

any appreciable harm we must conclude that they are either eating weed seeds or insects. We know that before the spring really opened that horned-larks partook daily of the weed seeds placed for them. This is doubtless why they became tame

and later nested nearby. We have also seen them repeatedly devour cutworms during the nesting season so that the evidence of their usefulness seems to be without question.

#### BRIEF REPORT OF THE OTTAWA FIELD-NATURALISTS' CLUB FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2, 1919.

At the March, 1919, annual meeting of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, the constitution was amended to make the club year coincide with the calendar year, and, therefore, each future volume of the club publication will cover one calendar year instead of parts of two as in the past. In spite of the fact that owing to this change in the constitution, the past year—the fortieth of the existence of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, covering a period of only nine months—was the most successful in the recent history of the society, which now has a membership of 644, or more than double that of 1917.

The club activities are directed toward the popularizing and the diffusing of knowledge of the natural sciences, and are carried on in three chief ways: a course of lectures, two series of field excursions, and the publication of *THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST*.

Owing to the short year the lecture programme was not begun prior to the annual meeting. A list of thirty-six lectures to be given by club members has been sent to local societies, clubs, churches and schools from which they may select and request desirable talks.

The eight field excursions were well patronized, the average attendance being 23. Scientific men attended the excursions to direct interest and answer questions.

*THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST*, the official organ of the club which has completed its thirty-third volume, is also now being used as a medium of publication by the four affiliated societies listed on the cover.

At a recent meeting the council was informed that Mr. R. B. White had bequeathed the club one hundred dollars per year, which will be allowed to accumulate along with other funds in trust to form the nucleus of a trust fund the interest of which will eventually be used to promote natural history research work in Canada.

The officers and committee for the year 1920 are as follows:

President, M. Y. Williams; Vice-Presidents, L. D. Burling, R. M. Anderson; Secretary, Clyde L. Patch; Treasurer, Miss E. B. Crampe; Editor, Arthur Gibson.

Additional members of Council: Hoyes Lloyd, W. T. Macoun, G. A. Miller, Miss M. E. Cowan, C. B. Hutchings, C. M. Sternberg, H. I. Smith, P. A. Taverner, E. Sapir, F. W. Waugh, E. M. Kindle, W. J. Wintemberg, R. E. DeLury, F. Johansen.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL.

*Publications*—Clyde L. Patch, A. Gibson, L. D. Burling, H. Lloyd, F. Johansen.

*Excursions*—F. W. Waugh, C. M. Sternberg, G. A. Miller, Miss M. E. Cowan, C. L. Patch, C. B. Hutchings, W. T. Macoun, H. Lloyd, F. Johansen.

*Lectures*—R. M. Anderson, P. A. Taverner, L. D. Burling, W. T. Macoun, G. A. Millar.

*Trust Funds*—W. T. Macoun, C. Gordon Hewitt, H. M. Ami.

*Auditors*—J. Ballantyne, E. C. Wight.

#### LEADERS AT EXCURSIONS.

*Archaeology*—Harlan I. Smith, F. W. Waugh, W. J. Wintemberg, Dr. C. M. Barbeau, Dr. E. Sapir.

*Botany*—G. A. Millar, W. T. Macoun, Mrs. A. F. Brown, Dr. M. O. Malte, J. R. Dymond, E. C. Wight, Miss M. E. Cowan.

*Entomology*—C. B. Hutchings, Arthur Gibson, J. M. Swaine, F. W. L. Sladen, Miss Crampe.

*Geology*—Dr. E. M. Kindle, Dr. M. Y. Williams, H. McGillivray, L. D. Burling, E. Poitevin, Dr. M. E. Wilson.

*Ornithology*—P. A. Taverner, C. L. Patch, Dr. M. Y. Williams, A. G. Kingston, Hoyes Lloyd.

*Zoology*—Dr. R. M. Anderson, A. Halkett, C. L. Patch, E. A. LeSueur, C. H. Young, C. E. Johnson.

*Photography*—W. S. Hutton.