

## 30 Years Ago

The July-August-September issue of the third volume of the *Blue Jay* — then the official bulletin of the Yorkton Natural History Society — contained the following news items among its 10 pages: That this would be the last issue for which Stuart Houston, secretary of the Society, would serve as printer and publisher because he would be starting a premedical course in the fall. Seventy-five copies of the last issue were run off and 400 copies of this, the 12th issue. (There will be 700 copies of the September, 1975, issue.) That Kerry Wood was president of the Alberta Natural History Society. This spring the Alberta Society distributed 1,500 Bird-box sheets to 50 Alberta schools".

There was an article by Lloyd Carichael appealing "to those who love nature to protect the (western red) lily before it is too late" . . . Screech Owls, 'hypothetical species' in Mitchell's 28 bird list, seems slowly becoming more common in the wooded areas in the eastern part of the province" . . . A Hudsonian Curlew was seen at Melville by L. T. McKim on May 20, 1945 . . . Mourning Doves appeared to be increasing in Saskatchewan . . . For the second consecutive year, Lloyd Petersen, Officer-in-Charge of the Dominion Entomology Laboratory at Indian Head, asked for volunteers to send in specimens of insects damaging shrubs and trees in the Prairie Provinces . . . Woodchucks are becoming more common in the southern part of the province . . . Jumping mice were reported from Leech Lake and there was an unconfirmed report of another killed by a car near Tessier . . . R. H. Carter, Jr., of Muscow had banded 710 birds of 71 species since he started banding in 1923. About one-quarter (1,172) of the total was made

up of House Wrens. One of his Cowbirds, banded on June 13 was found dead 1,000 miles away 18 days later in New Mexico. Sixty of 79 adult House Wrens banded in 1927 and 1928 returned to nest the following year.

### SNHS SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 8

**Blue Jay Index, Volumes 19 to 27  
1961 - 1969**

The second index for the *Blue Jay*, by Patricia O'Neil, is off the press. It has been printed as a memorial to the late Mrs. Marion Nixon of Wauchope and financed by donations in her memory.

This 68-page publication contains more than 17,000 references. Copies are available at \$3.00 each from the Blue Jay Bookshop, Box 1121, Regina, Sask.

### SNHS SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 9

**Birds of the Rosetown - Biggar  
District, Saskatchewan**

By Wayne E. Renaud and  
Don H. Renaud.

Published by the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Regina, August 15, 1975.

This, the ninth Special Publication of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society, is a distinguished addition to the Society's series, and one that adds significantly to our knowledge of

bird distribution and behaviour in Saskatchewan.

As stated in Dr. Houston's foreword, it "is an exemplary publication in the true sense of the word. It serves as an example of what can be done by amateurs in general and by young people in particular." It records the amazingly complete observations of two brothers who grew up in the now-defunct hamlet of Valley Centre, and who covered the area with increasing thoroughness during their high school and university years. Wayne graduated in Biology in 1974 and Don is completing his classes in urban and regional planning. Their observations are augmented by those of two Biggar students, Guy and Rodney Wapple.

This 120-plus page book is available from the Blue Jay Bookshop, Box 1121, Regina, Sask., for \$4.00.

### CHURCHILL RIVER BIRDS

"Birds of the Churchill River-Hanson Lake Road" is presently in the works. Included is the Churchill River from Stanley Mission to the Manitoba border and all of the Reindeer River. Anyone having bird records from these areas is invited to submit them for inclusion to Gary Anweiler, Box 555, Melville, Saskatchewan, or Harry Stelfox, Biology Department, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

### MEETINGS

NATIONAL OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
October 1-5, 1975.

Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan.  
Contact Dora Keller, Saskatchewan Outdoor Education

Association, Box 3461, Regina, Saskatchewan. S4P 3J8

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### 3rd ANNUAL CANADIAN INTERPRETERS WORKSHOP

October 18-22, 1975  
Brandon College Agricultural Extension Centre. Offers something for everyone involved in interpreting our cultural and natural heritage. Contact Finlay McRae, Box 488, Brandon, Manitoba. R7A 5Z6

### S.N.H.S.

The 27th annual meeting of the Saskatchewan Natural History Society will be held at the Yorkton Regional High School on October 17 and 18, 1975.

To be considered at the meeting, all resolutions must be sent by October 1, 1975 to:

Frank Switzer,  
1301 Shannon Road,  
Regina, Saskatchewan,  
S4S 5K9

Send your suggestions for nominations to:

Margaret Belcher,  
2601 Winnipeg Street,  
Regina, Saskatchewan,  
S4P 1H8.

### JOHN LANE DIES

Members will be sad to learn of the death of Dr. John Lane on July 23, 1975, in Brandon, at the age of 72.