
FIELD MEETINGS, 1953

MAY 9th, 1953. ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

About 80 members and friends joined the party which visited the exhibition arranged to commemorate the centenary of the Herbarium and Library. The exhibits illustrated various aspects of the work carried out at Kew since 1853, and of the development of the herbarium (which now includes some six million collectings) and the library. They included demonstrations of methods of collecting and mounting material and of the many valuable contributions to the knowledge of the flora of the British Commonwealth and elsewhere made during the past century.

A most interesting historical survey of the work and purpose of this great establishment was given by Sir Edward Salisbury, and visitors were handed a booklet listing the exhibits and summarising the history and work of the herbarium and library. The Society's thanks are due to the Director for extending to us an invitation to be present on this historic occasion, and for providing tea. We are also grateful to the members of the staff who took so much trouble to explain their exhibits and answer our questions. All those who attended had a most profitable as well as a most interesting afternoon.

J. E. LOUSLEY.

MAY 22nd to 25th, 1953. BANGOR

Leader: Prof. P. W. RICHARDS

This was a most enjoyable and light-hearted week-end, which 48 members and friends attended.

The party met at the Department of Botany, University College of North Wales at Bangor on Friday evening, and were welcomed by Professor Richards. An interesting display of exhibits was shown and the general programme for the week-end explained. Members were given the freedom of the library and the use of some equipment, and this was much appreciated.

On Saturday morning the party left by coach for Anglesey, and a short stop was made at Newborough Warren to see *Mibora minima* and the plant was duly found in some quantity. The journey then continued to Aberffraw where the party separated and made a detailed examination of the dunes and dune slacks. Many interesting plants were seen including *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, *Carex extensa*, *Linum catharticum* on the one hand and *Blasmus rufus*, *Pinguicula vulgaris* and *Selaginella selaginoides* on the other. In addition, *Centaurium littorale*, *Orchis strictifolia* subsp. *coccinea*, *Eleocharis quinqueflorus* (*E. pauciflora*) and *Equisetum variegatum*, were found. *Mibora minima* was seen again here at its 'locus classicus'.

After lunch the party continued by coach to Llanbedr-goch, where a most fascinating fen was explored. Again as in the morning, a wide range of plants was seen, calcicoles and calcifuges often growing together in close proximity. Among the more interesting plants seen were, *Arabis hirsuta*, *Viola lactea*, *Rosa spinosissima*, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *Scilla verna*, *Antennaria dioica*, *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*, *Carex caryophylllea*, *Potentilla palustris*, *Pedicularis palustris*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Schoenus nigricans*, *Cladium mariscus*, *Carex limosa*, and *C. lasiocarpa*.

Whit Sunday, a brilliantly fine day, was spent at Cwm Idwal. A few members who had explored the Cwm before, went, under the guidance of Mr. Evan Roberts and Mr. Inigo Jones, to Black Ladders, where interesting alpine were seen. The remainder of the party made the climb through grassland with *Viola palustris*, *Scirpus cespitosus*, *Carex dioica*, and *C. panicea*, up to the head of the Cwm where a number of alpine were seen including *Thalictrum alpinum*, *Trollius europaeus*, *Meconopsis cambrica*, *Minuartia verna*, *Saxifraga nivalis*, *S. oppositifolia*, *S. stellaris*, *S. hypnoides*, *Sedum rosea*, *Silene acaulis*, *Oxyria digyna*, *Empetrum nigrum*, *E. hermaphroditum*, *Asplenium viride*, *Cystopteris fragilis*, *Dryopteris borreeri*, *D. abbreviata*, *Hymenophyllum wilsoni*, *Cryptogramma crispa*, *Thelypteris phegopteris*, *T. dryopteris*, *Lycopodium alpinum*, and many others.

