

NEMOPHILA

Meeting and Field Guide

CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL SOCIETY

MAR. 10, 1921

NUMBER 12

The purpose of the Society is to promote the botanical study and investigation of California plants, to diffuse knowledge concerning them, and by lectures, field-trips, exhibitions and publications to deepen interest in the native flora amongst the people of California.

FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS.

Saturday, Mar. 12. Regular meeting, 212 Wheeler Hall, Berkeley, 8 p. m. Talk by Mrs. R. S. Ferris, Herbarium Assistant, Stanford University Herbarium.

Sunday, Mar. 20. Guadalupe Mines region, Santa Clara County. Orchard blossom time, early spring flowers and fungi. Motor bus will be chartered for round trip. Members and visitors desiring to go remit \$1.50 at once to the Secretary, 2741 Prince St., Berkeley (Phone Berk. 5014W). Thirty must sign or the above rates cannot be had. Meet corner 13th St. and Broadway, Oakland, 8 a. m. Return trip, leave mines 4:30, arrive in Oakland about 7:30 p. m. Bring lunch. Hot coffee. Leader, Mr. Harold E. Parks.

Sunday, Apr. 3. Colma Cañon and vicinity. Take car 14 or 26 at Ferry Building, San Francisco, for Daly City. Get off at Crocker Boulevard, 10 a. m. Leader, Mrs. Inez Ray Smith.

Saturday, Apr. 9, 7:45 p. m. Regular meeting, 212 Wheeler Hall, Berkeley. Mr. Sydney B. Mitchell and Mr. John A. Imrie. The History and Cultivation of Iris. The annual election of officers will also take place at this meeting.

Sunday, Apr. 17. Lake Lagunitas. Take 8:15 a. m. Sausalito boat and train to Ross. Walk via Phoenix Lake. Return under direction of leader. About 10 miles. Leader, Mr. Paul L. Wilson.

Sunday, Apr. 26. San Andreas - Crystal Lakes. Leave 5th and Market Sts., San Francisco, 8:30 a. m. Take electric car to Milbrae. Walk by way of San Andreas. Return route selected by leader. Leader, Miss Anna E. Ehlers.

Saturday - Monday, May 28-30. Annual Camping Trip. The Terraces, Ukiah, Mr. Carl Purdy. Chairman of the Camping Trip Committee, Mr. Geo. B. Furniss, 375 Staten Ave., Oakland, who should be addressed for details.

PALO ALTO BRANCH.

Chairman, Mr. W. H. Shockley, Secretary, Mrs. Roxana S. Ferris, Herbarium Assistant, Stanford University.

Saturday, Mar. 12. Sandstone Caves. Meet at the Searsville Dam at 10 a. m. Bring lunch. Leader, Professor J. I. W. McMurphy.

Friday, Apr. 8. Regular meeting, 8 p. m. Lecture by Miss Alice Scouvert. Room 460, Botany Building, Stanford Campus.

Saturday, Apr. 23. Stevens Creek. Take 8:15 a. m. electric car to Monta Vista. Walk of eight or nine miles. Leader, Mrs. R. S. Ferris.

Saturday - Sunday, May 21-22. Camping trip. California Redwood Park by automobile. Individual camp equipment may be taken or board and lodging may be obtained at the Inn. Those wishing to take the trip notify the secretary (Phone Palo Alto 1145M). Leader, Professor L. R. Abrams.

SELMA BRANCH.

Chairman, Mrs. Harriet Kelly, 2505 Logan St. Secretary, Mrs. S. M. Frost.

Mar. 13. Dunlap Road. Trip for ferns and fungi; also to investigate region of growth of Berberis. Leader, Miss Almeda Nordyke.

Apr. 3. Piedra and Trimmer Springs trip, to observe plant growth of open cañon. Leader, Mr. L. E. Williams.

Apr. 24. General Grant Park Road to vicinity of Oak Flat, to study the flowering shrubs of the Sierra. Leader, Mrs. Harriet Kelley.

May 15. Badger Road, driving to junction of the Park road. Special attention given to the Lily family, especially Calochortus. Leader, Miss Donella Cross.

Members and others, interested in the California flora who wish to make these field trips, please phone Mrs. Harriet Kelley, Selma 238M. Those having cars available for trips notify Mrs. Kelley. All trips will start from the home of the Chairman, 2505 Logan St., cor. Arrants. Shorter trips on Saturdays will be scheduled from time to time at the pleasure and convenience of the members as arranged at the regular Thursday evening meetings. Field Trip Committee: Mr. L. E. Williams, Miss Donella Cross, Miss Ruth Swift.

