

Visitors Welcome!

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TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB NEWSLETTER

A P R I L M E E T I N G
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1970 at 8.15 p.m.
at the
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

NOTE: Change in Date - Wednesday not Monday

SPEAKER: Dr. J. L. FARRAR

SUBJECT: INSIDE THE LIVING TREE

Dr. Farrar is Professor of Forestry at the University of Toronto. His talk will deal with some of the internal functions of a tree such as the activity of the cambium, formation of growth layers in wood (xylem), development of the food conducting tissue (phloem), bark formation and the associated production of cork by the cork cambium, the burial of branches within a tree, the upward movement of water from roots to leaves, and the flow of sap from the stems of maple and birch.

NOTE: The results of the voting at the March meeting was approval of the wording of the proposed new BY-LAW NO. 1 and the objects of the Club, as published in the March issue of the Newsletter. If the necessary documents are received in time, incorporation will become effective on April 1st.

JUST PUBLISHED - Issue No.23 of THE ONTARIO FIELD BIOLOGIST, containing articles by such eminent writers as Jas. L. Baillie, Wm. Judd, Charles Long, and others. A "must" for the serious naturalist. Price \$1.00 per copy. Available at the April meeting. (If ordering by mail from the Secretary, please include 25¢ for postage and handling).

DECALS - We regret that due to a mistake by the manufacturer, TFNC decals were not available for the March meeting. We'll have them in the rotunda in April, for sure.

F.O.N. - The F.O.N. Camp at Red Bay Lodge, Red Bay, Bruce Peninsula, Ontario, will be held this year during the week June 27 to July 4. Why not plan to enjoy this week at Red Bay. The area offers much to interest botanists, bird students and rock and fossil enthusiasts. Full details from the F.O.N. office at 1262 Don Mills Road, Don Mills, Ontario, or phone: 444-8419.

F.O.N. TOUR OF BRITAIN - Birds of Britain Charter and Tour. There is still time to join this group. You may either take the charter only, should you wish to visit relatives or friends, or take the combined charter-tour of approximately 17 days. You will visit some of the most famous and interesting spots in England, and we know you will thrill to the birdlife. You will leave Toronto on May 9th and return on May 30th travelling by Air Canada DC8 Jet. Those taking the tour, will have one week on their own for visiting, etc. For further details contact the FON office ... address above.

ARE YOU INTERESTED? - The FON is looking for a clerk-dictatypist-receptionist. The work will include a wide variety of office duties. Interested applicants must be able to type and preferably be able to use a dictaphone; have a good telephone voice and pleasant personality to deal with the public. If interested, write to the Federation outlining your experience and salary expected. If further information is required, contact Miss Hattie Beeton at 444-8419.

A P R I L O U T I N G S

Enclosed with this Newsletter is the List of Spring Outings.

Chairman: Walt Hutton - 782-5955.

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- JUNIOR CLUB - Several speakers will constitute the program.
SATURDAY Also interesting movies on Ecology.
APRIL 4 Chairman: Mr. Robt. MacLellan, 488-9346.
10.00 a.m.
- FIELD - Meet at St. James-Bond United Church, 1066 Avenue Road, 2 blocks
BIOLOGISTS north of Eglinton Avenue.
THURSDAY Speaker: Mr. Barry MacKay
APRIL 9 Topic: Birds of the Galopagus. Illustrated with coloured slides.
8.00 p.m. Chairman: Mr. Don Burton - 222-6467.
- BOTANY - Meet at Hodgson School, Davisville Avenue, just east of Mt. Pleasant Rd.
GROUP Speaker: Mr. Jim Simon
THURSDAY Topic: Unusual Plants of the Toronto Region. Illustrated with slides.
APRIL 16 Chairman: Miss Erna Lewis - 923-8904.
8.00 p.m.
- ECOLOGY AND - Meet in Room 300 (third floor), College of Education, 371 Bloor St.W.,
CONSERVATION at Spadina Avenue.
TUESDAY Population Ecology (continued); final plans for the Population study
APRIL 21 will be made.
8.00 p.m. Chairman: Prof. W.A. Andrews - 425-4607.
- BIRD GROUP - Meet at St. James-Bond United Church, 1066 Avenue Road, 2 blocks north
TUESDAY of Eglinton Avenue. Continuation of crash course for "beginning
APRIL 28 bird watchers".
8.00 p.m. Please bring your field guides.
Chairman: Miss Rosemary Gaymer - 925-2007.
- REMINDER: - Final Audubon Wildlife Film of the 1969-70 series - Tuesday, April
14, 1970.
"Journey in Time" --- reflection on the Grand Canyon.
Presented by Robert W. Davison. Eaton Auditorium, 8.15 p.m.