Whit Monday was spent on limestone at Pabo and at Little Orme. A short stop was made at a small limestone hill near Pabo where the following plants were seen, *Arabis hirsuta*, *Cardaminopsis petraea*, *Helianthemum canum*, *Cotoneaster microphyllus*, *Veronica spicata* subsp. *hybrida*, and *Orchis morio*. Mr. Price Evans, who joined the party here, showed members a fine limestone pavement on Pabo ridge, and, during heavy rain following a violent thunderstorm, gave a most interesting and instructive talk on the botany, geology and ecology of the ridge. Mr. Price Evans has studied the district for many years, and we had the benefit of his expert knowledge. *Geranium sanguineum*, *Convallaria majalis* and *Juniperus communis* were seen here, together with many *Hieracia* which were just coming into bloom. We were very fortunate that this thunderstorm cleared the ridge as well as it did. A little further north, very great damage was done. A last stop on this good day was at Little Orme where the following plants were seen, *Brassica oleracea*, *Minuartia verna*, *Geranium lucidum*, *Silene nutans*, *Helianthemum canum*, *Sedum forsterianum*, *Cotoneaster microphyllus* in great quantity, *Potentilla tabernaemontani*, *Marrubium vulgare*, *Veronica spicata* subsp. *hybrida*, and *Scilla verna*.

The Society's grateful thanks are due to Prof. Richards for his leadership and interest, and to his enthusiastic helpers, Messrs Price Evans, Evan Roberts and Inigo Jones.

JUNE 27th to JULY 4th, 1953. FORRES

Leader: Miss M. McCALLUM WEBSTER

The object of this Meeting was to attempt to confirm some of the old records in the *Flora of Moray* (1935) by James Burgess, and to add new ones. Lists of plants for which records were desired were handed to the forty-two members and guests attending, and except for the visit to Cairngorm (v.c. 94 and 96), the week was spent in Elgin (v.c. 95).

Most of the party arrived on the morning of Saturday, June 27th, and in the afternoon Greshop Wood (about a mile west of Forres) and the adjacent stretch of the river Findhorn were visited. Mrs. Grant-Peterkin most kindly invited the party to tea at Greshop House. In the evening an informal meeting was held at the Cluny Hill Hotel.

On Sunday, June 28th, Darnaway Woods (the property of the Earl of Moray) were studied. Here, in a young fir plantation, *Trientalis europaea* and *Pyrola minor* were seen; on the steep, wooded west-bank of the river Findhorn, *Trollius europaeus*, *Stellaria nemorum* and *Geum* × *intermedium* were found, and on a damp slope nearby, Dr. Melderis collected *Festuca rubra* var. *planifolia*. After lunch, the opposite bank of the river was visited, near the long-disused Cothall Limestone quarry. This is in old mixed deciduous woodland, mainly ash, regenerating naturally. Here *Monotropa hypopitys* (one of the rarest plants in Moray) was rediscovered in its old station, with abundant *Listera ovata*, which is also uncommon in v.c. 95. In the pine wood around Blairs Loch, about a mile distant, an abundance of *Goodyera repens* was seen.

Monday, June 29th, was spent in the "Culbin State Forest", formerly the Culbin Sands, a tract some eight miles long by three miles wide, along the coast of the Moray Firth between Nairn and Findhorn, now almost completely planted with conifers. Among the dunes are depressions known as "winter lochs", which are relics of the course of the river Findhorn before 1694, when the great sandstorm blocked the mouth and altered the course of the river to its present position further east. On the way to Buckie Loch, a stop was made and in a very small area we saw *Moneses uniflora*, *Orthilia secunda* (*Pyrola secunda*), *Pyrola minor*, *Corallorhiza trifida*, *Goodyera repens* and *Listera cordata*. Further into the Forest, we were met by Mr. Milne, the Head Forester, and were shown the "thatch" of branches in which the young trees are planted. The Buckie Loch is to remain unplanted. It was completely dry, a wide flat area with *Corallorhiza trifida* in plenty in the grass at the eastern end, and fine *Botrychium lunaria* and *Ophioglossum vulgatum*. Where water had most recently stood, *Littorella uniflora* formed a turf. Working westward, we reached the coastal dunes where *Juncus balticus* and *Poa subcaerulea* were abundant, with *Radiola linoides*, *Hypochoeris glabra*, *Ligusticum scoticum* and *Pyrola media* (new in this area). On the return journey we were delighted by the kind invitation of the Hon. Mrs. Murray to take tea at Moy House, and visit the gardens, where Miss Gibbons found an odd association of *Sedum album* and *Goodyera repens* growing on a potting shed roof.

