

VOLUME VI

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The
Monadnock
of the
CLARK GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

“Man has been so noisy about the way he has ‘conquered Nature,’ and Nature has been so silent in her persistent influence over man. . . .”

Ellen Churchill Semple

Alumni Number



ELLEN CHURCHILL SEMPLE
1863-1932

Dean of American geographers, noted author, and one of the world's foremost educators, Miss Semple achieved a life marked by untiring devotion to duty. Louisville, Ky., was her birthplace in 1863, her parents being from two of the old families of the Blue-grass. In 1882, at nineteen, she became a bachelor of arts from Vassar college. Graduate work in history combined with extensive travels in Europe prepared her to take a master of arts degree at Vassar in 1891. Once more in Europe, she gave herself to work in anthropogeography under Ratzel, whose influence changed her interest from history to geography. *American History and Its Geographic Conditions*, published in 1913, was forerunner to a number of scholarly treatises including *Influences of Geographic Environment* and *The Geography of the Mediterranean Region*. In 1914 she was awarded the gold medal of the American Geographic Society and in 1932 the gold medal of the Chicago Geographical Society. Upon establishing the Clark School of Geography, President Atwood called Miss Semple to be the first geographer of the new staff. Although she ceased university teaching two years ago, she continued on the faculty roll. As lecturer, writer, and guide to students, Miss Semple had few her equal. In the words of President Atwood, "Of exquisite personal charm as well as thorough scientific integrity, she was able to exert a compelling influence over all her friends and associates."

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JUNE, 1932

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ELLEN CHURCHILL SEMPLE, TEACHER

Miss Semple was a truly great teacher. She set high standards, not only for us, but also for her successors. Although she was never trained specifically for the teaching profession, so outstanding were her accomplishments in the field of anthropogeography that she was called in succession to several European and American universities to lecture on geography.

Catholicity of interest and ability to select and apply facts and principles from an inexhaustible fund of knowledge lifted her lectures above the plane of ordinary instruction. She demonstrated to a marked degree how "nature and books belong to the eyes that see them." Her capacity for observation was enormous. Since her keen curiosity every prompted her to seek and inquire, she derived the maximum benefit from her studies in the field. She knew "how wide was the far horizon of geography." Because of these qualities she vitalized her teaching by personal observations and incidents selected from her rich and varied experience. She told stories with true dramatic effect and with flashes of wit that enlivened her discussion and made it a real and dynamic exposition.

Fortunate indeed was the graduate student whose research problem Miss Semple directed. In this department of her teaching she practiced restraint

in merely directing and guiding, never in assisting. She once expressed herself on this point as follows: "In my opinion the professional critic of a doctor's thesis should drop into the background as much as possible. For a master's thesis he should suggest and criticise at every point, because he is training a novice in method of research and exposition. In either case he should give suggestions to clarify, but not to impose on the student a line of procedure. No scholar was ever made by slavish submission to the ideas of another."

But Miss Semple's teaching comprised more than mere instruction; her inspiring example stimulated response. She exacted the same high standards that she set for herself. To think clearly and to express oneself directly and forcibly were to her cardinal requirements. Generous of time, assistance, and criticism, she brought many a faint-hearted disciple to a realization either of his opportunity or of his lack of fitness for an attempted task. The high privilege of studying under such a teacher carried the responsibility of living up to one's best ideals. Miss Semple's students can never lose the vision thus gained from association with her.

RUTH EMILY BAUGH,
*University of California
at Los Angeles*

Preston E. James, Ph.D. 1923, Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Michigan, is at work on the compilation of material brought back from eight months in Brazil, in preparation of a series of papers on the geography of Middle Brazil. He also has at hand considerable material on the cities of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile.

Marjorie M. Shank, A. M. 1923, is Registrar and part-time teacher of geography at Southern Illinois Normal University, Carbondale, Illinois. She spent 1930 traveling in England.

