



For: \_\_\_\_\_

# AMERICAN NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

## QUARTERLY

## NEWS LETTER

September

SPRING-SUMMER

1944

### No Annual Meeting

After prolonged consideration by the Officers and Directors of the Society, it was deemed advisable not to attempt an annual meeting this year. The Society usually holds its meeting in conjunction with the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This year their meetings were held in Cleveland in September. We will look forward to a meeting next year when V-E Day is here and transportation is such to permit greater travel.

### Annual Election

The election of Officers and Directors will again have to be held entirely by means of a mail ballot. A form for nomination of officers is enclosed with this NEWS LETTER. Nominations should be sent to the Secretary before November 1. All of the offices are up for election, as well as five members of the Board of Directors.

### CANADIAN NATURE

All subscriptions to CANADIAN NATURE have been placed on an annual basis coinciding with the year, so that prompt renewal of membership, when statements are received, will bring you the magazine without any delay. Statements will be sent out with the ballots about November 15. All new memberships received are post-dated to January so that new members receive a full year of the magazine.

### New Members

Mildred Abbott, New London, Conn.	Dorothy Hobson, Indianapolis, Ind.
Gertrude E. Allen, Quincy, Mass.	Frederica McIntosh, Sewickley, Pa.
Henrietta S. Ball, Lafayette, Ind.	Charlotte S. Pratt, Winsted, Conn.
Frances Burnett, Manchester, Mass.	Mrs. Arthur Rose, East Greenwich, R.I.
Annie D. Greene, Hope Valley, R.I.	Hazel Speakman, Wilmington, Dela.
Elizabeth Hall, Saunderstown, R.I.	Elazabeth A. Usher, Wayne, Penna.
Ralph Waterman, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.	



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Mrs. Arthur Ross, East Greenwich, R.I.  
Hazel Spelman, Wilmington, Dela.  
Elizabeth A. Usher, Wayne, Penna.



National Camp  
Conservation Conference

More than fifty people attended the conservation education conference held at Nation Camp, August 12-13, at Sussex, New Jersey. Seven delegates came from Olgebay Institute, five from Teachers Colleges of New Jersey, four from the National Audubon Society, and others represented such organizations as The Friends of the Land, Garden Club of America, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Garden Club of America, New Jersey Department of Forestry, New Jersey Fish and Game Department, Boy Scouts of America, Hood College, Izaak Walton League, et al.

Highlights of the conference included a trip through Tillman's Ravine in the Stokes State Forest, a trip through the Girl's Camp operated by Life Camps, Inc., and discussions of how conservation can be taught through a "living approach" which is emphasized by Life Camps method of "Outdoor Education and Living".

The discussions concerned with postwar planning and readjustments also provided many valuable suggestions. It was generally agreed that conservationists should make themselves available for service on post-war planning committees to see that such things as the following are provided in programs to be evolved after the war:

- 1) outdoor living space for urban areas, and control of the prospective building boom so as to keep those areas already established.
- 2) Provision for graduated outdoor experiences to care for all types of hikers, campers, photographers, etc.
- 3) Control and guidance of any "make-work" projects to guard against another depression orgy of marsh draining, stream straightening, etc.
- 4) Continued emphasis on a broader and richer program of education through:
  - a) more realistic teacher training with emphasis on outdoor education.
  - b) a practical basis for getting administrators to realize the wisdom of sound conservation experiences.
  - c) better reference materials and texts for teachers and pupils on conservation.
  - d) more outdoor experiences for learning conservation attitudes in our secondary schools.
- 5) A strong program of nature therapy through government auspices for returning veterans unable to take up normal activities immediately.
- 6) An approach to conservation through our health needs as reflected in an understanding of soils.
- 7) an expanded program of nature training for leaders as exemplified by Olgebay Nature Training School, National Camp, Audubon Nature Camp, and the Audubon Nature Center Summer Sessions.



National Camp  
Conservation Conference

More than fifty people attended the conservation education conference held at Nation Camp, August 12-13, at Sussex, New Jersey. Seven delegates came from Oglethorpe Institute, Lake Forest College of New Jersey, four from the National Audubon Society, and others represented such organizations as the Friends of the Land, Garden Club of America, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Garden Club of America, New Jersey Department of Forestry, New Jersey Fish and Game Department, Boy Scouts of America, Hood College, Inack Watson House, et al.

