

MEETING OF THE BIOLOGICAL CLUB.

ORTON HALL, Jan. 9, 1905

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President, Miss Riddle. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The first speaker of the evening was Prof. W. C. Mills, whose subject was "The Ainu of Japan." Prof. Mills came into personal contact with the Ainu at the St. Louis Exposition, and was able to illustrate his talk with several photographs and with specimens of their handiwork. The Ainu are one of the primitive peoples of Japan and at present inhabit the northern islands, principally Yezo. At present there are about 17,000 Ainu and about 900,000 Japanese on this island. The nine Ainu who were brought to St. Louis were the first to leave their native land in 1400 years. The men all wear long beards and the women tattoo their faces to represent a beard. This tattooing is begun at about the age of nine and is done by cutting the flesh and rubbing in the wounds soot from the bottom of their cooking vessels. The average height of the men is about 5 ft. 4 in. Their eyes are horizontal; the skin is white, and their features resemble those of many of the white races of Europe. The women weave a kind of cloth called Artus, made from the fibers of the Elm and from this they make much of their clothing. This clothing is usually decorated with certain entirely original, spiral patterns. Their religious customs are very peculiar. The bear plays an important part in their religion and the bear hunt and feast is one of their singular customs.

Prof. Osborn then gave an account of the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of some of its affiliated societies. Prof. Lazenby also spoke of some of the affiliated societies, especially the Society of Agriculturists and the Society of Horticulturists.

Prof. Landacre gave a short account of the meeting of the Ohio Educational Society and the mid-winter meeting of the Ohio Academy.

On the motion of Prof. Schaffner the following were elected to membership: E. C. Cotton, G. F. Lamb, J. P. Pratt and T. P. White.

The club then adjourned until the first Monday in February.

F. M. SURFACE, *Secretary.*

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