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UNIVERSITY PROFS IN SANDHILL TERRITORY

BENGSTON, CONDRA, POOL, AND BARKER MAKE TRIP.

INSPECT THE SOILS AND PLANTS

Professors Interested in Conservation Make Interesting Studies of Conditions in Western Nebraska.

During the latter part of the summer vacation four university professors, Condra and Bengston of the economic geology department, Pool of the botany department and Barker of the astronomy department, spent several days studying the sandhills region of Nebraska in the vicinity of Lakeside, Mullen, Seneca and Halsey. The studies were made for the Nebraska conservation commission, under the direction of the chairman of that organization, Dr. Condra. The special object of this preliminary study was to gain information concerning a more economic utilization of the sandhill region. A great deal of data was gathered relative to the topography of the country and its origin, the lakes and their utilization, the dune sands and alkali soils and all other matters studied to promote conservation.

The sandhill portion of the state has thus far been studied very little. It occupies about 18,000 square miles of Nebraska land. It is used very largely for grazing now. The valley lands produce hay and pasturage. It is believed that as a result of the preliminary studies that the native grasses of this district may be improved, giving a larger return in animal food, and certain species can be adapted to better hold in check the drift sand. These are followed in turn by other incoming species which will produce pasturage of the greatest value. It is thought that a more careful management of the region will result in less wind erosion, the maintenance of a thicker covering of grass and a better quality of pasturage than that which now maintains.

Soil Studies.

Studies carried on by members of the conservation commission show that the soils vary greatly in the region and are not all equally well adapted to the production of grass, hay and cereal crops. Professors from various departments of the university are now actively at work trying to bring about a solution of Nebraska's greatest problem, a more economic use of the sandhills. In this way they are assisting the state without compensation.

One of the side trips of the field party was made to the north and south forks of the Dismal river, a portion of the state not often visited by scientists. Here numerous photos were taken to illustrate the river valley, the waterfalls, of which there are five, and the tree growth and other vegetation of the valley and bordering slopes.

One day was spent at the Dismal river forest reserve at Halsey. This project is under the management and support of the federal government, and has for its main object the forestization of the sandhills region. Thus far about 700 acres of sandhill land have been planted at this place, with a fair degree of success. The tallest trees here have reached the height of about twelve feet, and show up in marked contrast where the stand is thick to the prevailing grass covering the sandhill surface.

Pool's Plans.

The professors collected numerous soil samples and specimens of various sandhill plants. Professor Pool became deeply interested in the matter of sandhill forage and as a result has signified his intention of making a detailed study of plant economy of the region for the Nebraska conservation commission. Other problems of like nature are being studied by university professors.

The party took their tents, slept out in the open, did nearly all their own cooking and did an enormous amount of walking. They returned with a thick coat of tan and cracked lips.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS MEET.

A. I. E. E. Meets, Elects Officers and Discusses General Business.

The members of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Nebraska branch, met last evening in the Mechanic Arts building. This was the first meeting of the year and the entire membership of the organization was in attendance. Plans were discussed for engaging prominent speakers for the coming year to address the electrical engineers and discuss matters of general interest to them. The speakers whom the institute will engage are men who are known over this section of the country for their knowledge of electrical principles, being specialists in their line.

Two offices which were not filled and treasurer. To these offices were elected John Hoge as recording secretary and C. E. Bennett as treasurer.

BURKE TRACK TEAM CAPTAIN.

Engineering Student Elected to Head 1910 Cinder Path Men.

A news item which happened early last June, but which has not been widely heralded among Nebraska students, announces the election of J. R. Burke to head the Cornhusker track team for 1910.

Burke was elected to succeed Dale McDonald as captain of the track squad at Des Moines, just after the track meet of the Missouri Valley schools which ended in defeat for Nebraska by a bare three points. He will take charge of the work with the opening of track practice, and hopes to make a good showing next spring.

The Nebraska team at Des Moines won second place among the schools entered and missed getting first choice only by a narrow margin. "Downright hard luck" is the way one of the men participating describes the work of the Cornhusker squad.

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NEW ORGANIZATION OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE

Continued from page 1

known as a lecturer on Sweden and is considered a very able man. He lately spent several months in Europe reviewing the language of his native country in preparation for his new work.

Delinquency Committee.

The move which was started last spring for the reorganization of the delinquency committee has been effected by the appointment of Professor C. C. Engberg of the department of mathematics as chief executive officer of the committee. The personnel of the committee remains unchanged. Professor Engberg is secretary of the committee and will have personal charge of the delinquency work. The committee will endeavor to eliminate as far as possible skipping of classes and intends to make strict rules for students who are delinquent without good excuse.

The sum of \$2,500 was appropriated to purchase live stock for the school of agriculture. The stock will be used for judging by the classes in animal husbandry at the farm. The stock will be selected from the fancy herds exhibited at the stock shows this fall and from other herds whose reputation is well known. The new animals will be useful in coaching the student's judging team which is to be sent in December to the international live stock show in Chicago.

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Basement Adm. Bdg.

Last summer 1,042 Harvard students held jobs, earning all told about \$180,000, and averaging about \$175 per man.

Because of the violation of college statutes and various other well defined reasons detrimental to the best interests of the college, President Michael of Monmouth college has ordered the disbanding of the Greek letter societies which have flourished unmolested in that institution for the last ten years.

A new library building, to be called the John Hay Library, is being erected at Brown University. This is a memorial to one of Brown's most famous alumni.

The student body in Union college recently voted to adopt the honor system for conducting their examinations.

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