The membership list is as follows: Miss Donella M. Cross; Miss Alta Nordyke, Mr. H. I. Padghan; Mr. O. J. Steinwand; Miss Donna Todd; Mrs. R. D. Townsend; Mr. L. E. Williams; Mrs. A. M. Frost; Miss Carrie Sage; Mrs. Ella R. Barnhart; Mr. Elbert L. Evans; Mrs. Harriet P. Kelley.

YERBA BUENA LEAVES.

Dr. Harold St. John, Assistant Professor of Botany in the Washington State College at Pullman, visited the University of California Herbarium and the bay region in December.

Dr. Arthur Eames, Assistant Professor of Botany, New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell, passed through Berkeley December 27 on his way to the South Seas where he is to pursue botanical explorations until next fall.

Dr. Margaret Ferguson, Professor of Botany in Wellesly College, who has been in Berkeley since August, left for Australia on January 25, for three months botanical travel.

Annual dues, \$1.00 are payable. Please remit to the Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Ehlers, 2741 Prince St., Berkeley. Phone Berk. 5014W.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The annual dinner of the Society was held at the Y. W. C. A. Cottage, Berkeley, on Saturday evening, January 29. There were fifty-two members present. Dr. J. P. Bennett acted as toastmaster and called first upon Mr. Furniss, chairman of the Camping Trip Committee.

"We are very much interested in our annual outings," said Mr. Furniss. "The next one is to be in Mendocino County, as guests of Mr. Purdy of Ukiah, on the 28th, 29th and 30th of May. We have our own commissary and the commissary is making a name for itself with dishes which have become famous. One is the Mulligan Stew made famous by Miss Ehlers. And we have grilled steaks that make you wonder how it is that you never get such steaks at home. Mountain salmon, too, although some were a little suspicious and thought it was venison.

"Our first trip was to the Montgomery Grove, about fourteen miles west of Ukiah—a wonderful spot almost in a primitive state. The next year we went into the Santa Cruz Mountains and climbed Mt. Umunhum. This coming year the trip to Mr. Purdy's mountain garden is to be a special event in the Society's life. There is no doubt that Mr. Purdy has a remarkable collection of remarkable plants. A mile and a half of stream runs through the terraces. Mr. Purdy in his modest way says he will accompany us, and that means a whole lot."

"Sometimes the interests of a man has a good deal to do with where he lives," said the Toastmaster. "This is true of Mr. Smith who has come to California to study Lupines."

"It is a great pleasure," replied Mr. Smith, "to be with you this evening as Californians. It is true that I have come from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast to study. I am not quite as new to California as I am to most of you. In 1904 I left Indiana and spent four years here before I returned to the East. It is a great satisfaction

to get back to this Golden State. It is not a golden state to me from the standpoint of the mining in the mountains, but from the flowers. I am now giving all my spare time to those beautiful plants, the Lupines. It has encouraged me so far to give up college work and go into high school work so as to have longer vacations in which to study the genus in which I am specializing.'

"During the great war," said the Toastmaster, "you will remember we heard a great deal about flowers that grew on the battlefields in France and Belgium. We have with us here a member from Belgium, Miss Scouvert, who is going to tell us about them."

"Will you imagine," said Miss Scouvert, "that you are walking with me from the seashore towards the country at right angles from the shore. We walk on a very bright sand, nearly white, and we have before us a range of dunes. These dunes are of moving sand. As our distance from the shore increases we see more and more dunes covered with various flowers, mosses and lichens. There is a moss which makes dark spots when dry and turns a beautiful bright green after rain. Some of the fixed dunes wear a cover of grass and can be used for pasture. Everywhere under the sand is a continuous layer of impervious clay that is very near the surface in the flat areas between the dunes. These areas are very wet and the plants are quite different from those found in the dry sand. These large areas are called pannes. Some pannes are more wet than others and there the plants grow a little higher and some in a beautiful symphony of color. Some extended pannes have been used for planting potatoes and rye.

"The flat country beyond the dunes is, to my knowledge, special only to Belgium and to Holland. The level of the ground there is below the level of the high tides and must therefore be protected from inundation. In the polders the meadows and fields are separated by rows of trees—poplars and willows. These trees are pollarded every six or seven years and give the country its peculiar appearance.

"When we approach Ypres the aspect of the country changes. There is more variety. The soil belongs to quite different geological strata. It is still rich and composed of sand and clay, but we see here more trees and hills which is different from what we have seen before. The most beautiful wood was the Hothulst wood. There I picked one of the most lovely bouquets I have ever seen. It was a big bunch of heather and gentian.

"I appreciate very much the cordiality with which Dr. Jepson and all the members of the Botanical Society have received me. I wish they could have enjoyed as much as I did the trips of the Extension Division of the University of Brussels. All the pictures which I have shown belong to the large work, 'Aspect de la Vegetation en Belgique,' by T. Massart and I. Bommer."

(*Concluded in next issue*)