

NOTES.

The daily papers reported that Vilhjalmur Stefansson, the Arctic explorer, was wintering with the gasoline schooner Polar Bear at Prince of Wales Strait, according to news brought by a Northwest Police expedition from Fort McPherson. Stefansson, who passed last summer exploring the new land discovered north of Prince Patrick Island, was hopeful that the ice would break up early the past spring and permit him to make the northeast passage and to sail up the St. Lawrence River to Montreal.

Eight new club members were secured in one of the Government buildings at Ottawa in two hours by a self-appointed committee of two of our members. Persons were found to be anxious to be elected to membership. Make up a list of your friends or take an attendance list of the employees in a department, ask each one if they wish to become a member, and send the names and addresses of those who do to the Secretary.

A number of rats which were stunted for various periods of time at the Connecticut Agricultural Exp. Station and Sheffield Scientific School, New Haven, Conn., showed that this retardation of growth tended to prolong their life beyond the average span; that is, physiologically age is not a function of time alone but also of growth. A rat three years old may be regarded as corresponding to a man ninety years old. Although none of the stunted rats began breeding until they had reached an age when normal rats are commonly believed to be approaching the menopause, they produced from three to six litters of young and successfully reared all but a few of them. Their young were apparently as vigorous as those born of younger mothers. Hence the menopause has been postponed long beyond the age at which it usually appears. In view of this, and the added fact that less than one-third of the stock rats reached an age of more than two years, whereas all of these stunted females lived longer, it appears as if the preliminary stunting period lengthened the total span of their life.

A third relief expedition will be sent to the Arctic this summer by the American Museum of Natural History to bring home the members of the Crocker Land expedition, which went north in 1913. The second relief ship, the Danmark, was reported in Melville Bay, 150