

The M. A. C. RECORD.

MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

VOL. 8.

LANSING, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 1902.

No. 12

NOTICE

FOUND.—A fountain pen. Owner can have same by calling at secretary's office.

The Kings Daughters' Circle will meet with Mrs. Weil Thursday afternoon, December 4. Scripture lesson, Psalm 103. Mercies.

BIRD CONGRESS AT WASHINGTON.

In 1883 there was organized at New York a national society for the study and protection of birds, known as the American Ornithologists' Union, holding special meetings from time to time, and annual meetings called congresses, and publishing a quarterly bulletin or magazine known as *The Auk*.

The Union now has upwards of eight hundred members which fall into three principal classes, active members or "fellows," ordinary members, and associate members. Fellows are limited in number to fifty and must be ornithologists of the highest standing; originally but one or two were elected from each state. Ordinary members must be good ornithologists and their number is limited to seventy-five. Associates include those who are interested in some phase of bird work but are not necessarily ornithologists.

The annual "congresses" are held usually in one of the large Eastern cities, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington most often. The twentieth congress was held in Washington during the week beginning November 17th last and the writer had the honor and pleasure of attending this meeting as a representative of this state. The other states represented by Fellows were Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Minnesota, and the District of Columbia. While members and associates were present from numerous other states, including California, Florida, and Texas. The public meetings were held in the lecture halls of the U. S. National Museum and Columbian University.

To an ornithologist the interest and value of such a meeting lies not so much in the papers presented, or even in the discussions which follow, as in the opportunities to meet other workers in his own line, to discuss methods, compare results, and forecast the outcome of proposed experiments. Yet the program itself was one of unusual interest. The titles covered almost every imaginable phase of bird work from the microscopic structure of iridescent feathers to the musical notation of bird songs, and from the study of fossil birds and their reptilian ancestors to the evolution of the sub-species among living quail. My own contribution to the program was a report upon a census of the birds nesting upon our College campus, with a study of the causes operating for and against the birds concerned. It may be of interest to note that the estimate for the past summer for our

eighty-four acre campus was 33 species, 923 nests, and 532 pairs of birds, an average of six and one-third pairs to the acre.

From its very beginning the American Ornithologists' Union has been practical in its aims and methods. In 1885 it secured from Congress the establishment of a bird and mammal division of the United States Department of Agriculture, which was to study and report upon the migrations of American birds, their food-habits and economic relations, especially as bearing on agriculture; and this division, now known as the Division of Biological Survey, has been enlarged from time to time and the scope of its work extended until its practical value is now very generally recognized. A standing committee of the Union has been working for twenty years on the difficult problem of bird protection, and the report of its chairman at the present meeting—a report to be published immediately—shows what a vast amount of good has been accomplished.

The use of the plumage of our native birds for millinery purposes has been steadily decried and systematically opposed year after year until at last the good results are becoming manifest to every one. In this work an immense body of facts has been accumulated, and personal appeal, public protest, and legal measures have been used with varying success. The most hopeful feature of the question at present lies in the wide-spread public interest taken in birds, and the strong protective sentiment which has grown up everywhere throughout the country in connection with the better knowledge of birds due to improved educational methods. Ten years ago the terns and sea-gulls along our Atlantic coast were well nigh exterminated by the plume-hunters, who shot them by thousands at their nesting places leaving the young to perish of starvation. Now, thanks to the American Ornithologists' Union, scores of these nesting places, scattered from Maine to Florida, are guarded each summer by wardens, whose main duty it is to see that these birds are not disturbed—much less killed. And under such protection already these beautiful sea birds are becoming more abundant, and returning each season in increasing numbers to these safest nesting places. Another committee has taken up the subject of game protection throughout the United States, and under its direction great strides have been made in securing better and more uniform laws for the protection of game birds, and at the same time a better protection of all our smaller and more valuable songsters and insect-eaters.