Tuesday, June 30th, was spent near the village of Findhorn, the morning on the estuary salt-marsh and the afternoon on the seaward dunes where *Thalictrum minus* subsp. *arenarium*, *Astragalus danicus*, *Vicia lathyroides* and *Rumex longifolius* were seen. Towards 4 o'clock the scattered groups gathered at Quay Cottage, where we were invited to a welcome cup of tea by Mrs. McCallum Webster. In the evening we were shown the coloured film 'The Culbin Story', kindly lent by the Forestry Commission.

On Wednesday, July 1st, the party left Forres at 8.30 a.m. for Glenmore Lodge where we were joined by members of the Moray Mountaineering Club who kindly volunteered to help the leader should the mountain be misty. Actually the sky was cloudless and the sun shone brightly all day. One party made for the summit of Cairngorm (4084 ft.) and the other set off for the Coire an Lochain, passing *Chamaepericlymenum suecicum*, *Tofieldia pusilla*, *Rubus chamaemorus*, *Saxisura alpina*, etc. The lochan was reached about 1 p.m. and we were soon upon a wet grassy slope with *Cerastium cerastoides*, *Saxifraga stellaris* and *Luzula arcuata*. Above were patches of snow, and towering over us the vertical granite cliff. *Cerastium arcticum* was found growing in crevices and *Saxifraga rivularis*, in beautiful flower, was abundant where water trickled over the rock. *Veronica alpina*, *Empetrum hermaphroditum* and the viviparous form of *Deschampsia cespitosa* were seen, but the best find was *Poa flexuosa*. The other party, led by Mr. George Mackenzie of Forres, reached the summit plateau and found *Cardaminopsis petraea*, *Loiseleuria procumbens* and *Juncus trifidus*. After a late dinner at Grantown-on-Spey, the party visited a nearby pinewood to see *Linnaea borealis* and *Pyrola media*.

The morning of July 2nd was spent by the lower reaches of the Muckle Burn and on flat sandy ground near the Binsness entrance to Culbin Forest where *Blysmus rufus* and *Juncus balticus* were seen. After lunch, several of the "winter lochs" were explored. One was full of *Drosera rotundifolia* and *Lycopodium inundatum*, while in another were quantities of fine *Carex serotina* with *Littorella uniflora*, *Eleocharis multicaulis*, *E. quinqueflora* (*E. pauciflora*) and *Deschampsia setacea*; in a third was *Orthilia secunda*. *Hottonia palustris* was seen in its only known station in Moray. Mrs. Murray again entertained us to tea at Moy House, after which we walked down the Muckle Burn to the Findhorn River, where *Heracleum mantegazzianum* formed a thicket along the bank.

On Friday, July 3rd, the coach set off for Garmouth near the eastern extremity of the county. Near Elgin we noticed the great damage done in the woods by the January gales. At Lossiemouth a short stop was made to see *Corynephorus canescens*, first recorded here over fifty years ago as a casual and now well established. At Garmouth the party divided; some walked along the shore in a vain search for *Carex maritima*, while others made for the old bed of the river Spey, called "The Leen", now marshy meadows interspersed with *Phragmites* swamp. Between "The Leen" and the sea, *Jasione montana* was seen on the

shingle bank; its only known station in the north-east of Scotland. After lunch the Spey shingles were visited. Here the flora included alpine species brought down by the floods (*Cardaminopsis petraea* and *Alchemilla alpina* were seen), and escaped garden plants. *Mimulus guttatus*, *Impatiens glandulifera*, *I. parviflora*, *Silene maritima* and *Galium boreale* were common. That evening the final meeting took place at the Cluny Hill Hotel, when Mr. N. D. Simpson thanked the leader and all who had helped to make the week so enjoyable. The weather had been fine and warm throughout.

