

REPORT OF THE ZOOLOGICAL BRANCH, 1904.

The leaders in Zoology have again to report that, while much useful work in this branch of biological science has been done by various members of the Club, there is little of such novelty or importance to record as to justify detailed notice in this annual report. The fact that Ornithology, Entomology and Conchology are dealt with in separate reports, precluding reference to them in the Zoological report, seriously confines the field, so far as important seasonal observations go, as the mammals, fishes, etc., offer themselves less readily to continuous study by naturalists resident in a city. Still the field is a most inviting and promising one, and, as pointed out in previous reports, there are many lines of work which are open to those desirous of adding to our stock of zoological knowledge.

The Hudson's Bay expedition which returned last fall, after fifteen months' exploration in the Arctic waters of Canada, made some interesting contributions to Dominion zoology.

In the Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries just issued the following resumé is given of the preliminary account furnished by Mr. Andrew Halkett, naturalist on board the SS. "Neptune."

Mammals.—The mammals observed were limited to four orders, the Carnivora, the Rodentia, the Ruminantia, and the Cetacea; and embrace the Atlantic Walrus (*Odobanus rosmarus*), the Ringed Seal (*Pagomys fœtidus*), the Harp Seal (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*), the Hooded Seal (*Crystophora cristata*), the Polar Bear (*Thalartos maritimus*), the Barren-ground Wolf (*Canis albus*), the Esquimo Dog (*Canis familiaris borealis*), the Arctic Fox, (*Vulpes lagopus*), the Polar Hare (*Lepus arcticus*), certain small rodents, such as Marmots and Lemmings, the Musk Ox (*Ovibos moschatus*), the Barren-ground Caribou (*Rangifer arcticus*), the Right Whale (*Balaena mysticetus*), and the Beluga or White Whale (*Delphinapterus catadon*).

Specimens of the skins of several of the mammals, suitable for mounting, were preserved, with a series of skulls, bones, teeth, etc.