
MEETING OF THE BIOLOGICAL CLUB.

The Biological Club met in the Zoological lecture room on the evening of October 7th, at seven o'clock. Professor Osborn presided over the meeting.

The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. The evening was given to reports on personal work and observations of the summer.

Professor Prosser reported that he had spent part of the summer in northern Ohio. He visited points along the Cuyahoga and Rocky rivers, and studied the outcrops of the conglomerate at Boston Ledges, Little Mountain, Thompson Ledges, Nelson Ledges and at Sharon in Pennsylvania.

Professor Kellerman collected a quantity of material in the Gauley Mountains of West Virginia, adding a number of plants to the published list of that state and securing a few that appear

to be new to science. He also collected several hybrid oaks in Ohio, and some specimens of *Crataegus*, which Dr. Sargent of the Arnold Arboretum pronounces new species. A number of species have been added to the published state list of Ohio.

Professor Mills gave a report of the opening of a prehistoric mound in Ross County just outside the town of Chillicothe. A number of skeletons and some very valuable material were obtained for the collections of the Ohio Archæological and Historical Society.

Professor Schaffner spent the summer in Kansas. He talked interestingly of a visit he made to the Pottawattamie Indian Reservation, and showed a series of photographs procured during a short stay among these interesting people. Scientific investigations were made on several subjects, among which the following may be mentioned: "The Self-pruning of Trees;" "The Distribution of Cacti and Ferns in Kansas;" "The Maximum Height of Plants," and "The Timber Conditions of Kansas."

Professor Landacre gave observations on the cocoon-spinning and egg-laying of the common garden spider.

Mr. Morse mentioned procuring a water snake with thirty-three young. Also that the blowing viper, *Heterodon platyrhinus*, has some peculiar habits while in confinement. One specimen if teased would go through a series of contortions and eventually come to rest lying on its back. If all was quiet then it would soon take up its normal attitude, but if touched, or someone made a noise it was likely to turn over on its back again.

Professor Cook spoke regarding the advance of plants in rock-quarries. Monocotyls and willows are mostly brought in by water, while dicotyls are more often brought in by wind. The monocotyls are the first to appear as a usual thing. In the particular quarry in mind sycamores and willows were the only trees observed.

Mr. Bridwell spent the summer in Kansas, where most of his time was spent in collecting plants and insects. The dry weather appeared to have its effect, as collecting was not as good as it had been in former years.

Professor Osborn showed several photographs of tracks made by various animals on the sand of the lake beach at Sandusky. Also other photographs of scientific interest, among which may be mentioned the fine glacial grooves of Kelly's Island, and the nest of a red-bird containing three young.

A proposition to hold the meetings of the club in Orton Hall for the coming year was accepted.

The November meeting is the annual meeting, at which new officers are elected, therefore a committee on nominations was appointed. Professors Schaffner, Prosser and Landacre were appointed by the chair.

JAMES S. HINE, *Secretary.*