

DEPARTMENT OF THE

WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CHAPTER

OF THE

Agassiz Association.

Our Chapter has steadily increased in membership and in the interest taken in our work since our last report, and will have an instructive and interesting report of our study of the Warblers and further study of the Thrushes during this season, to present to our members in the January SEMI-ANNUAL.

The success of the Wilson Chapter depends upon the diligence with which each member studies the bird-life of his own locality, and any special subject in which he is engaged. The study of bird-songs is being energetically carried out by Mr. Bridgham and his associates, and Secretary Lynds Jones is carefully directing our investigations in nidification.

The list of synonyms of Thrushes, given in this issue, was gathered from outside sources, although if observers would report on this subject, the result would be of value in our work.

The study of the food of birds will be undertaken as soon as a sufficient number of observers become interested in the subject.

These special departments of ornithological investigation, if continued as commenced, will yield most valuable results.

CHANGE IN CONSTITUTION.

The proposed change of the part of our Constitution relating to membership, has been adopted by the chapter.

Since June 1st the new rules have been in force, and will be of great service in the transaction of business.

Article III now reads :—

Membership shall consist of Active and Associate members.

Active members only, can vote and hold office.

Any student of birds in the United States may be admitted to Associate membership by the President.

Active members shall be limited in number by the Executive Council ; provided that the number shall not exceed one hundred, or be limited to less than twenty-five, except by a majority vote of the Active members.

Active members shall pay annually, in advance, one dollar to the Secretary of the Chapter, for which amount he shall receive the official organ and all publications of the Chapter.

Active members may be admitted semi-annually, by a majority vote of the Active members, after a recommendation by the Executive Council.

Application for Active membership should be made to the Secretary.

Non-payment of dues for one year shall cancel their name from the roll of Active membership.

No dues shall be charged Associate members.

Associate members shall be unlimited in number and may be admitted at the discretion of the President of the Chapter.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

The third annual convention of the Massachusetts State Assembly of the Agassiz Association was held in Fitchburg, May 30.

President Albert H. Hall of the Assembly fittingly responded to the address of welcome by the Rev. William H. Pierson of Fitchburg, after which an address on "Vertebrate Embryology," by Prof. F. E. L. Beal, and one on the "Study of Botany," by E. Adams Hartwell, were well received.

Mr. Ballard's address on the "Agassiz Association" was deeply interesting, and presented clearly the object and position of the Association, ending with advice relating to our future work.

The reports of Chapters 29 of Boston, 591 of Hyde Park and 48 of Fitchburg were of special interest to the delegates present.

Members of the Wilson Chapter who attended the convention are especially indebted to President Albert H. Hall and Secretary Howard M. Ballou for courtesies extended.