

ON NATURE STUDY.

1. "The Importance of Nature Study with some suggestions as to methods," J. F. Power, M.A.

In addition to the above-named papers, this volume contains reports of excursions, meetings of the Branches, and meetings of the Council. It also includes an unusually large number of short notes contributed from collectors and observers in different parts of Canada.

REPORTS OF BRANCHES.

The Branches again report an active year. No better evidence could be furnished to show the all-round activity manifested by the Club than the fact that every Branch has contributed materially during the year either to the pages of *The Ottawa Naturalist* or to the lecture programme.

THE GEOLOGICAL BRANCH.

The Geological Branch reports that collections of fossils have been made during the year from the vicinity of Ottawa, and that several new species have been described from one of these made by Mr. Walter Billings. One or more of the leaders have attended the field excursions and have given what assistance they could in the study of the rock in the localities visited. The leaders point out the grand opportunities for live students who are willing to take up this subject systematically, both in collecting fossils and studying out the boundaries and relations of the different formations which outcrop within easy reach of the city.

THE BOTANICAL BRANCH.

Meetings have been held at the homes of various members of the Branch throughout the winter. It is the custom of the host of the evening to present a paper, after which there is a discussion of it by the members present. The following subjects discussed during the past winter will give some idea of the work done by this department.

"Methods of Forestry," at residence of Mr. E. R. Cameron; "Meanings of Some Common Plant Names," by Mr. A. E. Attwood; "Mendel's Law," by Mr. J. M. Macoun; "The Habitat of Wild Plants," by Prof. Macoun; "Some Inter-relations of Soils and Plants," and "Recent Work on the Longevity of Seeds," by Mr. G. H. Clark; "The Origin of our Cultivated Fruits" by Mr. R. B. Whyte.

Prof. John Macoun is at present collaborating a *Flora Ottawaensis*. This will include the names of all species that have