The Monadnock of the Clark Geographical Society

FIELD TRIP NUMBER

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PARTICULARLY FOR ALUMNI

The Clark University Graduate School of Geography is still young. Nevertheless, those of us who know it have full confidence that it is really the center of modern geographic science in the Americas, if not in the entire world. We who are its products are still relatively few. We have known each other intimately as students. We have every essential for a strongly cemented academic, social and professional bond.

Now, while the association among us is that of personal friendship and professional sympathy, is the most auspicious time for the establishment of a firm union. The Chairman of the present Monadnock Committee is a Harvard Law School man; he hopes to see achieved among the Clark geographers the same spirit of professional kinship that exists among the graduates of that older and larger school.

This can be done. It does necessitate, however, close union in some sense, for we are geographically scattered. The Monadnock is the obvious medium. At least once a year it will attempt a comprehensive directory of graduates, so that we may be acquainted with each other’s whereabouts and work. Contributions on this account are naturally invited.

Enthusiastic cooperation is essential. Graduates of the Clark School of Geography are urged to forward a dollar each, not because that will cover the cost of producing and mailing the Monadnock for a year, but because, with such help, we may hope to achieve that glorious end. A year’s subscription may mean two issues; we hope it may mean four.

In any event, Clark geographers are urged to forward information respecting their present addresses and present employment, for tabulation in the Alumni Number; and accounts of their research projects will be welcomed.

Naturally our plans for the year must depend on the support that is received. We must very shortly lay out the complete program. It must be clear, therefore, that subscriptions, to be of practical and immediate value, must be promptly received. Is a dollar too much for the service the Monadnock proposes to furnish? No, we answer the purely rhetorical question, and enclose a blank for both subscription and information. USE IT TODAY; the minutes it requires will take no longer now than later.

—JOHN GOULD CURTIS

THE MONADNOCK
OF THE
CLARK GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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THE EUROPEAN FIELD TRIP

The first Clark University European Field Trip is history. But what eventful, satisfying history it was; and what ever-present, companionable history it is; best of all, what a stimulating, living chapter of history it will be to each “ripper” forever! Truly, travel is one way to eat your cake and have it, too.

The pleasure of anticipation began for some members of the party as far back as 1924 when William H. Barker, Head of the Geography Department of the University of Manchester, England, gave at Clark a summer session course on the Geography of the British Isles, and President Atwood began to interest him in the plans which finally matured so successfully in the summer of 1927. The school year of 1926-27 slipped by like a tale that is told, so packed with plans and preparations.

The voyage itself was an excellent preparation for the more strenuous weeks to follow. Three days on the placid St. Lawrence, and all the rest of the trip on an ocean almost as quiet, and a comfortable ship with perfect Scotch stewards left nothing to be desired.

Glimpses of Ireland were obtained throughout one afternoon and evening. The next morning we awoke at anchor in the Liverpool harbor, and greeted Professor and Mrs. Barker as they came aboard with Rollin Atwood. Our first official field lesson began then and there while we scanned the harbor lines and roof lines of Liverpool and Birkenhead, and saw the great series of closed docks whose invention this whole area owes its growth.

The last six hours of the voyage were the most enchanting. At dinner time of July 10, we passed Ailsa Craig, the farthest-flung outpost of the mist-hung rocky ranks of the Highlands. From then on, up the Firth and the narrowing Clyde we witnessed a panorama moving ever more slowly, yet all too rapidly: to port, the ancient stumps of once lofty mountains, still high enough to be veiled with the rose and purple mists of the long Scotch summer sunset; to starboard, long green hills and hedgerows, white dots for farmhouses, white ribbons for roads winding up the hills under the rising moon—on one side majesty and mystery, on the other rural beauty and peace.
Little wonder that the Glasgow morning paper carries a page filled with dozens of advertisements of coast-wise trips.

