

**MEETING OF THE BIOLOGICAL CLUB.**

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ORTON HALL, November 3, 1913.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Stover. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and corrected. The following persons were elected to membership: Lawrence W. Durrell, Gustav A. Meckstroth, Carl J. Drake, Frank H. Lathrop.

In the absence of a report from the nominating committee it was moved and seconded that the nominations for the officers for the ensuing year be made from the floor. Those nominated were: W. J. Kostir, for president, Clara G. Mark for vice-president and Blanche McAvoy for secretary.

The Secretary was instructed to cast a vote for these persons.

Mr. Kostir took the chair and introduced the speaker, Mr. Stover, who gave the presidential address on the Present Aspects Phytopathology.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10.

BLANCHE W. McAVOY, Secretary.

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ORTON HALL, December 8, 1913.

The meeting was called to order promptly at seven-thirty by Mr. Kostir. The meeting was well attended, there being a few more than one hundred present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Benj. H. Repp, Dan G. Tear, and Mary Blanche Howe were elected to membership.

Prof. Griggs had the first paper of the evening. It was a record of his trip to Alaska and was entitled "The eruption of Katmi, an Alaskan Volcano, and its Effect on the Vegetation." Katmi is on the peninsula and erupped on June 6, 1912. So far as is known there were no warning eruptions. The noise was heard 750 miles and the steam from the volcano was seen for 100 miles. At Kodiak which is 100 miles away the ashes fell to the depth of one foot and the darkness lasted for sixty hours. There was approximately 4.9 cubic miles of material thrown up. Great quantities of pumice were floating on the water. Soon after the eruption it rained and the lava became mud which washed down off the mountains and hills and filled up the valleys and covered the houses. To illustrate the effect of all this on the vegetation he showed pictures of places, that he had taken similar to the region around Katmi. The pictures showed great meadows and forests and quantities of flowers. The pictures taken around

Katmi showed devastation every where. The eruption occurred just after the leaves on the trees had opened. As the result the growth for 1912 and the leaf buds that would have opened in 1913 were killed so the trees looked dead altho the wood was not injured and probably in another year many of the trees will put out leaves and go on growing. *Equisetum* seemed to be the plant that came up first thru the lava. The Indians thought that it had been thrown up by the volcano.

Prof. Barrows showed a number of guinea pigs. The agoute type is black haired, tipped with red. If the agoute is absent black results. He has had trouble in getting pure black. Among others he showed a silver agoute. If the chocolate is absent in the color coat red results and if red is absent yellow results. If yellow is modified cream results. He had a tricolor in which the inheritance is hard to work out. The other color coats are strictly Mendelian but the spots are seemingly not.

Mr. Meckstroth reviewed two papers on plant variation from the New York Botanical Garden. One was on the leaf variation in hybrid violets and the other a bud variation of the white margined *Pelargonium*. He had a number of slides to illustrate his review. The cross in the violets was made between the bird-foot and several entire leafed species. The result was intermediate.

Observations were made of a wheel bug sent to Prof. Osborn and new for the state. The report of wild pigeons found in Michigan was spoken of and criticized. Prof. Alfred R. Wallace's death was noted. A *Zamia* that is in bloom in the green house was mentioned. L. W. Durrell told of his new stippling machine and said that he would demonstrate it after the meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned.

BLANCHE McAVOY, Secretary.

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