Toronto Field Naturalists' Club.



Number 251

April, 1970.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MAY 4, 1970

Recommendations of the Nominating Committee for officers of the Toronto Field Naturalists for 1970-71 are as follows:

- PRESIDENT - Mr. Clive Goodwin
- VICE-PRESIDENT - Miss Rosemary Gaymer
- DIRECTORS - Miss Erna Lewis
- Mr. John ten Bruggenkaat
- Mr. Trevor Hamilton

Mr. ten Bruggenkaat has served one year, filling an earlier vacancy on the Executive.

According to the Bylaws which will apply at the time of the election:

"Nominations of members of the Corporation may be proposed in writing to the Secretary by any three members of the Corporation accompanied by the written consent of the nominee. Such nominations shall be published in the May issue of the Newsletter and the names of such nominees shall be added to the list of candidates submitted by the nominating committee and shall be presented to the Annual Meeting."

A HERPETOLOGIST'S SOJOURN IN JAMAICA
by Francis R. Cook

For a month during last summer, July 10 - August 10, I participated in a co-operative field project jointly sponsored by the National Museum of Canada and the Institute of Jamaica, the first such venture between these institutions. In this limited time we were able to sample only a few of the major habitats on this diverse West Indian island.

Jamaica, the third largest island in the Carribean, measures at its longest and widest points 145 by 53 miles and has an area of 4,400 square miles. Much of the island is a limestone plateau, pitted with sinkholes and caverns and is termed the "Cockpit Country". The mountains and plateau are separated from the sea by an encircling ring of plains which receive the waters of an estimated 200 rivers, streams and their tributaries.

Soon after our arrival in Kingston, Jamaica's capital, we became aware of the most prominent and probably most abundant group of reptiles on the island, the inguanid lizards known as the anoles. The common conspicuous species in Kingston is Anolis lineatopus lineatopus and these abound on trees, stone walls, and hedges throughout the city. The territorial males sport large "throat" fans, yellow with a large orange central spot.

Another abundant group of lizards is the geckos. The "croaking lizard" Aristelliger praesignis was encountered at Portland Point where it was active after dark and could be found on trees near our residence by searching with a headlamp. Occasionally one would invade our quarters and hunt insects over the walls and ceilings. It receives its common name from the clicking sound it produces. These are stout-bodied creatures, with easily detachable tails and incredibly delicate skins that will tear unless they are handled with the utmost care.

Perhaps the most engaging species is the teiid, Ameriva dorsalis or "ground lizard" which was often seen calmly prowling in the open grounds of the guest house where we stayed in Kingston. It attains a maximum body length of 3-3/4 inches with a tail usually nearly 2 1/2 times the length of the body, and is strikingly coloured with olive, blue, yellow, chestnut brown and black,

When we stayed at Green Hills we were treated to nightly choruses from five or more of the small frogs of the genus Eleutherodactylus which would begin calling at dusk. Most are quite variable and have two or more distinctive color patterns each of which may be more similar to a pattern type in another species than to the other patterns in the same species. Most species are ground dwellers which hide under stones and similar cover during the day and are active at night. The eggs are laid on land in most sheltered situations, such as under stones, and the tadpole stage is completed within the egg, the young hatching as miniatures of the adult.

