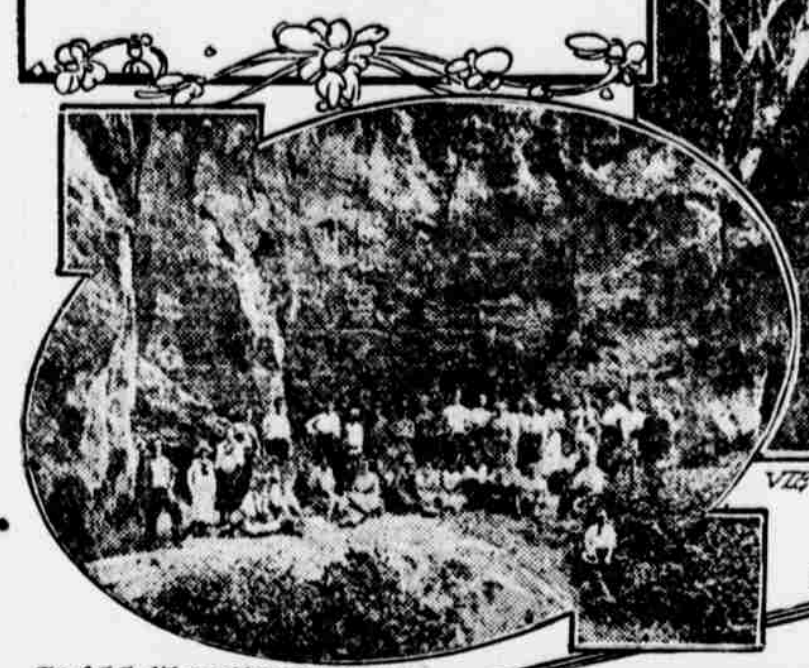


# Studying Nature In Her Nome

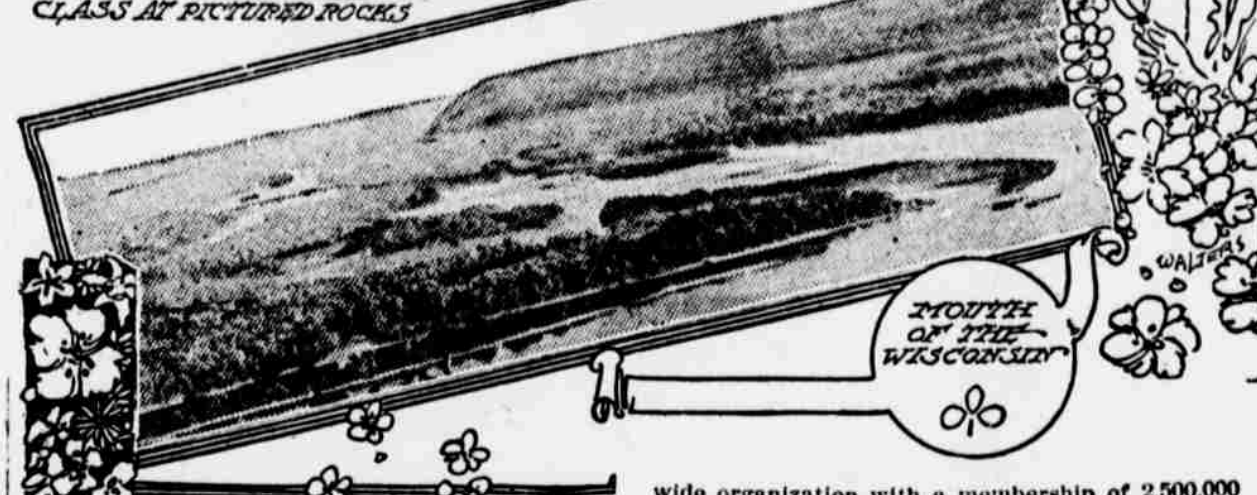
By John Dickinson Sherman



The American School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation in the future Mississippi Valley National Park



CLASS AT PICTURED ROCKS



SOURCE OF THE WISCONSIN



FACULTY—REV. S. SHIMKE, PRINCIPAL, KAY

**T**HE American School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation at McGregor, Iowa—the region of the proposed Mississippi Valley National park—is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual desire to give the study and knowledge of nature its rightful place in our twentieth century scheme of life.

