The Monadnock of the Clark University Geographical Society

December 1947

*Geography is the science of place, its attributes, and their relationships.*

—Ekblaw
FROM THE DIRECTOR

Last year, while writing a foreword to the Monadnock, I had just assumed my new responsibilities as Director of the School of Geography. Having been asked again to write a few words, my message to you, our Alumni, is that the school is doing well and can look back upon a successful year. Our success is due in great part to close cooperation between members of the staff, supported by a sympathetic administration; but it is also due to our student group, to their spirit of working together and to their close contact with the staff. My task as Director was made easy through their efforts while the many letters from alumni were also greatly appreciated. I feel confident that our school is facing a future in which it can expand its activities, and that it will remain a center of geographic training of which you can justly be proud.

S. Van Valkenburg

Clark University
STAFF ACTIVITIES

Dr. Samuel Van Valkenburg, Director of the Graduate School of Geography, was unable to make his usual fall visits with the Alumni this year. Instead, he made the long journey to his family home in The Netherlands where his father passed away in October. It is certain that the feelings of regret of the students and faculty here at Clark are shared by our many Alumni.

During the past year Dr. Van Valkenburg has undertaken several publications and the supervision of several research projects. His latest publication is Pacific Asia, a political geography study and latest of the Foreign Policy Association's Headline Series.

Dr. Van Valkenburg has prepared a paper, "Graduate Training in Geography," which he will read before the National Council of Geography Teachers at the Christmas meetings in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Before the Association of American Geographers he will present with Mr. Sherman K. Abrahamsen a new Koeppen map of Africa.

In addition to preparing several new articles, Dr. Van Valkenburg is judging the papers left by Dr. Ellisworth Huntington for possible publication.

Dr. W. Elmer Ekblaw is undertaking a busy schedule of extra-curricular activities. He spends much of his time in an unusually heavy program of supervising research work and editing theses, for both the Master's and the Doctor's degrees.

Dr. Ekblaw is continuing as Editor of Economic Geography, and reports that publishing delays incurred by a lack of suitable articles during the war years have been overcome, with enough manuscripts now on hand to fill all issues through July.

He is again serving as President of the Massachusetts Archeological Society and recently attended a meeting of the Eastern States Archeological Federation in Wilmington, Delaware. He still publishes his weekly columns in the Sunday and Monday Worcester Telegram, features which have run unbroken for 14 years.

Dr. Raymond E. Murphy has completed a combination workbook-textbook World Survey just published by Rand McNally. The book is designed to accompany Goode's School Atlas and is for university use. It contains study exercises arranged regionally by political units and based upon the atlas and upon accompanying tables, outline maps, and appendices.

An article by Dr. Murphy, "Wartime Changes in the Patterns of United States Coal Production" appears in the December Annals of the Association of American Geographers.

At the Christmas meeting of the Association, Dr. Murphy will present a paper, "Land Ownership on a Micronesian Atoll." The paper is the first of several studies of Micronesia which he hopes will result from his field work of last summer. At that time he made a general survey of the Eastern Caroline Islands, spending seven weeks on the atoll of Mokil studying its land ownership and economy, and three weeks investigating the economic geography of the high island of Ponape. The field work was performed as part of a Coordinated Investigation of Micronesian Anthropology sponsored jointly by the National Research Council and the Navy Department.

Previous to last summer's work, Dr. Murphy in the winter of 1945-46 spent several weeks in an air reconnaissance of the Marshall and Caroline Islands under the combined auspices of the University of Hawaii and the Navy Department.

Dr. Richard J. Lougee spent most of the summer in the field measuring the elevation of glacial water levels in his study of post-glacial upwarping in New England. He ran lines of levels on deltas in the Connecticut Valley, Narragansett Basin, and as far north as Moosehead Lake.

