

The Buffalo Boy Scouts' Council has started a wild life club, the members of which are pledged to do a good turn for the wild creatures of field and forest. A bronze button will be given the boys on qualifying for membership and, as they progress, silver and gold buttons will be awarded. When the plan is perfected it will be offered to the National Council with the hope that it will be adopted by the entire membership of the Boy Scouts, which exceeds 200,000. Some of the boys are giving illustrated talks in the schools on the value of wild life and the best means of protecting it.

The startling statement by no less an authority than Dr. C. K. Clarke, Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital, that more than 12 per cent. of the patients admitted to the public wards of that institution have syphilis, is the feature of the eighth annual report of the Commission of Conservation just issued. These conditions, it is pointed out, are no doubt representative of those prevailing elsewhere in Canada where statistics are not yet available. The return of thousands of soldiers at the end of the war lends more than usual interest to this feature of the Commission's report. Other phases of the subject, including measures for controlling the menace, are discussed by Drs. J. J. Mackenzie, C. H. Hair, and Wm. Goldie, of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

An address on The Production and Preservation of Food Supplies, by Dr. P. H. Bryce, gives tables showing the relative values of different foods. Results of experiments by the Commission at Port Dover, Ont., in utilizing fish waste in the manufacture of stock meal, oils and fertilizer, are set forth, whilst Drs. H. J. Wheeler and Frank T. Shutt make interesting contributions on the use of commercial fertilizers. In addition, a readable account is given of the varied activities of the Commission, including town-planning, game preservation, water-powers, agriculture, mining and general publicity work.

The Comstock Printing Company of Ithaca, N.Y., recently published a most interesting volume of 438 pages entitled "The Life of Inland Waters." This book, the price of which is \$3.00, is an elementary text of fresh-water biology for American Students. The authors are James G. Needham and J. T. Lloyd. This book is divided into seven chapters: I. Introduction; II. The Nature of Aquatic Environment; III. Types of Aquatic Environment; IV. Aquatic Organisms; V. Adjustment to Conditions of Aquatic Life; VI. Aquatic Societies; VII. Inland Water Culture. There are 244 text figures.