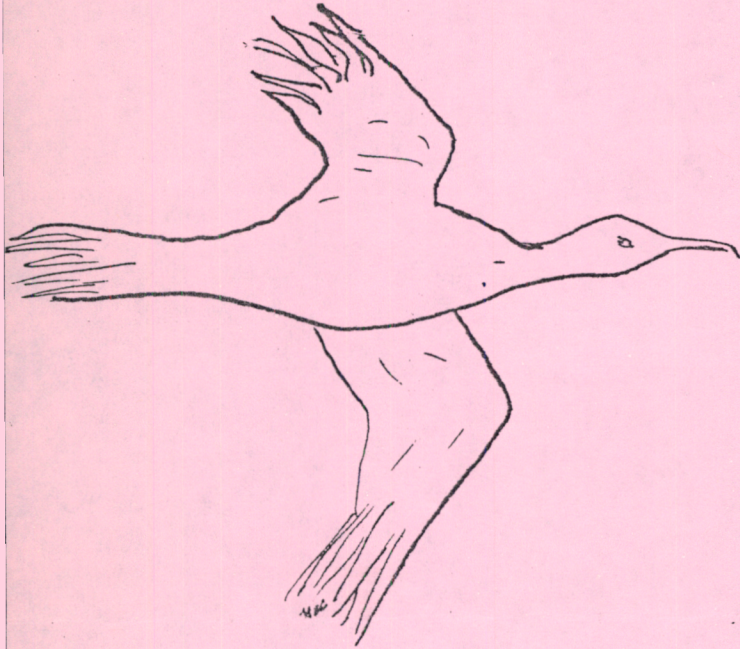


NEWS AND NOTES



FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT. Members who attended the February meeting enjoyed a most interesting account of day to day activity within a cormorant colony. Using his own slides, Geoff Hogan shared with members, much of what he had learned during several years of research on two Island cormorant colonies (Cape Tryon and Durrell Point). At one time cormorants were heavily persecuted by those who believed they destroyed valuable fish stocks. From an extreme population low fifty years ago, cormorants in the Gulf of St. Lawrence have increased dramatically and in fact are still expanding their colonies in suitable sites around the Island. It is now

recognized that cormorants feed largely on 'junk' or non-commercial fish species and so are largely left unmolested by fishermen. Today Great and Double-crested Cormorants are common along Island waters, adding variety and interest to coastal seascapes.

U.P.E.I. PLANETARIUM. A distinctive new landmark will soon appear on the grounds of the U.P.E.I. campus. The Abegweit Science Centre is to be located on the north side of the gymnasium. The facility is to include a geodesic dome containing a one hundred seat planetarium theatre plus an adjoining structure which will function as an entry and administrative centre. When a new gym is constructed the old one will be made available to the ASC for use as a science museum. Construction and landscaping are to be financed by the University while equipment and furnishings are to be provided by the Abegweit Science Centre.