In all, 30 reptiles and 20 amphibians - not including sub-species - have been recorded from Jamaica. These totals do not include marine turtles. As some of the inaccessible mountain areas have yet to be thoroughly collected, the entire herpetofauna is probably not known. To a Canadian, the absence of pond frogs (genus Rana), salamanders, and the scarcity of snakes soon becomes obvious, as does the striking abundance and variety of lizards and the small ground-dwelling frogs, Eleutherodactylus.

Extracts from the Canadian Amphibian and
Reptile Conservation Society Newsletter.

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TO THE EDITOR:

..... The following excerpt, "Of Birds" was sent to me by a highly intelligent and cultured friend, who is, obviously, not a naturalist. I had written her about the problem of grackles at my bird feeder to which she replied: "I'm glad you told me about the grackles. Without knowing what they were I have always disliked them. Would I dare tell you that I have wondered if they were the male of those other horrible things with the chopped-off tails?"

"OF BIRDS"

I met an ornithologist just before dinner and as the conversation lagged, I sought to beguile him by talking about his hobby. Dale Carnegie says that you should always talk to people about what interests them, whether it interests you or not, so I began thus: "I saw a funny-looking bird this morning; a blackish bird, or maybe it was a dirty brown, what would you say it was?" He pricked up his ears. "Had it a yellow spot about half a centimetre in diameter under each wing?" he asked. "I am not accustomed to peeping into the armpits of birds", I replied, haughtily, "but it had two feet, instead of the usual four, if that gives you a clue." "What size did you say?" he continued. "Roughly the size of a two-year-old child's shoe," I said after some thought, "but rather a different shape; it was shaped like an ocarina, or a sweet potato." "Was its mate nearby?" he persisted. "I couldn't say," I parried, "but it was on the lawn of a church, and I don't suppose it would go there with anybody else's mate, do you?" "I think you must have seen a squirrel," said he, in what I think was meant to be a satirical tone. And yet I am always nice to ornithologists when they talk about my subjects. ... Jean Macdonald.

..... In the last issue of the Newsletter I was interested in the letter from Mr. Ed. Waltho relating the interesting incident of a Mallard Duck landing on a chimney. My records show that as far back as 1946 my wife and I stood on the deck of the ferry from Tobermory to Manitoulin Island and as we were docking at South Bay Mouth on the south shore of the island, we saw an American Merganser land and disappear down the chimney of a summer cottage on the shore. At the same time, the owner drove up to the cottage and proceeded to take down the shutters and apparently was opening up for the summer. We tried not to think of what would happen when he lighted the first fire in the fireplace leading to that chimney. Thanks, Mr. Waltho, for making us recall an experience which is to say the least rare! ... Charles Davies.

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER - by Robert R. Rathbone
(originally printed in The New Hampshire Audubon Quarterly and reprinted in BIRDING).

The Society's programme of field trips has been expanded so much in recent years that it is often difficult for the chairman to find enough qualified leaders to go around. He strongly believed, however, that there are many potential leaders within the membership, and he further believes that they would join the effort if they were enlightened in the fine art of birdsmanship. Since I am convinced that he is right, and know little about the art myself, I have prepared this article for the purpose of providing that enlightenment.

Someone once said, "To become a competent field expert, the newcomer must concentrate on developing his ability at speed identification." Whoever said this put first things first: As a would-be-leader you must impress upon your charges with your alacrity at identifying any and all birds on the wing or in the bush. Practice

announcing the names of birds aloud in a crisp, stentorian voice (in the privacy of a closet, preferably). Then pick your debut wisely. One such opportunity usually arises on the boat ride to the Isles of Shoals. If the sea is rough and the weather biting (and thus the boat rocking) pick out a bird on the horizon, making sure that he is flying away from the boat, and boldly announce, "Greater Shearwater!" By the time everyone has focussed in the general direction you indicate, the bird will have gone out of sight and you have won an easy victory.