In the list that follows plants marked * are additions to the *Flora of Moray* (1935). Alien species are indicated by †.

(B.M.) indicates a specimen in Herb. Mus. Brit., det. by Dr. A. Melderis.
(M.McC.W.) indicates a specimen in the herbarium of Miss M. McC.

Webster.

(N.D.S.) indicates a specimen in the herbarium of Mr. N. D. Simpson.
(U.K.D.) indicates a specimen in the herbarium of Miss U. K. Duncan.

CULBIN FOREST

RANUNCULUS FLAMMULA subsp. SCOTICUS (E. S. Marshall) Clapham. Buckie Loch (N.D.S.).

PARNASSIA PALUSTRIS L. Near Buckie Loch.

CENTAURIUM LITTORALE (Turner) Gilms. Buckie Loch (B.M.), and near Binsness.

EUPHRASIA BREVIPILO Burnat & Grenli. Buckie Loch (B.M. and M.Mc.W., det. E. F. WARBURG).

E. OCCIDENTALIS Wettst. Near Binsness (M.Mc.W., "not typical", det. E. F. WARBURG).

*RHINANTHUS STENOPHYLLUS (Schur) Druce. Buckie Loch (B.M.).

*R. SPADICEUS Wilmott. Buckie Loch (U.K.D., det. E. F. WARBURG).

ORCHIS INCARNATA L. Buckie Loch.

*O. PRAETERMISSA Druce. Buckie Loch (N.D.S.).

O. MACULATA L. Binsness.

PLATANATHERA BIFOLIA (L.) Rich. Buckie Loch (B.M.).

ELEOCHARIS MULTICAULIS (Sm.) Sm. Binsness (B.M.).

E. QUINQUEFLORUS (F. X. Hartm.) Schwarz. (*E. pauciflora* (Lightf.) Link., Binsness (B.M.).

CAREX SEROTINA Mérat. Binsness (B.M.).

*C. SCANDINAVICA E. W. Davies. Winter Lochs, Binsness (M.Mc.W., det. E. W. DAVIES).

C. DIANDRA Schrank. Buckie Loch.

DESCHAMPSIA SETACEA (Huds.) Hack. Binsness (B.M.).

AGROSTIS STOLONIFERA L. subsp. STOLONIFERA Binsness (B.M.).

A. TENUIS Sibth. Binsness (B.M.).

POA SUBCAERULEA Sm. Binsness (B.M.).

FESTUCA ARUNDINACEA Schreb. Binsness (B.M.).

F. RUBRA var. ARENARIA (Osb.) Koch. Buckie Loch (B.M.).

F. RUBRA f. LITORALIS Hack. Buckie Loch (B.M.).

AGROPYRON JUNCIFORME A. & D. Löve. Buckie Loch (B.M.).

PLANTS RECORDED IN OTHER PARTS OF MORAY

*RANUNCULUS AQUATILIS subsp. PELTATUS (Schrank) Syme. "The Leen", Garmouth (B.M. and M.Mc.W.).

*RORIPPA MICROPHYLLA (Boenn.) Hylander. The common form in v.c. 95.

SISYMBRIUM OFFICINALE var. LEIOCARPUM DC. Findhorn, rubbish-heap (B.M. and U.K.D.).

†CAMELINA SATIVA subsp. PILOSA (DC.) Zinger. Casual at Moy House (B.M.).