The American people are a nation of lovers of the beautiful in nature. The national park movement, with an army of enthusiasts behind it, is one of the liveliest causes of the times. That is why we have established since 1872, when the first national park in the world, the Yellowstone, was created, a system of nineteen national parks and thirty-five national monuments.

Yet it is true beyond question that in general the hundreds of thousands of yearly visitors to our beauty spots of nature thrill with an emotion that is quite apart from understanding of the scene before them. America has the noblest scenic magnificence that is easily accessible in all the world. And among the greatest of its manifold values is the fact that it is the record of America in its making. An appreciation of this magnificence and its values will add to its enjoyment.

To gain this understanding and appreciation is one of the several motives impelling the activities of the School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation at McGregor.

The American frontier is no more. Gone are the buffalo herds that covered the great plains. Extinct is the passenger pigeon. Civilization and wild life cannot exist together. The automobile takes the tourist everywhere. The airplane means the end of the silent places. In a few years the American will have to go to his national parks to see the wild animal life of his native land in its natural surroundings. For the national park is the one sure wild life sanctuary of earth—the one and only place where wild life is sufficiently free from molestation to hold its own against man and civilization.

So, to protect and propagate wild life by keeping inviolate the national parks and by establishing more national parks is another purpose exemplified in the American school in the area proposed for the Mississippi Valley National park.

This proposed national park lies in the northeast corner of Iowa and the southwest corner of Wisconsin. The Mississippi divides it; the Wisconsin and Yellow empty into the Mississippi from the east and west within the boundaries. About 15,000 acres, land and water, including 4,000 acres of Mississippi with islands, are under consideration. There are 1,671 acres in the Wisconsin State park at the mouth of the Wisconsin. Mrs. Martha B. Munn of New York has offered to give the 125 Iowa acres forming the scenic keystone. It is proposed that the federal government shall purchase for park purposes about 10,000 acres appraised at about \$224,000.

Scientific, educational and historically the area is worthy of national park honors. Geographically the area is just the place for a national park. There is no scenic national park worthy of the name between Rocky Mountain in Colorado and Lafayette in Maine. Railroads and transcontinental automobile highways run close by. There is river transportation. Big cities surround the site. Fully 20,000,000 people are within a few hours of the area.

The Mississippi Valley National park project in all its ramifications is backed by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the Mississippi Valley association and a long list of organizations of large variety.

The attitude of the General Federation of Women's Clubs is typical. The work of this nation-

wide organization with a membership of 2,500,000 is carried on through a dozen or more departments. One of the most important of these is the department of conservation, which promotes the use without abuse of the natural resources of the United States.

At the biennial convention of the General Federation this summer in Des Moines, Iowa, one day was largely devoted to conservation. In the morning, in the convention, Mrs. John Dickinson Sherman, chairman of the conservation department, made her report and spoke on "The Conservation Outlook." She called attention to the fact that the natural scenery division of work, added by her to the department six years ago, was then considered as of little importance, natural scenery not being ranked as a natural resource of value; now natural scenery was recognized as a great national asset and the natural scenery division was the most popular in the department. George H. Maxwell, executive director of the National Reclamation association, delivered an address on "Our Conservation Problem."

Next was a "Natural Scenery Luncheon," in honor of Director Stephen T. Mather of the National Park service of the department of interior, in charge of Mrs. Charles H. McNider, chairman of the natural scenery division, attended by more than 250 delegates. Mrs. Sherman presided. She said, in brief, that any constructive work that advances the use, development and preservation of our natural resources must necessarily be based on accurate information and careful study of conditions. A practical, comprehensive study of natural scenery and nature would lay a foundation for an understanding and an appreciation of our natural resources. The children of today should be given the opportunity to gain a first-hand, intimate and scientific knowledge of the earth, her products, of nature's bounty and nature's ways.