Highlights of the conference included a trip through the Gilman's Farm in the Sussex State Forest, a trip through the Gilman's Camp operated by Life Camp, Inc., and discussion of how conservation can be taught through a "living approach" which is emphasized by Life Camps method of "Outdoor Education and Living".

The discussions concerned with postwar planning and reconstruction also provided many valuable suggestions. It was generally agreed that conservationists should make themselves available for service on post-war planning committees to see that such things as the following are provided in programs to be developed after the war:

- 1) Outdoor living space for urban areas, and control of the progressive building boom so as to keep these areas already established.
- 2) Provision for regulated outdoor recreation areas to serve for all types of sports, games, and recreation, etc.
- 3) Control and management of the "back-back" projects to guard against improper development out of urban draining, stream straightening, etc.
- 4) Continued efforts on a broader and richer program of education through:
  - a) more realistic teacher training with emphasis on outdoor education.
  - b) a practical basis for training administrators to realize the value of using conservation education.
  - c) better technical materials and texts for teachers and pupils on conservation.
  - d) more outdoor experiences for learning conservation activities in our secondary schools.
- 5) A strong program of nature study through government and place for programs which are able to take up normal activities immediately.
- 6) An approach to conservation through our health needs as reflected in the use of natural resources.
- 7) An expanded program of nature training for leaders as exemplified by Oglethorpe Institute, National Camp, Audubon Nature Camp, and the Audubon Nature Center, Sussex, New Jersey.



Audubon Nature Center Holds  
First Summer Session

Some fifty teachers, youth leaders, conservation education leaders and laymen attended the first summer session held at the Audubon Nature Center in Greenwich, Connecticut this summer. Three sessions of two weeks each were held.

Farida A. Wiley of the American Museum of Natural History and Joseph Cadbury of Friend's School, Germantown, and staff member of the Audubon Nature Camp in Maine, assisted Dr. Richard Weaver, Educational Director of the Nature Center, in giving the course.

The course of instruction was designed to introduce beginning students to the fundamentals of ecology and nature teaching. Strong emphasis was placed on field study, individual research and projects, and the use of reference materials.

Field trips were organized around the study of habitat relationships, forests, fields, ponds, streams, and sea shores. Introductory lessons on soil, water, geology, astronomy, plants, birds, mammals, insects, and aquatic life were also included, giving each student an opportunity to become familiar with the references in each field.

Individual projects ranged from making plant and animal censuses on acre plots to the preparation of museum exhibits, nature trail signs, terraria and aquaria, to analysing of fox food through scatology, the construction of a turtle pit, and the planning of nature programs for nature clubs, classrooms and scout troops.

Elk Lake Camp

Professor Rogers of Princeton University conducted his annual nature classes at Elk Lake, New Jersey again this year. Morning field trips and afternoon informal talks composed the program for the thirty-five people who attended. All the activities were optional and very informal.

Ohio Conservation Laboratory

Ollie Fink again directed the summer program at the Ohio Conservation Laboratory operated by the Ohio Departments of Conservation and Education and Ohio State University. Thirty-five students attended the five and one-half week session. It was held at a new site - the abandoned N.Y.A. Camp at Muskingum, where more facilities were available than could be adequately utilized.

Emphasis was again placed on health through soil conservation. Over two hundred people attended the week-end conference on health operated as a special feature of the program. An ecological approach is used in interesting the teachers in conservation of all forms of life, but the conservation of soil and water is used as the underlying theme for the instruction.



Anderson Nature Center Hotel  
First Quarter Session

Some fifty teachers, youth leaders, conservation educators, leaders and laymen attended the first summer session held at the Anderson Nature Center in the summer of 1955. These sessions of two weeks each were held.

Wesley A. Miller of the American Museum of Natural History and Joseph G. Gentry of the American Museum of Natural History, and staff members of the Anderson Nature Center, assisted Dr. Richard Weaver, Executive Director of the Nature Center, in planning the sessions.

