

HERE THEY ARE! NAMES FOR ME!

Here is a list of the names suggested for me.

- NATURE NOTES. OUR LITTLE WORLD.
- ROUND TABLE. AIN'T NATURE GRAND?
- NATURE LORE. THE NATURE CHRONICLE.
- THE SYNOPTIC. THE NATURESCOPE.
- NATURE NEWS. EARTH AND SKY.
- SEEING NATURE, NATURESCOPIC NEWS.
- THE FIELD GLASS.

Take your choice, write it down and send it to the editor. I am your paper and I want you to help give me a name. - Name me!

THE BUTTERFLY AND INSECT SHOW.

An exhibit that offered a rare treat to nature lovers of St. Louis and vicinity was to be seen at the Central Public Library during the past month. This was the Butterfly and Insect Show sponsored by the St. Louis Entomological Club. Such shows have been held with a great deal of success in a number of American cities, especially where there is the accompanying advantage of a natural history museum for display purposes. Believing that such an exhibit would be of great interest to the people of St. Louis and at the same time act as a stimulus toward the development of the embryo entomologist, who as yet has not had sufficient introduction to the wonders of insect life, the Entomological Club sent out invitations to all naturalists to take part therein and display part of their collections.

About fifteen exhibitors displayed some sixty cases of specimens which attracted a great deal of interest. There were, of course, numerous cases of brilliant American and tropical butterflies and moths. A large wall case containing sections of three natural tree trunks with Catocalae arranged in life-like attitudes showed how these insects are so well protected by nature. A few cases from the remarkable collection of beetles belonging to Dr. Bock showed some striking examples both for their contrast in size and for their unusual beauty.

Pierre Vogel exhibited a case of Odonata; Leslie Hubricht, several cases of Hymenoptera; and Miss Boyer, a case of Missouri insects. Ralph Swain's remarkable collection of inflated caterpillars as well as a finely mounted collection of all orders of insects made an interesting display. Mr. Satterthwait exhibited a box of in-

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BIRD BANDING MEETINGS.

At the invitation of the St. Louis Bird Club and the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, the Inland Bird Banding Association held its annual meetings in St. Louis. Mr. W. L. Lyon, president of the association gave a brief talk Thursday evening November 7th which was followed by a motion picture lecture by S. Prentiss Ballwin of Cleveland, Ohio on the work being done at his laboratory.

The next two days were given over to the reading of papers by the various members in attendance, including among them two of our own, Mrs. A. F. Satterthwait and Ralph Swain. Mrs. Holly and Mr. Satterthwait assisted by reading papers sent in by absent members. Other members of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society helped out in various ways.

The annual banquet was held on Friday evening with Mr. Clark Mc Adams as the principal speaker.

On Sunday, November 10th, several auto loads of the bird banders went to Creve Coeur Lake where a number of birds were seen including a large flock of Red-wings with a number of Cowbirds. From there they went to the marsh and lake region in the vicinity of Boschertown where water birds, including the Horned Grebe and Killdeer were observed. Also, a European Tree Sparrow was found, pleasing the out-of-town guests who had never seen one before.

The more noted ornithologists, besides those mentioned, who attended the meetings were Frederick C. Lincoln of the Biological Survey and J. W. Stack, of the University of Michigan, secretary of the association.

THE BUTTERFLY AND INSECT SHOW.

sects interesting from their economic importance. Marian Beecher and Billy Brandhorst showed what the juveniles can accomplish.

It is hoped that the Butterfly Show will become an annual event and that even more collectors will take part in future exhibits. The interest displayed by both collectors and the public certainly point to the urgent need in the city of St. Louis for a natural history museum. Whenever all nature study clubs and scientific societies unite in their demands for such an institution we will have another dream realized.

- Dr. E. P. Meiners.

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#### FOUND AT CLIFF CAVE

November 17, 1929 I went thru Cliff Cave where I found a bat (Pipstrellus subflavus), a large number of hibernating moths (Scoliopteryx libatrix), many Camel Crickets (Ceuthophilus), swarms of mosquitos and, in the creek that runs thru the cave, were scuds (Gammarus), and flatworms (Planaria). - Leslie Hubricht.

#### THE CONTEST WINNERS WRITE.

The two short articles below are written by winners of the insect collection contest.

#### TASTE AND MIMICRY.

Mimicry? Perhaps; but why should the Viceroy butterfly mimic the Monarch? To me there is no difference in the taste. This is the result of my recent observation. First, I tasted a Monarch whose flesh I found to be very tough and fibrous. Although it is not pleasant to eat, it is practically tasteless. The Viceroy is the same; tough, fibrous and tasteless. To the birds the taste may be different, but I could detect no difference. If there is no difference to the human taste, is it probable that there is a difference to the birds?

- Jack Neavles.

