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## THE BIBLE INSTITUTE.

The annual Bible Institute of McPherson College is scheduled for January 22 to 29, 1922, and a very stirring program has been prepared. Professor J. W. Deeter, Dean of the Bible School, is in general charge of the Institute. A complete program will appear in due time in the Gospel Messenger or copies may be had by application to the college. There will be six days of class work. Pastor N. F. Richards of Wiley, Colorado, will conduct four hours of conferences pertaining to the pastor and his church. Professor Stadelaker will lecture daily on the Epistle of James. Professor Deeter will conduct daily lectures in studies in the book of Exodus. Religious Education is the theme of Professor Winger's entire series of lectures. Rev. R. C. Flory, on furlough from the China mission field, will speak on Christian missions. Rev. George W. Burgin, pastor of the Church of the Brethren at Burn Oak, Kansas, will present social messages of the prophets. The subject of the lectures of President Kurts, and Professors Yoder, Beverly, and Ebel are not yet announced. Professor Mohler will speak on some phase of agriculture. Miss Walters will give some of her usual demonstrations in Home Economics and Professor Swope will present the manual arts. Other events are two lectures on astronomy by Professor Morris, a cantata by the choral union, and the educational meeting. The pulpit will be filled on the two Sundays by Dr. Harnly, Rev. Flory, President Kurts, and Professor Yoder.

## NEW TRUSTEES.

Some of the districts tributary to McPherson College are electing new trustees to the college this fall. In Oklahoma, Elder J. E. Small succeeds Elder F. E. Marchand. Southern Missouri will now be repre-

mented by W. B. Argabright, who succeeds D. W. Teeter. Nebraska will send J. S. Gabel, who takes the place of Elder S. G. Nickey. A. E. Riddlebarger of Nampa, Idaho, succeeds S. A. Rhoades.\* Present information indicates that these are all the changes that will take place in the trustee body. The annual meeting of the Board takes place on the Monday immediately following the Bible Institute.

### LARGEST SENIOR CLASS IN HISTORY.

The present year has furnished the largest senior college class in the history of the institution. At present fifty-three are enrolled in that class. The class is already organized and is displaying a degree of talent highly commendable.

### SCIENCE HALL DRIVE.

From October 3rd for a period of eight weeks the Commercial Club of the City of McPherson will have under headway a well organized campaign for the purpose of raising the sum of \$75,000.00 to complete the Science Hall which the college has had under contemplation for several years. This movement is substantial proof of the warm interest felt by the citizens of our city in our institution and the college is anxious in every way possible to lend its co-operation for the realization of the goal set by the city. It is hoped that the Science Hall may be under process of erection by next spring.

### THE REVIVAL.

The local Church of the Brethren has secured as evangelists for the present year two of our best known alumni, Rev. and Mrs. O. H. Austin who for the last several years have been engaged constantly in revival work. They expect to be here to begin their work on November 27th and to continue until

December 11th. Brother and Sister Austin are well and favorably known to our constituency and good results are confidently expected from their labors.

### A FEW OF THE ALUMNI.

Joseph L. Bowman, '18, is professor of Sociology in LaVerne college, California. Mr. Bowman has done graduate work in Oberlin college, Yale University, and the University of Chicago since he was graduated from McPherson.

Louis Bowman, '21, is superintendent of schools at Hardin, Missouri.

Louis Naylor, '21, is serving as pastor of a congregation of the Church of the Brethren at Stel, Missouri.

H. Walter Thompson, '12, has secured his Ph. D. degree and is now instructor in Administration in the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

H. A. Frantz, '21, has recently assumed a pastorate of the Church of Brethren at Red Cloud, Nebraska.

Carl N. Rexroad, '18, is spending his third year in graduate study in Yale University. Mr. Rexroad is in the school of religion and has been honored with two fellowships in that institution.

Olivia Dickens, '21, is a member of the faculty of Daleville College, Va.

Alice Burkholder, '21, was able to secure full credit for her work done in McPherson College and has entered the graduate school of Columbia University.

Warnie Brubaker, '21, is filling the position of instructor in Manual Training in Dodge City schools.

Earl M. Bowman, Academy, '18, has severed his

connection with the church at Lawrence, Kansas, and is now pastor of the Bethany Mission Church at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He will also be a student in the University of Pennsylvania.

F. W. Classen, Normal, '09, is now assistant professor of Entomology in Cornell University. Mr. Classen has received his Ph. D. degree and is collaborating on a work in entomology which is to be published by the university.

Bruce N. Eshelman, '17, and Catherine Thomas Eshelman, '18, are now located in Rockwell, Iowa, where both are teaching in the city schools.

R. C. Flory, '12, and Lizzie Neber Flory, Normal, '07, are spending their year's leave of absence from the mission fields of China in McPherson. While here they are enrolled for work in the college.

J. Estel Jones, '17, has resigned his position as principal of the Junior High School of McPherson and will spend some time in study in Yale University.

W. O. Beckner, '09, and Silva Miller Beckner, '10, are spending the year in graduate work in the University of Chicago.

### McPHERSON SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.

By H. E. Nüniger.