The course of instruction was designed to introduce beginning students to the fundamentals of ecology and nature study. Emphasis was placed on field study, individual research and projects, and the use of reference materials.

Field trips were organized around the study of habitat relationships. Forests, fields, ponds, streams, and sea shores, insectary, lessons on soil, water, geology, botany, plants, birds, mammals, insects, and aquatic life were also included, giving each student an opportunity to become familiar with the resources in each field.

Individual projects ranged from making plans and animal care plans on a large scale to the preparation of museum exhibits, nature trails, signs, terraria and dioramas. To sharpen the student's ability, the construction of a terrarium, and the planning of nature programs for nature clubs, classrooms and scout troops.

Elk Lake Camp

Professor Robert C. Anderson, University of Wisconsin, conducted his annual nature classes at Elk Lake, Wisconsin, during the summer of 1955. Field trips and other nature programs were held for the thirty-five people who attended. All the activities were optional and very informal.

Ohio Department of Conservation Laboratory

Ohio Park again directed the summer program at the Ohio Department of Conservation Laboratory, one of the largest of its kind in the nation and located on and near the Ohio State University campus. The sessions of two and one-half weeks each were held at a new site - the abandoned U.S.A. Camp at Mansfield, where more facilities were available than could be expected at any other site.

Thomson was again placed in charge of the Ohio Department of Conservation. Over two hundred people attended the sessions held on the Ohio State University campus. The sessions of two and one-half weeks each were held at a new site - the abandoned U.S.A. Camp at Mansfield, where more facilities were available than could be expected at any other site.



A.B. Brooks Day - Oglebay Park

A special program was arranged for August 27 at Oglebay Park to dedicate the Brooks Memorial Trail and commemorate Nature Trail-ing at Oglebay Park, by the Nature Committee of Oglebay Institute, of which I.J. Koehnline is Chairman.

A tribute was paid to Mr. Brooks at this dedication as follows:

ALONZO BEECHER BROOKS

As he is inscribed in the Book of Life, so will the name of A.B. Brooks be lovingly inscribed in Oglebay's Book which he helped to write.

A.B. Brooks taught us to know and understand the birds and animals, the plants and trees. He brought us new concepts of the beauties and glories of nature. He took us away from the strains and struggles of everyday existence and led us along wooded paths and beside singing streams into a land of calm contemplation where we envisioned our oneness with the God of Creation.

A.B. Brooks knew the world of tomorrow would be built by the children of today. He also knew that tomorrow's world would reflect the degree of their spiritual development; and nature study, he was sure, could contribute much to that spiritual growth.

So, more than all else, A.B. Brooks loved to teach children - not merely facts: the song of the wood thrush, the design of the pin oak, the hiding place of the dog-toothed violet - but he gave them an appreciation of the divine pattern which unifies God and man through the medium of the universe.

A.B. Brooks was a man of many talents - scholar, teacher, lecturer, and writer. He made notable contributions to the development of the Oglebay movement as a whole, as well as to his special field of nature study.

Perhaps his outstanding achievement was the establishment of the Oglebay Nature Leader's Training School, the first of its kind and the pattern of many to follow. Annually, for fifteen years, he attracted scores of leaders of various parts of the country. They came to study Nature facts and methods. They took back with them something of the spirit of A.B. Brooks to pass on to the children they in turn would teach.

On May 16, 1944, Almighty God recalled A.B. Brooks from his earthly mission, but such has been his influence that he is forever enshrined in the hearts and minds of all who came to know and love him.

(Signed)

Resolution passed May 30,  
1944, Trustees of Oglebay  
Institute.

John V. McConnell, President  
S.A. Rybeck  
I.J. Koehnline

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The Nature Committee of Oglebay is making plans for a reorgan-ization of the nature program at the Park, with a resumption of the Nature Leader's Training School, regular nature walks, etc. as soon as adequate personnel is found.



TO THE HONORABLE  
MEMBERS OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
IN SENATE CHAMBERS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
JANUARY 10, 1917  
SIR:  
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst. in relation to the proposed amendment to the National Prohibition Act, and in reply to inform you that the same has been referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and that the Committee will report thereon at an early date.

Very respectfully,  
J. H. McCLURE,  
Clerk of the House.