Since 1927 Dr. Lougee has been concerned with glacial Lake Hitchcock. The evidence of varved clays indicate that the lake extended as far south as Middletown, Connecticut, and, further, that its waters were released suddenly when the retreating ice front stood in New Hampshire, resulting in its rapid disappearance. For many years Dr. Lougee sought the control point of the lake, and this summer, with the aid of new government topographic maps, he was able to investigate several possible sites and establish its most likely location in the gorge of the Connecticut River below Middletown.

Dr. Lougee will present his findings before the Association of American Geographers at the Christmas meeting.

Dr. Henry J. Warman, Secretary of the Graduate School of Geography, will present a paper, "World Geography", in the discussion of the functions of geographical instruction in secondary schools at the Charlottesville meeting of the National Council of Geography Teachers. The paper is later to appear as a chapter of the National Council of Social Studies yearbook.

Early in November, Dr. Warman spoke on "Geography Teaching in the Modern World" before the New Jersey State Education Association meeting in Atlantic City.

Many friends of Mr. Guy H. Burnham will be saddened to hear of the death of his wife early in October. Mrs. Burnham was known to all Clark geographers and her passing is keenly felt.

Mr. Burnham is carrying on in the workroom rendering valuable assistance to those using the map library and directing the smooth functioning of crowded facilities.

Shipments of maps are still arriving from the Army Map Service to be catalogued and carefully filed in both the workroom cases and his own incomparable memory.

Mrs. Edna Caldwell, who served so ably as secretary to Dr. Van Valkenburg, left Clark in November to become Mrs. Francis F. Manzi. Best wishes may be extended to the Manzis at 41 May Street, Worcester.

Among the courses offered by the staff in the Graduate School of Geography this year are Dr. Van Valkenburg's Climatology and Political Geography, Dr. Ekblaw's Plant Geography and Human Geography, Dr. Lougee's Physiography of the Western Hemisphere, Dr. Murphy's Problems of Economic Geography, and Mr. Burnham's Cartography.

Dr. Warman is offering a regional course in Middle America, and Dr. Van Valkenburg, case studies of Eurasia. New this year is Urban Geography presented by Dr. Murphy, and Cartographic Presentation of the Geographical Landscape by Dr. Raisz.

Due to the large number of students enrolled in the Graduate School, the plan for conducting seminars is the same as last year. All students meet in the General Seminar which alternates every other week with the Ph.D. Seminar.

Plans for the General Seminar include reports by staff members of their summer field work, the consideration of professional associations and their publications, and the discussion of thesis problems. In the Ph.D. Seminar the current investigation of educational problems will be followed by the presentation and discussion of individual dissertation topics.
VISITING PROFESSORS

Dr. Charles B. Fawcett, of the University of London, joined the C.U.G.S. for tea before his return to England in August. He spoke informally of his summer travels across the United States and Canada. During the spring semester of 1947, Dr. Fawcett gave a series of lectures in the Graduate School on Geography and Civilization and Political Geography of the British Empire.

Dr. L. Dudley Stamp, also of the University of London, was a guest of the C.U.G.S. at the first tea of the current school year. Professor Stamp, who had lectured in Canada during the summer, summarized his work in land utilization and regional planning.

Dr. Erwin Raïx, of the Harvard University Institute of Geographical Exploration, is Visiting Professor of Cartography at Clark during the 1947-48 academic year. Dr. Raïx is teaching a course in the Cartographic Presentation of the Geographical Landscape.

Dr. Hans Boesch, Head of the Geographical Institute of Switzerland and Professor of Geography, University of Zurich, visited the Fall Field Camp and spent several days at Clark, after touring the United States last summer with a group of scientists. Dr. Boesch studied in the Graduate School of Geography during the years 1934-35 and accompanied the group on the long field trip of 1934.

Officers of the Clark University Geographical Society for 1947-48 were elected during the last week of Field Camp. They included Frank H. Bellinger, President; Lea T. Hearn, Vice President; Beatrice L. Burke, Secretary; and Howard L. Ohman, Treasurer. Elwyn A. Stoneman is the retiring President.

NEW EQUIPMENT

New equipment in the School of Geography this year includes a complete plane table outfit to be used for instruction in topographic mapping. The outfit was used by Dr. Lougee in his summer field work and was introduced to the students in mapping the fall Field Camp area.

