak and Roderick corner of the Mayfair Lanes parking lot at 1:30 p.m.

INTERMEDIATES

*Sept. - Day trip to Horne Lake caves. Contact Gail (477-9248) for details; limited space, first come, first served.

*Oct. - Possible boat trip; will cost money. Check with Gail.



COORDINATORS

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