### Lines and By-Lines

Ollie Fink, organizer of the Ohio Conservation Education program in the schools, resigned his position as Supervisor of Conservation in August 1944, to become the Executive Secretary of The Friends of the Land, which has set up a national headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. Helen Hahn, a student at Lost River Nature Camp and at the Conservation Laboratory this summer, has been engaged as Mr. Fink's secretary. A successor to Mr. Fink in the Department of Education has not been found yet. It is hoped that this fine program can be continued.

Dr. E.L. Palmer, active conservationist, has been nominated for one of the Directorships of the National Audubon Society. He is also serving as chairman of one of the important committees of the National Research Council interested in conservation.

Cap'n Bill Vinal, was afflicted with appendicitis several days before the National Camp Conservation Education Conference and was rushed to the Sussex hospital for an operation, thus was unable to participate in the conference. He has recuperated remarkably well and is resting now at his Norweld, Massachusetts home, before returning to Amherst September 27 for resumption of his duties.

Ruth Turner, membership chairman for the Society, has resigned her teaching position at Vassar College to become research assistant at the Clapp Laboratories at Duxbury, Massachusetts.

Harold I. O'Byrne, past Secretary of the Society, is now employed as Conservator of the Rockwoods Reservation in the western part of St. Louis County, Missouri, which is operated by the Missouri Conservation Commission. "The Reservation was established with conservation funds to be maintained as a simple outdoor laboratory where the people of St. Louis and the surrounding region would have the opportunity to become acquainted with the forest and its animal and plant life, to discover by observation the necessity for the conservation of natural resources, and to learn from actual conservation projects something about the methods used in a sound wildlife conservation program".

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### New York Chapter Elects

At a recent meeting of some of the New York Chapter members several new officers were elected and a program for the coming year was planned. A trip to the Audubon Nature Center is anticipated. Mrs. Mina Blatt, visiting teacher for the School Nature League operated now by the National Audubon Society, is the new Secretary.

The new officers include Marvin Brooks, President; Mrs. Mina Blatt, Secretary; Mrs. K. Wittleder, Treasurer; and seven Vice-Presidents representing the boroughs.

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### New Nature Center

The National Audubon Society has just acquired a tract of land in California where a second Audubon Nature Center will be established, with headquarters at the San Gabriel River Wildlife Sanctuary at Whittier, just thirty minutes ride from downtown Los Angeles.







## Biography of

Dr. J. Andrew Drushel\*  
1872-1940

by William Gould Vinal, Massachusetts State College, Amherst.

I can think of nothing which holds greater distinction for the cause of nature study than to do honor to the memory of a champion. On behalf of the American Nature Study Society, I am exceedingly honored that you join me in commemorating J. Andrew Drushel. I remember well when I succeeded Dr. Drushel as President of this Society. It was at the Toronto Meeting in December, 1921. I recall his kindly smile, his helping hand, his bristly hair. With the blessing of Dr. Drushel and Mrs. Comstock I was sent on my way by devotees to a cause. Although he soon joined the New York University faculty as an assistant professor of mathematics (1924) he never deserted our organization and was often in our midst at our meetings with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Even being the author of "Arithmetical Essentials" (1922) and of "Junior High Mathematical Essentials" (1924) did not dry up his enthusiasm as it might have done to some of us. He was big enough and shall I say quaint enough to have such general interests as nature and arithmetic.

If you would know a great nature teacher one source to go is his colleagues. I have the following from one of his closest friends in St. Louis, Lewis M. Dougan:

"J. Andrew Drushel founded the St. Louis Nature Study Society in 1905 and was its moving spirit for twenty years. During two decades he personally conducted several excursions each year into the city's open spaces and suburbs as well as farther out in the state, and thereby he brought to many teachers a new understanding of various phases of nature. In all his teaching, out-of-doors or in, he emphasized the importance of a careful investigation of the facts first and learning the words of the book later.

His special interest in nature was botany and when on an excursion his familiar figure almost always carried a vasculum from one shoulder. He was such an indefatigable collector and taxonomist that he was able to leave science some 10,000 specimens carefully mounted, identified and labeled. These he bequeathed to the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis where they will be preserved as a memorial of his interest in the flora of this region.

