

EDITORIAL

It has been said that there is an urge in many countrymen to go to the city where they concentrate on means whereby they can get back to the country. There is no valid criticism of a restlessness for varied experiences and there is much to commend the particular circuit described. Our former Secretary, Russell J. Rutter, has plotted and navigated such a course. The juvenile Muskoka naturalist turned soldier for World War I. Probably the only time he ever falsified anything was when he stated his age to meet military requirements. Following the war experience Rutter became an efficient and conscientious trouble-shooter for the Toronto Hydro-Electric System and eventually became Head of the Claims Department. There is no intention here to enumerate his various contacts and activities in the Toronto community. We wish merely to make special note of his outstanding contribution to Natural History as Secretary to the Brodie Club. With an interruption during World War II he looked after the Club's best interests for a total of eighteen years and by virtue of this office played an important part in furthering the aims of Natural History investigation and appreciation in this region. The Club offers its thanks and extends its best wishes to Rutter in his new but old sphere at Huntsville, Muskoka.

THE 470th MEETING—JANUARY 4th, 1949

Chairman, Carrick. Attendance, 25 + 2 visitors.

OBSERVATIONS: Review of Peterson's "Birds Over America", McIlwraith. *Low Population of European Hare This Year*, Snyder. *Local Influx of King Eiders*, Baillie. *Mammals in High Park*, Lindsay. *Red Fox Near the City*, Thompson.

PAPER: *Man and Other Large Animals*, Clarke. Tradition in the animal world and the need of applied psychology in any consideration of same.

THE 471st MEETING—JANUARY 18th, 1949

Chairman, Hope. Attendance, 18

BUSINESS: Acceptance of Honorary Membership by Macklin.

OBSERVATIONS: *Global Conservation*, Toner. *Peregrine Falcons and Their Use on Landing Strips in the British Isles*, Clarke. *Decline of the Great Estates in England and the Effect on Wildlife*, Runnings.

PAPER: *Natural History of the Collingwood Area*, Ide.

Observations in the hilly region west of the town.

THE 472nd MEETING—FEBRUARY 1st, 1949

Chairman, Ide. Attendance, 20.

BUSINESS: Boggs transferred to Corresponding Membership. Request for membership nominations.

OBSERVATIONS: *American Mergansers on the Humber in January*, Mayall. *Over 200 Deaths in the Hunting Season Just Past in the U.S.*, Harrington. *Redpolls in High Park*, Lindsay. *Ruby-crowned Kinglet in North York in January*, Outram. *Feral House Cats Mistaken for Wild Cats*, Downing. *Removal of Black Squirrels from Moore Avenue*, Snyder. *Trillium cernuum*, *Nodding Trillium Near Kettleby*, Brown.

PAPER: *Biological Control of Insect Pests*, Brodie. Some of the principals of such control and the idea that a biological approach was the only one in ultimate control.

THE 473rd MEETING—FEBRUARY 15th, 1949

Chairman, Lindsay. Attendance, 26 + 4 visitors.

BUSINESS: Decision to mark naturalists' cars as an aid to Game Wardens.

OBSERVATIONS: *First Local Crow of the Year on February 12th*, Gunn. *Records of Black Squirrel*, Clarke. *Fox Squirrels Liberated Near Mitchell's Bay*, Clarke. *Cycles in Native Red Fox*, Downing. *Whitewinged Crossbills at Toronto on February 13th*, McIlwraith.

PAPER: *The Mosquitoes of Toronto*, Urquhart. A summary of the species found here, their life, historical ecology; and methods of successful control.

THE 474th MEETING—MARCH 1st, 1949

Chairman, Ussher. Attendance, 23 + 2 visitors.

OBSERVATIONS: *Stone-flies Active in Mid-winter*, Ide. *Mid-winter Waterfowl Inventory*, Miller. *Recorded Sounds of the Crow*, Gunn. *Groundhog on February 24th*, Ussher.

PAPERS: *The Fauna of Chester Township, Sudbury District, in 1948*, Lindsay. Observations and trapping of small mammals, records of the birds, and records of the amphibians and reptiles of the region.

Opposing View-points, Hunters vs. Nature Lovers, Mayall. The controversy between these outlined and the inconsistencies of both discussed.

THE 475th MEETING—MARCH 15th, 1949

Chairman, Gunn. Attendance, 21 + 2 visitors.

OBSERVATIONS: *A Brief from the F.O.N. to the Ontario Government on Hawks and Owls*, Snyder. *Bald Eagles at Niagara*, Baillie. *Notornis hochstelleri Rediscovered in New Zealand*, Devitt. *Whistling Swans at Long Point on March 11th*, Miller. *Reverse Migration in Birds*, Gunn. *Short-eared Owls Within the City Limits on March 5th*, Ussher.