- †*CARDARIA DRABA* (L.) Desv. Findhorn; Spey shingle and roadside near Garmouth.
- POLYGALA OXYPTERA* Reichb. Garmouth golf course, flowers white and crimson (B.M.); Findhorn (M.Mc.W.).
- SAGINA SUBULATA* (Sw.) C. Presl. Findhorn Shingle, near Greshop (B.M.).
- **SPERGULA SATIVA* Boenn. Findhorn (N.D.S.).
- **HYPERICUM MACULATUM* Crantz (*H. dubium* Leers). Spey shingle (N.D.S.).
- **GERANIUM COLUMBINUM* L. Near Moy House (M.Mc.W.).
- *†*IMPATIENS PARVIFLORA* DC. Spey shingle.
- *†*I. GLANDULIFERA* Royle. Spey shingle.
- **APHANES MICROCARPA* (Boiss. & Reut.) Rothm. Near Moy House (B.M. and N.D.S.).
- **ALCHEMILLA XANTHOCHLORA* Rothm. Spey shingle.
- A. GLABRA* Neygenf. Darnaway (B.M.); Spey shingle.
- *†*COTONEASTER SIMONSHI* Baker. Spey shingle, J. SOUSTIER.
- CHRYSOSPLENIUM OPPOSITIFOLIUM* L. Darnaway.
- *†*EPILOBIUM PEDUNCULARE* A. Cunn. Findhorn shingle, near Greshop (B.M.); Cothall (M.Mc.W.).
- CIRCAEA INTERMEDIA* Ehrh. Darnaway (M.Mc.W.); Spey shingle.
- *†*HERACLEUM MANTEGAZZIANUM* Somm. & Levier. Banks of Findhorn river near Greshop; Darnaway; Moy; Spey shingle (B.M.).
- *†*VALERIANELLA ERIOCARPA* Desv. Garden of Greshop House (B.M. and M.Mc.W.).
- *†*ANTHEMIS TINCTORIA* L. Spey shingle (M.Mc.W.).
- *†*CREPIS VESICARIA* subsp. *TARAXACIFOLIA* (Thuill.) Thell. Findhorn shingle, near Greshop (B.M.).
- HYPOCHOERIS GLABRA* L. Lossiemouth (B.M.).
- MYCELIS MURALIS* (L.) Reichb. Darnaway; Moy House.
- MONOTROPA HYPOPITIS* L. agg. Cothall quarry.
- *†*SYMPHYTUM PEREGRINUM* Ledeb. Spey shingle (N.D.S.).
- MYOSOTIS DISCOLOR* var. *DUBIA* (Arrond.) Wade. "The Leen" (N.D.S.).
- LITHOSPERMUM OFFICINALE* L. Cothall.
- *†*LINARIA PURPUREA* (L.) Mill. Spey shingle (N.D.S.).
- EUPHRASIA BREVIPLA* Burnat & Gremli. Darnaway (B.M.); near Moy House; Spey shingle.
- E. OCCIDENTALIS* Wettst. Spey shingle (M.Mc.W., det. E. F. WARBURG).
- E. OCCIDENTALIS* var. *CALVESCENS* Pugsl. Near Moy House (M.Mc.W., det. E. F. WARBURG).
- **E. FOULAENSIS* Towns. ex Wettst. Findhorn (U.K.D., det. E. F. WARBURG).
- E. CONFUSA* forma *ALBIDA* Pugsl. Near Moy House (M.Mc.W., det. E. F. WARBURG).
- *†*MENTHA* × *NILIACA* var. *SAPIDA* (Tausch) Briq. Findhorn, rubbish-tip; near Moy House (B.M., det. R. A. GRAHAM).
- **M.* × *VERTICILLATA* var. *PALUDOSA* (Sole) Druce. Near Moy (M.Mc.W., det. R. A. GRAHAM).
- **THYMUS DRUCEI* Rohm. Greshop Wood (B.M.); Darnaway (U.K.D.).
- PLANTAGO MEDIA* L. Lawn at Moy House.
- P. LANCEOLATA* var. *ANTHOVIRIDIS* W. Wats. Findhorn (B.M. and N.D.S.).
- *†*CHENOPODIUM FIGIFOLIUM* Sm. Arable, Darnaway; Moy House Gardens (B.M. and U.K.D.).
- **RUMEX TENUIFOLIUS* (Wallr.) Löve. Findhorn shingle near Greshop (U.K.D., det. J. E. LOUSLEY).
- SALIX PHYLICIFOLIA* L. Darnaway (B.M.).
- **ORCHIS PURPURELLA* T. & T. A. Stephenson. Darnaway; "The Leen" (B.M.).
- **O. FUCHSII* Druce. "The Leen" (N.D.S.).
- **ZOSTERA NANA* Roth. Findhorn estuary, R. D. GRAHAM.
- ELBOCHARIS UNIGLUMIS* (Link) Schultes. Garmouth golf course (B.M.).
- SCHOENUS NIGRICANS* L. Garmouth (B.M.).
- CAREX LAEVIGATA* Sm. Greshop Wood.
- **PHLEUM NODOSUM* L. Garmouth (B.M.).