A sedimentation tank, similar to the one designed by Nevin and Trainor at Cornell University, has been constructed in the basement of the Geography Building for demonstration purposes. Sedimentary deposits can be laid against its plate glass side and their structures studied.

A new combination wind velocity and wind direction recorder has been added to the weather station maintained by Clark geography students in the Physics Building. The wind vane, anemometer, and other equipment on the tower have been completely overhauled and the plotting room refurbished. New psychrometers are now available in sufficient numbers for use by large class groups.

Just arrived is a new seven by seven beaded projection screen for use in illustrated lectures.

SUMMER SESSION

The accelerated summer session, with six week semesters, was continued in 1947 and was well attended. Drs. Van Valkenburg, Ekblaw, Warman, and Mr. Burnham offered a variety of courses designed for graduate students unable to attend the regular session. Offered the past summer were Climatology, Soils, Cultural Geography, Geography in Education, Cartography, and regional studies of North America and the Pacific Coast of Asia.

As the present time it is expected that two six week summer sessions will be offered in 1948.

THE 1947 FIELD CAMP

The annual Field Camp was conducted this year in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, from September twenty-fourth through October eleventh. Headquarters were established at Camp Avoda located on Lake Tispaquin two miles southeast of Middleboro center. Dr. Lougee served as director of field camp activities, taking over ably the duties performed in the past by Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr.

During the sixteen day period, work was divided into three major phases: the mapping of physiography and land utilization, first of a square mile area in the vicinity of Middleboro, and then of assigned towns of the county, and the mapping of land use in urban areas.

On the day before departure from Worcester, the staff gave introductory lectures which acquainted the new comers with the benefits to be derived from Field Camp and presented to them the nature of the work to be undertaken. In conjunction with this, Dr. Lougee gave two demonstrations with the sedimentation tank of the formation of deltas and alluvial fans which helped materially in recognizing those features in the field.

The first few days of camp were devoted to familiar preliminaries. Pacings were made of measured distances, pace-ratios were calculated, and practice was had in eye-judging for the purpose of reducing field observations to appropriate map scales. Further drill was given in the use of the plane table, transit, telescopic alidade, and stadia rod in mapping the camp area. During the first evenings lectures about the land to be studied were given to the group. Dr. Lougee discussed the glacial physiography of the region and Dr. Ekblaw its human use.

The first project in the field, that of mapping square mile quadrangles, was conducted in the region around Middleboro. The scale of the maps used, eight inches to the mile, gave opportunity to map in some detail the physiography and land use encountered. The project familiarized the new students with the method of field mapping developed at Clark and introduced to the old students somewhat revised symbols.

With this preliminary work done, teams of two were assigned larger areas of the county to be mapped in the same manner. USGS topographic sheets, scaled two inches to the mile were used as in the past. Instead of the familiar quadrangles, however, assigned areas were the political units of towns. This departure was decided upon to facilitate the use of statistical information in correlation with field observations of the cultural landscape. A unity of purpose was achieved in tracing broad glacial surface features and distinctive economics, such as dairying and fruit and cranberry growing, across political boundaries.

Assistance in the field was rendered by Dr. Lougee and Dr. Ekblaw with the help of Dr. Van H. English, of Dartmouth College, and Mr. Harold Retallick. The broad picture of land use in Plymouth County was presented to the group in a lecture by Mr. Joseph E. Brown, of the Agricultural Extension Service. Dr. Henry J. Franklin, of the East Wareham Experimentation Station, traced the development of the cranberry industry in the United States and introduced many of the problems encountered by growers of the county. And Dr. Erwin Raïx, of the Harvard University Institute of Geographic Exploration, demonstrated in the field his method of sketching the landscape. Dr. Fridtjov Isachsen, Professor of Geography at
the University of Oslo, Norway, participated in the camp as a student, that he might experience from that point of view Clark's methods of field study.

