A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF ALFRED CLEBSCH BOY SCOUT LEADER AND LAYMAN SCIENTIST

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A Research Project

Presented to

Dr. Harold S. Pryor

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for
Education 500

John H. Moorefield Fall Quarter 1958

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2. Activities as Boy Soous leader
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Other contributions of Clabson

The writer productor his investigation upon certain essumptions which helieves to be sound and which are of general acceptance. These assumptions, which are best to this study, may be stated as follows:

I. It is nossible to appraint the value of a person's

life wails have still living. Signal and

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF ALFRED CLEBSCH BOY SCOUT LEADER AND LAYMAN SCIENTIST

Statement of the Problem

This is in reality a compilation of some of the achievements of an extremely modest person, who buried his own interests for the youth of this area. The friends of this man were most cooperative in revealing his true nature, and through their assistance, it has been possible to prepare a report of his activities.

3. Professional people are competent to judge the com-

Sub-Problems

This study of the life of Alfred Clebsch has been divided into the following sub-problems:

could not be assected when he suspected wiolew

Southing, his possonal exasion of it became so well known that

- 1. Ancestry and early life of Clebsch
- 2. Activities as Boy Scout leader
- 3. Activities as layman scientist
- 4. Other contributions of Clebsch

Assumptions and present confidences with him. A little here

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The writer predicates his investigation upon certain assumptions which he believes to be sound and which are of general acceptance. These assumptions, which are basic to this study, may be stated as follows:

life while he is still living.

- 2. It is possible for one to make a significant contribution to society in an unobtrusive manner.
- 3. Professional people are competent to judge the contributions of an associate.

Methods and Procedures

Sources for this study were limited largely to conversations and interviews with individuals concerning the activities of Clebsch.

Emphasis should be repeated that Clebsch had continually avoided publicity, and while he did not object to publicity on Scouting, his personal evasion of it became so well known that his cooperation could not be expected when he suspected violations.

Most of the data of his life and motives had to be obtained from him at various times, and the conversations about him came with reluctance. His friends were glad to reveal all they knew because they wanted to share with others, but each cautioned the investigator on restraint lest they also be denied additional pleasant confidences with him. A little here and a little there to be later pieced together to make a conservative fabric meeting his approval was the cautious procedure followed. "Remember! No publicity while I am living," was voiced at various times during the preparation of this article. "Go slow, and be ultra conservative," was another frequently heard challenge from those who understood him.

Scope of Study with those who will need a high mark for notive-

This study begins with the boyhood of Alfred Clebsch in Germany and continues to the present time, with special emphasis on the four sub-problems.

Importance of the Study

Fissidens (crenularia) Clebschii, Clarksville, Montgomery County, Tennessee, 1 is listed in the Journal of the American Bryological Society. This is the first official listing of a previously unknown moss and the credit line is as follows:

"8 Dec 1946. Alfred Clebsch 7B (specimen typicum, in Herb.

Univ. Mich. Conservation. 713 Collection)."

The two lines listed above were the only official published credits of this unusually modest but highly skilled layman scientist, who seems also to have shouldered an unusual passion to provide a solid foundation for good Boy Scout activities. Alfred Clebsch of Clarksville, Tennessee, closes like a clam when information is sought toward public recognition for the many contributions he has made to Scouting, along with his varied investigations in the fields of science.

A study of his life was made following the conviction that his contributions were of such a type that the history of education and Scouting activities here would lose much without it. The example for those not associated with the school

l Journal of the American Bryological Society, Volume 53, Number 2, 1950 June edition.

system, along with those who will need a high mark for motivation in obtaining a sound thought pattern were considered as justifications of the work. There is also a directive for those who would learn to spend their leisure time delightfully, regardless of their limited formal training.

This man has demonstrated that the curtains of knowledge can be lifted with great fascination from the cradle to the grave. No one is too young to be shown the great truths revealed through science. The thrills of youth will remain longer to everyone who definitely plans to explore and keep aware of the great unfolding of truth in the panorama of time. Observe Alfred Clebsch methodically opening new doors when the gateways to his love of Scouting seemed impassable.

Organization of Study

The remaining parts of this study are organized as follows:

Part Two studies the ancestry of Clensch and his early life in Germany and in America.

Part Three in concerned with his activities as Boy Scout leader.

Part Four studies his activities as layman scientist.

Part Five reveals other contributions made by Clebsch.

Part Six gives a summary of the study.

which the bear without Malana, Scholor 10, 1958.