In all this work the Union has been greatly aided by the Audubon Societies which have been organized all over the country and which are doing everything possible to increase the knowledge and love of birds and to foster and protect them in every way. A conference of delegates from the Audubon Societies of seventeen states and the District of Columbia was held in conjunction

with the 20th congress of the Ornithologists' Union and doubtless will be productive of much good. Thus far Michigan has had no Audubon Society but it is more than probable that one will be organized during the coming winter.

Space forbids more than the bare mention of some of the valuable features of this meeting; of the remarkable photographs of living birds on the wing and on the nest; of colored lantern slides that seemed to transport the beholder to the heart of the forest or to the tide-washed beach; of the exhibit of bird pictures by the well-known artist, Fuertes; and of the courtesies extended by the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, and the director of the Zoological Park. All of these combined to make the 20th Congress of the American Ornithologists' Union not only the largest but the best in recent years.

WALTER B. BARROWS.

ATHLETIC NOTES.

The stormy weather has put a stop to outdoor athletics for this year, and basket ball is now the only work of athletic character. Four of last year's team are on hand and already practicing hard, and we may again expect to support one of the strongest teams in the State.

Unfortunately the use of the armory from four to six each day for drill, prevents any indoor gymnasium work during the winter in preparation for track or baseball in the spring.

In football the men have all returned to their regular boarding clubs and it only remains to balance up accounts and award sweaters.

THANKSGIVING MILITARY HOP.

The second military party of the term was given last Wednesday evening by the officers of the battalion in honor of the Alumni officers. Preceding the dancing a reception was given the Alumni officers. Those present were Mr. Herrmann, '97, C. B. Lundy '01, E. R. Bennet, N. B. Horton, H. E. Young, A. E. Kocher and W. S. Palmer, '02. Other alumni who were in attendance were: Messrs. Jewell and Ireland, '01, A. H. Case, J. A. Dunford, W. J. Geib and L. D. Rudolph, '02.

The following members of '02 were in attendance: H. E. Young, E. R. Bennett, L. D. Rudolph, E. I. Dail, W. J. Geib, Wilbur Palmer, Lyman Carrier, N. B. Horton, Ralph Case, A. H. Case, John Dunford, Fred C. Fox, A. E. Kocher, H. K. Patriarche, Miss Cannell, Miss Fuller, Mr. Krieger.

The grand march was led by Capt. Fargo and Miss Glicman.

Prof. and Mrs. Vedder and Prof. and Mrs. Gunson were the patrons.

The one hundred couples present agree that it was one of the best military parties ever given at M. A. C.

Prost's orchestra furnished the music for the evening.

ALUMNI.

'75. The present address of Judge W. L. Carpenter, is 506 Ottawa street west, Lansing.

'78. R. T. McNaughton, with his son and daughter, called at the College last Wednesday (the 26th) on his way to Flint for Thanksgiving.

'79. Orrin P. Gulley, in the recent election, was chosen register of deeds for Wayne county.

'91 and '98. Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Sweeney are now living in Newark, N. J. Miss Bertha Baker, '98, is teaching in the city and staying with Mr. and Mrs. Sweeney.

'00. Irma Thompson was at the College last week.

'00. Mrs. E. W. Ranney has been ill recently with malarial fever at her mother's home in Alma. Mr. and Mrs. Ranney and daughter called at the College Wednesday, Nov. 26.

'02. Letters have been received recently from T. G. Phillips and Matt Crosby from Orona, Oklahoma Territory. Crosby will doubtless visit M. A. C. soon while enroute to Washington. Phillips says:

"I have spent a very pleasant summer in the Prescott Forest Reserve in Arizona, and got a great deal out of the country in general. Enjoyed the scenery and mountain climbing, only it took some of my surplus flesh, but felt fine all the time in that delightful climate. We camped out in tents all the time, and particularly enjoyed the company of Rocky mountain rattlers, tarantulas, Gila monsters and centipedes, of which I have specimens to carry back to prove my statements.

"We finished our work in Arizona, and I was transferred by the Bureau to the Wichita Forest Reserve, Okla. Ter., and upon arriving here found Matt Crosby, '02, hard at work. We bunk together in the same tent, and enjoy talking over old times. Our work here is valuation surveys of the post oak, black jack and walnut. It is a very picturesque country, but not as rugged as the Arizona mountains."

