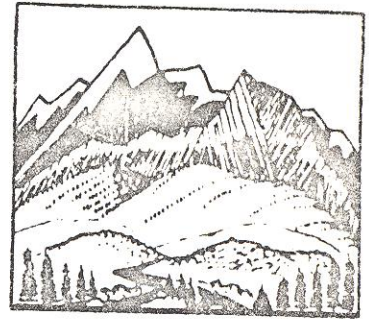


FEDERATION OF ALBERTA NATURALISTS



NEWSLETTER

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January - February 1971

Editor: M.T. Myres

CONTENTS

<u>Editorial</u> : The FAN NEWSLETTER.....	2
A Brief History of FAN.....	2
Organization of, and Membership in, The Federation.....	3

NEWS:

FAN News:

- Honorary Members..... 4
- Next Directors' Meeting..... 4

Local News:

- Bow Valley Naturalists..... 5
- Calgary Field Naturalists' Society..... 5
- Edmonton Natural History Club..... 5

Provincial News:

- The Legislature..... 5
- National Parks Master Plans Public Hearings..... 6
- The Athabasca Delta Controversy..... 6
- "Centralizing" Park Wardens and Forest Rangers..... 7
- Local Extermination of Skunks and Coyotes..... 7
- The FAN Symbol..... 7

FEATURES:

Alberta Nature Round-Up:

- Overwintering of Cedar Waxwings..... 8

Biographical Sketches on Alberta Naturalists:

- J.A. Allen (d. 1955)..... 9
- Eugene Bourgeau (1813-1877).....10

The Editor Congratulates..... 8

The Editor Deplores.....11

The FAN Library.....11

Recent Publications of Interest to Alberta Naturalists.....12

Requests for Information:

- Records for "Audubon Field Notes".....13
- Indigo and Lazuli Buntings.....13
- Former Distribution of Loons and Grebes in Alberta.....13
- Colour-marked Gulls.....13

News from Affiliated Organizations.....13

LIST OF SUPPORTING AND SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS.....14-15

The Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 2103 Crocus Road, N.W., Calgary 48.

EDITORIAL: The FAN NEWSLETTER

This is the first Newsletter of The Federation of Alberta Naturalists. As it will be the first real communication from FAN for many readers, it contains an introductory article on how the Federation came into being and on how it is organized.

Additionally, because a lot has happened in Alberta during the five months since the Second Regular Meeting of the Directors in September 1970, this first number contains rather more news items than might normally be expected. Future numbers should contain a more even balance between natural history items, club news and conservation comments. I would ask club secretaries, and others, to get into the habit of submitting items for inclusion in the Newsletter. The Newsletter will hopefully appear every two months. I hope that, within a year or so, the funds of the Federation may have become adequate to permit the Newsletter to appear in printed form, as is the case with the newsletter of the Federation of British Columbia Naturalists.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF FAN.

The Inauguration Meeting of The Federation of Alberta Naturalists was held on April 4th, 1970, at the University of Calgary. Six naturalists' groups were represented:

- Alberta Natural History Society (Red Deer/Penhold), founded 1906
- Bow Valley Naturalists (Banff), founded 1968
- Calgary Field Naturalists' Society (formerly Calgary Bird Club),
founded 1956
- Edmonton Bird Club, founded ca. 1955
- Edmonton Natural History Club, founded 1949
- Lethbridge Natural History Society, founded 1968.

At this meeting a draft of the Objects and By-Laws of the proposed federation, that had been prepared, was given detailed examination and, after modification, approved subject to ratification by the organizations listed above, which thereby became Charter Members.

The First Regular Meeting of the Directors took place two months later on June 27, 1970. It was reported that the proposed Objects and By-Laws had been ratified by 5 of the Charter Member clubs, and ten Elected Directors (from five of the six clubs) were in attendance for the first time. From among their number they elected the following officers for the 1970/71 year:

- President: Dr. M.T. Myres (Calgary FNS)
- Vice-President: Mr. D.A.E. Spalding (Edmonton NHC)
- Secretary: Mr. I.A.R. Halladay (Calgary FNS)
- Treasurer: Mrs H. Schuler (Lethbridge NHS)

At the First Regular Meeting of the Directors it was also reported that the five member clubs that had ratified the Objects and By-Laws had also agreed that they would pay to the Federation a 25 cents per capita levy annually on their members, based on the size of the membership of each club at the end of the previous financial year of each club.