George F. Howe, A. M. 1924, has been conducting various experiments in geography in the elementary school at New Britain, Connecticut, State Normal School. Some of the results are to appear in the Journal of Geography, others in the Yearbook, geography section. Beside "struggling" with a new three-year curriculum for Connecticut normal schools, as chairman of the committee on social studies, he is planning the Clark University field trip to Canada, which he conducts this summer for the third time.

Ina C. Robertson, A. M. 1924, at State Teachers College, Valley City, North Dakota, has been appointed Airways Observer for the Northwest Airway. She has the Cooperative Weather Station as well.

Burton M. Varney, Ph.D. 1925, carries on research and administrative duties as well as those of Associate Professor of Geography at the University of California at Los Angeles. At present he is planning a series of marine meteorological observations with the object a better understanding of certain phases of the California littoral climates.

Langdon C. White, Ph.D. 1925, is now Professor of Geography at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Katheryne C. Thomas, A. M. 1925, of Buffalo State Teachers College, has been at Clark this year working on a doctorate. We all agree that she has been a very pleasing and efficient

President of the Clark Geographical Society during that time. She contributed *Teacher- and Pupil-made Slides* to the December, 1931, issue of *The Grade Teacher*, *Organization of a Unit in Mathematical Geography* to the September, 1931, issue of the *Journal of Geography*, and *New Orleans—Mistress of the Mississippi* to the April, 1931, issue of the *Home Geographic Monthly*, also one on *Summer* to appear in the June number of the latter.

Olof G. Jonasson, Ph.D. 1926, hopes to be made Professor of Geography at the University of Commerce at Stockholm, this summer. At present he is engaged in a book on the coffee industry, *Coffee and the Coffee Lands*, which he expects to complete before next fall.

Eugene Van Cleef, Ph.D. 1926, Professor of Geography at Ohio State University, will be one of the visiting professors in Clark Summer School, 1932, offering two courses: *Climate in Relation to Man and Geography of Europe*. He has been especially active recently in various educational meetings in Ohio, including the geography section of the Annual Conference at Ohio State University, of which he was chairman, and the Ohio State Academy of Sciences for which he arranged the geography program.

Harley P. Milstead, A. M. 1926, who is Head of the Geography Department, Montclair State Teachers College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey, plans to return to Clark for the first semester next year to study for his doctorate.

Marion B. Forsythe, A. M. 1927, supervises geography at State Normal School, Potsdam, New York. She reports that McKnight and McKnight will soon publish a second workbook completing the Ohio series which she and Dr. Ridgley collaborated in writing.

In June, Edna M. Gueffroy, A. M. 1927, completes her third year as Assistant Professor of Geography at the Illinois State Normal University. She is working on a paper for the State

Academy of Science on the *Geography of Bloomington, Illinois*, and tentatively contemplates graduate study on leave of absence next year.

J. Henry Weber, A. M. 1927, of the News Observatory in New York, recently held the initial meeting of the New York group of the American Meteorological Society. He is also writing the monthly reports on *Weather Abroad* for the Bulletin of the society.

Rollin S. Atwood, Ph. D. 1928, is on leave of absence from the University of Florida where he is Assistant Professor of Economic Geography, spending the second semester in Guatemala as Research Fellow for the Carnegie Institution of Washington. He is carrying on detailed geographic studies in the highlands there, in the belief that geographic study will help unravel the story of ancient Mayan Civilization.

Carleton P. Barnes, Ph. D. 1929, and Mrs. Barnes, complete their second year in Washington, D. C., where Dr. Barnes is Assistant Agricultural Economist in the Department of Agriculture. He contributed *White Pine—the King's Tree* to the April, 1931, issue of the *Home Geographic Monthly*.

Charles Gooze, Ph. D. 1929, announces his marriage, in December 1931, to Miss Frieda Frankenstein of New York City. Dr. Gooze is now at Clark engaged in research for Dr. C. F. Jones.