The McPherson Scientific Expedition of 1921, in which McPherson College took an important part, is the first enterprise of the kind in which the college has engaged; and as head of the Department of Biology, I wish to take this opportunity to inform our patrons and friends as to the purpose of the expedition and its results.

Early in March, Mr. W. Knapp, editor of the Democrat-Opinion and collector of coleoptera for more than forty years, informed me of his plans to

make a trip into Southwest Utah and neighboring states during July and August, and invited me to accompany him in the interest of McPherson College. In view of the fact that Mr. Knaus is one of the leading collectors of the country and that our college is badly in need of a general collection of insects, I at once placed the matter before the president, D. W. Kurtz, who after due deliberation reported that he would see that funds were provided for my expenses on such an expedition; and we forthwith made definite plans for the work. Towards the end of the school term it was decided to invite my assistant, Mr. Foster Hoover, to accompany us. This invitation he gladly accepted and at his own expense rendered very valuable service during the entire trip.

On July 2nd, Mr. Knaus and myself left McPherson via the Union Pacific and at Salina were joined by Mr. Hoover. Our first stop was at Medicine Bow, Wyoming—widely known in the scientific world from the neighboring fossil deposits which has yielded so richly in dinosaur remains. It was at Lake Aurora, only seven miles away that Professor Williston in 1872 discovered the tiger beetle that bears his name—*Cicindela Willistoni*—which has to date never been reported from any other location. It was this rare and handsome species which was responsible for our spending a day at this place. Unfortunately the weather was unfavorable and after a hard day's work including a fourteen-mile hike, part of the time through mud and rain, we could claim only eight species of *C. Willistoni*; but we had taken a number of other specimens which were good, including two specimens of *Cicindela 10-notata* which is also quite rare, and we felt that our first day's work was not in vain.

From Medicine Bow we proceeded to Salt Lake, where a number of species were taken along the

beach and on the vegetation bordering the Lake. Only a day was spent here, however, after which we continued our journey to Southwestern Utah. Stopping at Milford a number of very good species were taken; among them *Cicindela Parowana*, of which we took three specimens, the first that had ever been reported outside of the Parowan district—thus establishing a new record as to distribution.

From here we traveled via Lund to Cedar City and thence to Parowan where we spent two days searching for the rare *C. Parowana*, but without success, although we took many other specimens of value to our collection. The next twelve days we spent in what is locally known as the Mammoth country—a plateau in the Wasatch mountains with an average elevation of about 10,000 feet. Here we found an ideal climate for camping and collecting and during the time took more than 3,000 insects, mostly coleoptera, among which were several species of wood-borers (*Cerambycidae* and *Buprestidae*) and a number of species of bark beetles (*Scolytidae*) which we found to be doing great damage to the valuable spruce forests of that region. We found the United States forest service active in the matter of protecting the forests against these pests by requiring sawmill operators to burn off all brush left from the felled trees which are without fail heavily infested by scolytida. Among our catch here was a good series of *C. Longilabrus laurentii*, which we found on the rocky southern slopes of meadows at an altitude of from 9 thousand to 11 thousand feet. Many other specimens were taken here; among these were a number which will doubtless prove new to science.

We left the plateau on the 23rd of July and on our way down to the valley collected very successfully in the aspen forests at an elevation of

from 7 to 8 thousand feet. On reaching the valley we renewed our search for *C. parowana*. This beetle, which was discovered in 1905, has been very rarely collected and, being a very handsome species, is much in demand by collectors; so we determined to secure some if possible. And by two more days of persistent effort we were able to secure a very satisfactory series. It was found in the region of Little Salt Lake about reservoirs where farmers were irrigating from artesian wells. Associated with it were *C. Imperfecta*, *C. P. Chihuahua*, and *C. Vulgaris*. Numerous species other than *Cicindela* were taken in the same locality from sage and other desert plants.

Returning to Cedar City we took stage to Zion Canyon which is indeed one of the wonders of the Southwest. Here the Virgin River has cut its way down through more than 8 thousand feet of sandstone leaving giant cliffs standing almost perpendicular for this entire height. The canyon is very narrow which renders the giant size of these cliffs the more striking. This is one of the youngest of the United States National Parks and is destined to become one of the most popular by reason of its unique scenery. We ascended the canyon six miles where the altitude at stream level is about 45 hundred feet and here worked for three days taking many very good specimens, some of which seemed to be new. It was here we were first able to use our lantern for night collecting. Stretching our sheets against the side of the cliff then hanging our 300-candle power gasoline lantern in front we found it a very efficient method of collecting a great variety of insects which could easily be picked off the sheet and bottled.

