REPORT ON THE FIRST OHIO INTERCOLLEGIATE GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP

The Kent State Geological Society successfully operated the first Ohio intercollegiate geology field trip on May 5, 1951. The society members, composed of geology majors and other interested students, patterned the trip after the annual New England intercollegiate trips which have been functioning for over 40 years.

Nearly 100 practicing geologists, professors, students (graduate and undergraduate) and interested laymen visited the Cuyahoga Gorge Park northeast of Akron, Ohio, during the morning. Rocks and structures of Pennsylvanian and Mississippian age were examined and discussed. The Mississippian-Devonian rock section along Chippewa Creek east of Brecksville, Ohio, was visited in the afternoon session.

Student members of the geological society led the trip after distributing their own mimeographed 23-page resume including maps, diagrams, a plate of fossil types, and well log. Subject matter reviewed included glacial geology, geomorphology, paleontology and economic geology of the lower Cuyahoga valley region.

Numerous students and faculty members from the following universities were participants: Western Reserve, Ohio, Ohio Wesleyan, Bowling Green, Kent State, and Ohio State. Several representatives were present from the following organizations or institutions: Kirtland Geology Club, Ohio Division of Water Resources, U. S. Geological Survey, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Akron Beacon Journal, and the Kent State Geological Society.

Judging by the enthusiasm shown in the field and later verbal and written comments, the idea of an intercollegiate field trip in which students, professionals, and laymen participate was highly endorsed and approved by all. One professor and a group of students left their section of the state at 3 A. M. in order to make the 8:30 A. M. trip departure time. The former was sufficiently enthusiastic to write the following post-field trip remarks: "The weather, the fine preparation by your people, and participation by numerous members of the trip combined to make it a very pleasant and successful one. Your students did a pioneering job in intercollegiate field tripping in Ohio that should be the example for others to follow."

It seems safe to say that Ohio geologists are looking forward to the next Ohio intercollegiate excursion.

It has been suggested that the Ohio Academy of Science, Section C (geology), "mother" an intercollegiate trip each year. This would place upon one specific individual the responsibility of seeing that successive trips are planned. Several Academy members favor the substitution of an intercollegiate trip for the recently initiated fall Academy of Science geology field trip. If this is done, then it is strongly recommended that the participation of students and laymen continue to be encouraged for this was the motive behind the original idea of an intercollegiate trip. Then the spring field trip, operated annually by the Academy's Section C, might maintain a more professional aspect if so desired.

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