Clarence E. Koeppe, Ph. D. 1929, who is Professor of Geography at State Teachers College, Springfield, Missouri, is the author of *The Canadian Climate* published by McKnight and McKnight, 1931.

John L. Page, Ph. D. 1929, was promoted at the beginning of the year to rank of Assistant Professor of Geography at the University of Illinois, and selected as spokesman for the geography group during Dr. Blanchard's absence.

Edith M. Fitton, A. M. 1929, has been Research Assistant to Dr. O. E. Baker, U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C., the past year. She is now in the Map Department of the Library of Con-

gress under Dr. Martin. Her article on *How Spring Comes* was published in the April, 1931, issue of the *Home Geographic Monthly*.

Kingsland A. Coffyn, B. A. 1929, is working hard on the Emergency Relief Committee of New York City.

Wallace Walter Atwood, Jr., formerly Wallace Richards Atwood, Ph. D. 1930, is now Assistant Professor of Physiography and Regional Geography at Clark. The National Parks Service published (1932) his *Research in Education in the National Parks*, written in collaboration with Dr. H. C. Bryant, and also *The Glaciation of Mount Mazama, Crater Lake National Park*. An article on *Sand Dunes*, too, has gone to press for the April *Home Geographic Monthly*. However, his most important accomplishment this year is his engagement to Miss Celia C. Kingman of Providence. The wedding will take place on June 10, after which they will leave for Colorado to join Dr. and Mrs. Atwood, Sr., for the first of five seasons of physiographic field work in the Rocky Mountains. Miss Kingman, who graduated from Vassar in 1930, receives her A. M. from Clark this June.

J. Herbert Burgy, Ph. D. 1930, who is Associate in Geology (Geography) at the University of Illinois at Urbana, has published his work on the cotton textile industry. (*The New England Textile Industry*, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, 1932)

Floyd F. Cunningham, Ph. D. 1930, completes his third year as Professor and Head of the Department of Geography at State Teachers College, Florence, Alabama. He has published a *Laboratory Manual in the Geography of North America* for college use, and more recently, in collaboration with Dr. C. F. Jones, a *Laboratory Manual in the Geography of South America*. Otherwise he has been busy preparing *Analysis and Synthesis in Geographic Instruction* which appeared in the January number of Education, and a paper entitled *A New Era in Geography* for the Birmingham Teachers Association.

At the College of the City of Detroit, Bert Hudgins, Ph. D. 1930, has his

hands full reorganizing his department to meet the reductions in budget, and to find a suitable successor to Dr. Van Valkenburg.

Katherine B. Clarke, A. M. 1930, has been working at the Carnegie Institute of Washington, Department of Research in Terrestrial Magnetism, on meteorological data from the seventh cruise of the *Carnegie*, which is nearing completion.

Franklyn C. Erickson, A. M. 1930, who is Instructor in Geography at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, will study at the University of Zurich next year, on the American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship.

Harry K. Hutter, A. M. 1930, is now Head of the Geography Department at the Northern Normal and Industrial School, Aberdeen, North Dakota. He has completed his study on the *Status of Geography in the Liberal Arts Colleges of the United States*, to be published in the geography section of the Yearbook. And last but by no means least, he announces his marriage, on September 9, 1931, to Helen B. Hinn of Fennimore, Wisconsin.

Rose Zeller, A. M. 1930, finishes her second year as Instructor of Geography at Eastern Illinois State Teachers College, Charleston, Illinois. She plans to spend June and July in California, returning thereafter to Charleston to teach the second summer term.

Mrs. Anna E. Simmons, B. Ed. 1930, has spent this year at Clark working for an A. M. She will return to Fitchburg Normal where she has been teaching for the last six years.

Edna F. Campbell, Ph. D. 1931, has been doing editorial work for a publishing concern in Chicago. She will leave shortly for her summer home at Gold Hill, Colorado.