Says Crosby: "My summer's work in Washington and Oregon was both pleasant and profitable in the way of experiences, adventures, etc. Our work in that region was investigating the sand dunes along the Columbia river and its principal tributaries. We travelled entirely on horseback, camping at night wherever darkness overtook us. In this way we traversed some of the most desolate country in Washington, in fact part of the country we passed through was said by many to be impassable. There are great chances for men of energy, pluck and perseverance in eastern Washington. Our party disbanded September 25th at the Dales, Oregon and after spending three weeks in seed collecting in the bull pine forests in Washington I was ordered to report here for a few weeks' work."

THE M. A. C. RECORD.

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TUESDAY, DEC. 2, 1902.

THE SHORT COURSES.

The Agricultural College opens wide its doors to young people from city or country that desire to study either agriculture and the sciences related thereto, domestic art and science, or mechanics and mechanical engineering. It urges every young person to take a course at least four years long, if possible, but desires to do something for the great body of young men who cannot separate themselves from their business affairs long enough to take a full course. To such young people it offers the six short courses during the winter.

There are many young men working on farms, young men with good ability and with a desire to know better the ways of doing things and the reasons for farming operations, young men fitted to control and manage, who are hindered in their career by a total lack or partial lack of knowledge, both of the fundamentals of the sciences upon which their calling is based and of the best modern methods of carrying forward farm operations. The courses cannot but be helpful to such young people. The experience of the past few years warrants us in saying that the courses pay in dollars and cents in almost every case where men thus situated have taken them. Besides, they have so enlarged and broadened the experiences and lives of our students that they invariably write back to us long after the short courses are over, expressing their surprise at the great amount of good attendance at the College for so short a time has done them.

The alumni of the College are its best advertisement. Will they not call the attention of suitable young men in their neighborhoods to these courses and urge upon them to attend?

The training we shall give this winter will be of the most practical and useful kind. There will be six weeks of hard and happy work. No time will be wasted, every minute occupied; judging stock, veterinary medicine, stock feeding, soils, plant life, bacteriology, budding,

grafting, gardening, fruit growing are some of the topics treated. A young man may elect what he wants with the assurance that he will receive instructions in the best of modern methods.

The movement finding expression in these short courses is in no way hostile to the four-year courses. It supplements them and carries the benefits of the College to persons who could in no other way receive them. We ask therefore the co-operation of all readers of the RECORD in our work and hope they will aid us in securing the attendance of a large number of young people to whom the courses will be a blessing.

C. D. SMITH,
Dean of Short Courses.

Y. M. C. A.

Thanksgiving service, Thursday morning, was poorly attended, caused, in part, by so many having gone home to spend Thanksgiving.

Chapel service Sunday morning was conducted by Rev. E. Sinclair Smith of the Pilgrim Congregational church, Lansing. Text, Ephesians 4:16, "We are all members of one body in Christ Jesus." Our lives are largely the result of the influences of others brought to bear upon us by our contact with them. This being true, we are all exerting an influence upon others, how necessary then it is that we live at our best, or completely, as Dr. White puts it; our influence ought, by all means, to be such as to work out, in the lives of others, a blessing.

The union meeting of the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A. Sunday evening was led by Mr. H. M. Goss. Theme, "Some of the characteristic traits of the great men of our times." Some of these traits are: Cheerfulness, courage, kindness, usefulness, and above all an unflinching faith in the Fatherhood of God. The truly great men are those whose ideal of perfect manhood is realized in Christ Jesus. This is beautifully true of our late president, Wm. McKinley. His kindly life was made so by his nearness to, and close walk with the Master. His constant companionship with his ideal in life caused him to become like his model. We must be with our model in life very much if we expect to reach its perfection.

END OF FOOTBALL SEASON.

The Beloit-M. A. C. game, which was scheduled to take place at the Lansing racetrack Thanksgiving day, was canceled early last week. The reasons therefor are understood by those at the College but to the readers of the RECORD at a distance from M. A. C. an explanation is due.