In addition to the regular field work, three excursions were made by the group. One of these trips was to Buzzards Bay, where a chapter of the Massachusetts Archeological Society was excavating a sequence of Indian campsites from the sandy terrace soils of the old Taunton River.

On the first Saturday of camp, a tour was made by automobile convoy of the southern portion of the county. The trip served as a survey of broad physical features and of man's adaptations to them. The general picture of sparsely settled, forested uplands and of alluvial lowlands intensively used by cranberry growers became a familiar one. Moving southward over the dipping surface of the New England peninsular, the group stopped to grasp the full significance of its plunge into the sea at Mattapoisett. From the same vantage point the emergence of the terminal moraine of the Elizabeth Islands and its relationship to the Wood's Hole moraine was seen across Buzzards Bay. Note was made en route of the upland grazing economy on Mr. Burnham's favorite Rochester moors, and of the frequent use of the many glacial lakes of the region for urban water supply. A final stop was made to comprehend the relationship of cranberry bogs with their adjacent water bodies and sand deposits.

A third trip was made by the group on the second Sunday of camp to the eastern shore of the county. At several spots along the way Dr. Ekblaw pointed out fine examples of the nice correlations between plants and their physical surroundings. At two points excellent soil profiles were seen showing horizons of well advanced podzolization. A stop was made among the drumlins of Duxbury and another in the tidal marshes of Plymouth.

Several historical sites in Plymouth were visited. In passing over the Ellissville moraine, the group noted its effect in the extreme barrenness of human occupancy. At the Cape Cod Canal Dr. Lougee pointed out how man has used for his commercial advantage the natural formation of a pre-glacial stream bed.

As the end of Field Camp approached, physiographic and land use information gathered by individual teams in the field was transferred by them from their own sheets to master maps. These large maps will be retained as reference material in the Clark University Library.

The third project of the Field Camp, that of urban land use mapping, was conducted by Dr. Albert S. Carlson, of Dartmouth College. Tours were made of the Douglas Shoe Company and George Keith Company in Brockton, and of the Plymouth Cordage Company, to acquaint the group to industrial interviewing and to introduce the geographical problems of industries. Those teams having commercial and industrial development of significance in their towns were given the problem of mapping them, while the remaining teams were assigned sections of Brockton. Of general interest to the whole group were the geographical aspects of the shoe industry, the principle industrial activity of Plymouth County.

Climatic work during the camp was limited to daily observations by the students of pressure, temperature, and humidity, using the school's portable weather equipment. Individual investigations were undertaken, however, of the close correlation of climate and cranberry growing.

With the return to Worcester, there began a week of intense work in the preparation of reports. Field notes were analyzed and presented in summary, with maps, diagrams and photographs.

The living quarters of Field Camp were quite adequate for what one might call rough comfort. The group was quartered in small summer cabins on opposite sides of an athletic field open to Lake Tiskaukin. It is said that individuals wore more to bed than they did in the field, and it is known that at least one person swathed himself in newspapers achieving an unexpected New Look. Meal times and evenings were spent in the main lodge nearby, where conditions were warm and comfortable.

Despite "the extremely serious concentration on work and study" by the group as noted by Dr. Isachsen at the farewell dinner, there was the usual amount of amiability and levity about the camp. Friendships were readily formed by team-mates in the field and by thin-blooded brothers-in-misery who sought the warmth of the big black galley stove and pot of tea on chilly evenings.

Again the group was large, numbering forty-two students, and, as usual, they came from many parts of the world. Fourteen states were represented as well as China, Burma, India, Egypt, Norway, and The Netherlands.

Many cultures and points of view were expressed, and the interchange of ideas proved to be a valuable experience for all. There was a unanimity of spirit in regard to geography, and in other matters, where accord was not achieved, the majority was most tolerant of divergent opinion—even of Dodger fans.

Dr. Ek remained king of the cribbage board, Abrahamson and Bellinger successfully defended their bridge title and a newcomer, Louise Reinwald, outlasted the field in chess. The best story-teller has yet to be named. Although war stories were less frequently resorted to this year, they were retold upon occasion with even more flagrant disregard for true experience.