An early indication of the forming of this unusual character was revealed in an event that occurred somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean in 1914. This native German citizen of Bremen, Germany, was enroute by ship from a summer stay in America which he had spent working in the dark-fired tobacco export business. He went to bed with an adequate feeling of security after he saw the sun go down in its usual place. The next morning he awoke to find the sun shining on the wrong side of the ship, so he thought. This greatly disturbed him and he dashed to the deck where he was advised that during the night the ship's captain had received orders to return immediately to New York.

The First World War conflicts had begun and the German passenger vessel and the merchant marine sought safety from England's powerful navy. He was now a displaced person in a country that might declare war any day on his homeland. Where would he go? What would he do? He recalled his father's advice to love peace even in time of war. Without enmity in his heart he had no enemies. Discouraged at the poor prospects of passage to Germany, Clebsch wired tobacconist and Scoutmaster, H. M. Lupton, that he would return to Clarksville on a certain date.

While he found a means of making a living he soon found

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²Personal interview, Alfred Clebsch, October 10, 1958.

a room in the old Masonic building where he met one of the professional tenants, M. L. Hughes, M. D. This he claims was one of the greatest blessings of his life. Dr. Hughes introduced him to the Trinity Episcopal Church where he soon began a study of its canons and eventually became a member. He has served as a vestryman here for many years, and here has had his ideas enlarged toward youth service.

The question usually arises as to what goes into the making of a character like Clebsch. He was born December 6, 1892, at Bremen, Germany, the son of Alfred Frederich and Antoinette Rosler Clebsch. His mother's people had resided close to the Belgian border and the family included several Protestant clergymen. In his father's family there were a number of priests, physicians, and serious students of the sciences as were current of that period.

The first interview with Clebsch in October 1958, revealed great admiration for his father, who he said had a great gift to train youngsters to love nature. He reported that in his home were collections of beetles, rocks, leaves, and such. He was taught to watch birds and other wild life. His father took them to the mountains and the museums where he was taught to respect life in all its forms. The evidence was held up to the children as reasonable conviction of the presence of a great and good Creator, whose concern for all life was good.

His father recognized the meed for music and saw to it that his children had a chance to make it a necessary part of their lives. Clebsch has for many years been an active member of a string quartet in which he plays the cello. He was taken to the library as soon as he reached the necessary age and assisted in obtaining a library card. He was told that children were supposed to keep busy at something useful, but the right kind of play and group participation were also encouraged.

Education in Germany had begun to take a modern turn after the turn of the century, and the sciences were given strong emphasis. Young Clebsch made average grades in his school work leading from the elementary on into the gymnasium which was equivalent to about two years of college work today. Rigid mastery was sought. A speaking knowledge of French, Spanish, and English was expected with the classics in Latin and Greek, plus his own German language. He could not be sent on to the University because of the lack of family funds, but his education ended with about the equivalent of a two-year polytechnic college course.

The youth's inclinations suggested to his father that he would be suitable for business and he was assigned to a two-year, rather than the customary four-year, clerk apprenticeship to his father's friend. His father died in 1911 and his employer considered "that I did not show too much genius for business."

His business career in America began with the brief summer trip here. When he returned he found employment in

the warehouse business at the Old Elephant Warehouse on Front Street, where he has been since. His earnings have been brain at the passencer Herat he observed modest, but he has evidently used them wisely, getting more than a dollar out of each 100 cents.

ston was Socutorater of the Despite his modest earnings, he has somehow managed to rear three fine song all of whom are outstanding. The oldest, Alfred, is a geologist with the United States government and e greatly amuited ever the p stationed at Albuquenque, New Mexico with the Atomic Energy il-year old young Commission. His second son, Edward, has a Doctor of Divinity mines the German war clouds were gotting degree and is professor of philosophy at the Episcopal Seminary voiced by Wester at Austin, Texas. The youngest, William, is working on his d in this stranger doctor's degree at Duke University, and has already won notable reputation as a botanist having made a number of special research trips in the Arctic region with his scholarly father-in-law, occurred at the customery rais Dr. Royal Shanks, Biology Department head at the University r. Destan had stationed every broop member at the of Tennessee. of a singularia core with instructions to hold his line tout

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The sale and of Clabson's closest friends).

Activities as Boy Scout Leader

As he got off the train at the passenger depot he observed his friend, H. M. Lupton, and a group of Boy Scouts packed for a week-end hike in the woods. Lupton was Scoutmaster of the troop and he told Clebsch that he might as well come along with them and make his future plans.

