



# NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

P.O. BOX 2346, CHARLOTTETOWN

C1A 8C1

MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. in Meeting Room #2 in the Provincial Health Building (enter through the parking garage and ask the Commissionaire for directions).

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Prince Edward Island. Membership is available at any meeting or by contacting Margaret Mallett, 53 Fitzroy St., Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 1R4 (894-9595). Annual rates are as follows: regular - \$4; student - \$2; family - \$5. Renewals are due in early January.

1986 EXECUTIVE: President.....Rosemary Curley, Waterside 651-2585  
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.....Ruth Richman, Lewes 962-2516

NEWSLETTERS are published bi-monthly. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, etc. are welcomed from members. If you have seen anything unusual, please share it with us. It is important to have your observations recorded so that others may learn from them. "Today's notations become tomorrow's history". All contributions should be sent to:

Gary Schneider,  
P.O. Box 879,  
Montague, P.E.I. COA 1R0  
Phone: 962-2516

The Natural History Society gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from the Department of Transportation and Public Works which enables the newsletters to be distributed to schools and libraries as well as to members. The Natural History Society of P.E.I. is a member organization of the Canadian Nature Federation. The Society is a registered, non-profit organization. Editors of other newsletters are welcome to reprint articles appearing in this issue but acknowledgement would be appreciated.

## THIS MONTH'S COVER

The YELLOW BIRCH (*Betula alleghaniensis*; *B. lutea*) is an upland tree which often germinates on a fallen log in wet areas giving the erroneous impression that it is a swamp tree. In upland forests it may grow on an old stump or rock. If on a stump, which eventually rots away, the roots give the tree the appearance of standing on stilts. The yellowish-brown bark peels off in papery curls, and the leaves turn yellow in the fall. Yellow birch wood is used in making furniture and makes good firewood.