#### EXPERIENCES OF A FISH FANCIER.

Just how I happened to get interested in fish, I do not know. Mr. Vogel started me out with sixteen fish. Within three weeks all were dead but four. That was my first lesson in keeping tropical fish. That was in November, 1928. Everything went along smoothly until about April when my male Sword-tail died from some unknown reason. That was quite a loss because he surely was a dandy. I also learnt to keep a cover glass over an aquarium with newts in it.

In the summer I put the tropicals in my pool with a pair of Comets and Shubunkins. I did not get any young from the goldfish; but from the Peacocks I got about one hundred and fifty. I then had two pairs of Peacocks, one Moon, one Comet and one Shubunkin. The water was getting too cold for the tropicals so I decided to take them in. I put them in a pan and left it in my clubhouse. The next morning I only had the Moon; the rest had been chilled to death. My baby Peacocks are getting along fine. - Russel Stockwell.

#### "THE SEX ATTRACTION AND RHYTHMIC PERIODICITY IN GIANT SATURNIID MOTHS."

This is the title of a recently issued publication by Mr. and Mrs. Rau, in which they describe a long series of experiments upon cecropia, cynthia, polyphemus, and Promethes moths. These experiments consisted of marking the wings and then liberating the male moths at various distances from imprisoned females under various weather and wind conditions. From the data so obtained the effects of the different factors investigated upon the activities of the moths were determined, and the extent to which their flight is controlled by rhythmic periodicity was tested.

The results are of great scientific value because of the problems they solve and the misconceptions they correct regarding the behavior of these moths. Among the conclusions arrived at are the following:

1. That the male moths come against the wind, and therefore that the attracting stimulus is carried by the wind.

2. That odor perception is the attractive force, and not sight, sound, nor anything like "telepathy."

3. That the seat of the sense of smell is in the antennae.

4. That their actions are definitely related to an innate periodicity.

5. That this periodicity is affected by conditions of light.

Several suggestions for the future investigation of students are outlined. - Pediculus.

#### SOCIAL INSECTS.

Can you imagine an intelligent race of ants, so highly civilized that they could leave for posterity a decipherable record of their past culture and achievements?

If, when Australia was discovered, the kangaroos had been found to have a society as complex and as highly organized as that of humanity, would it have been surprising? Yet just so impossible a state of affairs is to be found among insects.

Ants and men have much in common. Will this ever bring them into such severe competition that one will eventually triumph over and exterminate the other?

These are some of the things that will be discussed at the meeting of the Entomology Group on January 20th, and all who have problems or ideas concerning social insects are asked to air them at that time. - Harold I. O'Byrne.

# Webster Groves Nature-Study Society

A BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN NATURE-STUDY SOCIETY

(Organized in 1920)

Webster Groves, Mo.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY - 1930

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Nature Photography

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Geology

R. W. STOCKWELL  
Camp Director

GEOLOGY GROUP meets Thursday January 9: 8 PM at the U.S. Entomological Laboratory, 527 Ivanhoe Place, Webster Groves.

"The Value of Missouri Rocks" - Miss Marty leading.

ICHTHYOLOGY GROUP meets Monday January 13: 8 PM at the Lang home, 319 Westside Av., Webster Groves.

"Peculiarities of Some of our Common Fish" - Mr. Vogel. Also pictures.

ASTRONOMY GROUP meets Friday January 17: 8 PM, at the Mueller residence, 12 Armin Avenue, Glendale Heights:

"The Planets" continued. Saturn, Mr. Jones; Uranus and Neptune, Mr. Stuart O'Byrne; The Moon, Miss Schnedelbach and The Earth, Mr. Harold O'Byrne.

ENTOMOLOGY GROUP meets Monday, January 20, 8 PM at the U.S. Entomological Laboratory. "Social Insects" - Mr. Harold O'Byrne.

BOTANY GROUP meets Friday January 24, 8 PM at the U.S. Entomological Laboratory. A continuation of "Pioneers of Plant Study" under the leadership of Mrs. Pinkus.

ORNITHOLOGY GROUP meets Monday January 27: 8 PM at the Holly residence, 433 Foote Avenue, Webster Groves. Subject: "Our Vanishing Birds".

The JUNIORS will meet on Wednesday afternoon, January 15 at 3.30 PM, at the home of Mrs. Pickens, 72 Marshall Place.

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ANNUAL DUES. Memberships for the year of 1930 are now due and payable, and a memorandum bill is enclosed, ~~to~~ excepting to some of the members who have already paid in advance. In such cases, a notation will be made on this letter.

Prompt remittances will help greatly to relieve the strain that a slender treasury fund always feels at the end of the year. We have a number of plans in prospect that may call for an early drain on the treasury, so please - well, you know what the treasurer always wants.

NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS. If you have friends that you believe would be interested in these group meetings, be sure to invite them to attend, whether they wish to join or not, or give the ~~max~~ names to the Secretary so that a program can be mailed. Visitors are always welcome.

Arne A. Jones, Secretary/Treasurer  
598 Bonita Ave., Webster Groves.  
Phone, Web. 831 - J