- *FESTUCA ARUNDINACEA × GIGANTEA. Greshop Wood, B. M. C. MORGAN and U. K. DUNCAN (B.M.).
 F. RUBRA var. GLAUDESCENS (Heg. & Heer) Nym. "The Leen" (B.M.); Findhorn (N.D.S.).
 F. RUBRA var. ARENARIA (Osb.) Koch. Findhorn (B.M.).
 F. RUBRA var. PLANIFOLIA Hack. Darnaway (B.M.).
 F. RUBRA forma LITORALIS Hack. Spey Shingle (B.M.).
 F. TENUIFOLIA Sibth. Darnaway (B.M.); Findhorn (N.D.S.).
 F. VIVIPARA (L.) Sm. Findhorn shingle, near Greshop; Darnaway (B.M.).
 VULPIA BROMOIDES (L.) S. F. Gray. Near Moy House; Spey shingle (B.M.).
 *BROMUS LEPIDUS Holmb. Arable at Cothall; near Forres station (B.M.); Findhorn, det. A. MELDERIS.

JULY 12th, 1953. SOUTH LANCS. LOCAL FIELD MEETING

Thirteen South Lincs. members met at Ainsdale, near Southport on July 12th, 1953, for what we hope will be the first of a series of local field meetings in the vice-county.

Miss V. Gordon led the party over the dunes and dune-slacks, concentrating mainly on the rich flora of the slacks. Among the species seen were *Parnassia palustris* var. *condensata*, *Centaureum erythraea* and *C. littorale*, *Parentucellia viscosa*, *Epipactis palustris* and *E. dunensis*, *Scirpus americanus*, *Botrychium lunaria* and *Ophioglossum vulgatum*. After tea those members who were able to remain saw *Antennaria dioica*, recently found in the area by Miss Gordon, growing at the side of a drainage channel on fixed dune sand colonized by *Rubus caesius*. The meeting was concluded by a visit to a damp thicket to see *Osmunda regalis* and the members then dispersed after thanking Miss Gordon for her leadership of an extremely pleasant excursion.

E. M. ROSSER.

JULY 24th to 26th, 1953. MALDON, ESSEX

Leaders: Mr. B. T. WARD and Mr. S. T. JERMYN

On Friday evening 27 members and friends assembled at Headquarters, The Blue Boar Hotel, for the usual briefing, and then went for a short walk along the towpath of the River Blackwater to Beeleigh Weir and back. Many interesting riverside plants were seen including *Thalictrum flavum*, *Brassica nigra* and *Acorus calamus*. We also found *Ranunculus sardous*, *Sison amomum* and *Trifolium fragiferum* in very great quantity. The alien *Thlaspi alliaceum* has been known at the Weir for some years, and it was just possible to identify some withered remains. Members will remember the excursion to Rippers Cross in April 1952 to see this plant in its original 1923 site. In Essex it was associated with *Lepidium ruderale* and *Cardaria draba*. Later in the evening *Hyoscyamus niger*, *Phalaris canariensis* and *Euphorbia lathyris* were seen on Maldon rubbish dump.

