

include our toads, frogs and tree frogs; then the salamanders were briefly discussed. Of our snakes and turtles much remained to be learned, and special attention should be given to their study and collection. Passing on to the Mammals, the speaker gave a very interesting comparison of the marsupials, or pouched mammals, now chiefly found in Australasia, with the placental forms which are elsewhere found. The different groups, such as the rodents, ungulates and carnivores were outlined, and finally reference was made to man and the evidences of his existence in bygone days.

In the discussion which followed, further interesting points were brought forward by the several speakers and by Prof. Macoun's reply to them, especially in regard to the failure of the Normal and other public schools to teach Zoology, which was brought forward by Mr. J. Stewart. Mr. Harrington exhibited a fine specimen of *Hesperomys leucopus*, the white-footed mouse, which he had trapped the previous night in his shed. Attention was called to the great beauty of this native field mouse and a few remarks were made on its habits. The President, Mr. R. B. Whyte, urged the collection and study of our small mammals, of which there are many species but little known to the members. Mr. Ami made some remarks on the abundance of the lower forms of animal life and the interest attaching to their study.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SOIRÉES.—As the Soirée fixed for the 16th February, had to be postponed because the Concert of the Philharmonic Society took place upon that date, two of the evening meetings still remain to be held, and will be as follows:—March 1st, A Paper by Mr. J. Ballantyne upon "Our Squirrels" and Reports of the Botanical and Entomological Branches; March 15th, A Paper by Mr. A. O. Wheeler entitled "Autumn on the Ottawa," and Reports of the Conchological and Ornithological Branches.

MONDAY AFTERNOON LECTURES.—February 29th, Mr. R. B. Whyte on Botany; March 5th, Prof. Macoun on Mosses; March 15th, on Classification of Plants.

ANNUAL MEETING.—March 20th, Third Tuesday in month—the Annual Meeting for Election of Officers will be held at 4.15 in the Museum of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society. A full attendance of the members is greatly to be desired in the interests of the Club.