

EDITORIAL.

Collecting in most of the branches of Natural History has now come to an end for the season. The naturalist, however, must never rest on his oars. There is much to do even now. The collections of the past season have to be sorted out and arranged, new discoveries or rare species must be put aside for description or for exhibition at the winter soirees. This, too, is a branch of our work which is much neglected by members. There is always time at the evening meetings for a short chat before or after the lectures, and if workers in different branches of natural history would each time bring a few of their remarkable captures for exhibition and discussion at the soirees it would add largely to the interest and would certainly cause these agreeable reunions to be better attended.

There are very few cities which equal Ottawa in the advantages which it offers for scientific study and relaxation. The Geological and Natural History Survey, with its grand museum and large staff of active naturalists, of course first demands mention. The museums of the Department of Fisheries, the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society and the Normal School, as well as the various private collections of our own members, render it unnecessary, in most lines of study, for the beginner to be hampered by the great trouble and expense of sending his material away for identification. Besides the above advantages, there are opportunities right through the winter, at least once a week, of hearing lectures upon scientific subjects. The programme of the Club Lectures is presented herewith, and I think most will agree that it is one of the best programmes we have ever had offered to us. In addition to our own lectures, which will of course be published in the *NATURALIST*, I purpose recording during the present winter the proceedings of the Ottawa Literary and Scientific Society. In the present number will be found Mr. H. B. Small's excellent address as President for the current year, which I feel sure will be read with pleasure by all of our subscribers.

The Treasurer begs to request those members who have not already paid their subscriptions to do so as soon as conveniently possible. The subscription is necessarily payable in advance so as to meet the ex-