



## NATURE NOTES

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### NATURE MELODY GROUP

A new group, to be known as the Nature Melody Group was formed at the meeting of Monday, June 2.

After those present had voted to form the new group, Mrs. A. F. Satterthwait, the Nature Melody Secretary who led the meeting, was elected Chairman and Miss Harriet Tatman Secretary.

The group started off with a quite interesting meeting, and no doubt will become very popular under the leadership of Mrs. Satterthwait.

### FROGHOPPERS

I am going to tell you something about a frog-hopper. We went out to a field on Elm Avenue near the end. We looked to the ground and saw something queer on a twig. It was a frog-hopper, but we did not know what it was until we asked Mrs. Pickens.

This was at the junior meeting in May. This frog-hopper covers itself with spit or saliva.

Elmer Anderson.

NOTE: Frog-hoppers belong to the order Homoptera, family Cercopidae and are sometimes known as Spittle insects. They are found on various plants, mostly shrubs and grasses. The larvae are surrounded with a white froth that protects the insect from parasites and other enemies. The adults, as their name implies, can leap well and are very frog-like in appearance.

### WHAT STAR IS THAT?

The question, "What Star is That" was answered in an original way by Mr. S. P. Jones in a unique presentation of the heavenly highways.

He used only Ursa Major and Orion as guides to show how to locate all of the first magnitude stars with their aid. The method of locating these stars from the Big Dipper is explained by Mr. Jones as follows:

As star maps are not always convenient to carry around, the seven stars of the Dipper can be used as a sort of Vest-pocket Guide during the summer months. By numbering each star in the group consecutively from handle to bowl, a combination of some particular two of the numbered stars will lead in an almost direct line to every one of the first magnitude stars that are visible, as well as to those that are beyond vision below the horizon

(Continued on column 2)

### WHO WILL TRY THIS ONE?

Snails of the same species from the different springs as Rankin show noticeable differences. Mr. Leslie Hubricht mentioned this at the Ichthyology meeting in June, and added that the following experiment would be a good one for some one to try:

Take a number of snails of one species from several springs, place them in separate aquaria (each containing those from one spring) but under identical conditions. The object is to see just how long it takes for the varieties to become identical.

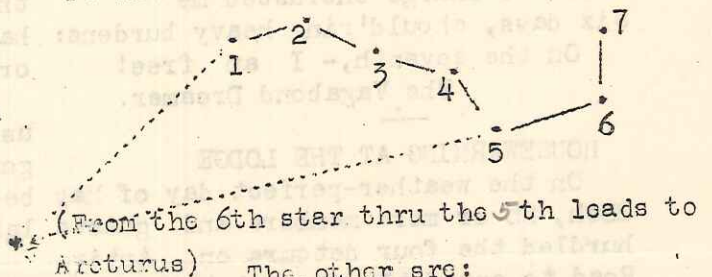
These mollusks show remarkable variations with only slight changes in their environment.

Any exact data of the kind mentioned above, or on the amount and causes of variation is of great value.

### WHAT STAR IS THAT?

with the single exception of Deneb in the constellation of Cygnus.

To illustrate:-



The other are:

1-2 to Capella and Aldebaran

1-4 to Pollux

2-3-4 to Procyon

2-6 to Sirius

4-1 to Antares

4-5 to Regulus and on to Canopus

4-7 to Rigel

5-4 to Vega and Altair

5-6 to Betelgeuse

6-7 to Fomalhaut thru Polaris

7-5 to Spica

A line from 5 passing between 4 and 7 is the only route to Deneb

(Note: The 4th star in the Dipper is 3rd magnitude; the others are all second magnitude.)

### THE SNOWY TREE CRICKET

In the June issue, under the caption "Curiosity Killed a Cricket" I failed to mention the fact that it was a Tree cricket, the Snowy Tree Cricket (*Aecanthus nivalis*) to be more exact, an altogether different creature from its dark complected relative that chirps so shrilly from the ground. He is extreme pale green in color, very slender and fragile in appearance, has extra long antennae and spends his singing hours more on shrubs than trees; while she lays her eggs in the bark of trees generally, - which may partially account for the name.

Espy Jay

# Webster Groves Nature-Study Society

A BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN NATURE-STUDY SOCIETY

(Organized in 1920)

Webster Groves, Mo.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JULY - 1930

### GROUP MEETINGS

- OFFICERS**
- MISS ANNE A. JONES  
*Secretary-Treasurer*  
690 Bonita Avenue  
Webster Groves, Mo.  
(Webster 831-J)
- PIERRE A. VOGEL  
*President*
- DR. O. W. BRANDHORST  
*Vice-President*
- MRS. CHARLES S. STONES  
*Vice-President*
- MRS. R. C. LANGE  
*Flower Exchange Secretary*
- DR. JULIUS H. GROSS  
*Health Secretary*
- MRS. WILLIAM PICKENS  
*Junior Secretary*
- MRS. A. F. SATTERTHWAIT  
*Nature-Melody Secretary*
- R. W. STOCKWELL
- MICROSCOPY:** Friday evening July 11, 8 PM, at the Mueller residence, 12 Armin Ave., Glendale Heights.  
"The technique of preparing and mounting certain abdominal appendages of insects."  
Number two of "Methods of preparing and mounting microscopical objects." Dr. Meiners.
- ICHTHYOLOGY:** Monday evening July 14, 8 PM, at the U. S. Entomological Laboratory, 527 Ivanhoe Place, Webster Groves. "Crustacia." Mr. Hubricht.
- ASTRONOMY:** Saturday evening July 19, 8 PM, at the Jones residence, 690 Bonita Ave., Webster Groves.  
"Some problems of practical astronomy." Mr. Townsend. Followed by a general discussion or a sky inspection with small telescopes and field glasses if the night is clear. Bring your field glasses.
- NATURE-MELODY:** Friday evening July 25, 8 PM, at the Entomological Laboratory. "Midsummer voices and melodies." Mrs. Satterthwait and others.