George B. Cressey, Ph. D. 1931, writes that he is finding plenty to do in his position as Chairman of the Department of Geology and Geography at Syracuse University. However, he found time to write the *Secrets of a Sand Grain* for the February Home Geographic Monthly.

Sigismund R. Dietrich, Ph. D. 1931, is teaching courses in *Economic Geography* and *South America* at the University of Florida, College of Commerce and Journalism. The April Home Geographic Monthly will publish his article on *The Magyars*.

Edwin J. Foscoe, Ph. D. 1931, and Mrs. Foscoe, will conduct a field party through the Caribbean this summer. He has been made editor of a science journal to be issued from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, where he is Associate Professor of Geography. Besides the articles that have been running in Economic Geography, he has contributed one on the history of the Rio Grande Valley to *Agricultural History* and another on the climate of the Lower Rio Grande to the *Monthly Weather Review*. Both Dr. and Mrs. Foscoe have contributed to the Home Geographic Monthly recently.

Adelbert K. Botts, A. M. 1931, has been Instructor in Geography at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, the past year.

George S. Corfield, A. M. 1931, who has been at Salem State Normal, Massachusetts, the past year, will be a member of the Clark Summer School faculty before going to Minnesota to occupy the position of George H. Primmer at State Teachers College in Duluth, next year. Mr. Primmer plans to be at Clark completing work for a doctorate.

Guilbert R. Graham, A. M. 1931, and Mrs. Graham, are at Zanesville, Ohio, where he teaches general science in the high school.

Eunice Gronvold, A. M. 1931, is teaching geography in the junior high school at Sycamore, Illinois.

Elizabeth S. Merriman, A. M. 1931, has been at Clark since February as research assistant to Dr. C. F. Brooks. She will be assistant (Geography) in the department of Geology at the University of Rochester, 1932-3. The March Home Geographic Monthly contains her article on *The Cottontail Cousins*.

Grace Muse, A. M. 1931, has been teaching geography at Goshen, New York.

Victor E. Pitkin, A. M. 1931, is Assistant Principal as well as teacher of geography at Saxton's River, Vermont.

Rebecca M. Taliaferro, A. M. 1931, has been at New Haven since October, as Research Assistant to Dr. Ellsworth Huntington of Yale University.

Keith B. Allan, who has been teaching geography at the State Teachers College, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, plans to do field work in the Colorado Rocky Mountains under Dr. Atwood this summer, in preparation for a doctor's thesis.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Jefferson Carney Bynum on February 3, 1932, at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Mr. Bynum returned in the autumn to the University of North Carolina, where he was member of the Geology Department, after spending the previous year at Clark working on a doctorate, and the summer on the Caribbean Field Trip conducted by Dr. C. F. Jones. Last November he contracted bronchial pneumonia which prolonged itself into a fatal illness.

George R. Means plans to return to Clark for the summer session to complete work for a Master's degree, despite additional work he has taken over for McKnight and McKnight of Bloomington, Illinois.

M. Catherine Roberts, B. Ed. 1931, will return to Clark this summer to complete her thesis and work for a Master's degree. The thesis is on the land utilization of Lowville, New York. She has been Instructor of Geography at Buffalo State Teachers College, New York, this past year.

At the end of May, Earl B. Shaw will return from Porto Rico where he has been teaching geography at the University of Porto Rico. He spent three months in the Virgin Islands last autumn doing field work for his doctor's thesis which he will write at Clark during the summer. He contributed an article on *The Geography of a Small Trade Center in the Corn Belt* to the October, 1931, Bulletin of the Philadelphia Geographical Society.

E. S. M.

THESES

Several of the present student group will spend the summer working on thesis projects. Lawrence F. Fountain and A. Russell Oliver have chosen to work in Land Utilization, the latter in the Judith Basin, Montana, and the former in Hamilton County, N. Y. Mr. Oliver will work under the auspices of the American Geographical Society and the National Research Council, having received grants to aid in his work from both organizations. Katherine C. Thomas will spend the summer in Buffalo where she will work on her dissertation, "The Evolution of Buffalo Harbor."