The Second Regular Meeting of the Directors took place on September 26, 1970, in Edmonton. At this meeting Elected Directors were present from all of the Charter Member clubs that had attended the Inauguration Meeting in April 1970. An application for Incorporation under The Societies Act of Alberta was signed. The Federation was legally incorporated under Alberta law on October 13th 1970. Copies of the Objects and By-Laws of FAN have been provided to the secretaries of each Charter Member organization, and may be most quickly viewed by consulting these local individuals.

Associated with the Second Regular Meeting of the Directors, a nature walk and barbecue was organized within the city by the Edmonton Natural History Club, and directors took part in a full-day field trip to Beaverhills Lake and Elk Island National Park that was organized by the Edmonton Bird Club and Mr. Cam Finlay respectively. Finally, tours of the Provincial Museum were also arranged by Vice-President David Spalding. This combination of business meeting of the directors (representing all the natural history organizations of Alberta) with field excursions arranged by local societies at the place of the directors' meeting, is most stimulating. I hope that on one such occasion an exhibition of paintings by Alberta nature artists can be arranged that will be open to the public.

The Third Regular Meeting of the Directors will take place in Calgary on March 13, 1971, without any associated activities. However, a two day field meeting will take place early this summer, probably at Red Deer, to which all Alberta naturalists are invited.

During 1970 four newsletters were issued between March and May for the information of Charter Member clubs and those individuals who were involved in the formation of the Federation. However, the present number (designated as Volume 1, Number 1) is the first public issue. It is being sent to all Supporting and Subscribing Members, and will also be made available to the media and certain public persons who should be made aware of our concerns. If you would prefer to have the Newsletter appear in printed form, the quickest way to bring this about might be to encourage all your friends to join your local natural history group and to become Supporting or Subscribing Members of the Federation.

ORGANIZATION OF, AND MEMBERSHIP IN, THE FEDERATION.

A central feature of the structure of FAN is that Directors of the Federation are elected by the member clubs and societies (two from each), and that Alberta naturalists determine the activities and actions of the Federation when they elect these directors. Alberta naturalists should, therefore, communicate their concerns to the Federation through the Elected Directors representing their local club. Where no local natural history club yet exists, Alberta naturalists are encouraged to establish one.

Supporting and Subscribing Members do not have a direct vote in the business affairs of The Federation because FAN is a federation of clubs and societies primarily, not a membership organization in the usual sense. You should support your local club first of all. The purpose of having Supporting and Subscribing Members is as a means of raising additional funds in the case of the former and as a means of distributing information to naturalists on what the federation is doing in the case of the latter. Thus individuals who subscribe will learn directly, through reading the Newsletter, what FAN is currently doing. If they have suggestions to make they should then contact their local club and its Elected Directors.

Subscription to the Newsletter costs \$ 2.00/year for Subscribing Members, and \$ 10.00+/year for anyone wishing to support the Federation more substantially as a Supporting Member. A list of the individuals who have so far subscribed to the Newsletter in this way, for the year 1971, is provided with this Newsletter. As this is being written, there are four Supporting Members (including one who supports us from Ontario and one who supports our work from Alaska !) and 51 Subscribing Members (of whom nine live outside Alberta). I would like to thank these other naturalists for their moral support, which is greatly valued by the directors at this stage of our development.

NEWS

FAN NEWS:

Honorary Members. Dr. J. Dewey Soper of Edmonton has accepted the invitation of the directors to become the first Honorary Member of the Federation of Alberta Naturalists. The invitation was extended in recognition of Dr. Soper's outstanding contribution to our knowledge of the natural history of Alberta, particularly with respect to the national parks and to mammals. Mr. Kerry Wood (of Red Deer) has accepted an invitation to become the second Honorary Member of the Federation. The invitation was extended in recognition of Mr. Wood's long association with the oldest of our member clubs, and his extensive educational writings on natural history which have influenced a whole generation of Albertans. Mr. Wood is still writing a column for The Albertan newspaper.

There are no duties or responsibilities associated with Honorary Membership, but FAN thinks that it may benefit from the interest and advice of its Honorary Members, and FAN trusts that in return they will gain some satisfaction of the Federation's public recognition of their outstanding roles in making Alberta an interesting place for naturalists.

Next Directors' Meeting. The next Regular Meeting of the Directors will take place on March 13, 1971 in Calgary.