An embarrassing, yet common, occurrence in the life of a leader is to have everyone in his party spot a rare bird but not be able to find the bird himself. Here is a case in point. Suppose you have led your party to a fresh water marsh and happen to be looking south when someone yells that a Least Bittern just flew up in the north end of the marsh. All eyes go in that direction including yours. But you draw a blank. Then a little old lady next to you, opera glasses to eye, exclaims, "Isn't that wonderful!" Someone else says, "That's a life bird for me!" Everyone becomes so excited that applause breaks out spontaneously (whereupon the bird flies up again just as you turn your back to get your scope). You focus and refocus on a blurred object in the cattails; it finally comes clear: a red-wing! At the height of your dismay, a veteran birder comes over, pumps both your hands and says, "This is great! Thanks so much for finding it for us." Naturally you have only one course of action to follow: accept the accolade graciously. Tell your friend, "I thought the little fellow would still be around!"

Every so often you may find yourself puzzled over the identity of what appears to be a common species. If you're the only one to spot the bird, you can forget the whole thing. If, however, you notice that others too are looking at it, you must act quickly. For instance, you could (1) find another bird (such as a chickadee) and draw everyone's attention to it, (2) you could mutter something like, "That's funny!" and begin to disassemble your binoculars, or (3) you could query in a loud voice, "Isn't it time for lunch?" (No Auduboner I know has ever been able to resist that call).

A worse predicament can arise when two or three members of the party spot a bird in, say, a thicket and call you over to identify it. You can not now rely on retreat, nor can you change the subject. But you can maneuver for time. First, ask the trio, "What have you got there?" Play one against another. While they're arguing the point, take a good look at the bird but pretend you don't see it. You can then ask, "Where is this fellow, anyway?" (This will allow you even more time to examine it while they're giving you conflicting directions). If you now feel you know the bird, identify it immediately with a casual, "why, that's a _____." If you still haven't the foggiest, take out your handkerchief and either (2) blow your nose, (b) mop your brow, or (c) flip it vigorously to drive away the black flies (real or imaginary). The chances are good that the bird will disappear through the back of the thicket, much to your disgust, naturally.

Identifying bird calls and songs always presents a thorny problem. The wood warblers are the toughest to tell apart. (But then they have the faintest voices and you can always confess to not hearing them). A tried and true method for coping
(cont'd. on page 6.)

FLOWER QUIZ:

Can you name the flowers on the following page?

The answers to the quiz can be found on Page 11.

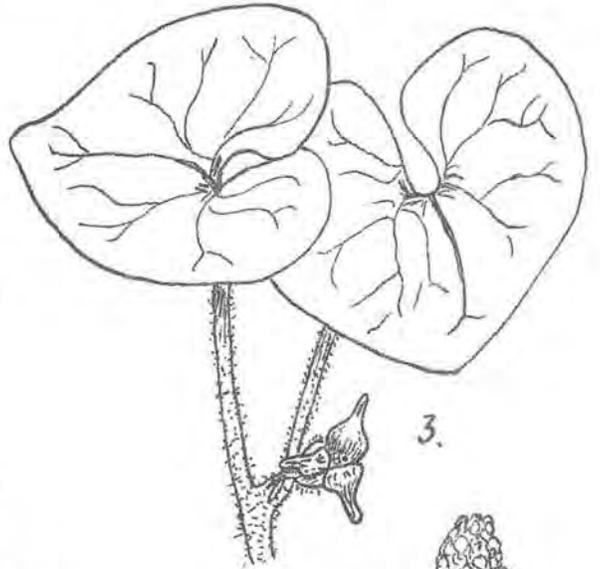
FLOWER QUIZ



1.



2.



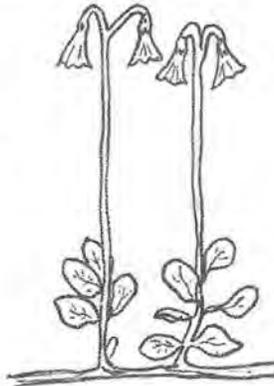
3.



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5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



12.



13.



14.