Latin America is proving an attractive field for research work. Gordon Darkenwald will drive a motorcycle to Cavillo in Aquascalientes, Mexico, to spend six weeks in studying the economic and agricultural adjustments of the people to their geographic environment. Myrtle Cash, Ann Scharf, and Meta Pils are working on problems in the distribution of population, Miss Cash on Porto Rico, Miss Scharf and Miss Pils on Central America. Phil E. Church expects to spend three months in Costa Rica working on agricultural geography with special reference to altitude.

Three Master's theses have been completed this spring. Celia C. Kingman wrote on the *Glacial History of Mt. Monadnock*, dealing with the nature of ice movements over and around Monadnock. *The Urban Geography of San Juan, Porto Rico* has been written by G. Etzel Percy as the result of six weeks of work in Porto Rico. Minnie Lemaire wrote on the *Land Utilization of West Boylston, Mass.*

On the evening of March 26, the members of the Clark Geographical society and several friends listened to a most entertaining talk by Dr. Clarence F. Jones on some of his more spectacular experiences during a recent journey through Colombia and Venezuela.

GEOGRAPHY DURING SUMMER

Dr. Ellsworth Huntington of Yale University will conduct courses in Social Geography and Human Geography in the Clark University Summer School beginning June 27. Dr. Huntington, who is summering at Princeton, will be at the university four days a week. The question of biological inheritance versus geographical environment and other matters of a similarly thought-provoking nature will receive the focus of attention.

The work in climatology will be under the direction of Dr. Eugene Van Cleef, professor of geography of Ohio State University. He will also give a course in Geography of Europe and Research in Geography of Europe and Foreign Trade.

Geography in Education for Special Teachers and The Teaching of Geography are courses to be conducted by Dr. Douglas C. Ridgley of Clark University. Dr. Clarence F. Jones of Clark University offers South America and Economic Geography together with Research in Regional Geography or Economic Geography. Field work in geography will be under the direction of George S. Corfield, A.M., instructor in geography, Salem, Mass., State Normal school, who will also conduct Visual Aids in Teaching and A Survey of the New Course of Study in Geography for New York State. Guy H. Burnham, A.M., of Clark University gives work in Mathematical Geography and Graphics and Cartography. A number of Saturday and afternoon excursions conducted by members of the summer school staff have been planned.

The New York Club of Clark University will hold its first meeting of the summer session at 2 p. m., Monday, June 27.

Two field trips in geography and history are scheduled for August. A Washington and Middle West Field Trip conducted by Professor George F. Howe, head of the geography de-

partment, New Britain, Conn. State Normal school, will leave Worcester on August 6 to return August 26.

Miss Isabelle K. Hart, instructor in geography, Oswego, N. Y., State Normal school will be in charge of the Appalachian Highlands Field Trip, August 13 to August 26.

Dr. Langdon White, who conducted the 1930 and 1931 Clark University Transcontinental Field Trips, will conduct a seven weeks' field trip to Hawaii in the summer of 1933, visiting Yellowstone National Park and other points of interest for field study before departure for and upon return from the tour of Hawaii.

Priscilla H. Webster, associate editor of the *Home Geographic Monthly*, has recently tried her hand at writing rather than just rewriting articles. As a result a delightful article on Switzerland appeared in the February issue of the *Home Geographic Monthly*.

The *Importance of Pipe Line Transportation* is discussed for the first time in geographic literature in *Economic Geographic* for April by John K. Rose, A. B. and A. M., Indiana university.

