



EDITORIAL

If six years are sufficient to establish a custom, it can be said that it is our custom to reserve this page for the presentation of a topic of intimate concern to our members. Here is a brief appreciation of a former member, the late Charles W. Nash, for twenty-three years Biologist of the now extinct Provincial Museum.

In 1923, two years after the Brodie Club was organized Mr. Nash was elected an Honorary Member. At the time, he was seventy-five years old and his health was failing but for more than two years he attended our meetings regularly. On Meeting nights, Dr. Paul Harrington or some other member would call at the Elliott House where Mr. Nash would be waiting. Likewise he would be returned home. Mr. Nash and the Club appreciated this service.

Nash was regularly an enthusiastic participant in discussions and on numerous occasions his talks were features of our programme. His wealth of memories, particularly of the natural history of southern Ontario in the old days, his knowledge of haunts long since "civilized" and destroyed, and his lucid way of picturing conditions which he had known intimately, always held the Club in rapt attention. There are two points of interest to more recent members in connection with Mr. Nash's participation in the Club's activities. The first is, he served on the committee which drafted our constitution; the second, the Club has a constitution!

Mr. Nash's contact with natural history was general and wide. Wildlife as a whole was much too interesting to permit any narrow and comfortable niche of specialization to ensnare him. His "Vertebrates of Ontario" illustrates his wide interests and knowledge but it should be added that he was familiar also with many groups of insects and other invertebrates and plants.

Some of our members remember Mr. Nash from early in their careers. His deep, firm voice and almost military bearing somewhat masked the warm heart and sympathetic patience with which he directed young naturalists on the road he knew and loved so well. Nash was a "good old-fashioned" naturalist in the highest sense of the expression.

334th Meeting - January 7: Chairman, Brodie. Members present, 24 (held in lecture room). Business: Letter from W. E. Ricker. Papers: "The 16th Xmas Census", Rutter (See Can. Field Nat. LV, 28). "Xmas Census Statistics", Coventry. Increased number of birds seen probably due to better organizing and increased skill of observers. "Thomas Say", Oughton. Of French-Quaker stock (1787-1834); excelled in descriptive zoology, particularly insects and molluscs. "Insect Coloration", Urquhart. Two main types, structural and pigmentary, described and illustrated. Observations: "Fish dying off", Harrington; "Tree Frog on Snow", Logier; "Heron at Aylmer", White; "Gulls at Barrie, etc.", Devitt; "January Kingfisher", Bell; "Cardinals", Owens; "Vesper Sparrow at Cobourg", Hope.

335th Meeting - January 21: Chairman, Emery. Members present, 20; visitors, 1. Business: Alteration of annual reports scheme; committee chairman to present combined report; phenological data to be collected. Committee elected Gunn (Chairman), Baillie, Bell, Brown, Downing, Owens, McDougall and Urquhart. Papers: "Annual Reports", Committee. "Weather", McDougall; "Fungi", Bell; "Flowering Plants and Trees", Owens; "Insects", Urquhart (read by L.L.S.); "Amphibians and Reptiles", Logier; "Birds", Baillie; "Mammals", Coventry. (See Proc. No. 5, pp. 5 - 7).

336th Meeting - February 4: Chairman, Dymond. Members present, 26; visitors 2. Business: Announcements and letter to Owens. Paper: "The Travels of Wm. Bartram", Prof. J. S. Rogers. Commissioned by Dr. Fothergill in England to collect plants in Florida, etc.; wrote about southeastern Indians; many notes as yet unpublished; Carlyle referred to his "floundering eloquence"; writing influenced Coleridge and Wordsworth. Observations: "Hibernating Bats, E. Ont.", Downing; "European Hare Embryos", White; "Length of Leaps, E. Hare", Harrington; "Horned Lark", Hurlburt; "Food of Redpolls", Dymond; "Spiders and Insects on Snow", Coventry.

337th Meeting - February 18: Chairman, Logier. Members present, 19; visitors, 1.

Business: A proposed biography of Dr. Brodie. Letter from W. H. Lunn. Announcements.

Papers: "Can Animals Survive Freezing?", Dymond. Speaker defined "animal", "survive" and "freezing". Though vertebrates cannot survive freezing there is some evidence that some invertebrates can. "Trail of an Artist-Naturalist", Baillie. A review of the autobiography of Thompson Seton. Speaker dealt particularly with author's contacts and experiences in the Toronto region.

338th Meeting - March 4: Chairman, Gunn. Members present, 21.

Business: Letter from W. H. Lunn. Motion of commendation to Rutter who had attended every meeting since his election as Secretary in September 1928. Discussion of cost and distribution of the Fleming Memorial Papers; distribution of the Proceedings. Motion to experiment with not announcing programme of meetings.

Papers: "An Observation on the Hairy Woodpecker and Mountain Bluebird", Munro. Female Bluebird carried straws into cavity containing young woodpeckers without objection of parent woodpeckers. Speaker suspected that cries of young woodpeckers and oestral cycle of Bluebird served as stimuli for the confusion. "Status of the Red Fox", Downing. The R.O.M.Z. questionnaire shows species increasing since 1937, particularly in southern Ontario. "On the Record of Attendance at Club Meeting", Rutter. Some dropping off presumably due to war; long period record of attendance averaged 63% of membership present.