Then we reached "Clydeside"—Glasgow and all its outlying towns whose miles of ship yards and steel mills bring to mind a very different interest; we do not lament the darkness which hides the industrial ugliness as the tugs push up the narrow canalized Clyde to reach our pier at midnight. This is the signal for the breathless pair from the middle west to go below and turn in; though to tell the truth, the New York State contingent was only a short lap ahead.

Glasgow is memorable chiefly as the place where the real field study of Great Britain officially began. As our work in Scotland was typical of all our field work, perhaps a detailed account may be of interest. After an early breakfast aboard the Letitia and a short stop in the customs shed, our Thomas Cook representative introduced us to the char-a-banc which was to be our closest companion for twenty-seven days. Thus, in our own equipage, so to speak, we reached the St. Enoch Hotel.

The latter half of the forenoon was profitably spent listening to a lecture on local geographic problems by Professor Stephens of Glasgow University. The discussion included a thorough study of the industrial growth of Clydeside, as well as of conditions in the surrounding rural area. Professor Stephens accompanied us all afternoon as our conductor through the coal-mining, small-fruit growing and jam manufacturing country back to Glasgow. This traveling-lecture combination made it possible for a professor (if I may paraphrase Geikie) to draw his most pertinent illustrations from the present experiences of those to whom he was speaking.

On this afternoon drive, we had one experience which later groups of Clark University students may not find it possible to duplicate: a genuine Scotch snipe. Two very heavy downpours over a small hilly area within an hour came down on ground so thoroughly saturated by a month of steady rain that the little streams quickly overflowed their banks and inundated all valleys. Water washed in sheets down the hillsides, carrying away rows of strawberry plants and garden flowers, even entering the hillside houses by the back doors and pouring out the front. Water was soon flowing over even the handrails of the little bridges and traffic was held up. Then we had the first lesson in the efficiency of London bus-drivers, for Bixby achieved the impossible and took us triumphantly through.

We had many other opportunities to observe and admire the skill and courtesy of the man behind the wheel. He told us of the thorough training and difficult tests all London bus-drivers must go through, and disclaimed any special merit. But our party was soon convinced that Bixby is a prince among British chauffeurs, who as a class deserve the heartiest praise.

Leaving Glasgow, we had two glorious days in the Highlands, driving the length of Loch Lomond and eating a picnic lunch on its shore. We visited the Trossachs and Loch Katrine, where some of us tried our oarsmanship and fondly believe we reached Ellen’s Isle.

We had an afternoon and a night at Callander, a gem of a village in a granite setting, a thrifty, truly Scotch village which uses no street lights in midsummer when sunset is so late that twilight lingers until dawn. The next afternoon found us looking down from the battlements of Stirling Castle and out toward Bannockburn, trying to sing "Scots Wha Hae" and "Wallace Bled," and thankful that we had recently "brushed up" by reading Scottish Chiefs. By dinner time, we had nearly crossed the lowlands and had reached Edinburgh. We had driven about two hundred miles since leaving Glasgow, which is only fifty miles away by the direct road. Do not think that we were so charmed with Scotland's beauty or so lost in her history that we failed to grasp the significant geography of each region that we entered. Each student

 seems to us so exclusively private, about housekeeping, marketing, literature and every phase of modern English life. We marveled that she could reply as unceasingly and apparently as untingingly as we could propose the questions. We owe to her a very large share of our summer’s joys and profit, and I am sure each member of the party hopes for an opportunity to extend to both Mr. and Mrs. Barker some return in America for the friendship and professional growth which we found through their efforts on British soil.
Professor Barker knows British geography too well to need assistance in conducting the course he gave us in the field, but the professional contacts which he arranged for us almost daily were a great inspiration and pleasure to us all, as well as a charming gesture of welcome to the Clark University group, and particularly a personal compliment to President Atwood. Mr. Stephens of Glasgow was the forerunner of twenty British geographers who joined us for varying lengths of time, to contribute to the pleasures and educational advantages of the expedition. At Edinburgh, President and Mrs. Atwood held a small-scale levee one evening when we met these distinguished guests: Dr. Chisholm, Professor Emeritus of Geography at Edinburgh University and very well-known to American readers, Professor Ogilvie, his successor, Dr. Newbiggin, editor of the Scottish Journal of Geography, and Mr. Bartholomew, head of the great map-publishing house. Some of our party visited the Bartholomew plant next day; others, Dr. Newbiggin’s office; all enjoyed Dr. Chisholm’s hospitality at high tea served in the Fellows’ room of the Scottish Zoological Society.