The Scouts were greatly excited over the possibilities of hearing the German accent of a 21-year old young man, and particularly so since the German war clouds were getting darker. This was an unusual experience, as voiced by Western Grizzard, one of the members, who later found in this stranger his most loyal supporter.

Grizzard reported that the first startling event of the activities next morning occurred at the customary raising of the flag pole. Mr. Lupton had stationed every troop member at the end of a strategic cord with instructions to hold his line taut at all time, and not to permit any slack whatsoever as there was danger that the pole might fall and badly injure some member. Thw young German was the only non-participant of this event, but watched with keen interest and concern from the distance assigned him.

With the pole about to be in position to support the

³Personal interview, Western Grizzard, March 14, 1959 (member of troop, and later to become prominent local Scout official and one of Clebsch's closest friends).

national symbol, one of the boys got careless and his slack line caused the pole to waver. Grizzard reported that again there was great excitement when Clebsch, unable to stand idly by, rushed to the support of the pole with all his might. All of his strength was insufficient to offset the carelessness of the one slack line, but such a determined effort was made that Clebsch broke his arm, and won a place of admiration with his foreign hosts, ing forestry and parkage representing his govern-

Clebsch and the boys had difficulty understanding each other's language and motives, but the Scouters admired Clebsch very much and were very fond of him from the beginning, Grizzard reported. were destroy in youth.

Soon to follow the early observations was a shock of another kind which had a lasting effect on Clebsch. The troop was provided entertainment by belittling and making fun of one of its members, while the Scoutmaster had gone to town for supplies. The young German had been taught in his youth that one should hever seek satisfaction in the debasing of his associates. The victim of that encounter remembers to this day his bitter experience but requested that his name not be used in this report. St at the situation sa

Many other impractical methods of Scout leadership, as Clebsch saw it, were in current use during this period. One was the encouragement of the boys to fight out their misunderstandings with boxing gloves. He was taught that dogs fought, but better solutions of human difficulties should be taught

youth in Scouting activities. His early training from his father had provided him more interesting outlets for his youthful energy in nature study and an accumulation of the vast unknown fields of knowledge.

He recalled how his father had told him of the great opportunities in America. While in the woods he also recalled how his boyhood jaunts with his father had stimulated him to think of studying forestry and perhaps representing his government as a state forester in one of the distant German colonies. Now it was dawning on him that he was trapped by the sudden events of war, but at the same time was in the very midst of what he had always desired in youth.

The need for the right kind of youth leadership, the need for substituting the desire for knowledge as a greater stimulant than competitive physical skills, perhaps struck him as a good imaginary enemy. Defeat or discouragement in one field always seemed to spur him into the struggle for additional knowledge in another. Knowledge meant power to him.

Eventually Clebsch was asked to take a part in Scout work. He said, "I was as green as grass, but I was as determined to make the most of the situation."4

Determination was the word which was to characterize him in all of his work. Western Grizzard reported that he soon

⁴Personal interview, Alfred Clebsch. 5Personal interview, Western Grizzard.

became labeled "that stubborn German." He carefully explained the term as meaning, in most all cases, that his associates respected him highly for his solid convictions for what appeared right from his point of view. He just refused to change his position because someone merely desired him to go along. He had to be convinced that a change of course was one of good logic and to the welfare of the "boys" as he affectionately called them.

General conflicts arose in Scouting following the end of World War I and the troop folded.

Clebsch married Miss Julia Wilee on March 24, 1920. Some seven or more years intervened with his attention to Scouting becoming secondary. His three sons born during this period were the recipients of his greatest concern as he began to train and prepare their minds by precept and example for successful careers. This was the time he reflected on his childhood when his father had taken him to the fields, the mountains, the sea, the museums, libraries, and the skies for a guided look at nature. He believed he also in turn had the responsibility of teaching his sons to learn to love "all of nature's works" as his father had carefully taught him.

Clebsch was inactive in Scout leadership when his children were young, but he was very active as a good Scout in leading them to study and understand life in all its phases. Others did attempt the Scout leadership at various times during the twenties but he was critical of their methods. He complained of the leaders' interest in the program rather than the personal interest in the boys. He saw a lack of reverence in American youth of this period. "We were not creators, we were creatures," was his comment of the era.

Walking many miles to every pond, creek, bluff, and slough, and cruising down the river in a cance with his boys kept the nature lover extremely busy during this period. He made a complete set of index maps on each turn of the river, and became known as the old man who walks with his boys. His mind was not blank as to the future of Scouting for an interview revealed that he was determined that the program would include all boys once it started again. The program must be built on a lasting fashion, he said. His desire was to treat the volunteer workers with proper respect, and to reach all eligible boys and not just an exclusive group.