Such was his interest in outdoor science that the society he founded has carried to the present day and now leaders who have inherited the tradition he established, and promises to carry on for some years to come."

I would like to emphasize with Mr. Dougan that first of all Dr. Drushel was a scientist who was admired and respected for his scholarship. His arithmetic books were written for children yet the series was never accused of being anything but substantial. If writers of a similar series in science would follow Drushel's example, if they would make their books clear, thorough and truthful, there would not be such wide-open opportunities for pot-shooting as has come from would-be posers in science who have taken shots at the Nature Study person in general.







The second thing that made Dr. Drushel a great teacher was his enthusiasm and his manifold points of contact with universal nature. He was not a dried-up wizzened pedagogue that had confined his talents to a narrow road but a man with human understanding and a enjoyer of the commonplace. He could impart this to students. They regarded him as a friend and teacher. They stamped him as "The Master Teacher".

Dr. Drushel received an A.B. degree in 1905 from Yale University and completed his Ph. D. at New York University in 1927. He began his work at Harris Teachers College upon graduating at Yale. He was a member of many learned societies. Besides the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Nature Study Society of which he was President in 1920-1921 he was a member of the N.E.A., the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, American Museum of Natural History, Torrey Botanical Club, Vermont Botanical Club; St. Louis Academy of Science; Westfield Bird Club, Sigma Xi, Phi Delta Kappa; and Rho. He joined the New York University faculty in 1924 and became Professor of Education in 1928.

J. Andrew Drushel was born the year Louis Agassiz started his summer school on Penikese and before the large array of the nature leaders schools of today. He was born the year of the founding of the first National Park at Yellowstone and prior to the park naturalist program. He was born before scouting, before ecology and before the great growth of the organized camp. He was born before nature study became a part of the national recreation program. Yet his methods were prophetic of the great changes to come. Perhaps this was best exemplified when he founded the St. Louis Nature Study Society. The club was made up largely of Dr. Drushel's pupils and other nature folks who would go with them. As Dr. Drushel's popularity grew the Engelmann Botanical Club, originally sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Gardens, was absorbed. The St. Louis Nature Study Society is now in its sixteenth year (1940) and stands as a living memorial to its organizer.

Last, but not least, Dr. Drushel was born in rural Ohio at a place called Hope. Of course, over circumstances of birth he had no control, but he was fortunate in being reared in the simple life and in experiencing hard work. Rural life and a country school stood him in good stead. Perhaps it was those things that presented him with simplicity, patience, physique. And so it is an honor to pay tribute to a successful naturalist, teacher, and friend. By honoring him we honor ourselves.

\* The first of a series of Biographies of Nature Leaders. Presented at the A.N.S.S. annual meeting, December, 1940, Phila.

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#### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

All members are requested to send information and news items about themselves or other members for use in the NEWS LETTER, to the Secretary. This is our primary means of communication for our members, so let us hear what you are doing, what is new over your way, what you would like to see included in future LETTERS.







Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NOMINATION FORM  
for Officers and Directors for the American Nature Study Society

I nominate the following: 1945

President \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary-Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

A.A.A.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Directors (nominate 5) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Note: See FALL 1943 NEWS LETTER for list of members eligible.

Directors and Committeemen Retained in Office

\*Directors: George J. Free  
Alfred Satterthwait  
Esther Scott  
Ellen Eddy Shaw  
Dwight Sollberger

\*Terms expire December  
1945

Publication Committee:

Gayle Pickwell  
E.L. Palmer

Term expires December 1945  
Term expires December 1946

Nominations should be sent to Richard Weaver, Port Chester,  
R.D. #1, New York before November 1, 1944.



for Officers and Directors of the American Study Society

I nominate the following:

President

Vice-President

Secretary-Treasurer

A.A.A.S. Representative

Publication Committee

Directors (nominate 5)

Notes: See Fall 1943 for list of members eligible.

Directors and Committees Electable in Office

Term expires December

1943

Directors: George J. ...

Alfred S. ...

Edward ...

Ellen ...

Director ...

Publication Committee

David ...

R.D. ...

Members should be sent to ...  
R.D. ...

...