LOCAL NEWS:

It is hoped that this will become a major item in the Newsletter. Club secretaries are asked to forward to the Editor copies of club meeting announcements, programs of field trips etc. for inclusion in the Newsletter. The March-April number should contain a list of forthcoming 1971 field trips of Alberta's natural history organizations. Deadline for the next Newsletter is April 1st.

Bow Valley Naturalists. When Mr. Colin Trimmer was unable to continue as club secretary last fall, Mr. Jon Whyte took over (until elections in February 1971, at least). Mr. Gerry Wilkie, BVN President, has been very active in expressing opposition to the Provisional Master Plan for Banff N.P. A long letter from him appeared in the Banff Crag and Canyon for December 2nd 1970. The BVN is currently gathering signatures to a statement opposing several features of the Master Plans.

Calgary Field Naturalists' Society. There is much debate in Calgary as to what its optimum human population should be, and whether the restricted-development zone on its outskirts should be opened up for more intensive development. An increasing number of people are urging that the 2-4 mile wide 'green belt' should be preserved, and that satellite towns should (if needed) be built 20-30 miles away and connected to Calgary's attractions by rapid transit lines. The future of Nose Hill, the skyline of North Calgary, is also being debated by developers, planners and naturalists. Many people would like it to be left as a beautiful skyline harbouring deer, coyotes, birds and prairie plants. The Calgary Herald printed a letter from a CFNS director, Dr. Bird, on the subject.

At the February 1971 meeting of the CFNS, Mr. John Legge of Okotoks gave an excellent talk on "The Butterflies of Alberta", the first that the society had heard on the subject. On March 17th, Dr. B.Reeves will talk on "Early Man in Alberta"; Dr. Reeves has been excavating archaeological sites in Waterton National Park for some years.

Edmonton Natural History Club. The President of this club for 1971 is Mr. J.Cam Finlay, succeeding Mr. David Spalding. The new secretary is Mrs K.H.Ewing, 140111--86th Avenue, Edmonton 51. Mr. Finlay reports that the ENHC is writing itself a constitution.

PROVINCIAL NEWS:

The Legislature. This is the season when the provincial legislature is sitting. Several bills of interest to naturalists have been introduced, including the one that will create an environment department. Unfortunately, I do not have copies of this and other bills at this time, but I hope to comment on them in a later Newsletter.

The 1971/72 budget has just been introduced into the legislature. The new environment department will receive \$ 10 million. Of this, however, the Environment Conservation Authority will receive only \$ 230,000 and the

pollution control division \$ 750,000. The Water Resources Division will receive \$ 5 million out of the \$ 10 million. The emphasis is clear, therefore. When one considers that the funds made available for all levels of Education in the province are \$ 426 million, the \$ 10 million set aside for conservation of the ecology of the province looks very unimpressive. It is by examining figures like these that one can truly estimate the concern of a government for matters on which it is publicly expressing a lot of vocal energy.

National Parks Provision^{al} Master Plans Public Hearings. These hearings will take place as follows:

Calgary: April 19 and 20, 1971
Edmonton: April 22 and 23, 1971

They are to take place at the Carriage House Motor Inn in Calgary, and the Macdonald Hotel in Edmonton.

The Wilderness, Parks & Natural Areas Committee of FAN (A.W.Rupp and Gerry Wilkie) is preparing a brief for presentation to the Calgary public hearing on behalf of the Federation as a whole. However, it is expected that the local naturalists' clubs will also present briefs. The preparation of briefs is a most time-consuming business, so much of the time of the directors of the Federation in recent months has been devoted to this task, almost to the exclusion of other matters. One matter that seems, almost purposefully, to have been down played by the National Parks Branch in the master plans and the preparations for the public hearings is the Village Lake Louise project. (One is to be forgiven if one should conclude that the views of the public may have little influence on the planners). It is to be hoped that the Public Hearings will indeed have some influence on the plans, as we know them, for the "development" of our National Parks.