The enthusiasm for Scouting grose again in the thirties with combined action at Hopkinsville and Clarksville and the name Cogioba, an Indian word meaning tobacco, being chosen. Clebsch scorned the adoption of such a name for Scouting activities, and severely criticized the selection of paid Scout directors. He saw the enlistment of many incapable publicity seekers and charges that politics and influence peddling had no place in establishing a child's outlook on life. Again he violently

⁶Personal interview, Alfred Clebsch, at his home, December 1958.

refused to go along "with a group bent on their own progress rather than the boys."

Western Grizzard reported Clebsch's elevation to the peak job of District Commissioner in 1953 where he has served since. He has constantly refused all awards much to the dislike of higher authorities. "But look at his records and achievements and they unquestionably support every theory he has advanced on Scouting," Grizzard remarked in his review of the more than 45 years of devoted service.

Clebsch won a record of being bitter when he was fighting for the right but many instances were recalled when he told Scout leaders, "I don't generally give in, but I will this time, because I believe you are right." Grizzard was generous in appreciation and said, "He is Alfred Clebsch for what he is, and he cares not what others think of him regardless of criticism, and will not waver an inch when he thinks he is right."

The latest contribution to local Scouting by Clebsch came in the publishing of the <u>Wariota Woodslore Notes</u> in February of 1957. This is a complete hendbook on the trees and other woody plants occurring in Montgomery and Stewart Counties of Tennessee. The valuable little book which retails for 25 cents at the local Scout supply store lists 150 different trees and

⁷ Personal interview, Western Grizzard, March 1959.

⁸ Wariota Woodslore Notes, published February 1957 by Cogioba Scout District.

their identifiable characteristics. The scientific names along with their common names are listed according to numbers in a back section. An index is also provided. The Scout need not carry a bunglesome book to confuse him with unknown trees not to be found here. Clebsch's name, as usual, will not be found anywhere on the handbook. He still insists that his work is its own reward and no higher merit badge is needed for those who guide in Scout leadership. He openly condemns those who seek personal publicity for their work with Scouts, and has sustained without flinching the generous criticism against him for his stand. He refused to accept the Silver Beaver Award in Scouting voted him by the Middle Tennessee Scouting Council, explaining with genuine sincerity that he did not think he deserved it. Some of the members bitterly criticized him for not accepting this mark of distinguished recognition for outstanding contributions. Their action has not kept him from his daily contributions to Scouting and his steady investigation of the many fields of science as a strong supplement to his life of service to others. He exactly over and the less have at an about primarily for

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Gollege Blokegy Department, and Glatson to column to accompany During the blackout period of his Scout leadership Clebsch was led by a friend to a keen interest in birds. He reentered Scouting as Merit Badge Counselor in Bird Study. From 1936 to 1940 intense interest was created locally with the organization here of a branch of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. He was secretary, and a neighbor, Dr. Charles Pickering, was president. They formed an outstanding team and Clebsch came up with a complete record of their study which listed most of their observations of birds of this area. The first tabulation of its kind here has brought great credit to him and is a time saver in bird study.

Through these studies he was given special federal permits to band, skin, and mount wherever and whatever species he considered important for further study. He became and continues to be one of the best authorities on birds of this area. and has worked with prominent national authorities on various bird projects about the state.

He explained that he made this bird study primarily for the use of Scouts so they would have an accurate and complete handbook appropriate to this area. His desire was to simplify and make it easy for Scouts to master this hobby. Strange to say, this exhaustive report was not accepted by local Scout officials as a contribution of importance, and he was told he would be called upon when his services were needed.

This report is now being used by the Austin Peay State College Biology Department, and Clebsch is asked to accompany the study groups in the field where he is credited with marvelous ability to stimulate interest and impart factual information on birds. On a winter trip⁹ on Sunday afternoon, a previous season's nest was identified and a thorough description given as to the probable number and color of the eggs.

One should perhaps be reminded that during this extensive bird study Clebsch was frequently accompanied by his sons and other local youth whom he had taught to respect methodical study patterns. Practically all of these boys, whether they were Scouts or not, have gone far in the fields of their chosen sciences, and give credit to this modest layman for a complete direction change of their lives. Helping the boy find a good interest in life was the motive ascribed by most of his beneficiaries.