M. S. J. 70
200 2. 70

with the situation is to announce that you have been requested to conduct a class in bird-song identification and that each member of the party will be asked to participate. You then proceed to explain that you will be the last to identify the song so that everyone will have a chance to say what first comes to mind. The rest is easy: if there is a majority opinion, stick with it; if there is no majority, agree with the most likely authorities; if no one agrees, say "I guess you'd all better study up on that one!"

And finally, there is the co-leader gambit. No accredited field man today would think of organizing a trip without calling on this handy fellow. All would-be leaders therefore are advised to give the matter their full attention. Concentrate first on selecting the proper partner. If you can find someone who knows more about birds than you do (but thinks you know more), sign him up immediately. You can refer all the tough questions to him with the assurance that he will be grateful to you for "giving him a piece of the action." If you can not find this superior candidate, do not despair. Go to the opposite end of the spectrum, pick someone who knows practically nothing about birds. Then follow the same procedure: refer all the tough ones to him. ("You want to look at this one through the scope for me, Charlie? Got a cinder in my eye.") Who knows, he may come up with a lucky guess - it has been known to happen - and you will receive all the credit!

THE EXECUTIVE

The following letter is from the Globe and Mail dated March 5th:

WOLF BOUNTY

In a world full of conflicting rights and competing philosophies, it is rare to find a black-and-white moral issue in which one can be reasonably sure there is no other side.

This, however, seems to be the case with two brave men of Pefferlaw, who, with their throbbing, pulsating snowmobiles, chased a small brush wolf for 90 minutes across Lake Simcoe and then struck the exhausted, terrified animal 20 times with their machines.

Sadism has no justification.

It is one of the more disgusting of human traits.

However, it seems to be punishable by law only when its practitioners are injudicious enough to choose a victim that is protected by the law.

In the case of the wolf, the men were able to turn in the battered and bleeding carcass for a \$25.00 reward in the form of a bounty, from our Provincial Government. No doubt, encouraged in their blood-sport, they will be back on Lake Simcoe again this weekend, careening across the ice with full tanks, filling the air with boisterous whoops of joy as they seek to trap yet another animal behind yet another snow-bank, so that they can once more repeatedly break its back, and once more collect their reward.

If you object to subsidizing the baiting and slaughter of wild animals for fun and profit, write to the Hon. Rene Brunelle, Department of Lands and Forests, Queen's

Park, Toronto, and demand, forthwith, the removal of the out-dated wolf bounty.
.... Sylvia, Russell and Malcolm Fraser, Farley Mowat, Toronto.

The T.F.N.C. Executive wish to advise the membership that a letter has been sent to the Hon. Rene Brunelle demanding that the wolf bounty be removed.

THE GANARASKA-HURONIA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

An organization, called the Ganaraska-Huronias Trail Association is being formed to provide a link between the Ganaraska Hiking Trail in the east and the Bruce Trail in the west. The trail so far extends from Port Hope on Lake Ontario to Omemee about 40 miles north. The Bruce Trail stretches more than 450 miles along the Niagara Escarpment, from the Niagara Peninsula to the Bruce Peninsula.

During the past six months, hiking trail enthusiasts have met at intervals to plan linking the trail from Omemee to Orillia, Orillia to the Coldwater area, along ancient Indian and missionary trails to Saint Marie Among the Hurons at Midland and from Midland south and west to Collingwood to connect with the Bruce Trail.

The Association's goal will be to co-ordinate and assist local groups in developing the link with the Bruce Trail. The original Ganaraska Trail Association, which has already set up the first stage of the trail, will be one of those groups working under the new association.

If anyone is interested in exploring this new hiking area they should contact Mr. Jack S. Goering, G.T.A., 57 King Street, Port Hope, for details and membership. Hikes are in the process of being arranged and will include a pancake festival hike and a bridge opening ceremony.

FROM MY WINDOW

Each winter has its wildlife surprises among my varied clientele. This year, being home for awhile, I found my bird-feeding areas a constant source of daylight delight.