The Beloit game was, early in the season, eagerly looked forward to by every one at M. A. C.; but as time drew on the large sum, (\$500) necessary to bring Beloit to Lansing caused apprehension in the minds of the local athletic managers. During the past fortnight the injuries to Smith, Peters and Burrington seemed to make it inadvisable to play the Beloit game, providing the game could be canceled. This was done and the procedure was entirely satisfactory to Beloit. It seems Beloit has had some hard luck too and to

show how the team received the telegram from M. A. C. canceling the game, the following item is of interest:

"The Beloit team broke training at noon today, Nov. 24, after receiving a telegram from M. A. C. canceling the Thanksgiving day game. When the telegram was received by Coach Hollister the members of the football squad were at the training table and the coach read the message to them. At once there was great glee and general satisfaction that the schedule was completed. The players shouted 'now bring on your pie,' and began to skirmish around after dinner for their pipes, long in disuse. The season has been a poor one for Beloit. The players, however, have done their best and are by no means discouraged.

THE MICHIGAN-MINNESOTA GAME.

Those who went to Ann Arbor from Lansing Thursday saw a great game of football, a much more interesting game than the score would indicate. The thousands of spectators, the character of the game, the cheering and singing, all combined to produce a scene never to be forgotten. The season of 1902 has been a remarkable one in football history and never before were there so many surprises and apparently impossible results.

NEXT LECTURE.

Next Friday evening, Dec. 5, there will be given in the armory the second of the series of entertainments for the season of 1902-3. The lecturer, Dr. John P. D. John, is a man of wide reputation, having delivered in the United States and Canada nearly one thousand addresses since he took the platform five years ago.

Dr. John was formerly president of De Pauw university in which capacity he was highly esteemed. He is a natural orator. His addresses are masterly efforts and are logical throughout, and he is frequently interrupted by the applause of his hearers. He comes here most highly recommended by eminent men in all stations of life.

Dr. John will speak here on "The Worth of a Man," and every man and woman who can reach the College and who wishes to hear an address worth many times its cost should come that evening.

The Entertainment Club wishes to make itself self-supporting, so I would ask that every Faculty member and every student as well as friends about the College attend the lecture to aid the club

financially and yourselves intellectually. There are to be five and perhaps six more entertainments this season. Season tickets are \$1 each; single admission 35 cents. Season tickets may be obtained from Miss Edna Smith or Miss Wright, of the Women's Building, at the secretary's office, library and book store. The lecture will begin at 8:00. Every one kindly make it a point to be there early and avoid interrupting the address by coming late.

H. RAY KINGSLEY,
Manager of Ent Club.

THE WORK OF THE BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT OF M. A. C. IS IN HARMONY WITH THAT OF THE U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICUL.

B. F. Galloway is chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry in the U. S. Dept. Agricul. In a recent address he said, "The National Government alone is spending close to a million dollars a year in this work, and the demand for the right kind of men far exceeds the supply."

"It seems to me that everything points to the fact that the heavy demands for applied botanical work for the next fifty years will be mainly in the field of plant physiology and pathology."

"It is in connection with the problems bearing on plant breeding, and the selection of plants better adapted to meet the special requirements, that some of the broadest questions of applied botany can be brought to bear."

"What factors govern resistance to disease and how may these factors be determined and controlled?"

"In the broad field of forestry, agrastology and pharmacology, systematic botany will always play an important part."

In this connection it is interesting to know that Mr. Longyear has for some years been giving special attention to plant pathology, and Professor Dandeno's specialty is plant physiology.

Dr. Beal gave much attention to forestry for over twenty years past, and the same to agrastology (grasses and large plants), while Professor Wheeler's specialty was systematic botany. And just lately Professor Boyne has come in with work in forestry.

W. J. B.

Frick, former partner of Carnegie, contemplates the endowing of a great university in Pittsburg, Pa., which shall outdo all existing institutions.

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ABOUT THE CAMPUS.

