

Your Council, believing that this series of articles is one of the most important contributions made to the science of Nature Study, regrets to report that Dr. Fletcher finds himself compelled to cease editing this department of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST. The Club has on hand 250 copies of each of the forty-two articles printed, and the publishing committee has under consideration the question of binding these in book form.

REPORTS OF BRANCHES.

These reports, showing the work done throughout the year by the various branches, are being presented at this meeting, and will be published in THE OTTAWA NATURALIST at an early date. Your Council has instituted a Department of Meteorology under the leadership of Dr. Otto Klotz. One of the leaders of this department, Mr. Campbell, gave a Demonstration on the Physics of the Atmosphere before a largely attended meeting in the Ottawa Collegiate Institute.

ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH.

The members of the Entomological Branch of the Club have continued their good work in the collection and study of the insects of the Ottawa District. The leaders report that, although the season was not a particularly good one for insects, still many interesting species were taken, and considerable progress made in adding to the lists of the various orders. Notable features of the year were a remarkable outbreak of plant lice on almost all cultivated and wild plants up till midsummer, followed by the appearance of hordes of lady-bird beetles, which very soon destroyed the larger number of the plant lice. It was noticed that very many of these predaceous friends were similarly destroyed by parasites. The White Cedars throughout the district were very much injured by the larvae of two minute moths, *Argyresthia thuiella*, and in far smaller numbers, *Recurvaria thuiella*. An interesting occurrence was of a Nitidulid beetle, the larvae of which were very destructive to the seeds of the Silver Maple. The entomologists announce the appearance in the Ottawa district of an undesirable visitor in the shape of the Asparagus Beetle, which has done so much harm in western Ontario. An insect which last season appeared in vast numbers was the Greenhouse White-fly (*Aleyrodes vaporariorum*), which was abundant on many herbaceous plants and ornamental shrubs in gardens.

ORNITHOLOGICAL BRANCH.

Since the last annual report the Ornithological Section has held meetings at more or less regular intervals. More than