

Students show their stuff

BY RUTH RICHMAN

The annual Science Fair at U.P.E.I. was held Friday, April 8. Three representatives from the Natural History Society attended as Speciality Judges. Gertrude Partridge, Helen Ferguson and I were all new to judging and didn't know what to expect at the Fair. We were all delightedly overwhelmed at the number of projects on display. Judging was made a little easier as most of the projects did not fall into the natural history category. Still, by noon we were still talking to students and undecided about the prizewinners.

Lunch, courtesy of U.P.E.I., was a good time to meet and discuss what projects needed a second look. As I had to return to work after lunch, Helen and Gertrude finished judging together and Gertrude presented the prizes to the winners at the late afternoon awards ceremony. A total of \$100 and 20 NHS memberships were awarded.

The winners were:

Junior prize - 6th graders Susan Hughes and Krista Affleck for their project on the Greenhouse Effect.

Intermediate prize - Sandy LeClair and Dawn Rix for their project on tornadoes.

Senior prize - this was split between two projects, both on Acid Rain. Jessica Wightman and Jennifer Picketts were both knowledgeable and well-spoken about the acid rain problem. Jessica concentrated on the effect of acid rain on plants, while Jennifer's project was all encompassing.

In addition, there were 10 Honourable Mentions awarded to projects which means fourteen new members of the Natural History Society.

Juniors: Ellen MacPhee: "Is Man a Carnivore or Vegetarian?"

Phillip Bulpitt: "Ecology Cycle"

Susan Reichkeld: "Crystals"

David Cousins and Jeffrey Ellsworth: "Ecology and the Fixed Link"

Cara Schook and Sharon Meerburg: "Tornadoes"

Eric MacIntosh and Connor O'Rourke: "Erosion"

Naomi Blackwood and Emily LaLecheur: "Inheritance and Genetics"

Steven MacDonald: "Water Wheel"

Inter: Shanna Rix: "Effects of Overpopulation on the World"

Senior: Lisa Gallant and Yolande Arsenault: "Population Genetics"

The three judges agreed that the Science fair is an entertaining and educational way to spend a day. We plan to return next year and invite all NHS members to visit the Fair in 1989.

Newsletter takes up residence

Sometimes it seems that everything that can go wrong does! The last issue of the Island Naturalist took up residence at the Queen's Printer since the Legislature was sitting. Then, despite instructions to print on both sides of the paper, it went on only one side. And to top it off, I put the wrong date in for the May NHS meeting. Hope it was just a bad month. With Ruth and I both working full-time this summer, there is a chance that the July-August issue will be combined with the Sept.-Oct. issue. The Society is not very active in the summer (no meetings) and last summer's issue contained only a few stories and only three people sent in bird sightings. It seems like everyone is busy at that time of year. Also, I would appreciate you taking the time and filling out the questionnaire in last month's issue. Your help and ideas are valuable. -GS