PAPERS: *A Summer Trip to Banff*, Devitt. Bird and mammal notes illustrated with colored movies.

Bats and Their Characteristics, Outram. The relationship between the teeth and the food of these mammals.

THE 476th MEETING—MARCH 29th, 1949

Chairman, Miller. Attendance, 22 + 3 visitors.

OBSERVATIONS: *Field Mouse vs. Copperhead*, Bell. *Memorial Volume to Dr. W. E. Saunders*, Baillie. *Woodcock at Meadowvale on March 27th*, McIlwraith. *J. H. Soper's List of Vascular Plants of Southern Ontario*, Brown. *Report on the F.O.N. Meeting*, Rutter.

PAPER: *Barometric Pressure Patterns and Birds*, Gunn. A study of the relation between barometric pressure and the migration of birds in eastern North America.

THE 477th MEETING—APRIL 12th, 1949

Chairman, Mayall. Attendance, 21 + 2 visitors.

OBSERVATIONS: *Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club at Madison, Wisconsin, in April*, Miller. *Mistaken Identification of Raccoon-dog Last Season*, Downing. *Annual Count of Woodcock*, Clarke. *McIlwraith's Report on the Bella Coola Indians Published*, Mayall.

PAPER: *Standard Colour Nomenclature*, Dr. D. H. Hamly. History of the naming and identification of colours to the present time and the need of such standards in biological work.

THE 478th MEETING—APRIL 26th, 1949

Chairman, Outram. Attendance, 20 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Discussion of having papers precede observations.

OBSERVATIONS: *Harris's Sparrow at Barrie*, Devitt. *Arctic Fox Near Stratford*, Downing. *Swamp Tree Frog and Pickering's Hyla Rare or Absent in High Park*, Lindsay.

PAPER: *Food of Homo sapiens*, McIlwraith. Method of treatment of both plant and animal products as food.

THE 479th MEETING—MAY 10th, 1949

Chairman, Snyder. Attendance, 13 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Review of meeting procedure. Report of Membership Committee.

Death of Corresponding Member Alfred Kay, May 3rd, 1949.

Mr. Kay (b. Birmingham, England, 1861) was a pioneer of Muskoka, settling with his parents, two brothers, and three sisters, on the 300 acres of unbroken forest his Scottish father had located on the beautiful Muskoka River near Port Sydney in 1869. At that time Muskoka was first being thrown open for settlement and the railroad did not penetrate beyond Barrie. A born all-round naturalist, Alfred had ample opportunity to observe nature in primeval surroundings. Early in life he acquired a book on taxidermy and became proficient in this art. Then in 1889 he had the good fortune to meet the late W. P. Melville, a naturalist then living in Muskoka, learned how to make a bird-skin and was put in touch with the late Dr. William Brodie, who gave him a copy of McIlwraith's "Birds of Ontario". A lasting friendship ensued and Kay, in due course, played host to the Doctor and his many accomplished naturalist friends, including our own Hubert Brown, the late Professor R. B. Thomson and the late Frank Morris. In 1919, a field-party from the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology camped on his property, gathering material for habitat groups. Kay did much to encourage the residents of Muskoka to take a more intelligent interest in plants and animals, and one disciple thus effectively stimulated was our ex-secretary, Russell Rutter, then a 14-year-old farmboy living in nearby Utterson. Kay published little but his collection of bird-skins (in R.O.M.Z.) embraces 658 specimens of 136 species. Also preserved in the Museum are a couple of hundred of his mammals, birds' nests and eggs.

OBSERVATIONS: *Badger in North York*, Outram. *Photographing Skunks*, Carrick. *Counting Woodcock in the Holland River Marsh*, Baillie. *Polyporus volvatur in High Park*, Bell. *Eri-genia bulbosa, Harbinger of Spring, near Etobicoke*, Brown. *Removal of Underbrush and Debris in High Park Detrimental to Wildlife*, Lindsay.

THE 480th MEETING—SEPTEMBER 27th, 1949

Chairman, Baillie. Attendance, 13.

BUSINESS: Secretary pro tem, Shortt. Resignation of Secretary Rutter and his transfer to Corresponding Membership due to moving to Huntsville. Motion to have observations before papers, except when guest speaker is present, was carried. Ussher transferred to Corresponding Membership. Letter read from Corresponding Member Waller. Next regular meeting cancelled because of A.O.U. Buffalo meeting. Nominations resulted in following acclamations: Secretary, Carrick; Treasurer, Lindsay; Representative to Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Carrick; Proceedings Committee, Miller, Ide, Carrick; Library Committee, Bell, Devitt, Toner.

