

planting and harvesting of wheat, return of birds, frogs piping, late and early frosts, opening of rivers in spring and their closing in fall, and the dates on which thunder and lightning occurred. The list is signed "John MacSwain, Provincial Secretary".

Even though there was no formal natural history society in existence through the mid 1890's, the Accounts section at the back of the Minute Book indicates that at least a few members continued to maintain some level of activity on behalf of the society. On Apr. 2, 1893 Francis Bain was paid \$2.00 for "printing lists", and in the spring of 1895 The Birds of North America was purchased from J.H. Snider (sp.) for \$20.00 plus \$2.32 for express and duty. At the same time John McSwain was paid \$2.00 for The Birds of Ontario. An 1899 entry indicates payment of \$10.00 to Mr. Batt for the 1898 excursion.

Reference: Natural History Society Minute Book, 1889-1903, Accession No. 2541, Item No. 6, Public Archives, Charlottetown.

Table 1. Papers Presented at Natural History Society Meetings 1889-1891*

On the Fishes of the Island Coast - Col. Duvar (promised Apr. 27, 1889)
On Entomology, with Special References to Island Specimens - Dr. Leeming
(promised Apr. 27, 1889)
Our Island Ferns and How to Identify Them - John McSwain (Sept. 4, 1889)
Study of Island Geology - Francis Bain (promised May 11, 1889)
Study of Island Botany - Francis Bain (July 2, 1889)
Asters or Star-worts - Francis Bain (Sept. 25, 1889)
Some Enquiry into the Ethnology of the Island - Col. J.H. Duvar (Nov. 14, 1889)
Carnivorous (Insectivorous) Plants - L.W. Watson (May 12, 1890)
The Indians - Judge Alley (promised Feb. 14, 1890)
The Insects - Dr. Leeming (promised Feb. 14, 1890)
The Early Indians of P.E. Island, Their Habits and Mode of Subsistence - ?
The Red Sandstone of P.E.I. (The Boulder Clay) - Francis Bain (Apr. 28, 1890)
Animals of P.E.I. at The Beginning of the 19th Century (P.E.I. 100 Years Ago) -
George F. Owen (June 9, 1890)
Our Forest Trees - Hon. David Laird (July 14, 1890)
The Geology of the Proposed Straits Tunnel (Subway) - Francis Bain (Jan. 12, 1891)
Instinct and Intelligence in Insect Life - Dr. Leeming (Feb. 2, 1891)
The Diseases of the Potato - John McSwain (Feb. 23, 1891)
Plants and Their Uses - Rev. Wm. Hamlyn (Mar. 12, 1891)
Plant Food and How They Obtain It - Professor Shuttleworth
The Life History of the Butterfly - L.W. Watson (spring 1891)

* This list may be incomplete; some of the papers promised may not have been delivered or were given under other names; we know for sure that at least 16 public meetings were held.

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A number of candidate ecological reserves have already been identified in P.E.I. The Department of Forestry should monitor these annually and, if necessary, buy them. A search should be made for more. An arboretum of P.E.I. trees should be established. A modest publication for use in schools should be published.

The problem is, can society adapt fast enough to the explosive changes that are taking place for the human species to survive?