The Athabasca Delta Controversy. Since the publication of the "Death of a Delta" report by a group of scientists a year ago, the drying up of the Athabasca delta has been a "hot" news item. The Edmonton Journal ran a comprehensive series of articles by Barry Craig from September 5-10, 1970, and on September 19, 1970. There has been an enormous amount of blustering on the part of members of the provincial government, though whether they have been attempting to deny any blame for the situation on the part of Alberta or have been attempting to defend the actions of British Columbia has been far from clear. At one time Mr. Strom and Mr. Henderson were making statements to the media every second day, which made any attempt by the President of FAN to write and express our viewpoint almost impossible. I eventually concluded that Mr. Henderson had exceeded any gap in credibility that he might normally be allowed, and that his suitability as the first minister for an environment department was very open to question. In December, Mr. Henderson forbade some members of the Alberta scientific civil service from playing their proper part in the fact-finding Peace-Athabasca Delta Symposium scheduled for January (Calgary Herald, December 17, 1970, page 17). This seemed to be a naked attempt to prevent the

symposium from ever taking place, whether or not it really was. In fact the symposium did take place on January 14-15, 1971, and David Spalding writes that it proved most interesting. Mr. Spalding has provided the Federation with copies of two of the most interesting papers for the FAN Library (see later), from which they may be borrowed.

"Centralizing" National Park Wardens and Provincial Forest Rangers. The wardens in the National Parks are being "centralized"---pulled out of the back country warden stations as a result of some bad advice from efficiency consultants that was readily agreed to by Ottawa about a year ago. Apparently the number of full-time wardens in Banff N.P. has been reduced. Park wardens have traditionally been men who learned the hazards and geography of their districts. No one that I know believes that townsite-dwelling wardens can have either the experience necessary to police the remoter regions of the national parks adequately or the local knowledge and speed needed to rescue lost or hurt hikers with the minimum possible delay. "Centralization" seems to be a retrograde step.

Likewise, the provincial government is closing several forest ranger stations in order to "centralize" staff in larger communities (Calgary Herald, October 23, 1970). This has been widely criticized as a regressive move.

The Local Extermination of Skunks and Coyotes. Mr. Gordon Kerr, Alberta's Chief Wildlife Biologist, deserves our thanks for reminding the public that during the 1952-56 rabies outbreak in Alberta, the elimination of predatory mammals caused an explosion in the numbers of mice and that there was no direct proof that elimination of coyotes caused the rabies to die out. (From 1952-54, 1000,000 coyotes, 50,000 foxes, and 13,500 lynx, wolves and bears were killed. Calgary Herald, January 7, 1971). Mr. Kerr is reported to have said that there could be a natural reduction in the numbers of coyotes from mange, distemper and rabies without any special control measures being necessary, that he is opposed to a widespread control program, and that any control that must be carried out in problem localities should be conducted by wildlife officers. We should also realize that fewer than 20 confirmed cases of rabid animals had been found in Alberta this year up to the end of December (Calgary Herald, loc. cit.). In other words, agricultural and health officials should not panic. We need to learn much more about the progress of a rabies outbreak before we indiscriminately slaughter thousands of mammals. Less harm may, perhaps, be done by letting the natural control mechanisms take their course. So far there has not been the equivalent of even one traffic death from rabies in Alberta during the present rabies outbreak!

The FAN Symbol. The symbol at the head of this Newsletter was designed last year by Peter Karsten of Calgary to provide something distinctive for the letterhead of the Federation during the period when it was being organized. It shows a river emerging from its source in the Alberta Foothills to begin its long journey across prairie and boreal forest to the Arctic Ocean. As it does so, the river divides in the foreground as it passes the first of many islands in its course. Coniferous trees

border the river for part of its course, as happens with many prairie rivers. Heavily-faulted snow-capped mountains thrust into the sky in the west and provide a back-drop that is symbolic of the strong attraction of the Rocky Mountains for Albertans living on the flatlands to the east.

FAN needs a symbol for use on its publications, and on a car decal. Mr. Karsten's design was criticized late in 1970 as too closely resembling that of the National & Provincial Parks Association. Recently the NPPAC has adopted a new design, so this criticism no longer applies. However, Mr. Karsten's design was not intended to be anything more than a temporary one. So, we are asking Alberta naturalists to design a new and better symbol. Send your design for a permanent symbol to the Secretary (2103 Crocus Road, N.W., Calgary 48) soon, and before May 1st 1971 if you can. Entries in this competition should be neat, compact, and as illustrative or symbolic of as wide a field of Alberta's natural history and living resources as you can make it---no easy task !

FEATURES

ALBERTA NATURE ROUND-UP:

Overwintering of Cedar Waxwings. Cedar Waxwings have been reported overwintering in Alberta in 1970/71---an unusual event. Mrs B.M. Scoular (by letter to the Editor) has reported a flock of about 15 in Red Deer in December, and supplied a full description. Ruth Jones saw 10 Cedar Waxwings in Calgary on 21 January (Calgary Field-Naturalist 2(7):72), and there have been other oral reports also. A letter dated 30 January to the editor of the Calgary Field-Naturalist from Daniel F.Koenig states that "There have been several sightings in the Edmonton area, including five or more I saw this past week."