A highlight of the camp, of course, was the traditional birthday party for President Emeritus Wallace W. Atwood. Each year it became more of a pleasure to recognize in this friendly and family way his contribution to the field of geography, and, more particularly, to geography at Clark. His appearance at dinner was greeted by American song and Arab cheer, and all enjoyed sharing with him his birthday celebration. Upon request, Dr. Atwood presented one of his famous chalk-talks to everyone's delight. The climax of his evening came when Dr. Wally, Jr., appeared to join the festivities after a mad plane dash from Washington.

That same evening Akin Hebravi left us to undergo a rather serious operation in Worcester. He was wished well and sent on his way with maps and crayons, that he might not "waste his time" nor "lose his skill in graduate coloring".

The natives of Plymouth County, like New Englanders met in the past, were quietly reserved in their curiosity about the intruder, and, as graciously reserved in their judgment of his doings. Once convinced that the group intended no competitive or governmental shenanigans, they were most informative and helpful.

By far the most popular individual among the natives was an accomplished four-legged mongrel who answered to many names and whose friends in camp were as numerous as the varieties of dog he represented. Completely indiscriminate in choosing his friends, he wagged home each returning car at the end of day, sat up prettily for every hand that fed him, and slept with any kind soul who offered him warmth and shelter for the night. He was a sad little wagless fellow when the group broke camp to return to Worcester.
IN AND OUT OF THE ALCOVES

Sherman R. Abrahamson (B.S., Duluth State Teachers College, 1943) taught in the Duluth Public School system for one year. Now in his second year of study, he is completing his M.A. thesis, "Climatic Regions of Africa."

Lewis Alexander (B.A., Middlebury College, 1942) spent the year 1946-47 at Clark, and is now working on his M.A. thesis, "Geographical Aspects of Recreation in Dennis Township, Massachusetts."

Frank H. Bellinger (B.A., Wheaton College, Illinois, 1942) is working toward an M.A. degree after spending the year 1946-47 at Clark.

Beatrice L. Burke (B.Ed., Duluth State Teachers College, 1934) was in the WAC from 1942 to 1946. She spent from 1943 to 1945 in Washington, D.C., at A.A.F. Headquarters, Petroleum Allocation. In 1945 she attended Stanford University pursuing oriental studies and from 1945 to 1946 served in Tokyo G.H.Q. She has attended Clark University Geography Summer Sessions in 1938, 1939, 1940, and 1946 and has taught elementary school in Hammond, Indiana. She is now working for her M.A.

Secund E. Burman (B.T., 1941, M.A., 1945, Punjab University, India) published several articles in various college magazines. She was Assistant Lecturer in Geography in colleges affiliated with Punjab University for four years and has come here to obtain her Ph.D.

Dorothy E. Burton (B.S., Buffalo State Teachers College, 1938; M.A., Clark University, 1947) taught English for two years in Puerto Rico. She is now working for her Ph.D.

Henry L. Buesard (B.A., Wabash College, 1946) is in residence working for his M.A.

Harry H. Caldwell (B.A., Clark University, 1941; M.A., University of Nebraska, 1946) served in the Army Weather Service in both Canada and Alaska. He did climatological research for the Army Weather Central, Great Falls, Montana, and was an instructor at the Army Weather School at Chanute Field, Illinois, in 1945, and at Nebraska Wesleyan University summer session in 1946. He is at present seeking his Ph.D.

Ching-Chieh Chang (B.S., National Tsing Hwa University, China, 1942) was an instructor in the Department of Geography, National Northeast University, from 1945 to 1946. He is here to work for his Ph.D.

Sung-Chiao Chao (B.A., 1942, M.A., 1945, National Chekiang University, Hanchow, China) was an instructor there from 1945 to 1946. He has now passed his orals for his Ph.D. and is working on his thesis.