While alert himself, Clebsch was forever on the outlook for others with talents or skills which yearned for expression. He made it a habit to think of how the good in a personality could be used constructively despite the fact that the individual might have some serious faults. He gave much credit to a former Clarksville jeweler, the late Marland Bishop, who he claims always found time to help him build a special bird trap, or any

⁹⁰bservation of Clebsch in the field during the winber of 1958.

other device necessary for the success of his work.

He explained that through all these things he was doing he was trying to get into Scouting a method which he hoped would stimulate boys to do things in their own way. "I had hoped to steer away from stereotyped methods and guide them to originality and creativity as their chief goals."

when conflicts again flared in Scout affairs and he steadfastly refused to go along with a group who would not put the boy's interests first. He approached Dr. Haskell Phillips of the Biology Department of Austin Peay State College, and sought his suggestions for a new field of study. Mosses was the new challenge, and Dr. Phillips, now head of the department but who held a Master's degree at the time, reported that he took his key to the woods in intense study. Rapid results followed and he soon was assured help from an authority of Peabody College of Nashville and a Dr. Stier of the New York Botanical Garden.

With the study of mosses he had ventured into an exclusive field and soon had won his spurs with the discovery of a new species which gained him international recognition. He was invited to become a member of this group of specialists of which he is the only member who does not have a Ph. D. degree. He was credited with the knowledge of 713 species in 1946, and since then the number has greatly increased. His advice is sought from many areas of the world and his mail frequently includes rare specimens from distant lands seeking his identification

ability.

Knowing his pattern of thinking, Dr. Royal E. Shanks, formerly a member of the biology department of Austin Peay State College and now with the University of Tennessee Department of Biology, contacted Clebsch seeking his help in obtaining a more complete herbarium of vascular plants of the Montgomery-Stewart Counties area. Again with his youngest son he made a detailed collection of this area, but in addition offered to make a similar collection for Austin Peay State College. This unusual break for the local school resulted in the accumulation of one of the finest herbariums in this section. Dr. Phillips reports over 1500 mounted specimen of superior workmanship. Many more mounted specimen are there for study. The search finally extended into the incomplete record areas of West Tennessee.

Dr. Phillips reported that Clebsch had worked tireless hours in doing this, and the contribution is invaluable to the instruction in the Biology Bepartment. "It gives us a good record of the flora of this region, and we use it both general biology and advanced classes of instructional material," the professor added.

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Instructory describe respect their facts, and by Lase

¹⁰ Personal interview, Dr. Haskell Phillips, January 1959.

were class greatly appreciative of Olobsch's support of the de-Great merit for Clebsch's contribution to higher education was also expressed by Floyd Ford, instructor in the Department of Biology of Austin Peay State College, who has found him a great supporter in his studies toward a Doctor's degree. Ford pointed out that he and practically every graduate of the College who has worked on a Doctor's degree has been taught scientific German by Clebsch, and it was generally understood that the question of remuneration must never be raised. In many instances he went to the individual's home, and in one case German was taught by mail to a student seeking his doctorate at Brown University. Indiation of interest by Clebson. His emissation

I think he is the most outstanding layman in the field of Natural Science, perhaps in this generation,"11 Ford stressed. It was his opinion that the man saw in natural science the evidence of an active continuing creative force of a Supreme Being. and man's opportunity to help others. Ford himself is a leader in layman activities over a wide area with the Methodist Church, and is doing a rare piece of research work on his Doctor's thesis. Clebsch has accompanied him on many trips in this study when many inconveniences had to be tolerated.

Instructors Charles Boehms, Floyd Brown, and William

Spensonel interview, Charles Poskus, Floyd Brown, and

¹¹ Personal interview, Floyd Ford, Fall Quarter 1958.

Ellis 2 of the Austin Peay State College Biology Department were also greatly appreciative of Clebsch's support of the department as well as his individual aid to them in personal studies. Ellis reported that Clebsch had assisted him in the studies of Robertson County swamp areas for the past two summers. When asked what he paid for this assistance, he also replied, "You must not mention pay, if you want his cooperation."

