

It will be readily seen that with these different branches of investigation before us, the most meagre notes, sent to the President of the Chapter or to the gentlemen assisting in the special committees, can be turned to some use.

During the coming season several questions will arise regarding changes in our constitution: the most important being that of the division into active and associate members. In all these questions we hope *every member* will carefully consider both sides of the subject and vote according to what seems to him to be best for the Chapter. It is only by a universal expression of opinion that we can arrive at the right conclusions. Suggestions for the improvement of our rules and methods are always in order from those actively interested in our work.

ACTIVE AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.

The above question now brought forward was carefully considered at the organization of the Chapter, but it was then thought not to be advisable to adopt it until the membership had increased and a general sentiment was awakened in favor of it.

Within a short time several prominent members have proposed the division and the matter will soon be laid before the Chapter for decision. The plan has worked well in the American Ornithologists Union since its organization in 1883. The proposition is to have the active members consist of a limited number, selected from the whole membership by ballot, who shall pay annual dues amounting to enough to secure for them all publications for the Chapter.

The associate membership to be governed by the same rules as those in force now.

The election of officers and changes in the constitution being made by the active members. With this exception both classes of membership have the same privileges. The advantages of this change will be: First, an assured amount will be subscribed for the publication of reports. Second, necessary changes can be made more quickly than now (about two months being needed at present), and the active members being those most interested in the Chapter, any changes would be made only when it would be

best for all. As it will be possible for any ornithologist, eager to advance our knowledge of this science, to become an active member, and the association members being those who aid us by reporting all the observations they are enabled to make, but who, either from business or any other cause, cannot give as much time to the subject of governing the Chapter, as is necessary to intelligent action, and who now omit to vote when opportunity offers, the government of our affairs will not be practically changed from the present condition.

Therefore as the proposed change can do no injury but will give more stability to our organization, it should be made, unless a stronger sentiment against it should be manifested than any yet observed.

If this plan is adopted, all present members will become active members, who qualify for membership within a reasonable time, after which the selection of active from associate members will be made by the active members, semi-annually, on recommendation by the Executive Council.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER.

PRESIDENT.

Richards, J. B. Fall River, Mass.

SECRETARY.

Iones, Lynds Grinnell, Iowa.

Baldwin, Arthur	Amboy, Ind.
Baller, Miss M.	East Orange, N. J.
Barnes, Mrs. S. C.	Orange, N. J.
Beal, E. Irving	Bridgewater, Mass.
Bigney, A. J.	Moore's Hill, Ind.
Brass, Frank N.	Kokomo, Ind.
Bridgham, S. Willard	East Prov. Centre, R. I.
Burns, Frank L.	Berwyn, Pa.
Bush, Geo. B.	Fall River, Mass.
Campbell, Robert	Hanover, N. H.
Cantwell, Geo. G.	Minneapolis, Minn.
Card, Fred	Grinnell, Iowa.
Carlton, Edward P.	Wauwatosa, Wis.
Chase, Walter	Hanover, N. H.