The usual customers, non-paying, but ledgered as entertainment, have been here - scrappy, tinkly little tree sparrows - fearless black-capped chickadees with their split-second radar - the cardinals (two families) invariably announcing their arrival - the no-nonsense white-breasted nuthatches and downy woodpeckers - starlings from time to time (they swamped the under-the-window area once when I threw out the last of some ground suet. I'll have to use a different window in future, as I used to in the summer when I had raccoons and skunks feeding at the same time). On mild days, overhead are flights of Canada Geese letting me know they're here, ducks and herring gulls, but I've noticed that just prior to a snowstorm, my areas here are simply mobbed all day long with the regulars. Do birds have built-in weather forecasters? And, of course, snow-covered ground means I'll have strays as well - in December, pheasant, flicker, grackle two days, and in January, Brown Thrasher, White-throated Sparrow, Slate-coloured Junco were seen on two occasions each, while a Song Sparrow was frequent. Pheasants used to be numerous, but not seen or heard this year - no doubt prey to human predator.

For a couple of weeks an immature red-tailed hawk patrolled the valley and I always knew when he was around - some days 2 crows at the end of the valley would

be noisily after him, or blue jays (3) harassing him if he was east of here, and when he was flying from one tall tree to another at the bottom of the hillside here, the squirrels would give out with unusual "churring". A poor little sparrow hawk was not made welcome either by the populace - he didn't return. Several times during the night I have heard a great-horned owl, but haven't seen him as I have at other times of the year, in one tree or another.

With some birds, the numbers have increased this year. Have always had a couple of wintering mourning doves, but to have 19 at one time, of the imperturbable birds partaking of seeds scattered along the 40 feet of the lawn's hilltop edge! WOW! And before Christmas, 6 or 8 of them, so plump with feathers fluffed against the cold, perched on tree branches just down the hillside - they were my "partridge in a pear tree". In varying numbers, they continue to come, particularly early morning - then this year, the usual single American Goldfinch must have taken the word back to the gang - by the end of January, I had 31 feeding on the ground! How delightful their "wild canary" voices are this time of year.

Not seen before, from my window, was a little female common redpoll seen January 23. From 1-5 p.m. she crouched under the window eating continuously. I thought she must be ailing for sure, that day and the next, but no, before long she brought others, until by February 5, there were 30 of them here at once. Such a joy to see the rosy wash on the breasts of the males, but it took a bit of sunshine to show up the jewel-like sparkle of all their ruby top-knots. Made me wonder how on earth I had been puzzled by the first little one seen - usually the small birds come in their own segregated groups but when one sees the ground covered with constantly shifting tree sparrows, American Goldfinches, and common redpolls, there is a sight to see ... Of late I've been watching a tiny rusty-capped mite just under the window - no black stick-pin, gray rump seen at times - surely a chipping sparrow?

It's an everlasting wonder to me how the word gets around, and how wild creatures make the arduous trip up the hill to the feeding stations. In December, I was told that a "rat" had been seen - that would be the muskrat from the Humber River, that I've seen in past winters. He sure shocked me on sighting him - first time I'd seen one out of the water - but I knew as soon as I looked down on him feeding on the birdseed under the window. In vain I have watched for him, or his tracks after every snowfall this winter - rabbit tracks, yes, and the paw-marks of two abandoned cats now wilderness-wild, but no muskrat. Guess he was done in (also in December, a sign "Trapping, Hunting, Shooting Prohibited" was erected at the top of the steps leading down to the wilderness valley. Wish they'd make it a graphic illustration, along the same idea used on European road signs, and recently being adopted in Ontario (for the non-English speaking public and also for lads with guns). To my sorrow, cardinals, flickers and I don't know what else, are easy targets.

"Groundhog Day" brought no action from the woodchuck's hole ten feet down the hillside, mild as it was, but a raccoon clambered out of her(?) tree hole for an hour's exploring of the upper reaches of that tall tree and since that date, it sure has been mating time for the 'coons - nightly they've been vociferous. .

Whether it be "letting your fingers do the walking", or for me, keeping an eye on the constantly changing activity outside my windows, Bloor-Humber area, being temporarily home-bound can be enjoyable.

... Helen M. Smith.

MAMMALOLOGY AND THE R.O.M.

