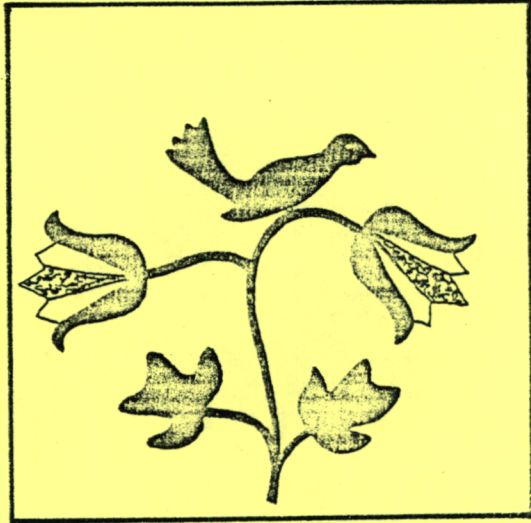


APRIL

April comes with cheeks a-glowing,
 Silver streams are all a-flowing,
 Flowers open wide their eyes
 In a rapturous surprise.
 Lilies dream beside the brooks,
 Violets in meadow nooks,
 And the birds gone wild with glee,
 Fill the woods with melody.
 Winds are soft and fields are fair,
 Blue the sky and sweet the air.
 And the happy, blushing earth
 Laughs at every flower's birth.
 Golden days and silver nights,
 Hours brim with calm delights,
 Lilies chime and blue bells ring,
 "Welcome, welcome to the Spring."

Helen Steiner Rice



NATURAL BEAUTY COMPETITION

by Vera Beck, Montague, P.E.I.

The Natural Beauty and Preservation Competition of the Rural Beautification Society Program is growing by leaps and bounds. Last year the number of entries was almost doubled from the year before, and there were competitors from all areas of the Island.

We know that many Natural History Society members would enjoy entering this competition, and we are pleased to note that it is members of the Natural History Society who generously donate the beautiful awards.

These are the rules of the game:

This is a competition for those who love the unique quality of the natural beauty of Prince Edward Island. It is a province-wide competition open to all towns as well as rural area residents.

Properties can be adapted to the natural setting. Variety, irregularity, curves and slopes create a more natural appearance than the measured, stiff style of the conventional landscaping. Hedge rows of many varieties of flowering shrubs and small trees, in contrast to the uniform clipped evergreen hedge, and trees that vary in height and shape, add beauty and provide habitat for song birds and other wild creatures.

The awards will be offered in 1980 through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Lantz and Mr. and Mrs. Allison West. The awards will be made on the basis of the improvement in the beautification of the property in relation to the natural surroundings, with careful consideration having been given to sound principles of conservation of the environment.

When in the opinion of the judges, a contestant entered in another contest meets the qualifications for the above the contestant will be entered in the Natural Beauty competition for judging.

For entry forms please write to: The Secretary
 P.E.I. Rural Beautification Society
 P.O. Box 1194
 Charlottetown, P.E.I.