First snow of the season at M. A. C., Nov. 26.

There will be no meeting of the Natural History Society this week.

Mr. Martin Heckmann was a very interested visitor at the College last week.

Prof. Shaw's wife was seriously ill the past week, but is now much better.

Most of the clubs had a late breakfast and a late dinner on Thanksgiving day.

Preparations for the getting out of a 1903 M. A. C. calendar are under way.

Assistant Postmaster Goss spent Thanksgiving day with his friend, Mr. Norton, at the University.

The money for the grand stand has all been raised and is now in the hands of Secretary Brown. The plans have also been drawn and construction will be begun in the spring.

Those who are to take part in the student stock-judging contest at the Chicago International are now in Chicago. Instructor Humphrey is with the local team. Prof. Smith will leave this evening to be present at the Show.

James A. Cooper, '02m, who was injured in the head during the recent class football game has been taken home. It was thought at first that the injury was but slight but a later judgment shows the injury to be serious. All hope that he may recover speedily.

Prof. Barrows is back from his trip to Washington.

Mr. E. C. Crawford, '91-'95, is the new assistant in the mechanical department.

The new postoffice is nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy this week.

Prof. C. D. Smith was in Concord recently to deliver an address, the occasion being the completion of a new creamery at considerable expense.

Mrs. C. D. Smith was called to New York state last week by the illness of her mother. Prof. Smith has been boarding at Club B in the meantime.

A barbarian football yell has been sent to the RECORD for publication, the same evidently being invented by the Syracuse University medics. It has been withheld as its publication would not edify anyone.

Prof. Holdsworth lectured half an hour one day last week to the girls of the women's department, his remarks being designed to lead to a better appreciation of the new pictures, an account of which appeared last week.

There are five species of fish in the aquaria of the zoological laboratory. Two darters have been sustained in the aquaria for some time, this species being considered very hard to keep in small quarters as plenty of oxygen must be supplied. The algae on the sides of the tank have served this purpose thus far.

Miss Mary Ross, with '04, was a College visitor last week.

The storm doors, put on the dormitory entrances the past week, prove that winter is here.

A small party of College folks were entertained Friday evening at the home of Miss Wellman.

One of the small cars was off the track last week on the curve in front of Mr. Bird's residence. There was the usual delay in getting the service regulated.

Gordon True, formerly an instructor at M. A. C., has received an appointment from the Nevada State Agricultural College and will begin his work January first.

Higgs & Burton donated the oysters for the oyster supper given by Mrs. Jenison's Sunday school class Friday evening. The class wish to thank them for the liberal donation which was unsolicited, but much appreciated.

Many from M. A. C. and Lansing went to Ann Arbor Thursday to see the Michigan-Minnesota game. Instructor R. C. Benner belonged to the Minnesota squad last year.

Three jokes have come to our ears. A spectator at one of the recent games on the local gridiron asked whether or not three halves were to be played. A visitor seeing the arbor press of the mechanical display at the recent grange meeting asked if it were used for pressing grapes. A member of a glee club in a neighboring college is reported to have made first base on four bawls.

The seniors will get out an annual during the spring term.

Mrs. M. L. Dean is receiving a visit from her sister, Mrs. W. G. Osborne of Grand Rapids.

The M. A. C. Sunday school made \$6.85 net on the oyster supper and auction sale Friday night.

Instructor Meyers has devised an ingenious heater for the paraffine bath used in the zoological laboratory. A thirty-two candle power lamp is so connected with a magnet and a mercury column that when the heat reaches a certain degree the lamp becomes disconnected. When the heat falls to a given degree the circuit is again made. A constant heat is thus maintained, there being not over one-fourth degree of variation. The apparatus is very necessary and convenient.

For some years past duplicate herbarium specimens have been accumulating until now there are several thousand specimens. Recently packages have been sent to Harvard, Columbia, and the Department of Agriculture at Washington. Dr. Rice has spent a good deal of time during the past summer in completing a check list of North American plants that are in the College herbarium, having especially in view the securing of desiderata. There have been collected and bought of expert collectors for many years many specimens, and in this way many duplicates are secured, but some specimens are still lacking. A hundred specimens have just been received from Harvard.