In 1969, the American Society of Mammalogists had been in existence for 50 years. Until it was formed in 1919 there was no organization of any sort, in North America, devoted to the study of mammals. (In Toronto, the only nature club of any sort was the Toronto Branch of the Entomological Society of Ontario). The Society started with 60 members. In 50 years this number increased to 3,194, mainly from U.S.A., but also from Canada and some other countries. The quarterly publication, JOURNAL OF MAMMALOLOGY, is of great scientific importance throughout much of the world. Annual meetings have been held in various parts of the U.S.A., except for one each in Mexico City, Winnipeg and Toronto. (The last named was in the R.O.M. theatre). One of the past presidents (1966 and 1967) is Dr. R.L. Peterson, curator of the Department of Mammalogy at the R.O.M.

There are, as of February, 1970, about 144 specimens of mammal on exhibit at our museum. They are on the third floor. There are over 50,000 from all parts of the world, "behind the scenes," mainly on the fourth floor. A specimen may be a skin, skull, skeleton, antler, etc. Most are dry, but there is an increasing proportion, particularly of bats, in liquid preservative. Material is of little use without data. To have maximum value each specimen should have a label giving museum number, where, when, and by whom collected, sex, and certain measurements. Mammals which are in the flesh go to the basement. There they are skinned and the skulls cleaned. Specimens are not "mounted" unless for exhibition. If so, they would require too much storage space and could not be easily handled for study and teaching. Dry skins up to the size of fox, lynx, etc., are stored in trays in steel cabinets. Larger skins are tanned and hung on great racks. The collection is rapidly increasing. There are about 18 "stations" in various parts of Africa, Asia, North America and South America where interested persons, scientifically qualified, are gathering material and sending it to the R.O.M. Dr. Peterson is one of the foremost mammalogists of the world. He has collected in Madagascar, various parts of the African mainland, the Caribbean, and North and South America. At this time of writing he is in charge of an expedition in the Cameroons.

The question is often asked, "Why are so many specimens needed?" For one thing, there are a very great number of kinds of mammal, and our collection is world-wide. Also, much material is needed when a species is being studied. There is often a difference in colour of pelage, and other features, due to age, sex, season, geographical location, etc. It is far safer to have many than few specimens when working on races or subspecies. In spite of the size of our collection we frequently have to borrow from museums or universities throughout the world. Similarly we lend to reputable institutions. Such exchanges have been made with U.S.S.R. Science should have no political boundaries.

The R.O.M. is world famous for its collection of some of the bat families. Of the very many kinds of bat in existence there are at least eight rare species, all foreign, of which our museum has more specimens than all other institutions put together, throughout the world. This is not mere accumulation of material, but modern, scientific, intensive research. Dr. Peterson has discovered and named species of mammal new to science.

Although little shows on the surface we may be justly proud of the Department of Mammalogy of the Royal Ontario Museum.

... A. A. Outram.

FROM THE F.O.N.

The 38th Annual Meeting of the Federation will take place at the Sheraton-Brock Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario, on April 10, 11, 12, 1970. And what an exciting one it looks to be. Some of the features are:

- Russ Rutter, 'Algonquin Park'
- Dr. Don Chant, Chairman, Department of Zoology, University of Toronto
- Dr. Martin H. Edwards and James Bayly, 'Churchill' Manitoba
- Stuart Keith, American Museum of Natural History, 'Sounds of the Rain Forest'
- The Hon. George Kerr, Minister, Dept. of Energy & Resources Management
- Jack Carey, 'Making Nature Movies'
- Annual Photo Salon
- Exhibition of Original Wildlife Art, including works by:
 - Robert Bateman
 - Don Foxall
 - Peter Buerschaper
 - Paul Geraghty
 - Craig Campbell
 - Anker Odum
- Lots of interesting exhibits
- Field trips

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Mr. Thomas S. H. Baxter, 5 Hales Crescent, Guelph, is asking for records and/or field sight data from anyone who has been keeping records for some time in Ontario on the EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*). He is at present "trying to assess both the breeding and summer ranges" of the bird as they now exist although records from earlier years will be most appreciated.