J. Sullivan Gibson discussed the *Tobacco Growing Areas of Kentucky*, Phil E. Church, the *Surface Temperatures of the Western North Atlantic*, and John K. Rose the *Climate and Corn Yield in the Chief Corn Growing Areas*, at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers at Ypsilanti, Mich., during the Christmas holiday period. Mr. Church has since discussed the same subject before the Geophysical Union at Washington. The results of his work thus far have been published in the *Geographical Review* for April and *Transactions of the American Geophysical Union*. News items in the *New York Times*, in *Science News Letter* and *Associated Press* reports have given the work widespread publicity.



DR. CHARLES F. BROOKS

FAREWELL DINNER

On the evening of the twenty-seventh of January, 1932, the School of Geography held a banquet in Estabrook Hall in honor of Dr. Charles F. Brooks, who leaves Clark to succeed the late Dr. Robert DeCourcy Ward of Harvard.

The "weather" was the central theme of the decorations and programs. Cards with little weather scenes designated where one was to sit. Bright yellow programs with cover design of the weather vane and tower of the physics building, told one in the language of the weather man the events of the evening and contained a characteristic picture of Dr. Brooks—the inevitable psychrometer and weather map plus the fur cap.

Miss Katherine Thomas presided.

Dr. Brooks in his interesting and amusing way sketched briefly his past life. In concluding his speech, which had given us many sidelights on the life of a professor, Dr. Brooks expressed a desire to hold the last weather class. This proved to be a

very clever take-off on our daily sky gazing and guessing game between twelve and twelve-thirty. Balloons and thermometers were much in evidence. Miss Margaret Jackson, the best weather prophet of the semester, was presented with a thermometer. A certain young man who had his faith in unchangeable weather (Fair—No change) was awarded the booby prize.

Dr. Wallace W. Atwood told of his meeting and first associations with Dr. Brooks, which resulted in his eagerness to secure him for a professorship at Clark, and of events of the last ten years. Dr. Atwood expressed his appreciation of Dr. Brooks' work at the university.

Miss Therese McQueeney, representing the alumni, expressed their appreciation of their work with Dr. Brooks and their good wishes. A number of telegrams were read.

Mr. Phil Church, on behalf of the School of Geography, presented Dr. Brooks with a pocket watch, an expression of gratitude.

Besides the honor guest, Dr. Brooks, and his wife and two children, there were present, Dr. and Mrs. Wallace W. Atwood, Dr. C. F. Marbut, Dr. and Mrs. Clarence F. Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Douglas C. Ridgley, Miss Therese McQueeney, and the secretaries and students of the School of Geography.

A. S.

One of the enjoyable events of the second semester was a lecture on February 24 by Dr. C. F. Marbut on Brazil. The address was based upon his experiences while exploring the Amazon valley in search of areas suitable for rubber production.

President and Mrs. Atwood entertained faculty and members of the School of Geography at Sunday evening supper in late December. An hour of sociability, including readings of literary geographical tidbits followed supper.

Dr. Clarence F. Jones returned to the University the first of February after six months in the Caribbean region. During July and two weeks in August he conducted a field trip for 30 people to Costa Rica, Panama, Northern Colombia, Jamaica, and Cuba. Late in August he took up the work as Visiting Professor in Geography at the University of Porto Rico.

For several years the University of Porto Rico had given little or no work in geography. The new chancellor of the institution, Dr. Carlos E. Chardon, invited Dr. Jones to the University for a year to give courses in geography and to outline a plan for further work in geography in the University. Dr. Jones gave two courses, one on South America and one on Economic Geography, attended by 30 and 25 students respectively. Plans have been completed for a major and a minor of work in geography and approved by the Board of Trustees.

While in residence at the University of Porto Rico, Dr. Jones was able to carry out several small field studies that form a part of his larger study on the geography of the Caribbean region.

After Dr. Jones returned to Clark, Mr. Earl Shaw continued the work for the second semester.

Next year one of the strongest graduates of the University of Porto Rico is coming to Clark for two years of work in geography. After that he expects to return to Porto Rico to take up the work there.

