

The sum of \$43.60 was reported in the Savings Bank, but the society was still unsuccessful in obtaining suitable rooms.

1891

The second annual meeting was held in the YMCA Parlours on Jan. 26, 1891. The balance on hand stood at \$60.60, with expenditures for the year having been \$4.58. Membership stood at twenty. Once again the perennial problem surfaced - "the obtaining of a room for the constant use of the Society to be afterwards used as a library and museum." It was decided to publish an annual report with notes and transactions and original papers. Following a clause by clause debate the members also adopted a constitution, which included the following sub-sections: name, object, officers, membership, fees (set at \$1.00/yr or \$10.00/life), meetings and "bye-laws".

A newspaper clipping reporting the 13th Public Meeting of the Society held on Feb. 2, 1891 indicated the possibility of repeating some of the less well attended lectures of the previous winter, in order to obtain material to hold more frequent lectures in 1891.

During the winter and spring of 1891 the big issue on the public mind was the proposal to construct a tunnel under Northumberland Strait to connect P.E.I. and New Brunswick. The Natural History Society arranged for one of its members, Francis Bain, geologist and naturalist, to travel to Summerside to deliver a lecture on the Geology of the Proposed Tunnel. The talk was held in Market Hall on Mar. 2 and fifteen cents admission was charged. Proceeds from the lecture totalled \$9.94; expenses included \$3.50 for advertising and \$5.00 for rental of the hall. A newspaper reporting the event indicated "it is not unlikely that arrangements may be made for a course of lectures by members of the Society in Summerside".

During the spring of 1891 public lectures sponsored by the society in Charlottetown were filled to overflowing. In July the society published an eight-page leaflet "List of Prince Edward Island Plants" by J. McSwain and F. Bain. It contained some 430 vascular plants (including Lycopodiaceae) plus 17 marine algae. Entries were given in Latin and arranged by family. A notice in the paper at the time invited anyone desiring a copy to send a self-addressed envelope to the secretary. Anyone sending additions to the list, with specimens for verification would be duly credited.

On Aug. 28, 1891 the second annual excursion was held. Wind conditions prevented the boat from travelling to Governor's Island, the original destination, so instead an enjoyable day was spent at Rocky Point.

1891-1898

Following the report of the Rocky Point outing, entries in the society minute book, inexplicably come to a halt. There is no record of the reasons why the society failed to reorganize that fall, but it was not until 1899 that the next meeting was recorded in the minute book. In the intervening eight years the only entry among the minutes is an undated clipping entitled Botanical Club of Canada: Phenological observations made at Charlottetown during 1897. It lists early dates for pollen shedding from various trees, blooming of flowers,