Genevieve Clark (B.S., University of New Hampshire, 1946) spent the year 1946-47 at Clark and is now pursuing work for her M.A. Her thesis topic is "A Physiographic Study of Selected Areas in the Region of the Quinsigamond River."

Mildred Danklefsen (B.S. in Ed., Bowling Green State University, 1939; M.A., Clark University, 1943) taught in Bellevue Public Schools in Ohio and in the Department of Geology and Geography, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. She is working for her Ph.D.

John H. Dean (B.S., Buffalo State Teachers College, 1946) is now working on his M.A. thesis, "A Contribution to the Climate of British East Africa." He taught elementary subjects in Fulton, New York. He is now working for his Ph.D.

Cornelis de Jonge (B.A., Clark University, 1947) was a pilot in the Netherlands East Indies Army Air Force for five years. He is seeking his M.A., and his thesis topic is "The Climate of Brazil."
Richard B. Ellis (B.A., Clark University, 1947) served with the United States Navy in the Pacific before returning to Clark to obtain his B.A. He is now working for his M.A.

John F. Foley (B.A., Massachusetts State College, 1944) is working for his M.A. after having spent the year 1946-47 in India.

Howard L. Griffin (B.A., Clark University, 1947) served as a Priorities and Traffic Officer, Air Transport Command in Assam and Bengal, India, and as a Meteorologist in the Air Weather Service. He is here now for his M.A.

Mohamed Ibrahim Hassan (B.A., Fouad 1st University, Guiza, Egypt, 1939; D.P., Higher Institute of Education, 1941; M.A., Fouad 1st University, 1945) taught for three years in government schools and for three years in Fouad 1st University as an assistant lecturer in the Geography Department. He has published some articles on regional geography and is a member of the government sponsored Egyptian Education Mission. He is here to obtain his Ph.D.

Lea T. Hearn (B.S., State Teachers College, Bridgewater, Mass., 1943) attended Clark Summer Sessions in 1945 and 1946 and spent the year 1946-47 in residence. She taught Junior High School in Attleboro for three years. Now working for her M.A., her thesis topic is "Life of the Aborigines Along the Taunton River."

Mohamed Fateh Akiil Hebraci (B.A., Fouad 1st University, Guiza, Egypt, 1939; D.P., Higher Institute of Education, 1940) taught three years in elementary schools, one year in high school, and one year as assistant lecturer in Farouk 1st University in Alexandria, Egypt. He is also a member of the Egyptian Education Mission and is studying for his Ph.D.

Mohamed Baby El-Din M. El-Heny (B.A., Fouad 1st University, Guiza, Egypt, 1945) is also a member of the Egyptian Education Mission. He is now completing his M.A. thesis, "A Contribution to the Climate of East Africa North of the Equator."

Colbert C. Hed (B.A., Baylor University, 1938; M.A., Northwestern University, 1940) taught English and Speech in Mississippi and Tarkio Colleges before entering the Air Corps in 1942. He is studying for a Ph.D. and his dissertation will present a study of the political geography of the Saar Basin.

Joseph B. Hoyt (B.S., Bowdoin College, 1935; M.A. in History, Harvard University, 1936; M.A. in Teaching, Harvard University, 1937) worked for Pan American Airways Inc. in domestic and foreign service from 1943 to 1945. He taught in the Junior High Schools in Wenham and Beverly, Massachusetts, from 1937 to 1942 and was for two years Director of Guidance at Wells High School in Southbridge, Massachusetts. He is taking his Ph.D.

Albert H. Jackman (B.S., Princeton University, 1931) was assigned to mountain and winter warfare equipment development and training projects in the Tenth Mountain Division in Italy. He was a War Department observer with the American Geographical Expedition, St. Elias Range, with the Alaskan Test Expedition, Mt. McKinley, Alaska, and with Exercise Muskox, in the Northwest Territories, Canada. He is here to obtain his M.A. and Ph.D.

Daniel Jacobson (B.A., State Teachers College, Mountclair, New Jersey) served three years in the U.S.A.A.F. stationed in Hawaii. He is here seeking his M.A.

