



Science

It has become the policy of the executive of the Engineering Society to stimulate us at frequent intervals with addresses from men who have worked on the site of some of the world's greatest marvels (whether made by man or by nature). Thus we obtain impressions which are vivid and real, infinitely

more valuable than information provided by literature. Of such value was an address given the Engineering Society last Friday by Dr. Van Horn, of the Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland.

Mr. Van Horn, with his second year students, recently visited the National Yellowstone Park of the United States, and practically brought it back in his camera. He prides himself on having seen the park in a way that no one else has. The ordinary tourist is practically forced by the companies, which control the park, to follow certain railways, stage lines, etc. Mr. Van Horn, however, having special privileges on account of the investigations which he was making, was able to travel independently. Having his own waggons and mules he could camp wherever he liked. Travelling thus in a more or less leisurely fashion, he was able to pick up many interesting stories from the old inhabitants of the park.

The first white man to visit the Yellowstone Park was a trapper, Jim Bridger, by name. There is current among the people of the West a whole series of stories known as "Jim Bridger's Lies." Jim used to live in a shack at the foot of one of the mountains. He was possessed of two valuable weapons: a telescope through which he could see animals on the mountain top and a rifle with which to shoot them. Standing at his door, he would sight a bear high up on the hill and shoot it. The bear, of course, would roll down the hill faster and faster until, when he reached the bottom, the immense friction would have caused his flesh to cook and his hide to tan. When Jim wanted a change of diet he would fish in a brook flowing right beside one of the geysers. Having caught a trout, he would merely turn around and sling it into the boiling geyser (he had chosen a salty one of course) and it was ready to eat.

One of the most famous characters of the region is Buffalo Bill, the hotel-keeper and despot of the town of Cody. If ever he dies, (he has been old for several decades), he wishes to be buried on the top of Cedar Mountain, which he can see from his hotel door.

But, to return to the point of the lecture: Yellowstone Park contains more of Nature's marvels than any other place in the world. The only other localities, where geysers are found are in Iceland and New Zealand. The Mammoth hot springs, the Old Faithful geyser, the so-called Paint Pots, which are really immense bubbles of hot mud, all these are unparalleled. The park seems to have somewhat of a heathenish aspect. A more or less famous