With the assistance of Miss Semple, Dr. Clarence F. Jones has practically completed the work on the revisions of Miss Semple's "American History and Its Geographic Conditions." Several new maps are being added and the structural material in general is being brought up to date. The supplementary Reading List of about 240 references, and the Literary Reading List, largely by Miss Semple, will supplement the volume.

Dr. W. Elmer Ekblaw has demonstrated that scientific pursuit yields material for dramatic writing as well as scientific, and that he should not confine his efforts to the latter. His story *Thin Ice* from F. A. Blossom's *Told at the Explorers' Club*, Albert and Charles Boni, New York, 1931, earns the following well deserved praise from Lucille S. Douglass in the Saturday Review of Literature for January 30, 1932:

"In the atmosphere of interest created by these story tellers, two or three tales stand out from the others, not because of their unique setting, but because the men who related them are, consciously or not, raconteurs in the best sense of the word. *Thin Ice*, by W. Elmer Ekblaw, a member of Donald McMillan's party in the Arctic, is rich in dramatic content, and written with a literary style more reminiscent of our best novels than the technical books with which he is credited."

Among many other scholastic activities, Dr. Ekblaw has been busy recently giving several lectures on Russia, including one on *Russia Today* presented before the Twentieth Century Club of Boston, May seventh. Of equal interest and from a different field comes the announcement that the Forbush Bird Club of Worcester re-elected him as president for the coming year.

E. S. M.

G. Etzel Percy of Los Angeles was unanimously elected president of the Clark Geographical Society for the year 1932-1933 at the annual meeting presided over by President Katherine C. Thomas. During this past year Mr. Percy has served with notable success as chairman of the popular tea committee and on the field trip committee. The Summer School Association had Mr. Percy as its secretary-treasurer for the 1931 summer session.

Promptly at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, May third, sixteen geographers set out on the first field trip of the spring season. Dr. C. F. Jones conducted the four carloads to Bancroft Tower for introduction to the industrial study of this valley which extends about fifty miles between Worcester and Providence.

Field work consisted of observing the old Blackstone Canal, abandoned dam and mill sites, new mill types, and in working out the factors which caused industry to flourish at first and then decline.

After lunch beside a mill race at Valley Falls, R. I., the party succeeded in gaining chaperonage through a cotton textile mill, branch of the Berkshire Textile Associates, Inc. The eighty per cent humidity of the mill and one flat tire were the two and only discomforts suffered. The cars returned from Pawtucket in the late afternoon.

E. S. M.

On the morning of May 11th two cars of nature enthusiasts left the Clark campus for a field trip to Asnebumskit Hill under the direction of Dr. W. Elmer Ekblaw. Upon reaching the Cascades, the group left the cars and hiked over the drumlunds to the Appalachian Mountain Club, observing the various plant associations and wild flowers, and numerous birds. A delightful view of the surrounding country greeted the group upon reaching the top of the hill. Here the attention of the hikers shifted from nature to food. After a hearty lunch of "lamb" chops (Darkenwald and Rose brand), spaghetti, strawberries a la hull, cookies and coffee, a short after-lunch walk was enjoyed. The wake robin, wild hydrangea, lady slipper and arbutus proved to be of special interest. Late in the afternoon, the group returned to the work-room feeling that the day in the field had enriched their understanding of Plant Geography in various ways.

A. S.

TEAS

The group this year seems to be especially fond of tea. So much so that the usual weekly teas became daily affairs during vacation periods. It began during the Xmas holidays when the many boxes from home were shared with the group. Every afternoon a happy crowd gathered in the Libbey Library for a cup of tea (perhaps several cups of tea) and a bite to eat, mingled with bits of social chatter, gay repartee and pleasant laughter.

