

TO OUR OTTAWA MEMBERS.

Half the Club's year has passed—half is before us. Each season should have for our members its own particular work and interests. Apart from the publication of *THE OTTAWA NATURALIST*, the two chief features of our organized life are the summer excursions and the winter lecture course. We all regret extremely that owing to untoward circumstances—principally unfavourable weather—our general excursions were not perhaps as successful as in past years. The sub-excursions, at the opening of the season, were well attended and the leaders report good collections being made.

The Soirée Committee appeal to the members to make the remainder of our year as successful as possible. Everyone can help towards this end by attendance at the lectures and by an intelligent interest in the subjects discussed.

The Council has made a departure this year—a most important one, one which should commend itself to all. As will be seen by the programme, we have secured for three nights of the course several new lecturers, some from outside the city—two from Montreal and one from London, Ontario. These lecturers are well known men—specialists upon the subjects they will discuss, and we feel there is a great treat in store for us.

As Chairman of the Lecture Committee, may I invite, or if necessary, urge, regular attendance throughout the course, which will be found one of particular interest. But if regular attendance is impossible, every member should strive to be present on the evenings when our visiting lecturers are with us. Come and bring your friends. Let us have the hall full, and thus show our appreciation of their kindness.

One word further. We should very much like to see fifty new names added to the membership roll this winter. To meet the increased expenditure in connection with the lecture course the money is needed, but altogether apart from that aspect, we want the members. If we all make some little effort, this increase is quite feasible. Every year, if the Club is vigorous and doing its work, should see an accession of members, but for several years past the proposals of new names for membership have not been as numerous as they might have been.

Finally, keep your programme where you can at all times refer to it, and let our Tuesday evenings have the first claim among your engagements.

F. T. SHUTT.