OBSERVATIONS: *Future of the Brodie Club, General Discussion by Members Present*.

THE 481st MEETING—OCTOBER 25th, 1949

Chairman, Emery. Attendance, 18 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Secretary pro tem, Miller. Motion to amend Art. 3, Sec. 4 of the Constitution, passed (this refers to the necessity of Honorary Members first being Active Members for at least three years). Report from Secretary. Letters from J. M. Speirs and Corresponding Member Herrington. Election of following committees—Programme, Mayall, Downing, Clarke; Membership, Snyder, Shortt, Gunn.

OBSERVATIONS: *Rhus vernix*, *Poison Oak in Wilmot Township*, Mayall. *Yellow-breasted Chat Nesting in Perth County*, Mayall. *Captive Black Bear Reported to be Seventeen Years Old*, Outram.

PAPERS: *A.O.U. Meeting*, Snyder. A report on the meeting at Buffalo, October 10th to 14th.

National Audubon Society, Baillie. A report on the meeting in Detroit, and the outing at Point Pelee in October.

THE 482nd MEETING—NOVEMBER 8th, 1949

Chairman, Brodie. Attendance, 20 + 10 visitors.

BUSINESS: Resolution passed commending Rutter for his services to the Club and the Natural Science field. Discussion of encroachment on public parks.

OBSERVATIONS: *Vermilion Flycatcher in High Park*, Hope.

PAPER: *The Country of the Barren-ground Caribou*, A. H. Laurie. Native man, animals and plants illustrated by coloured slides and a description of northern Manitoba and southern Keewatin.

THE 483rd MEETING—NOVEMBER 22nd, 1949

Chairman, Clarke. Attendance, 18 + 4 visitors.

BUSINESS: Letter sent to Dominion Wildlife Service re Point Pelee National Park.

OBSERVATIONS: *Canada Geese in Flight*, Harrington. *Road Check of Deer Hunters*, Fowle. *The Philadelphia Zoo*, Outram. *Blue and Snow Geese in Southern Ontario*, Clarke.

PAPERS: *World Population and the Food Supply*, Toner. Increasing population of the world, together with increasing drought may produce famine.

Nesting Habits of the Common Loon, Carrick. Movies taken this summer at Canoe Lake, Algonquin Park.

THE 484th MEETING—DECEMBER 6th, 1949

Chairman, Downing. Attendance, 22 + 1 visitor.

BUSINESS: Christmas bird census to be held on December 18th.

OBSERVATIONS: *Snowy Owl Flight*, Snyder. *A Rare Form of Paper Birch in High Park*, Owens.

PAPER: *Holidaying in Prince Edward Island*, McIlwraith. Animals including birds of the Island.

THE 485th MEETING—DECEMBER 20th, 1949

Chairman, Campbell. Attendance 17.

BUSINESS: Report on Christmas Census. Motion passed to modify census to fit National Audubon Society requirements and suggest to Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club that census publication by them be discontinued.

OBSERVATIONS: *J. Fisher on the Fulmar*, Harrington. *Brown's "Hawks Aloft"*, Clarke. *Fulmars in Lancaster Sound*, Gunn. *Review of "Wildfowling in the Mississippi Flyway"*, Toner. *Treating a Hippopotamus*, Campbell.

PAPER: *Research*, Fowle. Discussion and review, with the speaker's personal views on the subject.

25th CHRISTMAS BIRD CENSUS—DECEMBER 18th

Seventy-six observers in twenty parties saw 11,416 birds of 64 species in the Toronto region. The Myrtle Warbler, never before recorded, brought to 125 the total seen on the twenty-five censuses.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership at the end of 1949 consisted of 26 Active, 43 Corresponding, and 13 Honorary Members.

Active

J. L. Baillie	R. V. Lindsay
J. A. Brodie	Prof. T. F. McIlwraith
W. H. Carrick	K. Mayall
Dr. C. H. D. Clarke	D. S. Miller
O. E. Devitt	A. A. Outram
S. C. Downing	R. L. Peterson
F. H. Emery	J. B. C. Runnings
C. D. Fowle	W. B. Scott
W. W. H. Gunn	T. M. Shortt
Dr. P. Harrington	L. L. Snyder
C. E. Hope	H. H. Southam
Dr. F. P. Ide	S. L. Thompson
Dr. J. Leeson	G. C. Toner

Honorary

G. S. Bell	T. B. Kurata
H. H. Brown	H. G. Macklin
Dr. J. A. Campbell	L. T. Owens
C. E. Corfe	C. D. Richards
Prof. J. R. Dymond	E. V. Rippon
J. Edmonds	Dr. E. M. Walker
S. Harrod	

The average attendance of members during the year was twenty.