339th Meeting - March 18: Chairman, Harrington. Members present, 22; visitors, 1.

Business: Motion carried - all biographic material possessed by the Club be given Mr. Frank Morris for Brodie Biography.

Papers: "The Use of Dermestid Beetles in the Preparation of Osteological Specimens", Prince and Hope. Trogoderma inclusum used; method in establishing a colony; small skeletons perfectly cleaned in two months.

"Results of Live-trapping of Small Mammals", Downing. 244 individual trapping records of *Peromyscus* in Algonquin Park; sex ratio about even; female known to be 17 months old. Population estimate, 11.5 to acre, 1941. "The Use of Scientific Names", Harrington. Questioned the advisability of consistent use at meetings because wide range of specialties represented.

340th Meeting - April 1: Chairman, Snyder.

Members present, 26; visitors, 4.

Papers: "Research Work of Ducks Unlimited", V. Solman. Details of predation by pike. Of 10,000 pike examined, 1% contained young ducks, calculated to represent 22% of the hatch. Motion picture.

Observations: "Voles and Foxes" and "Earthworms", Coventry; "Great Blue Heron Dead", White; "Chipmunk Attacks Garter Snake", Mr. George Palliser; "Red Fox" and "Dew Worms", Downing; "Raccoon at Orillia", Gunn; "Foxes" and "Horned Owl Nest", Devitt; "Nesting of Eagles and Owls at the Zoo", Lindsay; "1st Chipmunk", Snyder.

341st Meeting - April 15: Chairman, Thompson.

Members present, 22; visitor, 1.

Business: Phenological Questionnaire explained and distributed by annual reports committee. May 18th elected date for annual Field Day; place?.

Paper: "Observations on a Trip to Florida", Toner. Spade-foot Toad chorus; lizards, waterbirds observed; night collecting in a swamp.

Observations: "April Garter Snake", Brown; "Chipmunk Eating Garter Snake", Emery; "Pectoral Sandpipers" and "Hawks", Ussher; "Chipmunk Casualty", Snyder; "Garter Snake at Iroquois Falls", Downing; "Raccoon", Devitt; "Starling Mimics" and "African Native Belief", McIlwraith.

342nd Meeting - April 29: Chairman, Toner.

Members present, 20.

Business: Question of Field Day. Motion to resume notice of programmes.

Papers: "Spring Migration at Scarboro", Gunn, Found opposite movements northeast and southwest. Conditions affecting migration - temperature, precipitation, wind and fog.

"Reflections on Observations between Florida and Ontario", Dymond. Presented lists of animals peculiar to both and a list common to both. The speaker's question, "have we formed an artificial picture of life zones?"

343rd Meeting - May 13: Chairman, Urquhart.

Members present, 20.

Business: Field Day postponed until September 21; the place, Glen Major. Letter from D. A. MacLulich.

Papers: "A Proposed New Race of the Common Eider", Snyder. *Somateria mollissima* of Hudson Bay found to be non-migratory, distinct racially and unnamed. "Living Treasure", Toner. A review of Sanderson's book by that title. Spirit of a newspaper writer. "Items from Science News Letter", Logier. Ability of bats to avoid objects in the dark. Production of new resistant "races" of insects by experimental breeding.

Observations: "Whip-poor-will singing and Airplanes", Rutter; "Hawks and Airplanes", Hope; "Phenological Notes", McDougall; "Nest-building by Male Eng. Sparrows", Downing; "W. Sandpiper at Erindale" and "Hawk Attacking Eagle", McIlwraith; "Wolf Bounty in Quebec", Coventry; "Wood Tortoise at Bronte", Logier; "Wilmot Creek Drainage", Bell; "Phenological Notes", Lindsay.

- S U M M E R -

344th Meeting - September 23: Chairman, Baillie.

Members present, 18; visitors, 2.

Business: Announcements. Letter to Macklin.

Nominations: Elected by acclamation: Proceedings Committee, Rutter, Shortt and Snyder; Library Committee, McDougall, Bell and Brown; Conservation Committee, Brodie, Emery and McIlwraith.

Paper: "Annual Field Day", Rutter. Held on September 21 at Glen Major. Good weather; new, ideal camp site; 47 species of birds seen; blue jays abundant; 8 members, 4 visitors attended.

Observations: "Nestling Waxwings, Sept. 14" and "Blue Jays Abundant", Thompson; "Size of Black Cherry Tree" and "Beetle Damage", Bell; "Raven", J. M. Speirs; "Bald

Eagle, P. E. Co.", "Porcupine Food" and "Evening Grosbeak, Muskoka" and "Junco", McIlwraith; "Blue Jay (Abundant) and Pigeon Hawk", "Wasaga Beach" and "Turkey Vulture at Stayner", Harrington; "Tussock Moth", Shortt; "Forest Tent Caterpillar, Cochrane Dist.", Whelan; "Nighthawk", Hope; "Cryptotis parva, Long Point", Downing; "Pine Cricket, Turkey Point" and "Peacock Butterfly, Meaford," Urquhart; "Starling", Campbell; "Young Chipmunk, Sept." Emery; "Trout and Floods", Toner.