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES ON ALBERTA NATURALISTS (First of a Series):

Mr. David Spalding, FAN Vice-President and Head Curator of Natural History in the Provincial Museum in Edmonton, has embarked on a series of biographical sketches of pioneer Alberta naturalists. These will be printed, as they appear, in the FAN Newsletter. In this issue we have the first two, on J.A.ALIEN and EUGENE BOURGEOU. To follow are sketches on Norman Criddle, G.M.Dawson, S.W.Eaton and others. This series should be of great interest to Alberta naturalists; anyone finding that he has additional important information on any of them that would interest Mr. Spalding should communicate with him at the Provincial Museum in Edmonton.

THE EDITOR CONGRATULATES:

- the Executive Secretary of the Alberta Federation of Labour, who is reported to have said that governments must impose strict regulations on organizations that pollute air and water even if it means accepting a lower standard of living (Calgary Herald, January 6, 1971).

(Information selected from the card index at the Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta - additional data would be welcomed).

JOHN A. ALLAN (- 23.5.1955)

One of Alberta's leading geologists, Dr. Allan was appointed the first Professor of Geology at the University of Alberta in 1912, and remained there for nearly forty years. He played an important part in laying the foundations of the University, and was responsible for building up the extensive series of minerals and fossils, and many other items which formed the foundation of the University's collections. Among other important acquisitions was the collection of dinosaur material purchased from George Sternberg in 1920-21.

He was very active in economic geology, published extensively on the geology of the province, and was involved in many organisations concerned with pure and applied geology. Mount Allan, near Banff National Park, is named for him.

Born in Aubrey, Quebec, he received B.A. & M.Sc. degrees at McGill. He then went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received his Ph.D. in 1912 before coming to Alberta.

Portrait: in Obituary

Obituary: Warren (1955) Journal of the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists 3 (8) 143.

Other References: Russell (1966). Dinosaur Hunting in Western Canada, p. 21.

Publications: 60 publications by Allan are listed in McCrossan et al. (1958). Bibliography of Alberta Geology. Except for a few early ones on British Columbia geology, almost all those relate to Alberta.

D.A.E.S.
20.4.1970

(Information selected from the card index at the PMAA - additional data would be welcomed).

EUGENE BOURGEOU (1813- -2.1877)

As a member of the Palliser expedition, Bourgeau was one of the first botanists in Alberta.

Born in 1813 at Brizon, in eastern France near the Swiss Border, he was the son of a sheep herder. He educated himself, and his aptitude for Natural History led to his appointment to the Botanic Garden of Lyons. Later he went to Paris, and collected botanical specimens for a french Botanical Society, and for the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

In 1857, he was appointed to the Palliser expedition, receiving specific instructions from Sir William Hooker, Director at Kew. He was the first botanist to examine the Rockies south of Athabaska pass, and the prairies south of the North Saskatchewan River. Mt. Bourgeau in Banff National Park is named after him.

He returned to Europe in the spring of 1859, and after collecting expeditions to Asia Minor and Mexico, died in Paris in February 1877.

Portrait

in Spry (1963) following p.118.

References

- Hitchon, B. (1967) Early Natural History Explorations (in 'Alberta - a Natural History', chap. 13).
- Spry, I.M. (1963) The Palliser Expedition.
- Thomson, D.W. (1966) Men and Meridians v.1.
- Wallace, N.N. (1928) Eugene Bourgeau. Canadian Alpine Journal.
- Wallace, W.S. (1963) The MacMillan Dictionary of Canadian Biography.
- Warkentin, J. (1964). The Western Interior of Canada.

Publications

see Warkentin P. 173-5 for brief quotation from his report.

THE EDITOR DEPLORES:

- the ending of publication of Alberta-Lands-Forests-Parks-Wildlife, by the Alberta government, which had become excellent during the last two years. Its replacement, "Alberta--A Land for Living", is largely devoted to bragging about industrial developments in Alberta, and is of no interest to naturalists or outdoorsmen.