Brown reported long hikes as a boy with Clebsch while he was a student in high school. Brown was asked what brought Clebsch and him together. "He just met me as a neighbor boy and showed more interest in me than any one during my school days." Brown attributes his devotion to science as a life study as a result of stimulation of interest by Glebsch. His explanation as to why they made 15 mile hikes in field studies was to the effect that, "We had no money to spend for transportation." Clebsch never owned a car but his trips to the woods and streams were so fascinating to his youthful followers that they were glad to deny themselves and share with him the wonders of nature. He seemed always to find time to help students who wanted to do something with themselves, Brown emphasized. That students from other colleges working on their Ph. D. degrees have been directed to him when they are studying flora of this section can be

¹²Personal interview, Charles Boehms, Floyd Brown, and William Ellis, Winter Quarter 1959.

verified by Herman Silva, 13 who was taken to good sites of investigation. or a tempor can hold so than his Scente might have

"Money was the most unimportant thing in the world to Mr. Clebsch," Brown14 again stressed as he endeavored to feature the man's love of scientific investigation, and his desire to forget himself and his personal needs in his efforts to help others. "I think that unquestionably he has been responsible for more young people and school teachers of the area going into science as a profession than anyone I know." Brown took his Bachelor of Science at Austin Peay State College and his Master's degree from the University of Tennessee in the Department of Biology to which Clebsch had made valuable contributions, and whose professors had been generous in their contributions to him. His youngest son, Edward, obtained his Bachelor of Science and Master's degrees from the University of Tennessee, and married the daughter of a professor of the Biology Department. The Clarksville layman scientist, although himself not a college graduate, has been continuously contributing to the science departments of many colleges and in many ways. Later many of his Scouts took their pre-med work in the biology departments which Clebsch had helped to build at the same time he was developing them in the fundamentals of Scouting. He was also at the same astronomy, to fossile, to microorganizes, philosophy, and reli-

¹³ Personal interview, Herschel Wilee (Scout worker and nephew of Clebsch), December 1, 1958. apywhere he went with me

¹⁴Personal interview, Floyd Brown

time a leading contributor in preparing the teachers for the highest titles a teacher can hold so that his Scouts might have the best trained minds to prepare them for a life of service to others. or al years previously he had "telebed" Clebroh into an-

At the same time these various activities of research were in progress, Alfred Clebsch was keeping a daily record of the weather including temperature, rainfall, precipitation, and other valuable data. He never failed to look with interest and understanding toward each clear night to observe the constellations and the naked eye stars with which he was so familiar. His investigator have a talk on the why of Scouting to a group of Scout leaders some 15 years ago, and the substance of the discussion was that the history of the universe could be found in the rocks underneath our feet and the stars overhead. Following this out-of-doors night meeting a discussion was held on the stars in which the constellation Cassiopeia was emphasized. In a recent interview with him, he recalled all the important incidents of the meeting and his impressions with comments. These very comments were confirmed in another interview with Western Grizzard, the Scout executive who had planned the meeting and was present at the occasion. This will give the reader some of the broad general knowledge of Clebsch which ranges from astronomy, to fossils, to microorganisms, philosophy, and religion.

As Grizzard once remarked, "Everywhere he went with me lepersonal interster, Ploys Sord, March 1950.

he carried that little bag, a magnifying glass, knife, a small harmer, and a note book, and he never failed to see anything nor to make a note of what he saw. #15 Floyd Ford16 recalled that several years previously he had "tricked" Clebsch into accompanying him to the Smoky Mountain area and they had passed some unusual blooming bush about which some comment was made. Ford was preparing some data on the particular flowering time of this and other related shrubs and needed the exact date and location as observed. He had failed to make a record of this. although he had led Clebsch to believe that he was making that trip for scientific reasons. He then decided to ask Clebsch if he could help him remember the data. Clebsch responded to his phone call with, "Wait a minute." He returned with his accurate notes giving Ford all he needed to know, although at the time Clebsch was supposed to be enjoying the graduation of his son, as a rider guest of Ford.

¹⁵ Personal interview, Western Grizzard.

¹⁶Personal interview, Floyd Ford, March 1959.

Clebsch's present evaluation in Scouting was summarized by James Mann, 17 chairman of the Cogioba Council, who stated, "He is the most dedicated Scout worker I know. He lives and breathes Scouting with the same necessity as he used the air around him." Mann also stressed the great dependence of the officials of the area on the counsel of the man who has devoted his entire life toward sounder foundations for the training of youth.

Many other Clarksville residents praised Clebsch for his consistent contributions in Scout work and his good influence with youth, but few knew of his research in science.

Continuing his usual work, Clebsch will next take up the study of insects as his 67th year enterprise.

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¹⁷ Personal interview, James Mann (banker and chairman of the Cogloba Scout District), May 1959.

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Wilee, Herschel. December 1, 1958.

Observations

Clebsch, Alfred. Field trip, Winter 1958.