

GENERAL NOTES.

The annual meeting of the Yorkton Natural History Society took place in the Council Chambers on Tuesday evening, Sept. 19. The nominating committee's motion that last year's slate of officers should be re-elected was unanimously adopted. Harvey Beck was elected a director in place of Jim Smith who had left the city. The excellent report submitted by the secretary of the year's activities, showed that the Y.N.H.S. is taking an increasingly active part in local matters in any way connected with wild life and natural history. The financial report showed a balance of \$22.96 after the deficit incurred last year had been paid off. A vote of thanks and appreciation was passed to Mrs. Priestly and Stuart Houston for their untiring efforts in the production of the "Blue Jay."

Keen discussion took place regarding the proposed museum for Yorkton. It was recommended that if a museum is established it should be limited to exhibits illustrating the archaeology, history and natural history of the district. The small place allotted to instruction in natural history in the schools, of this, an agricultural province, came in for some severe criticism. Another problem brought up was the best method to discourage boys making a collection of birds' eggs.

The meeting concluded with the showing of color slides by Miss Gladys Fraser and Stuart Houston. Miss Fraser had beautiful pictures of scenery and plant life at Waskesiu and Banff while Stuart showed local bird pictures and some "snaps" of members of the society at Rousay's Lake.

The Regina Natural History Society started its Fall activities with a Wild Flower Hike on Sept. 9, conducted by L.T. Carmichael, past president of the Regina society. About 60 different specimens of fall wild flowers were noted adjacent to Regina.

M.G. Street's List of the Birds of Nipawin, which was published in 1943 as Contribution No. 2 of the Y.N.H.S., received a most favorable review in the current number of the Canadian Field-Naturalist. It is pointed out that "Northern Saskatchewan has been almost completely neglected by bird students. The present list which appears to represent the most northeastern locality in Saskatchewan that has been well worked is especially welcome."

Copies of this list are still available at 10 cents from the secretary.

Summer visitors to Yorkton

Dick Bird, well-known Regina nature photographer spent a few days in Yorkton in July taking pictures of the Rousay Lake colony of Black-crowned Night Herons.

Lloyd O. Peterson, Officer in charge of the Dominion Laboratory at Indian Head made a brief stop over in Yorkton early in August. Mr. Peterson is conducting a survey of insects which affect trees and shrubs in the three prairie provinces and asked the co-operation of Y.N.H.S. members in collecting material for him from this district. Harvey Beck has already forwarded several specimens of foliage attacked by insect pests to Mr. Peterson.

Members of the Y.N.H.S. were glad to meet Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Sowle, Rockford, Ill., who spent a day in Yorkton in August viewing the work already carried out by Ducks Unlimited in this district. Dr. Sowle is chairman of Ducks Unlimited for the State of Illinois, an organization which is particularly interested in supporting the Yorkton project. Since returning home, Dr. Sowle shipped 12 young pheasants from Illinois to the local Fish and Game League for their "pheasantry."

Membership fees for the Yorkton Natural History Society for 1944-45 (50¢) are now due.