

Mr. Wm. Smeaton, B.A., Ottawa.

Mr. A. D. Watson, Ottawa.

Miss A. J. Wilson, Ottawa.

Mr. A. Effingham Fleck, Vancouver, B.C.

The President suggested the formation of branches or small affiliated clubs in places near Ottawa such as Carp and Stittsville. These branches would carry on local field work and could be visited each year by the Club at some time when a joint field day could be held. The Council approved of the plan and appointed Mr. J. W. Gibson to make preliminary arrangements for the organization of such a branch at Carp.

T. E. C.

NOTES.

DIOSCOREA VILLOSA.—On page 184, Vol. XXII. of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, Mr. W. A. Dent describes a delightful retreat for the nature lover where Lake Huron has gradually narrowed into the St. Clair River.

Referring to the rarity of the slender twiner found there popularly known as the Wild Yam (*Dioscorea villosa*) he invites reports of its distribution. It is not rare in wooded flats along the Thames River westward from London. There is a fine patch of it in a thicket by the bank of the River within the city limits.

J. DEARNESS, London, Ont.

SNAKE BEHAVIOR.—The observation which follows seems worthy of presentation, if not as an unusual occurrence, yet as one which may be new to many. My own opinion is that it might be less unusual than it probably is, if the reception almost invariably accorded to members of the snake fraternity did not render it next to impossible.

One morning last April, while strolling among the ruins of an old building, I came upon a large garter snake, which was making strenuous efforts to get out of my way. As soon as I noticed it I stopped short, only a couple of feet away, and was rather surprised to see it do the same. Evidently it was aiming to avoid detection until I should pass on. With the object of seeing what would follow, I waited motionless, and for a whole minute or more nothing took place. Finally it began to venture on escape, and in the most cautious way drew itself forward a trifle, so slight as almost to escape notice. After another wait a slightly bolder hitch forward was made. This procedure was repeated many times with increasing confidence and more substantial progress each time, until it had got about four feet away from me, when it glided quietly off among the weeds.