

barren, God-forsaken looking place. A hike one morning early to the neighboring hills amply repaid me with a goodly number of fine live *Oxystyla* before mentioned.

At Salina Cruz, as at Manzanillo the only collecting was inside the breakwater and that not so good since the blocking of the harbor entrance, leaving the water inside a dead sea with no tidal flow.

A species of *Oliva*, ranging from white to dark brown is found here at times in great numbers. These are skillfully worked into shell curtains which are sold all over Mexico. They are really quite beautiful, a design of a peacock or other bird worked out in dark shells on a white background.

I retraced my way through Oaxaca to Mexico City and thence to Acapulco where I have waited two weeks for a steamer *twenty days overdue*. But that is a small item in this land of manana where time means nothing at all.

THE BOSTON MALACOLOGICAL CLUB

The Boston Malacological Club has held its regular meetings on the first Tuesday evening of each month, from October to May, inclusive, in the Library of the Boston Society of Natural History.

The first meeting of the season was devoted to the summer experiences in collecting of various members, one telling of exploration-work in Yucatan, and of finding a few dead land-forms in the ruined Maya temples—and another, of finding live ones during a tour of Europe, success rewarding his search in such spots as the Roman Forum, and Coliseum, The Bois de Boulogne, the grounds at Versailles, and the Campo Santo at Genoa, and a third telling of collecting in Florida, Georgia and Cuba.

At the November meeting, the President, Mr. William J. Clench, gave a talk on New Zealand and its mollusks, dealing with the topography of the islands, and the various

forms. This was followed by a paper by Mr. A. F. Archer, on the land-shells of the same region.

In December Prof. P. E. Raymond addressed the Club on "The Arctic Ocean as a Route of Migration." He emphasized the fact that exploration has brought to light more and more fossil forms, of species originally native to regions of present polar cold, and spoke of the changes in the areas of land and water during countless ages, and the currents and temperatures which governed the distribution of what are now found as fossil form.

At the January meeting, Mr. Charles W. Johnson, of the Boston Society of Natural History, gave a paper on "Coral-inhabiting Mollusks", illustrated by specimens of the Coralliophilidae and others—among the most interesting being the *Magilus antiquus*—and in February, Mr. Clench told of his recent collecting trip to the small uninhabited island known as Navassa, some forty-five miles west of the tip end of Haiti, where with two companions, he spent twelve days, using the abandoned lighthouse buildings as a domicile, and exploring the island, with its rough rocks, and cacti, to be rewarded by finding only three species of land snails, while the collecting of marine forms was made practically impossible by the steep cliffs with their overhang. At the February meeting, also, Mr. Archer gave a short paper on the "Land-shells of Mauritius".

In March, the Club celebrated the twentieth anniversary of its founding, and welcomed as a speaker, one of the three honorary members, Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Dr. Pilsbry told of a trip taken last summer with Ex-governor Pinchot and party, on the Governor's yacht, and of touching at many of the smaller islands among the West Indies—Grand Cayman, St. Andrews, and others, after which they went through the Panama Canal, and visited Cocos Island, then spending some time at the Galapagos group, the Marquesas and Tuamotus. This being a gala occasion, refreshments were served at the adjournment of the meeting.

"The Mollusks of the Andes" was the subject for the meeting in April, Mr. A. F. Archer and Mr. H. A. Rehder being the speakers. Mr. Archer dealt with the geographical features of the mountains and valleys, as well as with the mollusks found there, while Mr. Rehder spoke in detail of the various families, genera and species, of both land and fresh-water forms—and an exhibit, of many of them, was of much interest.

In May, the Club again listened to an outside speaker, Dr. H. L. Clark, of Harvard University, who told of a collecting trip on the coast of Australia, with a side-trip to Tasmania, the object of his search being chiefly echinoderms, many of which were found, including some very rare forms. Dr. Clark spoke with much praise of the excellent museums now to be found in Australia, notably at Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

This being the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected, to serve for the ensuing year:

President,	Francis N. Balch
Vice-president,	Allan F. Archer
Secretary-treasurer,	Theodora Willard
Executive Committee,	Charles W. Johnson
	William J. Clench

At this writing, plans are being made for the Club's annual outdoor meeting, to be held June 7, at Bass Rocks, Gloucester.

THEODORA WILLARD,
Secretary.

NOTES AND NEWS

A NEW COLLECTING GROUND.—At several points along the East Coast of Florida are shrimp stations from which the small fishing boats go out every favorable day to the dredging grounds in about 30 fathoms of water some two or three miles off shore. It occurred to the writer that the



Willard, Theodora. 1930. "The Boston Malacological Club." *The Nautilus* 44, 27-29.

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