345th Meeting - October 7: Chairman, Bell.

Members present, 20; visitor, 1.

Business: Announcements. Letter to Rippon retiring from Active Membership; letter to Rutter, retiring as Secretary after attending 23rd consecutive meetings. Situation as to new Secretary being on Editorial Committee instead of Rutter, clarified.

Elections: Membership Committee, Snyder, Baillie, Coventry. Programme Committee, Urquhart, Emery, Satterly. Office of Treasurer set up. Secretary, Devitt; Treasurer, Emery.

Observations: "Autumn Colours" and "Ruffed Grouse Abundant", Thompson; "Juncos Abundant" and "Skunk Scavenger", Snyder; "Skunk Plentiful at Vineland", Hurlburt; "Bird Records from Simcoe County", Devitt; "Scarcity of Shore-birds", Southam; "Night Migrants", Gunn; "Red-headed Woodpecker Scarce", McIlwraith; "Phenological Notes" and "Stick-Insect Plague at Port Hope", Coventry; "Drying up of Streams", Toner; "Fungi Scarce", Bell.

346th Meeting - October 21: Chairman, Brodie.

Members present, 24; visitors, 2.

Business: Programme Committee reported arrangement made to date for entire year's programme.

Papers: "The Ancient Murrelet", Baillie. History of inland records; discussion of contributing causes of extralimital occurrences. "To California and Return", Snyder. Descriptions of physiography of terrain traversed, animals observed, and a report of the A.O.U. meeting in Denver.

Observations: "Bluebirds", Coventry; "Snowy Owl", Baillie; "Canada Jay", Rutter; "Ruffed Grouse", Lindsay.

347th Meeting - November 4: Chairman, Shortt. Members present, 20; visitors, 3. Business: Programme Committee announced complete schedule of papers for the year. Paper: "The Munsell Colour System", Dr. D. H. Hamly. Described several colour systems: pointed out the special merit of the Munsell System; demonstrated its application. Observations: "Downy Woodpecker and Cecropia Cocoon", Owens; "Chickadees and Goldenrod Galls", Thompson; "Hairy Woodpecker Escape", Southam; "Swamp Tree Frog Singing, November 3", Emery.

348th Meeting - November 18: Chairman, Downing. Members present, 26; visitors, 4. Business: Announcement of election to Active Membership of Dr. J. W. McArthur; to Corresponding Membership of Rev. H. B. Herrington of Lyn, Ontario, and Mr. R. W. Sheppard of Niagara Falls, Ontario. Presentation to Mr. R. J. Rutter, Retired Secretary, (Coues' "Key to N. Am. Birds") by Bell for the Brodie Club. Rutter served the Club for 13 out of the 20 years it had existed. Papers: "On a Check-list of Canadian Reptiles and Amphibians", Toner. Described compilation by speaker and Logier. About 93 forms of the two Classes known for Canada. "The Travels of Pere David", McDougall. Extracts from Journal in the Fleming Library. Collecting in China; described 60 Mammals and at least 90 Birds new to science. "Spring Appearances and Northern Ranges of Reptiles and Amphibians", Logier. Statistics available suggest that forms appearing first in spring range furthestest north and vice versa. Observations: "Barred Owl", Bell; "Purple Sandpiper", McIlwraith; "Hunters Kill of Deer", Prince; "Water Snake at Callander", Lindsay; "Food of Grouse", Harrington; "Redpolls", Coventry; "Snowy Owls", Hope; "Pine Grosbeak", Emery; "Canada Jay", Devitt.

349th Meeting - December 2: Chairman, Dymond. Members present, 11.

Business: Announcements.

Paper: "The Salmon's World", Dr. A. G. Huntsman. The life story of salmon based on numerous researches and recent observations on living salmon in their natural environment an interpretation of the faculties of salmon, seeing, hearing, feeling, remembering, sleep, sense of direction, etc.

Observations: "Grey Squirrels and Red Squirrels", Snyder; "Snowy Owls", and "Bohemian Waxwings at Barrie", Devitt.

350th Meeting - December 16th: Chairman, Fallis. Members present, 27.

Business: Treasurer reported arrangement re Club's account. Arrangement for Xmas Bird Census. Letters from Corresponding Members, Herrington and Sheppard.

Papers: "Notes on the Natural History of Earthworms", Oughton. Their systematic position; mention of published works on earthworms; their economic status; habits. "Are There Two Races of Black Ducks?", Shortt. Reviewed the two interpretations by authorities; demonstrated an eclipse plumage; by use of Bursa Fabricus, etc., immaturity can be determined; age correlated with soft-part colour shows that supposed racial differences are age differences.

Observations: "Notes from the Fort William Region", Allin; "Chickadees and Golden-rod Galls", Urquhart; "Pine Grosbeaks", Coventry; "Foxes Abundant at Aylmer", White; "Winter Birds and Insects", Thompson.