Aleim S. Kassard (B.A., Juniata College, 1935; M.Ed., Pennsylvania State College, 1945) completed one year of graduate study at the University of Wisconsin. He spent one year teaching Geography in the Army Air Force Program at Wittenberg College, and also a year with the Army Training Program and regular sessions at Pennsylvania State College. He taught Economic Geography at the University of Pennsylvania for a year and was a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Wisconsin. He is working for his Ph.D.

Ma Thin Kyi (B.A., B.Ed. from University of Rangoon, Burma, 1939 and 1940) completed one year of graduate study in the University of Rangoon and acted as Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Geography there. She is working for her M.A.

Aldonna Lapinskas (B.S. in Ed., State Teachers College, Worcester, Mass., 1943) taught at the Colorado River Relocation Center, War Relocation Authority, Poston, Arizona, from 1943 to 1945 and in the public school system of Hawaii from 1945 to 1947. She is here to obtain her M.A.

Hazel Latendresse (B.Ed., Rhode Island College of Education, 1946) spent the year 1946-47 at Clark University and is working for her M.A.

Rex C. Miller (B.S., University of Nebraska, 1942; M.A., 1947) was an Army Air Corps Weather Observer and spent eighteen months of service in Alaska. He has also been a graduate assistant at the University of Nebraska. He is here to obtain his Ph.D.

Nanie Nason (B.S. in Ed., University of Maine, 1938) spent the year 1946-47 at Clark. She is working for her M.A. and her thesis topic is "The Geographical Role of Tourism in the Town of Naples, Maine."

Nils A. Nilson (B.A., Upsala College, 1947) spent three years in the Navy serving as Communications Officer at Pearl Harbor. He is now studying for his M.A.

Howard L. Ohman (B.A., Clark University, 1947) was a Weather Forecaster in the AAF serving in the South Pacific prior to completing his undergraduate work in geography at Clark. He is here for his M.A.

Marguerite Plante (B.S. in Ed., State Teachers College, Bridgeport, Mass., 1944) has attended Clark during two summer sessions and the year 1946-47. She is studying for her M.A.

Lewis Reinsch (B.A., Ohio University, 1947) is in residence for his M.A.

Harold J. Retaullic (B.S., State Teachers College, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, 1938; M.A., Clark University, 1947) taught for a semester at State Teachers College, New Britain, Connecticut, and is now back at Clark to work toward his Ph.D.

Edward M. Riley (B.A., Clark University, 1946) completed a year of graduate work at Clark and is now preparing his M.A. thesis on the foreign trade of Mexico.

Ada M. Shawkey (B.S., 1935; M. Litt, 1940, University of Pittsburgh) has taught Geography in Aliquippa High School, Pennsylvania. She is now here to obtain her Ph.D.

Li-chang Shih (B.A., National Tsing Hua University, 1941) worked with the China Institute of Geograhy from 1941 to 1945 and in the Regional Planning Section of the Central Planning Board from 1945 to 1947. He has published several articles in Chinese. He has come to Clark for his M.A.

Edward A. Sibley (B.A., 1922; M.A., 1932, University of Pennsylvania) was a Lieutenant, USNR, assigned as Instructor at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, from 1943 to 1945. He is here to obtain his Ph.D.

Rufus H. Sabol (B.S., State Teachers College, Fitchburg, Mass., 1942) was at Clark during the year 1946-47 and is studying for his M.A.

MONADNOCK STAFF

John F. Foley Editor
Savithri Burman Associate Editor
Howard Green Associate Editor
Joseph Hoyt Associate Editor
Hazel Latendresse Associate Editor
RECENT GRADUATES

In order to keep the Alumni informed of those who have been graduated since the publication of “Our First Twenty-Five Years,” the Monadnock presents the following names of recent graduates, their thesis topics, and present activities.


Doratha E. Burton (M.A.) Thesis, “Trends in the Coffee Production of Puerto Rico.” Continuing her work at Clark toward a Ph.D.