At Ambleside, Professor Fawcett of Leeds University joined us and proposed a motor trip on Lake Windermere in lieu of an evening lecture. We later learned that his lectures are fully as fascinating as moonlight rides on Windermere, and were happy to have him rejoin us on several occasions, especially when he brought Mrs. Fawcett. His hobby is the study of types of village and city growth, with special interest in the great industrial conurbations. At Cambridge we had the pleasure of meeting and hearing Mr. Debenham, the geographer who accompanied Scott in the Antarctic and who is now director of the Polar Institute for Geographical Investigation.

At the Oxford School of Geography Mr. Beckett received the party and spoke to us about the local geography. Mr. Brøks, Inspector of Schools for the London County Council, also gave us freely of his time and energy for several days in London. From him we learned much about London past and present, and even of its future probabilities. Messrs. Carter and Brentnall of Marlborough gave us a sense of delightful familiarity with the chalk lands and their dry valleys and flints, with Avebury and the Silbury mounds, and brought out particularly the historical geography of that region. Professor Rishbeth of Southampton pinned up his huge map to the holly trees in the New Forest while he presented a detailed study of that interesting region of wild ponies and sparse population so close to the crowded cities of the most densely populated country in the world. One would like to recall the name of each geographer individually, but space forbids. Perhaps I might add Mr. Kenvig of Birmingham, whose interest in geography has so won him the friendship of Mr. Cadbury the chocolate manufacturer, that Clark University was extended the hospitality of the beautiful Cadbury summer home, and given an opportunity to examine a collection of priceless maps. Surely one must mention the Manchester Geographical Society whose interesting secretary gave us such an inside view of that old city, and whose President, Col. Greg, entertained us at dinner in the best British manner. And one can never forget having tea at the beautiful home of the Royal Geographic Society, at which occasion Miss Curnow poured.

Our itinerary took us into almost every nook and corner of England, Wales and Southern Scotland. We were repeatedly assured that it enabled us to see more of England than most Englishmen ever see. Did we visit cathedrals? Yes, fourteen cathedrals and fourteen other minsters and famous chapels in Britain, and still more on the continent, old walled cities, Roman ruins, shops, museums and castles too. We seemed to miss nothing that other tourists would expect to see, and we realized each day that we were seeing infinitely more and comprehending everything infinitely better than we could have done without the geographic study. I am not attempting to reproduce our itinerary here; I believe you can still write to the University for a copy if you wish. But the care and thought that went into its planning were increasingly apparent every day. There is no day’s journey in it that one would willingly miss.

To those who read THE MONADNOCK, it is superfluous to try to tell what Dr. Atwood meant to us. You know that he was always able to contribute both to our fund of knowledge and to our pleasure; that his training in physiography made him able to read every landscape like an open book, and that it is a course in geography just to sit in one end of a bus when President Atwood sits in the other.

The very intensive work ended in England; the distances we covered made the rest of the journey a reconnaissance trip only. When we reached the continent, we felt that we were really in a foreign land; we missed the British friends we had made, but were consoled by having Dr. and Mrs. Atwood all to ourselves. And in the Netherlands we were doubly consoled and royally entertained as well as admirably instructed by Dr. van Velenburg, who seemed determined that we should love Amsterdam and all Holland as well as he does, and who succeeded even better than he knew.

We all wanted to stay much longer there.

Belgium has charms of its own in architecture, history and geography, as well as in lace making. Its shops charmed the francs from everyone’s purse.

