

sub excursions, notes bearing on the stratigraphy and character of the rock formations were made and a number of interesting photographs prepared which show the nature of the strata at many points where they had not previously been observed. Some of these photographs are used in illustrating points of interest in the geology of Ottawa and vicinity in Dr. R. W. Ells' Report on the Geology of the Ottawa District. The report mentions many interesting features in connection with the geology of this district, and gives a list of fossils from the Utica formation, also a list of fossil sponges from geological formations about Ottawa, and a list of Pleistocene shells from the sand-pit about two miles above Hog's Back on the Rideau River. Reference is made to the Geological Map of Ottawa and Vicinity just issued by the Geological Survey Department, and the report points out how useful such a map will be to working naturalists.

The Botanical Section reports that as usual the Club's excursions were well attended by those interested in Botany. At all of these excursions one or more of the botanical leaders was present and assisted in the determination of the different species collected.

Several new species have been added to the local list during the year. These include four violets new to science, of which descriptions have appeared in THE OTTAWA NATURALIST. It is proposed to complete the publication of Dr. Fletcher's *Flora Ottawaensis* this spring.

In the report of the Zoological Branch it is pointed out that "it is difficult to present new matter annually in the field of local zoology, and that it is hardly to be expected that many additions to the vertebrate fauna excepting in the lower orders, such as fishes, reptiles, etc., can be made. However, some interesting facts have been placed on record." Among these may be mentioned Mr. Halkett's study of a Dipnoid fish (*Protopterus annectens*), a full account of which will be found on page 184 of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST. Reference is also made to specimens of the bow-fin and gar-pike from the Bay of Quinte, which were preserved in formaline, thus preventing the disappearance of the natural colours of the fish. A quantity of Pacific herring was obtained for the purpose of investigating a remarkable case of mortality in these fish near Nanaimo in January last. It is stated