RESEARCH PROJECTS

Several research projects have been undertaken in the School of Geography during the last year under the supervision of Dr. Van Valkenburg.

For future publication in the New Crowell-Collier Encyclopaedia, articles were written by seventeen students and staff members on the countries and major cities of Europe and Africa and on the Polar Regions.

A climate study for the Quartermaster Corps was recently completed by Messrs. Sherman R. Abrahamson, Clark F. Hess, and Harold J. Retallick. Continental and world maps were drawn showing zones of specified temperature limitations.

A two year project for the Quartermaster Corps, now underway, entails the detailed mapping of monthly precipitation, temperature ranges, and deviations from their norms of all the continents.

A REMINDER

All the information blanks that accompanied the November News-Letter have not been returned. These blanks were sent out to every graduate and former student of the School of Geography on our mailing list to gather material for the Alumni Monadnock next spring.

If you received an information blank and have not filled it out and returned it as yet, please do so as soon as you can. If you did not receive a questionnaire, simply mail a post card to the Monadnock and one will be sent to you.

Again, if you know of anyone who has attended the School of Geography and is not receiving the Monadnock, please drop a card to us with the new address. It is hoped that every graduate and former student of the School of Geography will be on our mailing list and will be reported in the May Monadnock.

What are we doing? Can we find an apology strong enough to support the whole structure of our academic activity?

Perhaps your aim in geography is to be useful to your community, greater or smaller. This is a noble aim, but a poor philosophic point of view if only to push the burden of the proof a little away from yourself. Your activity must be useful to your fellow man, but in which respect — and what is meant by useful?

Here you must establish your own scale of values. Prosically, upon occasion, we may have to “sell” our capacity and ability, or even, horribly, to “sell our personality.” That is, we must let its acceptance depend on others. Yet this philosophy of growing consumption gives no satisfaction to the mind, and I think we all feel strongly that the ultimate apology must be sought on a more personal level. It is well that our studies may turn out to be useful to some part of the community, but they should first and foremost be useful to ourselves. For example, it can even be said that the sparkling red of the fall forest, or the moon over Tispaquin Pond, are useful in a broader sense to me, because they make me enjoy life. I confess that I have now come to regard the usefulness of scientific activity more in this last way than I did twenty years ago. Consider how much of scientific effort and accomplishment has no usefulness at all in a practical sense, even in our own dear field of Geography. DeGeer’s studies of post-glacial chronology by means of alternate layers of clay and silt, for example, were never a “selling proposition”. Yet we can admire such a contribution for its display of superb intellectual qualities.

This does not mean that we are regarding scientific work as an art for art’s sake. But there is a closer kinship than we generally admit between the playfulness of fantasy in art, and the enigmatic ripening of scientific concepts. If you concentrate upon a problem, and are prepared, you will some day be rewarded and suddenly see a solution before you, as if an angel had touched you with her wingtips. An idea taking form through you is certainly the highest experience you can have as a scientist. It will be of immense importance to you personally, regardless of the marketing value of the particular idea itself.

How could this importance ever be measured? A London booklover, who lost his library by bombing during the war, asked himself in poetry what his books had really been good for, and found consolation in the conclusion that:

“Studies are for virtue’s sake—Be the man that they would make.”

This man will grow out of the endurance and concentration you all have shown in camp. We have, as a part of our job, the unique occasion of spending part of the year under conditions refreshing to body and soul alike; a time when you slowly and happily feel not only relaxation — which is a negative notion — but something positive which is going on within yourself. Your personality is being built up again. You gain back your identity as a gift from heaven. This longing back to nature becomes, I believe, an obsession in a fine geographer.

I think I am now touching upon the most significant side of a field party like ours, or of field work in general. Field work keeps us young. Here is one useful side of scientific study by field work, and it creates, by the passion it awakens in us, the secret bonds of sympathy and understanding which unite us even if our fields of concentration may be widely separated.

(Summarized by the Editor from the remarks made by Dr. Fridtjov Iachsen at the Farewell Dinner, 1947 Field Camp.)