Leaving Zion Canyon on July 30th we went by Stage to Hurricane which is located some twenty-



seven miles southwest in what is known as "The Dixie Land of Utah." Here in the midst of the most desolate lava districts in the great Southwest flourishes a very prosperous village and community where 85 hundred acres are well watered by a supply brought in by the Virgin River. Peaches, grapes, plums, and almost all kinds of fruits and vegetables thrive; but insect collecting here was very meager. While here we visited what is known as Bone cave which is the evident result of a volcanic blubber. An opening through the almost level crust of lava on the summit of a very low hill admits one into the very midst of a large room about twelve feet from floor to ceiling at the highest point. The room is irregular in shape, about thirty feet wide and narrowing to the northwest extends in that direction and downward on a grade of about 10 degrees, a distance of about 130 feet from the opening. The cave gets its name from the fact that many small rodents, reptiles, etc., falling in through the opening find no way of escape and perish, leaving their mummified bodies or their skeletons. In this way many thousands of skeletons and mummies have been collected until now in some parts they form a layer more than a foot in depth.

From Hurricane we proceeded by way of Cedar City to Lund where we again took train and our next important stop was San Diego, California. There we collected three species of *Cicindela* together with many other insects. We visited Cripp's Institution for Biological Research at La Jolla and took train for LaVerne, California. Here Professor S. J. Miller had provided for us a very delightful and what proved to be from a scientific viewpoint, a very profitable trip to Big Bear Lake. In addition to Professor Miller our party consisted of Acting President I. V. Funderburg, of LaVerne College, Rev.

R. H. Miller, pastor of the Church of the Brethren at LaVerne, and Dr. J. Z. Gilbert of Los Angeles High School. Dr. Gilbert has had many years experience in scientific work and joined heartily in our collecting. Five days' work here rewarded us with 12 to 15 hundred insect specimens, some of which were rare and others probably new. Besides we took twenty-two specimens of birds and mammals.

Bear Lake is situated in the San Bernardino mountains at an elevation of about 7 thousand feet and possesses a very delightful climate rendering it a favorite summer resort. It is advertised as one of the fishing resorts in the West but the scientific expedition found too much to do in collecting to try it out. We came away feeling very grateful to our hosts for the excellent opportunities of this five-day trip; as well as for the delightful association with friends in education.

The exploration of new territory is always a boon to the collector; but it is also by far the most expensive and difficult part of his work. Thus far our own trip had been very successful; but as yet our difficult task lay ahead of us. In Southwestern Nevada about thirty miles east of Death Valley, in the midst of the great bleak stretches of sand, gravel, and barren mountains; the nearest of which is Funeral Range on the west, lies a small oasis watered by several large springs flowing out of the earth, cool and refreshing, in volume sufficient to form a small river which after traversing a few miles of the parching soils sinks away or evaporates like hundreds of other streams in that desert state. The watered portion supports a growth of salt grass and a few other saline plants, for it is heavily impregnated with salts, and is known as Ash Meadows. Here, in such an isolated spot one is especially likely to find new species; but our chief object was to find

*Cicindela Nevadica*, a very rare, perhaps the rarest known tiger beetle of the country. It had been described in 1872 from a single specimen and was not again found until 1919 when Mr. Hebbard searching for Orthoptera in Ash Meadow secured ten specimens. Here we put in a week of the hardest labor of the entire summer, and were rewarded by the finding of a good series of this handsome species. In addition, we took a number of very good things in insects besides nine bird skins. About the springs we found abundance evidence of former Indian habitations and took some very good specimens of their stone implements.

We left Ash Meadow via Death Valley Junction on August 20th, stopped a day at Milford to pack specimens, left there on our outward journey, thence to Salt Lake and to Colorado Springs via the Denver & Rio Grande railroad. Here we had a side trip west thirty-five miles to the ancient lake bed of Florissant to investigate the fossil deposits of that formation. Our limited time afforded only incomplete prospective work but we obtained a number of very good specimens, mostly plants. This ended our work of collecting and after a brief survey of prospective locations for a summer school of biology in Colorado Springs district we again boarded train for the home-coming, reaching McPherson August 28th, just eight weeks and one day from the day of leaving.

The expedition—the first of its kind in McPherson College—has proven a great success. Besides adding to our collection several thousand specimens it has given us valuable exchange material which will in time add many more and serve as the beginning of a great collection. All such work serves to put us in touch with other and larger institutions, which is

necessary to our proper growth and development into a greater McPherson College.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank most heartily those friends of the institution who by their contributions aided such an undertaking and especially to Dr. Kurtz, who not only so enthusiastically supported the idea from the first, but gave liberal financial support for the same.

I should like also to take this opportunity to suggest to the friends and patrons of McPherson College that we have need of various collections other than insects and that those who have means and a liking for work in natural history might do well to consider the proposition of making a substantial contribution to our college by financing an expedition planned jointly with the scientific departments for the gathering of a collection to be named in honor of the donor. Such an enterprise would afford the donor the opportunity and pleasure of adding to his knowledge of natural history as well as the satisfaction of having substantially contributed to the welfare of future generations of student life.

For the success of the expedition we are especially indebted to Mr. Knaus, who out of his rich experience has been able to guide the work to a successful close, and who has so kindly served us in classifying the coleoptera which constitute the major part of the catch. He is further donating to us a great number of duplicate specimens which remain from his private collection as he rearranges it, for a gift to his Alma Mater, the State College at Manhattan. His enthusiasm after more than forty years of painstaking research in his chosen field and his very excellent collection of coleoptera constitute a supreme example of devotion to science and the advancement of human knowledge.