Cologne proved an hospitable German city; the glories of its cathedral, and its lovely boulevard along the Rhine can never be forgotten. But the day spent on the Rhine, enroute to Wiesbaden, is one of the priceless memories of the summer.

Then Switzerland, the climax of the tour by unanimous consent. The ascent of Rigi, the drive over the hairpin curves to the Rhone glacier, the views
of Jungfrau and the day at Schynige Pass need no comments from my pen. Finally, France, the beauty of Paris, the Louvre, the Sorbonne, Malmaison, the Palace at Versailles, the shops and the opera kept us so busy we almost forgot to be miserable over the disbanding of the party which was imminent.

One could not complete a report of the Field Trip without attempting to record some of the benefits derived. As time elapses, the good results become increasingly apparent. It is still too early to count them all. Life is immeasurably richer for the experience. Every book and magazine makes references to some place we now know because we have been there and have seen it in a scientific light. All literature, art and history mean more to us. Our professional geographic equipment is enriched tremendously by actual experiences and by professional contacts. Our desire for further travel and study is actively stimulated. The world is much more ours than it was before.

So the first Clark University European Field Trip has become history; but please note it did not vanish into history. It became immortal history, and that sort always repeats itself. Success to the next Clark University European Trip!

—Isabelle K. Hart.

The party consisted of the following:

**Dr. Wallace W. Atwood**
**Mrs. Wallace W. Atwood**
**Miss Harriet T. Atwood**
**Miss Mary Atwood**
**Rollin S. Atwood**
**Wallace R. Atwood**
**Professor W. H. Barker**
**Mrs. W. H. Barker**
**Mrs. Isabelle K. Hart**
**Mrs. Marietta Odell**
**Miss Ruth L. Cox**
**Miss Adelaide C. Fitch**
**Miss Floria E. Otis**
**Miss Carol Y. Mason**
**Miss Olive J. Thomas**
**Miss M. Alberta Banks**
**Miss Grace Sharles**
**Miss Helen M. White**
**Miss Laura V. Curtis**
**Mrs. Bailey Willis**
**Miss Marion B. Forsythe**
**Miss Jessie J. McNall**

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**THE NEW ENGLAND FIELD PARTY**

**IMMEDIATELY** after the close of the Summer School a party of sixteen, under the direction of Mr. Burnham, began a two weeks' study of the geography of New England. During this period the party covered fifteen hundred miles by motor coach in five of the New England states, Maine alone being omitted because of its campaign against Massachusetts-licensed trucks and busses.

On the first day out the group visited the Blackstone Valley where a survey of water developments was made. Two days were spent in and about New Haven, visiting Yale University and points of historical interest, and making also a study of shore lines.

Passing up the Connecticut Valley, the party stopped in the region just above Hartford for the purpose of viewing the harvesting of the tobacco crop. Trekking on that same afternoon we reached the summit of Mount Tom in time to make the most of a glorious sunset.

Holyoke offered an excellent opportunity for industrial studies, and here we spent the following morning inspecting the plants of the Holyoke Water Power Company and the American Writing Paper Company. That afternoon we set out for North Adams via historic Deerfield and the Mohawk trail.

The next two days we were in Vermont studying the methods employed in quarrying Rutland marble and Barre granite, and also in looking into the dairy industry of the Champlain lowland.

From the Green Mountains we passed to the White, where the physiography of the Mt. Washington, Crawford Notch and Franconia Notch regions was emphasized. We then traveled southward over the Daniel Webster Highway to Boston, where we spent four days in visiting points of interest and studying the physical geography of the Boston Basin.

The last two days of the trip were devoted to Plymouth and Cape Cod. The trip down the south shore was especially interesting from a meteorological standpoint, as we faced one of the severest of the early fall gales. However the storm had the advantage of lending liberally of local color to the region through which we passed.

From our base in Provincetown we moved in all directions across the Cape, making a special study of the human geography of the region. There was regret at parting, both from the Cape and from one another, when we returned to Worcester and disbanded.