THE HEAVENS ABOVE - APRIL

- April 1 - Sun rises 6.00 a.m. E.S.T. Sun sets 6.44 p.m. E.S.T.
- 5 - New Moon
- 13 - First quarter
- 15 - Sun rises 5.39 a.m. E.S.T. Sun sets 6.59 p.m. E.S.T.
- 17 - Venus at ascending node
- 18 - Mercury greatest elongation E.20°. (For a week before and a week after elongation, you should be able to see Mercury low in the west just after sunset).
- 21 - Jupiter at opposition. (It is still in Virgo and rises soon after sunset and is nearly setting by sunrise).
- 21 - Full moon
- 22 - Lyrid meteors (15 per hour)
- 28 - Last quarter

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COMING EVENTS

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILMS

The last in the series "JOURNEY IN TIME" - Reflections on the Grand Canyon - will be presented by Robert W. Davidson at Eaton Auditorium on April 14th at 8.15 p.m.

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DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS

Every Wednesday at 11.45 a.m. and 12.45 p.m. in the Ottawa Room, Macdonald Block, Bay and Wellesley Streets:

- April 1 - A Fire called Jeremiah (colour) (35 mins.)
- 8 - Parks for the People (colour) (22 mins.)
- 15 - Ahmeek - the forest engineer (colour) (28 mins.)
- 22 - Right to Burn (colour) (30 mins.)
- 29 - Wilderness Day (colour) (25 mins.)

(The series ends this month)

ANSWERS TO FLOWER QUIZ

(1) Skunk Cabbage (2) Bloodroot (3) Wild Ginger (4) Fringed Polygala (5) Common Wood Sorrel (6) Twinflower (7) Catnip (8) Wintergreen (9) Common Morning Glory (10) Yarrow (11) White Clover Leaf (12) Star Flower (13) Marsh Marigold (14) Wood Anemone.

Editor:

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LIST OF NEW MEMBERS, JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1970

Miss Mary Balderson, 1340 King St. W., Apt. 9, Toronto 150
Mr. E. H. Card, 159 Burbank Drive, Willowdale
Miss Norma Charlebois, 12 Shields Ave., Toronto 12
Mr. & Mrs. J. Clulow, 140 Ellendale Drive, Scarborough 733
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Coles, 305 Edrich Court, Mississauga, Ont.
Mrs. Gertrude Dowds, 15 Glenfern Ave., Apt. 11, Toronto 260
Mr. Kenneth J. Gibson, 107 Haileybury Drive, Scarborough
Mr. Wm. F. Glynn, 50 Alton Ave., Toronto 255
Mr. Erich Haber, 43 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Apt. 917, Toronto 354
Mr. Wm. J. Hedges, 157 Old Orchard Grove, Toronto 320
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Knowles, 56 Trailridge Cres., West Hill, Ont.
Mrs. Maria Korber, 189 Chisholm Ave., Toronto 13
Mr. J. R. Latimer, 44 Ravenview Drive, West Hill, Ont.
Miss Mary W. Macaulay, 88 Wellesley St. E., Apt. 105, Toronto 284
Dr. & Mrs. R. L. MacMillan, 350 Inglewood Drive, Toronto 290
Miss Monica Magee, 55 Lakeview Ave., Toronto 3
Mrs. Betty Marshall, 164 Howard Park Ave., Toronto 3
Miss Sheila McKay, 12 Garrick Rd., Scarborough
Mr. R. M. McLean, 20 Kinghigh Drive, Concord, Ont.
Miss R. B. McVean, 127 Maitland St., Toronto 284
Mr. John F. Sheehan, 5 Seneca Ave., Toronto 167
Mr. Miller Stewart, 83 Isabella St., Apt. 37, Toronto 285
Mr. & Mrs. A. Waine, 305 Hendon Ave., Willowdale 443
Mr. James West, 2339 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Apt. 212, Toronto 500
Mrs. J. Woodsworth, 207 Ellis Ave., Toronto 3