On Saturday the party left by coach for the Blackwater Estuary at Stansgate Abbey. In February 1953 the sea wall broke all along this part of the coast, and here and there the effect of salt water on former

arable land was very evident. In many ditches behind shingle banks maritime plants, especially grasses, had survived the effect of sea water but had assumed extraordinary and monstrous forms of growth while they were submerged. The odd looking forms of *Parapholis strigosa* were especially remarkable. Other plants seen here were *Suaeda fruticosa*, *Carum segetum*, *Chenopodium ficifolium*, *Carduus tenuiflorus*, *Senecio squalidus*, and *Bupleurum tenuissimum*. Interesting grasses included *Agropyron pungens*, *Parapholis strigosa*, *Puccinellia fasciculata*, *P. distans* and *Hordeum marinum*.

After lunch the party continued to Bradwell juxta Mare, and had the opportunity of examining the very famous old chapel of St. Peter by the Wall. The shore here is dominated by *Spartina townsendii*, which appears to be steadily smothering other plants. *Limonium vulgare* and *L. humile* with *Salicornia perennis* appeared to be able to exist with *Spartina townsendii* quite well, but many other maritime species such as *Artemisia maritima*, *Suaeda maritima* and *Halimione portulacoides* had been banished to the extreme edge of the *Spartina* area. It was interesting to see large quantities of *Lathyrus nissolia* in seed. This was a lovely warm and windless day, and ideal for sea coast botany.

Sunday morning was cooler and showery, and the party was fortunate in having woodland to explore instead of open country. Woodham Walter Common and Blake's Wood were examined and a new vice-county record was made. This was *Rubus moylei* Barton and Riddelsdell (det. W. Watson) from Blake's Wood. Other plants observed during the day were *Aphanes arvensis* and *A. microcarpa*, *Agrostis tenuis*, *Symphytum peregrinum*, *Convallaria majalis*, *Carpinus betulus*, *Quercus petraea*, *Thelypteris palustris*, *Epilobium lanceolatum*, *E. parviflorum* and *F. adenocaulon*. Both *Lactuca serriola* and *L. virosa* were seen in the lane leading to Woodham Walter Common.

This was an interesting week-end in country new to many members present, and the delightful little town of Maldon provided an ideal headquarters. The Society's thanks are due to Mr. Ward and Mr. Jermyn for organising the excursion. Thanks are also due to Dr. Melderis for identifying the various grasses.

O. BUCKLE.

AUGUST 28th to 30th, 1953. PULBOROUGH

Leader: Mr. O. BUCKLE

This week-end was planned to show typical south coast salt marsh and the peat brooks at Amberley and North Stoke. In West Sussex salt marsh is being reclaimed very rapidly, and there is now little left in the vice-county.

Thirty-six members and friends attended, and after the usual meeting on Friday evening at which details of the excursions were given, together with a few general remarks on the botany, geology and local history of the district, the party met on Saturday morning in the rain to go by coach to West Wittering in the Selsey peninsula. On arrival

there, the weather became very much worse and the party set off across the salt-marsh to the dune fringe in a heavy downpour. It was too wet to consider a detailed examination of the flora of the marsh, but a trudge round the sandy edge revealed many interesting plants including *Althaea officinalis*, *Frankenia laevis*, *Bupleurum tenuissimum*, *Inula crithmoides*, *Oenothera ammophila*, *Euphorbia paralias*, *E. portlandica* (first seen in West Sussex in 1951), *Limonium humile*, *Salicornia perennis*, *S. prostrata*, *S. appressa*, *S. stricta*, *S. disarticulata* and *Elymus arenarius*. In addition, some interesting forms of *Spartina townsendii* were seen and Dr. Melderis has been good enough to make some observations on them.*