—Guy Burnham.

**The party comprised:**
**Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Burnham**
**Mr. and Mrs. Warren A. Yeckes**
**Miss Florence E. Hall**
**Miss Jennie Riseley**
**Miss Blanche Powell**
**Miss Mabel L. Rood**
**Miss Pauline Coffin**
**Miss Ruth Dixon**
**Miss M. Dolores Hayden**
**Miss Emily E. Johnson**
**Mr. Stephen Hall**
**Mr. A. M. Le Gacy**
**Mr. Walter R. Pashen**
**Mr. Frank Heron, (chauffeur)**

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**PLEASE FORWARD NEWS PROMPTLY FOR The Alumni Number WHICH WILL BE SENT ONLY TO SUBSCRIBERS!**
A MONTREAL GRAIN ELEVATOR

Mr. Edgar H. Webster
Mr. Leonard R. Schneider
Miss Margaret Kirby
Miss Beth Curley
Miss Harriet Sayle
Mrs. Eula V. Avery
Miss Maud Volk
Miss Myrtha Lisle McClellan
Miss Katharine M. Daley
Miss Mary McMurray
Miss Alice E. Deigan
Miss Julia A. Butler
Miss Florence P. Costello
Miss Frances P. Douglass
Miss Delia M. Breen
Miss Olga A. Johnson
Miss Hilda V. Johnson
Mr. Bert Huggins
Mr. George Webb, (driver)

A PEDAGOGICAL EXPERIMENT

For the first time since the inception of the new science of geography, the entire school has been moved into the field, there to undertake actual surveying and other practical study as a part of its required work. Immediately on the opening of Clark in September, the Graduate School of Geography moved into camp at the Taylor farm, west of Greenfield, Massachusetts, amid the Berkshire Hills.

PLANNING THE DAY'S WORK

Dr. Atwood and Dr. Jones assumed the responsibilities of continuous attendance upon the project; Dr. Ekblaw lent a hand at the beginning, and supervised the later reconnaissance of Cape Cod where the party enjoyed the generous hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Thurber; and Dr. Brooks oscillated between Worcester and Greenfield, making temperature records as he went, and frequently routing out the camp with melodious bugle calls when he thought meteorological observations ought to be made before dawn.

The serious work of the camp comprised a physiographic survey, a land utilization survey and a natural vegetation survey of an area of about 150 square miles, in addition to the weather study. Naturally a division of labor was essential, and the party worked in the field in groups of two or three, each group covering a strip that amounted to a third of the entire area, and each group preparing, from actual observation of every detail of the territory, its own complete set of the maps. In addition, there were industrial surveys of Greenfield, Turner's Falls and Shelburne Falls, directed in the light of Dr. Jones' experience when he prepared his thesis on Montreal.

Space forbids any attempt to recount the scientific results, or the adventures of the party—the fierce collection of concretions from the varve clays of the Connecticut valley, the working out of the pre-glacial channel of the river and of the various lake and stream terraces, the disheartening attempts to correlate mapping concepts where the border lines of the three zones were concerned, the mighty tropical cyclone which blew tents down while the women of the party, secure in the farmhouse, watched flash-lighted attempts to anchor stakes anew, and the birthday surprise party for Dr. Atwood where terrace cake and other geographical phenomena made up the purely scientific menu in which the amiable and versatile Gertrude (generously loaned by Mrs. Atwood) played an essential culinary part.

It is part of the project to prepare a definitive report of the survey, both to correlate the data assembled and to establish its possible value to the region surveyed. It is obvious that the Greenfield Chamber of Commerce and its members are entitled to any serviceable conclusions that can be derived from the study. Meanwhile, even before the reports have come in, plans are being laid for a similar examination of the region adjacent on the south, to be made by next year's student body. It is contemplated that the results of this year's work will be digested for presentation at the coming Nashville meeting of the Association of American Geographers.—J. G. C.
The Monadnock

STRONG
RESISTANT
UPSTANDING