Director Mather outlined the activities of the national park service; asked the federated club women to urge upon members of congress the necessity of larger national park appropriations. He laid special emphasis upon the educational mission of the national parks. He would promote by every possible means the interpretation of the natural sciences which are illustrated by the scenic features, flora and fauna of the national parks, encourage the popular study of their history, exploration, tradition and folklore and improve every opportunity for the protection and propagation of bird and wild animal life.

Dr. L. H. Pammel of Iowa State college, chairman of the Iowa state conservation board, spoke in behalf of the Mississippi Valley National park project. He set forth the many and varied attractions of the region. He emphasized the fact that 20,000,000 people lived within a radius of 500 miles and that 85 per cent of the people can not travel to the national parks of the scenic West for vacations. The Northern Mississippi Valley congress was of the unanimous opinion that a series of national parks should be established in the Mississippi valley. He appealed to Director Mather to give the Mississippi Valley National park project impartial consideration.

In the afternoon the conservation conference was held in the auditorium. The program included addresses by Col. W. B. Greeley, head of the forest service, and Russell T. Edwards of the American Forestry association.

An interesting and important feature was "Natural Scenery—Iowa's Program," by Mrs. McNider and Mrs. Francis E. Whitley, past president of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. Iowa is one of the most progressive states in the conservation of natural beauty spots. Its people have surveyed the state and have recommended more than fifty scenic areas for state and county parks.

Dr. B. Schimek of the University of Iowa made an eloquent address on "Moral and Spiritual Aspects of Conservation." This is a large subject.

National park enthusiasts believe that recreation amid scenes of natural beauty is the best antidote for the manifold evils of our complex modern civilization.

All these things, you see, lead up directly to the American school and its work. This is the second summer of the American School of Wild Life Protection and Propagation. The Iowa Conservation association met at McGregor in 1919 and out of it developed the school. This year it was of larger scope and greater significance. The purpose is to bring instructor and student into close touch relative to the subjects for which illustration is furnished by the environment. The students were of all walks of life and of all ages.

The patrons of the school were Dr. E. A. Birge, president Wisconsin university; Dr. W. T. Hornaday, New York Zoological gardens; Dr. W. A. Jessup, president Iowa State university; Enos A. Mills, Longs Peak, Colo.; Dr. T. S. Palmer, secretary A. O. U., Washington, D. C.; T. Gilbert Pearson, National Association of Audubon Societies. The directors were: Fred G. Bell, F. S. Richards, T. A. Jayne, T. J. Sullivan and L. P. Bickel.

The departments and instructors were: Geology, Dr. George F. Kay, dean of the liberal arts college of Iowa State university; Iowa parks, Dr. L. H. Pammel of Iowa State college, chairman of the state conservation board; botany, Dr. Bohumil Shimke of the Iowa State university; archeology, Prof. Charles R. Keyes of Cornell college; ornithology, Rev. Leroy Titus Weeks, rector of Trinity church, Emmetsburg. The fee was nominal, \$2. George Bennett was secretary and registrar; Karl D. Bickel, treasurer of student fees; Logan Blizard, committee chairman. Committees with the following chairmen handled all arrangements; roads, T. J. Sullivan; music, Mrs. Otkin; finance, F. S. Richards; meals and lodging, Logan Blizard; grounds, Fred G. Bell; tents and cottages, William Meyers; boats, Frank Sloane; automobiles, Al Clemens; signs, John Kramer; reception and information, Fred Phillips.

The activities of the school were varied and enjoyable. In addition to the class work and matters of routine instruction there was a river trip on a big steamer; many addresses and stereopticon lectures, picnic luncheons, a community supper; music by the McGregor band; a union service; a formal opening and a general conference on the closing day.