Lunch was taken at Wittering and the party continued by coach to Pagham Harbour on the east side of Selsey. Here, an examination of the steady growth of *Spartina townsendii* had been planned. The water-way is now almost silted up. The leader had also hoped to make a thorough search for *Spartina maritima* which has not been seen there for some time. He had taken the precaution of walking over the area at high tide, but unfortunately had not exercised sufficient forethought to make allowance for the effect of the full moon, and the selected area was under water. Consequently the afternoon was rather disappointing although the following plants were seen, *Chenopodium rubrum* var. *pseudo-botryodes*, *Stachys arvensis* and *Carex extensa*.

On Sunday morning in heavy rain the party left by coach for Amberley Wild Brooks. The rain ceased during the morning and these famous Sussex brooks were seen at their best. Many interesting plants were seen including *Thelypteris palustris*, *Stellaria palustris*, *Impatiens capensis* (always a cleistogamous form here), *Elodea canadensis* in full bloom, *Anthemis nobilis*, *Mentha* × *verticillata*, *Leersia oryzoides* and *Sium latifolium*.

After lunch at Amberley, a short halt was made at Houghton Bridge to see *Wolffia arrhiza*, *Scirpus tabernaemontani* × *triqueter* and *Carex acuta*. The party then proceeded to North Stoke where another range of peat brooks was shown. Here nine pondweeds were seen:—*Potamogeton acutifolius*, *P. obtusifolius*, *P. lucens*, *P. perfoliatus*, *P. trichoides*, *P. natans*, *P. pusillus*, *P. crispus* and *Groenlandia densa* (*Potamogeton densus*). In addition there were seen in the brooks other interesting plants including *Myriophyllum verticillatum*, *M. alterniflorum*, *Utricularia neglecta* and *triglochis palustris*. All these plants are comparatively scarce in West Sussex. Two other splendid finds were *Chara delicatula* and *Tolypella prolifera*, both named by G. O. Allen.

This completed the work of the week-end and the party returned by coach to Pulborough.

Dr. Young thanked the leader who replied briefly regretting that rain had to some extent restricted the programme.

O. BUCKLE.

*See **Plant Notes**.—Ed.

SEPTEMBER 26th, 1953. PETERBOROUGH

Leaders: Mr. J. E. DANDY and Dr. G. TAYLOR

This was primarily a *Potamogeton* excursion, and a large number of members gathered at Peterborough. The morning was spent at the London Brick Company's pits at Fletton (v.c. 31). Almost at once the rare *P. × cooperi* (*P. crispus* × *perfoliatus*), a new record for Hunts., was discovered. Both parents were subsequently seen although *P. crispus* was in small quantity. Another interesting find here was *P. coloratus*. Other Pondweeds seen in the various pits examined were *P. pectinatus*, *P. natans*, *P. lucens* and *P. pusillus*. *Artemisia absinthium* was abundant in the brick-yards.

After lunch the party went to a dyke near Ramsey where *Potamogeton* × *sparganifolius* (*P. gramineus* × *natans*) was seen with both parents. It was interesting to see *P. gramineus* in such good quantity.

On the walk to the dyke some splendid *Galeopsis speciosa* was seen in a field of carrots. *Sonchus palustris* grew in quantity along a ditch at the edge of Wood Walton Fen, and here also was seen *Galium* × *ochroleucum* (*G. mollugo* × *verum*).

The Society's thanks are due to the leaders for their enthusiastic leadership, and for the patience they displayed in helping members in the identification of the various Pondweeds.

O. BUCKLE.