With the formation of such delightful tea habit the usual weekly teas were looked forward to with great pleasure. They became the occasion for such delightful events as hearing Dr. Atwood tell of the interesting happenings on the Guatemalan trip and upon another occasion having Dr. Jones and Dr. Marbut relate many of the unusual experiences which happened to them while travelling in South America. Tea also served as the in-

roduction for many of us to yerba mate.

We were glad to have in our midst at various times, Mrs. Atwood, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Ridgley, Mrs. Burnham, Dean Little, Mr. Melville and Dr. Gooze.

The first semester, Miss Baugh from the University of California at Los Angeles was Visiting Lecturer for the course in Mediterranean Geography. A tea was given in her honor on January 14 in appreciation of our having had her with us.

That the work of the various tea committees was properly appreciated can be proven by the number of sandwiches and cups of tea consumed. The enjoyment derived from being present at these various tea gatherings will remain among the many pleasant memories which members of the group will carry away with them from Clark.

M. H. P.

THE MAYAN REGION OF GUATEMALA

The Carnegie Institution of Washington is laying out a very comprehensive study of the region of the ancient Mayan Empire. Heretofore its studies have been in the region of the newer Empire, which was on the lowlands of Yucatan and Guatemala. The next great project of this type of historical research will be in the highlands west and northwest of Guatemala City.

President and Mrs. Atwood accompanied a party into that region and spent most of February and March assisting in the geographical survey of that highland region. Dr. Rollin S. Atwood, of the University of Florida, was released by the University and assigned to the staff of the Carnegie Institution to take general charge of this geographical survey, and he has remained in the field during the spring months.

F. Webster McBryde, formerly of Tulane University and registered as a graduate student in the Clark School of Geography, accompanied the party and has remained in the field, working on a special problem, which, it is anticipated, will be suitable for a Doctor's thesis.

Members of the Harvard School of Tropical Medicine, several archeologists and one botanist were in the group of scientists who are cooperating in the development of this scientific project. Dr. A. V. Kidder was in the field with the party for several days. He is in charge of the Division of Historical Research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

The project is one which will probably take ten years to complete. The geographical survey is recognized as of fundamental significance. It appears that the modern life of the simple Mayan people of today must be in many ways similar to the life of their ancestors, who occupied the highland region from 1500 to 3000 years ago. Somewhere in that region there are buried secrets which have been held from the world for at least fifteen centuries. Perhaps some of them are buried beneath hundreds or

thousands of feet of volcanic ash; perhaps they are buried in the ruins of ancient temples found at many localities in the highlands of Guatemala. For some unknown reason a civilization, which is believed by archeologists to have been the highest expression of culture in the western world at that time, disappeared. Various reasons have been suggested, but no solution of the problem has been found. Geographers, archeologists, students of health and of other sciences will continue through several field seasons to search for those secrets and give to the world just as complete a record as possible of this earliest attempt at civilization in North America.

On the afternoon of May 19th, Dr. W. W. Atwood, Jr., led the geographers over the upland southeast of Worcester to Purgatory. To those who thoroughly explored it, Purgatory Chasm yielded chunks of ice and pockets of cold air, despite its name. It interested botanists as well as microclimatologists, in the general absence of mesophytes. But the physiography invited closest observations. Most of the explorers acceded to the opinion that the chasm is a keystone fault, and probably post-glacial.

Highlights of the Twelfth Annual New England Geographical conference, May 20-21, included R. M. Brown's report on the new Geography Yearbook, an illustrated address on South America by Dr. Jones, Dr. Atwood's fascinating lecture on life in Guatemala. The showing of Movie-tone Educational Films by Dr. Atwood helped greatly in demonstrating Visual Instruction, discussed by Abraham Krasker of Quincy and G. S. Corfield. Dr. Ridgley introduced Edna F. Callamore, T. F. Power, Myrtle Cash, Phelps Swett, Julia M. Shipman, and Grant Finch in the education symposium. Dr. Ekblaw gave an address on Russia following Friday evening dinner.

R. S. S.