THE FAN LIBRARY:

The FAN Library has been given its first two books:

- Soper, J.Dewey. 1970. The Mammals of Jasper National Park. Canadian Wildlife Service Report Series No. 10
- Brookes, D.A. & Myres, M.T. (Editors). 1970. Environment 1975: Pollution in Alberta. Calgary: Biological Sciences Society, University of Calgary.

The FAN Library also receives the following newsletters:

- Federation of British Columbia Naturalists Newsletter
- Okanagan-Similkameen Parks Society Newsletter
- Calgary-Banff Chapter, National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada, Newsletter.

The February 1971 issue of the FBCN Newsletter contains a comprehensive, 3-page, "16th Annual Report (1970)" of the B.C.Nest Records Scheme. It includes a breakdown by species of the 27,337 cards now in the files of the scheme. This is the first time that the Annual Report of the BCNRS has been put out in printed form.

Items in the FAN Library may be borrowed (for a few days) by any member of a member society of FAN or by any Subscribing or Supporting or Honorary Member of the Federation. Write to the Secretary FAN, 2103 Crocus Road, N.W., Calgary 48.

I would encourage members to donate any natural history books that they no longer need to the Federation of Alberta Naturalists LIBRARY.

The following two papers, given at the Peace-Athabasca Delta Symposium, have been donated by Mr. David Spalding:

- Dirschl, H.J. 1971. Ecological Effects of Recent Low Water Levels in the Peace-Athabasca Delta. MS. (17 pp. incl. 4 figures).
- Fuller, W.A. & LaRoi, G.H. 1971. Historical Review of Biological Resources of the Peace-Athabasca Delta. MS (33 pp. + 2 figures).

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST TO ALBERTA NATURALISTS:

- Brown, N.J. & Brown, A.W.A. 1970. Biological Fate of DDT in a Sub-Arctic Environment. Journal of Wildlife Management 34: 929-940.
- Cade, Tom J. & Fyfe, Richard. 1970. The North American Peregrine Survey, 1970. Canadian Field-Naturalist 84: 231-245.
- Erskine, A.J. 1971. A Preliminary Catalogue of Bird Census Studies in Canada. Canadian Wildlife Service Progress Notes No. 20.
- Fimreite, Norvald. 1970. Mercury Uses in Canada and their possible Hazards as Sources of Mercury Contamination. Environmental Pollution 1(2): 119-131.
- Fimreite, N., Fyfe, Richard W. & Keith, J. Anthony. 1970. Mercury Contamination of Canadian Prairie Seed Eaters and their Avian Predators. Canadian Field-Naturalist 84: 269-276.
- Fox, Glen A. 1971. Recent Changes in the Reproductive Success of the Pigeon Hawk. Journal of Wildlife Management. 35: 122-128.
- Fyfe, Richard W. et al. 1969. Regional Population Declines and Organochlorine Insecticides in Canadian Prairie Falcons. Canadian Field Naturalist 83: 191-200.
- Herrero, Stephen. 1970. Human Injury Inflicted by Grizzly Bears. Science 170: 593-598.
- Herrero, Stephen. 1970. Man and the Grizzly Bear (Present, Past, but Future ?). BioScience 20: 1148-1152.
- Luttich, S.N., Keith, Lloyd B. & Stephenson, J.D. 1971. Population Dynamics of the Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) at Rochester, Alberta. Auk 88:75-87.
- Nyland, Edo. 1969. This Dying Watershed. Alberta-Lands-Forests-Parks-Wildlife 12(3): 22-38.
- Newsome, R.D. & Dix, R.L. 1968. The Forests of the Cypress Hills, Alberta and Saskatchewan. American Midland Naturalist 80: 118-185.
- Stelfox, John G. 1969. Wolves in Alberta: a History 1800-1969. Alberta-Lands-Forests-Parks-Wildlife 12(4): 18-27.
- Vermeer, Kees. 1969. Great Blue Heron Colonies in Alberta. Canadian Field-Naturalist 83: 237-242.
- Vermeer, Kees. 1970. Colonies of Double-crested Cormorants and White Pelicans in Saskatchewan. Canadian Field-Naturalist 84: 39-42.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION:

1. Records for "Audubon Field Notes". Seasonal bird records are reported in Audubon Field Notes under the "Northern Great Plains Region". Dave Hatch (of Oak Lake, Manitoba) has recently ended his editorship of the records from this region. The new editor is Dr. C. Stuart Houston, 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask.

