

pletion of such a publication entails. A large part of an author's reward consists in his own sense of satisfaction at a task well done, but in this instance Dr. Rydberg will also receive the grateful appreciation of botanists, especially those of the West, for a volume that will be indispensable for many years, and will long stand as a monument to the industry, enthusiasm, and discriminating vision of its author.

PAUL C. STANDLEY

Two Connecticut forest reports*

The data for the first publication were gathered by traversing "every road" (?) in an automobile and plotting the forest areas on U. S. Geological Survey topographic maps. The length of time required is not clearly indicated, but except for three counties previously surveyed by other parties the field work seems to have begun in 1913 and ended in 1914.

About three pages are devoted to the three physiographic provinces: western upland, central lowland (Triassic), and eastern upland. There are about two pages on forest types (ten in number), 15 pages on forest conditions by counties, 3 pages on destructive influences (fungi, insects and fire), and about 2 pages of interesting historical notes. Then follow tables giving the actual and relative wooded area of each county and town. One of the maps shows by seven different shadings the approximate percentage of forest in each town, and the other the general location of the larger forest areas; both of which should be useful to botanists planning field work in Connecticut. The wooded area by counties ranges from 31 per cent in Fairfield County to 56 per cent in Tolland, and by towns from 5 per cent in Hartford to 88 per cent in Voluntown. The percentage for the whole state is 46.4. (No estimates of the forest area at earlier periods are given, but the reviewer has recently estimated from census figures that Connecticut had more woodland in 1910 than in 1790).† In 1893 the U. S. Geological Survey, in coöperation

* Moss, Albert E. A forest survey of Connecticut. Rep. Conn. Agric. Exp. Sta. 39: 197-230. 2 maps. New Haven, 1916.

———. A forest survey of the town of Redding, Conn. Rep. Conn. Agric. Exp. Sta. 40: 383-427. New Haven, 1917.

† See the current (April) number of the Journal of Forestry (Washington, D. C.)

with the State of Connecticut, published a topographic map of the State, on a scale of 1 : 125,000, showing the wooded areas in green;* and from this Dr. Henry Gannett a few years later† computed the forest area to be 39 per cent of the total; or considerably less than at present, assuming both estimates to be equally accurate.

As far as it goes this is an interesting and useful report. It would have been more serviceable, however, if it had included an estimate of the average stand of timber per acre in each town or county, and a list of tree species, in approximate order of abundance, with notes on distribution. Possibly those are to be supplied in future reports.

The second publication noted describes the forests of one town in the western part of the state in considerable detail, presumably as a model for a similar treatment of other towns to be reported on later. The work was done in the summer of 1915. The text begins with a general survey of conditions, discussing among other things the reversion of much farm land to forest since the middle of the last century (a phenomenon common to several northeastern states), on account of improved transportation facilities making the farm products of the West more accessible.

Six pages are devoted to the eight most important tree species, and seven to the eight forest types. The forests of each of the minor physiographic divisions of the town are described in some detail, and there are several pages of recommendations for fire protection, improvement cuttings, and tree planting, with estimates of the cost and profits of forest management.

Nearly half the area of the town is wooded or uncultivated, 33 per cent of the forest is classed as mixed hardwoods, 21 per cent as oak, 21 per cent as old field type, 14 per cent swamp, 8 per cent oak and chestnut, and so on. The report closes with a list of the principal tree species of the town, about fifty in number, but there is no indication of what proportion of the total forest

* This map appears to be very rare and little known. It is not mentioned in Mr. Moss's report, and the reviewer recently found no trace of it at the U. S. Forest Service, and unearthed a single copy at the Geological Survey only after about an hour's search.

† Nineteenth Ann. Rep. U. S. Geol. Surv. 5; 4. 1899.

stand each constitutes: which probably could have been ascertained roughly with very little extra effort.

ROLAND M. HARPER

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

FEBRUARY 12, 1918

The meeting was held at the American Museum of Natural History at 8:15 P.M. President Richards presided. There were thirty-five persons present.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with. The secretary read notices of the death of Miss Elizabeth Jacobs and Miss Rosalie Schumacher, members of the Club for many years.

The nomination and election of Miss Bernice Jenkins, 103 East 16th Street, New York City, and Miss Caroline Seifert, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., followed.

The announced scientific program consisted of a lecture on "Botanical Exploration in Colombia" by Professor H. H. Rusby. Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE, *Secretary*

FEBRUARY 27, 1918

The meeting was held in the Morphological Laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M. Vice-President Barnhart presided. There were twenty-six persons present.

The minutes of the meetings held January 30 and February 12 were read and approved.

Under the head of new business Mr. Percy Wilson presented a report on part of the program arranged for holding field excursions.

The Secretary read a communication from the Kansas Academy of Science, announcing a proposed celebration of a semi-centennial anniversary of the Society. Professor Raymond J. Pool, of the University of Nebraska, was appointed delegate of the Torrey Club to attend the meetings to be held March 15 and 16.

The announced scientific program: "Gill fungi of Tropical



Harper, Review By: Roland M. 1918. "Two Connecticut forest reports." *Torrey* 18(5), 94–96.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/100248>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/348745>

Holding Institution

New York Botanical Garden, LuEsther T. Mertz Library

Sponsored by

The LuEsther T Mertz Library, the New York Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.