Gov. W. L. Harding of Iowa, to further the Mississippi Valley National park project, called a conference of those most active in its promotion. The conference was held at La Crosse. Among those present from Iowa were: Governor Harding, State Senator Newberry, Assemblyman Becker, Doctor Pammel, Joseph Kelson, J. F. Ford, W. L. Albert, F. C. Bell, Logan Blizard, John Kramer, C. A. Luce, J. M. Berry, G. Pederson, C. A. Spluer, B. Hendrick, G. W. Eaton, Julius Boeck, Florence Clark, Mrs. F. C. Bell, Mrs. Logan Blizard and Mrs. C. A. Luce. Minnesota was represented by D. Lange, president of the state forestry association. Frank D. Lowman, superintendent of parks, represented Illinois. Among those present from Wisconsin were Congressman John J. Esch, Alderman Funk of La Crosse, C. L. Harrington of the conservation commission and Judge J. H. Long.

Governor Harding presided and Mr. Harrington acted as secretary. An executive committee was appointed, consisting of Governor Harding, chairman; Mr. Harrington, secretary; Mr. Lange and Mr. Lowman. All state organizations will unite in promoting the establishment by congress of a national reservation in the scenic area under consideration.

In a conference of Governor Harding, Director Mather, Doctor Pammel and W. F. Bickel arrangements were made to have Chairman Good and other members of the house appropriations committee visit the area which a large part of the Mississippi valley hopes will be made the Mississippi Valley National park.

## TRY SQUARE TREE

Successful Efforts at Nature Faking in England.

One of Most Extraordinary Experiments in Plant World is That of Growing Potatoes and Tomatoes on Same Plant.

Recently the Cambridge Forestry association suggested that trees can be made to grow square instead of round, and thus may be made to produce more and better timber, remarks London Answers.

The assertion has given rise to some amount of good natured chaff but some miracles more wonderful than the growing of square trees have been performed in the plant world. The scientist waved his wand, as it were, and produced the seedless orange, a large, juicy, delicious fruit, free from what we call pits.

Again he took a piece of wood, the stock of an ordinary wild briar, and on it he produced a score of varieties of roses, making a multi-colored bush with roses large and small, red, white, crimson, salmon, yellow, pink, cream and every shade between, all on the same bush.

Something akin to growing square trees has been practiced for centuries and what may be termed plant monstrosities are by no means uncommon.

Most of us would recognize the white bryony (Bryonia dioica), so common in our hedgerows. The roots of this plant, which often grow to a colossal size, have been grown to shape, as it were.

Perhaps one of the most extraordinary experiments in the plant world has just been successfully tried with the potato plant. The potato belongs to the same family as the tomato, and included in the same family are the tobacco plant, the mandrake and the deadly nightshade, among others.

Advantage was taken of the relationship of the potato to the tomato actually to grow a crop of potatoes on the roots of a potato plant and a crop of tomatoes in the flumes (stalks and foliage) of the same plants. To see a crop of tomatoes among the foliage of a potato plant, while potatoes are growing on the roots of the same plant, is a sight more wonderful surely than square trees.

Within a few miles of London is a wall surrounding a churchyard. The wall is covered with ivy, and in one of the bricks is a square hole.

Many years ago a sprig of the ivy climbed through the hole and gradually the hole became filled up with the wood of the ivy, and it became absolutely square, assuming its normal shape on the outer side of the square hole. If a sapling was surrounded by a plaster of paris or metal mold which was square there is no reason why the wood of the tree so inclosed should not become square—in fact, the wonder would be if it remained circular.

Any one with a garden may produce plant curiosities which will be interesting to all who see them. Arrange a snapper containing sweetened water under and close up to a young, healthy gooseberry bush, and so placed that the dead corolla of the flower (the tip at the end of the berry opposite the stalk) just touches the water. The young gooseberry drinks the water greedily, and if it is renewed as it is absorbed by the berry the gooseberry so treated assumes enormous proportions and specimens as large as good-sized hen's eggs may be produced.