Individual naturalists should send their records to him. Club secretaries should add him to their mailing list for any club publications that include recent observations of birds, such as the Calgary Field Naturalist. Records should be sent to Dr. Houston by April 10 (winter), June 10 (spring migration), August 10 (nesting season) and December 10 (fall migration). Further instructions can be obtained from Dr. Houston.

2. Indigo and Lazuli Buntings. Mr. Spencer G. Sealy, a well-known western Canadian naturalist, is seeking information on Indigo and Lazuli Buntings in Alberta, and would appreciate being informed of any sight-records that members may have made. His request is dated September 16th 1970, so records should be sent to him as soon as possible c/o Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

3. The Former Distribution of Loons and Grebes in Alberta. Mr. David Spalding (Provincial Museum, 12845--102nd Avenue, Edmonton 40) is initiating a research study on the Common Loon in Alberta. He wants to know, for example, how extensively loons bred in the southern parts of the province before settlement, how rapidly they may have declined there, and dates when they ceased to breed in areas from which they are now lost. Mr. Morley Riske (c/o Dept. of Biology, University of Calgary) is beginning a very similar study on grebes in Alberta under the title "The Effects of Human Activities upon Grebe Populations". Anyone having unpublished observations or other information that is pertinent to these two studies is asked to write to Messrs Spalding or Riske respectively, at the addresses indicated.

4. Colour-marked Gulls. As in 1970, a study of the flightlines of gulls is being carried out from April to November 1971 in the general vicinity of Calgary. Anyone seeing marked gulls is asked to phone or write to Mr. Chip Weseloh (282-6926, or Dept. of Biology, University of Calgary). Mr. Weseloh is particularly interested in learning (a) the colour of dyed gulls, (b) the part of the plumage that is coloured, and (c) the colours and positions on the legs of any leg-jesses that marked birds may be carrying, in the order: right leg (upper, lower), left leg (upper, lower). Birds carrying leg-jesses may be seen anywhere in the province during the spring migration.

NEWS FROM AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

NPPAC (Calgary-Banff Chapter). A two-day problem-solving conference, which was deemed a success, was held on January 9-10, 1971. An 18-page "Summary of Discussions" has been produced, and may be obtained from NPPAC, at Box 608, Sub P.O. 91, University of Calgary, Calgary 44.

FEDERATION OF ALBERTA NATURALISTS

February 1971

SUPPORTING MEMBERS:

Dr. J.W.Brooks, Box 280, Anchorage, Alaska, U.S.A.
Mr. Gerald McKeating, c/o Federation of Ontario Naturalists,
1262 Don Mills Road, Don Mills, Ontario.
Dr. M.T.Myres, Dept. of Biology, University of Calgary, Calgary 44.
Mr. G.D.Wilkie, Box 347, Banff.

SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS:

Alberta:

Mrs Corinne Atwell, 10830 McQueen Road (Apt. 10-B), Edmonton.
Mr. S. Avery, 15626--81st Avenue, Edmonton.
Mr & Mrs J.A.Baker & family, 3044 Conrad Drive, Calgary 48.
Mrs K. Ball, Edmonton.
Miss Anne Becker, Edmonton.
Mr. M.Bredy, 9212--169th Street, Edmonton.
Dr. J.B.Cragg, 3312 Underhill Drive, N.W., Calgary 44.
Mrs Edith Frazer, Box 33, R.R.8., Edmonton.
Dr. W.A.Fuller, Dept. of Zoology, University of Alberta, Edmonton 7.
Miss Mieczyslawa Gawluk, 9744--65th Avenue, Edmonton 81.
Mr. R.E.Gehlert, 12155--96th Street, Edmonton.
Prof. D.A.Gill, Dept. of Geography, University of Alberta, Edmonton 7.
Miss Penny Gladstone, Apt. 33, 11016--109th Avenue, Edmonton.
Mrs Elizabeth Hall, 2602--6th Avenue South, Lethbridge.
Mr. I.A.R.Halladay, 2103 Crocus Road, N.W., Calgary 48.
Mr. G.C.Hamilton, 10970--138th Street, Edmonton.
Miss Aileen Harmon, Box 656, Banff.
Mrs Alice Harper, 3509--10th Avenue, Lethbridge.
Mr. J.Harricks, 1703--6th Avenue S., Lethbridge.
Mrs H.Harris, R.R.1., Penhold.
Mr. A.Karvonen, Box 8, Site 11, R.R.7., Edmonton.
Mr. J. Kinmaird, Box 676, Barrhead.
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