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HOLLISTER BLOCK

NEW POSTOFFICE BUILDING.

The new postoffice building, a few steps north of the present street car station, is about ready for occupation. The work has been rushed along rapidly from the beginning and the progress is satisfactory to all. The horticultural department will occupy all the room made vacant by the removal of the postoffice to new quarters and probably a forcing house will be built near the present horticultural building sometime in the future.

The new postoffice building resembles, on the outside, the modern railway depot, having wide eaves, low roof, and comparatively low elevation. There are two entrances, the main door opening directly upon the extension of the broad cement walk beside the car track, and a side door on the north. The building is well lighted having large sized windows on all sides, some of the windows being double. The building has two chimneys and will be heated by stoves and lighted by electricity.

There are three main rooms of good size. The postoffice room is eighteen feet by twenty, the waiting room adjoining the postoffice room is sixteen feet by twenty-two. A private office nine by ten feet has been reserved for the postmaster. The lunch room, separated from the postoffice proper by the waiting room, is sixteen feet by twenty-two. The latter room fulfills a long felt want and will afford a clean, healthy place for taking a cold dinner. The rooms are entirely ceiled and wainscoted with hard pine, no plaster whatever being in evidence.

The volume of business done at the local office has demanded larger quarters for some time. The bulletin mailing list of the experiment station numbers over thirty thousand and names and is constantly being added to. The names for the mailing list of the quarterly College bulletins also number many thousand. Besides all this the ordinary mail received and sent out from the office has a steady growth in volume. A new assistant was added to the postoffice force a short time ago by reason of the increase in the amount of mail.

ANGOUNOIS GRAIN MOTH.

The angounois grain moth has been discovered in Michigan during the past season. It was introduced into South Carolina nearly two hundred years ago and since that time has gradually spread both North and South.

It is considered in the south as the worst grain pest with which they have to deal, working as it does in wheat, oats, corn, and, in fact, in any grain. The work is done by the larva entirely within the berry and when the adult comes forth or emerges into the open air the hole through which it comes is so small as to be almost unnoticeable. There are several broods each year and the insect works both in the field and in the granary and sack.

As preventive it is well to thresh early and store in large bulk to prevent the moth from breeding, and where necessary fumigation with carbon bi-sulphide.

The recent copies of *The Inlander* (University of Michigan magazine) are full of readable matter.

A LETTER FROM GERMANY.

The following letter, received from Germany, will explain itself and give one an idea of idiomatic English. As the writer, Mr. K—, will never see this paper it is no discourtesy to publish the letter.

HALLE, S., 8 June, 1902.
Mr. Dr. C. D. Smith,
Michigan.

I permit me with devotion you to make known with the following:

Because the industrie of the sugar (sugar turnip) by you will flourish and the German industrie of the sugar more and more under the over-crowding of the sugar will tolerate thus I have the view to set out for America, round there upon proper ground either upon own note sugar turnips and separately seed of the turnips to cultivate or the cultivation of the sugar turnip and of the seed of the turnips to introduce and to carry on for works or for great landed proprietors. Today America import from Germany. What high profit, if the seed will produce in America!

I am old twenty-eight years, German, evangelic, unmarried; I have frequent the high school and I speak onto my mother tongue the English and the French language break. Since eleven years I carry on in celebrated farms of the province Lachren the cultivation of the sugar turnips and separately of the seed of the sugar turnip. Since years I am the leader of a farm of seven thousands tr.

I beg you now with devotion me to inform whether I can calculate upon your high countenance in some way.

Hoping you will favor me with an early reply.

Yours truly,
E—K—.

EXCHANGE.

President Eliot of Harvard does not believe in giving positions on the teaching force to Harvard graduates, where candidates from other institutions are available.

Pres. MacLean of the Iowa University recently gave a dinner to the College presidents of Iowa institutions, and much good feeling was promoted thereby.

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