### Vapor Bath in Each House.

A vapor bath separate from the main building is a part of every house in Irkutsk. Stones are piled and heated in a fire and water is poured over them so that when the door is closed the steam fills the bathroom. The bathers, sitting on benches, steam their naked bodies both to cleanse themselves and relieve fatigue. They use a brush made of small cherry branches with leaves to strike themselves with for cleansing, and pour cold water from a small pail on their faces when the heat is too great. There is hot and cold water, as in a Japanese bath. From time to time they wash themselves and return again to the vapor. The vapor bath is prepared four times a month, and always in the evening before Sunday, when all the members of the family bathe, says Asia. There also are public baths in the city similar, but larger.

### Poetic Justice.

A recent note on Admiral Sir Montague E. Browning recalls a good story told of him when commanding one of our battleships.

A "hard bargain" was brought before Captain Browning, charged with having broken his leave for more than 100 hours. The evidence being heard, the captain asked the defaulter: "Have you anything to say in your defense?"

"Nothing, sir," came the reply, "except that to err is human, to forgive divine—Shakespeare."

"Ninety days' detention without the option of a fine—Browning," was the ready if unpleasant rejoinder.—London Chronicle.

### Properly Classified.

"Say, Bill, you didn't know that I was an electrician?" boasted Jack. "I missed my calling."

"How's that?"

"Why last night, over at Jane's the electric light fuse burnt out. Guess who fixed it. Me—I myself."

"Huh"—a final shot from Bill—"You're no electrician—you're just an idiot."

## I SUFFERED THREE YEARS

Finally was Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Lowell, Mass.—"I was all run down and had an awful pain in my right side, was persistently constipated and had very dizzy spells. I suffered for three years and was perfectly miserable until a friend was telling me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and I found it a wonderful medicine. I can now do twice as much work and I recommend the Vegetable Compound to other women. You can use these facts as a testimonial."—Mrs. M. THEALL BESSEY, 186 Appleton Street, Lowell, Mass.

Why women will continue to suffer as long is more than we can understand, when they can find health in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

For forty years it has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has restored the health of thousands of women who have been troubled with such ailments as displacements, inflammation, ulceration, irregularities, etc.

If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

## Wretchedness OF Constipation

Can Be Quickly Overcome by

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Purely vegetable—act sure and gently on the liver. Relieve biliousness, headache, dizziness and indigestion. They do their duty. Small Pill—Small Dose—Small Price.



## BE A NURSE

Exceptional opportunity at the present time for young women over nineteen years of age who have had at least two years in high school to take Nurses' Training in general hospital. Our graduates are in great demand. Address: Supt. of Nurses, Lincoln Sanitarium, Lincoln, Nebraska.

## BETTER DEAD

Life is a burden when the body is racked with pain. Everything worries and the victim becomes despondent and downhearted. To bring back the sunshine take

## GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL

The national remedy of Holland for over 200 years; it is an enemy of all pains resulting from kidney, liver and uric acid troubles. All druggists, three sizes. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation.

For The Best Shine  
Ask For The Big Can

**E-Z**  
Liquid Stove Polish  
Dustless—Ebony Shine  
E-Z Iron Enamel for the Pipe  
E-Z Metal Polish for the Nickel  
E-Z Shoe Polish saves Shoes  
Money Back Guarantee  
MARTIN & MARTIN, Chicago

Washington's Millionaire Colony. Washington is becoming a community of millionaires. According to estimates made from income tax returns—the basis being an income of \$50,000 or more a year—the District of Columbia contains no fewer than 150 persons worth one million dollars or more. From season to season the number of wealthy Americans who settle in the nation's capital, mainly attracted by its social opportunities, is perceptibly growing.

## Sure Relief

BELL-ANS FOR INDIGESTION  
6 BELL-ANS Hot water Sure Relief  
FOR INDIGESTION  
W. N. U., LINCOLN, NO. 39-1926