

University of Toronto

TORONTO, CANADA M5S 1A1

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

2 April 1986.

To Brodie Club Members,

The 821st meeting of the Brodie Club was held on 18 March 1986 in the Faunal Lab, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto, under the chairmanship of Ladell. Present were 11 members and 9 guests.

Martin, as F.O.N. representative of the Brodie Club, reported that Lennox had agreed to write letters in support of projects approved by the Club, that the F.O.N. had asked for nominations for F.O.N. awards at its annual meeting in May '86, and that certification of his appointment as the Club representative to the F.O.N. was required. Varga proposed that the Brodie Club write a letter in protest against the Hydro line corridor through the Komoka Park Reserve because of its destruction of habitat of rare plant species, the soft-shelled turtle and the queen snake; Varga's letter to these effects was approved by the Club. Varga also proposed that a letter of protest be sent to the Minister of Natural Resources against the monetary conditions of the Bacchus Woods Conservation Authority for delaying timber cutting; approval of such a letter was approved by the Club members. Savage reported the offer of the Nature Society, of Purple Martin Junction, Griggsville, Illinois to send the Club its monthly newspaper for one year, in return for the names and addresses of 15 or more Club members; offer declined.

The Speaker of the Evening, Dr. Gordon Edmund, curator of the Department of Vertebrate Palaeontology of the Royal Ontario Museum, spoke on "Current Research on Armadillos". Present-day members of the Order Edentata, i.e. armadillos, sloths, anteaters and pangolins, were related to their fossil South American ancestors, present before the land bridge between South and North America was formed during the Pliocene Epoch from 10 million to 1 - 2 millions years ago. The recently discovered ability of present-day armadillos to serve as a culture medium for leprosy bacilli was described, and its use in diagnosing leprosy in humans outlined.

Members' Notes and Observations included ones by Boissoneau on finding a nearly complete red-tailed hawk's nest on 12 March near Cannington, by Falls and Jones on seeing 50 red-tailed hawks and 6 rough-legged hawks at Long Point on 16 March, as well as a displaying ruffed grouse, and by Reynolds, Ladell, Ritchie and Boissoneau on the scarcity of birds at their feeders during the past winter.

Howard Savage
Howard Savage,

Co-secretary of the Brodie Club.