

MEN LIVING ON 50C A DAY

Study of Homeless Is Made By Prof. Burgess Under Direction of University

CHICAGO, Ill., July 13.—Men are living on West Madison street on 40 and 50 cents a day, according to Nels Anderson, who is making a study of homeless and migratory men under the direction of Prof. Ernest W. Burgess of the University of Chicago for the United Charities and the Juvenile Protective society.

Mr. Anderson became a wanderer himself as a boy, he said today, but happened to find work on a ranch where the family took an interest in him. At the age of 21 he entered high school. Eventually he was confronted by the problem of selecting a topic for his doctor's thesis, and finding, according to his statement, that no study had been made previously of the hobo, he began to write on that subject on the basis of his early experience. After he had written 250 pages he felt a desire to strengthen his preparation for the task of renewed investigations. Accordingly he has been mingling with tramps as one of them at their "jungles" on summer camps, on the road, in the city streets, and in jail.

"The average student who hasn't been on the road himself," said Mr. Anderson, "is apt to find himself unable to approach a tramp and get his true story. Not only are tramps chock-full of suspicions and prejudices, and likely either to exaggerate or to keep still if they suspect their questioner, but they have a slang of their own."

"For example, a man who works with a shovel is known in the fraternity of 'working stiffs' as a 'mucker'; the man who drives a team is a 'skinner'; one who tamps ties on the railroad is a 'ganey-tancer'."

"In the winter the tramps flock to the big cities. They manage in some cases to make \$30 last a long while, for they know where they can get three doughnuts and a cup

of coffee for five cents and lodging for ten cents, if in the morning they will sweep off the floor they slept on. You will find 300 men on the floor of one of the popular Chicago flop-houses in the winter, though in the summer the same place will be nearly empty.

"Where are the men in the summer? Many, of course, are engaged in reasonable occupations. The idle ones are often gathered at the 'jungles,' which is an institution of Hobohemia like the fashionable club in another stratum of society. The men select for their camps a shady place near enough to town for an occasional handout and far enough from town to seem secure from the 'bulbs' or constables. They build shacks of wood or roofing tin or what-ever material they find handy; I have seen very good shacks built of ripped-up oil cans.

"Last summer I tramped through Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming, covering three hundred miles. I talked to some 2,000 wanderers, and tabulated 492 cases. I had slash my vest to carry my index cards; only one man noticed the slashes and the slight bulges; he asked me if I was an organizer for the 'Wobblies.' I said no and that was all."

"No man ever sinks too low to retain some spark of self-respect," according to Mr. Anderson. "I knew an elderly 'blanket stiff' of the prospector type who refused to go to an institution for treatment though he was a victim of miner's consumption. He gave two characteristic reasons. First, he didn't want his relatives to find out about him. Second, he felt that to go to an institution would be equivalent to a surrender, and it would only be a question of time before he would give up the ghost. He declared vehemently that he could never think of going home, for he had failed to communicate with his family when he was well and had money, he would not communicate with them after he had become ill and indigent.

"Many take to the road or the city streets because they are physically incapacitated and therefore dependent, and they feel that they are unwelcome incumbrances upon their families.

"Many are the dodges employed to get means for subsistence. One man addresses a street corner crowd thus, 'I am different from the rest of youse stiffs. I want to get enough for a flop tonight, I want to eat today, tomorrow, and the day after. I'll talk to you on any subject you choose.' Then he makes his speech and hands round the hat. Anybody can get up a crowd on West Madison street, for there always are always idle men who are glad to listen."

PASS OVER YOUNG

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"Well you know very few of them live to reach that age."

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WEATHER MAN WILL GET TIPS FROM SUN RAYS

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Joseph, the long famed weather prophet of the bible who foretold the seven lean years and the following seven years of plenty, may one day be shown up as a piker by modern weather forecasters, when solar observations being conducted by the Smithsonian institution are completed, it is indicated.

Dr. C. G. Abbot, assistant secretary of the institution, describing the institution's world wide studies of the variation of the heat of the sun, in the annual report lately made public, declares that such compilations are already being used by two South American countries as an aid to weather forecasting. The institution's researches, which are considered of great scientific importance are being closely followed by scientists all over the world, and may make long time prognostications a usual and simple part of weather mapping.

After many years close observation and measurement of the heat radiation from the sun, scientists believe they are now near the goal. It has been finally determined that the sun does not throw off a continuous amount of heat, from year to year, from month to month and even from day to day; that neither does the earth receive a constant amount of solar heat; that these variations are periodic and regular according to several factors, primarily the sun's rotation; and that there is a direct connection with the solar variation and the earth's climate.

The institution, Dr. Abbot said, has set up apparatus for heat measuring at various stations around the world, from which have been computed endless tables of figures by which the measurements showing solar variations have been checked and proved.

While this work is still going on with the view of co-ordinating the measurements with earthly weather conditions, daily observations of the "solar constant" or radiation are being furnished from the institution's station on Mount Montezuma, Chile, to the government bureaus of Argentina and Brazil, where they are used regularly in forecasts. Our own weather bureau, Dr. Abbot added, is investigating the relations of the more complicated weather conditions of the United States to the radiation of the sun, and with results which tend to raise the hope that here too the solar radiation values will be of interest and importance in weather forecasting.

The interesting question has often been brought up, according to the article, as to whether the sun may be gradually losing its heat and declining toward a cold, dead condition. However, he said, it is impossible to answer the question other than to refer to the fact that crops raised in the most ancient of historic times were substantially the same as those grown at present, so that there has at least been little decline within the last 6,000 years. With the aid of the institution's studies, which fix the measurements within an error of only one per cent, scientists 1,000 years from now may be able to answer the question without doubt.

When the hypothesis of the sun's variations was first being worked out, it is said, a very interesting method was used to check the observations. Using a photo-electric cell, Dr. Guthnick, of the Berlin observatory measured the brightness of the planet Saturn as compared with the star Regulus. As Saturn shines with the reflected light of the sun, it was declared, it must vary if the sun does. These observations were compared with the studies of the sun's brightness as made by the Smithsonian but the tables did not agree, although both showed somewhat similar fluctuations over a period of several months. The comparison, however, was made on the assumption of changes on the sun being felt in all directions simultaneously, Dr. Abbot said. When allowance was made for the rotation of the sun's disc, which is about 27 days, and for the fact that the rays which reached the earth might sweep around one, two or three days before or after reaching Saturn, it was found that the error was the true case, and the fluctuations accorded exactly.

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HANDLE OWN GRAIN
California Marketing Association Controls 30,000 Acres

HANFORD, Calif., July 12.—Contracts recently signed by the Kings County Farm Bureau exchange for the handling of the sale of grain from 3,324 acres in the Stratford and Corcoran districts brought the total of the grain in the county being sold by the farmers through their own marketing association up to about 30,000 acres.

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lars, will be disposed of this year through the exchange. The county organization is a branch of the California Farm Bureau exchange, which is selling grain to millers and to a big English importing firm.

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