

Club Notes

MR. ROBERT THOMAS MOORE has resigned the editorship of CASSINIA owing to the press of other interests which require him to be absent from his home in Haddonfield, N. J., for considerable periods of time. Mr. Moore took over the editorship of our annual publication with its fifteenth number in 1911, and for the last five years has faithfully and efficiently served the Club in this respect. The D. V. O. C. extends its thanks to Mr. Moore and its appreciation of his good work in forwarding the interests of CASSINIA.

The Thirty-fourth Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists Union was held at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, November 13th to 16th. Secretary Sage reports the largest registered attendance of members in the history of the Union. Among the many papers read were two by members of the D. V. O. C., "Our Eastern Flycatchers and Their Nesting Sites" by William L. Baily illustrated by lantern slides, and "Some Relationships of the North American Passeres" by Spencer Trotter.

Covington Few Seiss, an Associate Member of the Club for many years, died at his home in Philadelphia on September 5, 1915. Mr. Seiss was the son of the late Dr. Joseph A. Seiss, a prominent Lutheran minister, and was for a number of years past editor of the "Sunday-school Times." He was unmarried. His chief interest was in art and he had long been secretary of the Philadelphia Sketch Club. From early youth he had been interested in natural history and had formed extensive collections of insects, reptiles and osteological material and published several papers on entomology. For a long while he was one of the most regular attendants at the Club meetings and made several communications of interest. He was also a member of

the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, the American Entomological Society, and for many years an Associate of the A. O. U.

Bartram W. Griffiths, an Associate Member of the Club, died at his home in Philadelphia, on December 6th, 1916, in his sixtieth year. He was the son of the late Dr. Amos Griffiths and Sarah Bartram Griffiths, the latter a descendant of the famous botanist, John Bartram. Mr. Griffiths had always been deeply interested in natural history and was well informed on local botany and ornithology. His great delight was to take long tramps through the country, and he was in great demand as a guide for walks or hikes, his intimate acquaintance with the great out-doors making him a delightful and instructive companion. Upon leaving high school when eighteen years of age Griffiths became connected with the Bank of North America and rose to be the chief accountant, a position which he held until July, 1915, when he suffered a stroke of apoplexy, a repetition of which resulted in his death. He was unmarried.

Fifteen meetings were held during the year, the average attendance of members being 21.06. Including the visitors in attendance the average is 22.24, which is slightly lower than last year. Twenty-four is the highest average attendance attained by the Club, which was reached in the years 1905-1906 and 1907.

The first outing of the Club was held in the vicinity of May's Landing, N. J., on February 22nd, 1916. The members were entertained at a bungalow and were the guests of Mr. George Spencer Morris. Twenty-five members and guests were present, and twelve species of birds, including a dead Chewink, were noted.

The Good Friday outing, upon April 21st, 1916, was held in the vicinity of Tinicum Island. The day was clear and warm, without perceptible wind. A total of fifty-seven species of birds were noted, including Wood Duck, Scaup Duck, Bittern, Greater Yellowlegs, Osprey, Savanna Sparrow, Solitary Vireo,

Black-throated Green Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet and others. Two visitors and twenty members present.

Decoration Day, May 30th, 1916, was the date of the third Club outing, taken along the valleys of the Tacony and Penny-pack Creeks, starting at Crescentville and ending at Bethayres. There were sixteen members present and forty species of birds were observed, several of which were nesting. A bald eagle was noted.

The following desiderata have been added to the D. V. O. C. Collection during the past year :

American Bittern (eggs), R. C. Harlow.
Little Black Rail (eggs), R. C. Harlow.
Great Horned Owl (eggs), P. B. Phillipp.
Alder Flycatcher (eggs), J. D. Carter.
Bronzed Grackle (nest and eggs), J. D. Carter.
Golden-winged Warbler (nest), G. H. Stuart.
Mockingbird (nest), Dr. C. E. Ehinger, for I. G. Roberts.
Golden-crowned Kinglet (nest and eggs), J. D. Carter.
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (nest and eggs), J. F. Street.