

Science Notes

Anthropology Students From California Touring Northland

By WILLIAM HOYT

Thirty six anthropology students from Sacramento State College are in Northern Arizona this weak on a week-long field sludy of the pre-history of the area and its contrasts with present day cultures.

The students, along with instructor William Beeson, Santa Fe'd into Flagstaff Sunday and during their week in the Northland will visit Grand Canyon and Petrified Forest National Parks, Walmut Canyon and other national monuments, the Navajo and Hopi Reservations, Oak Creek Canyon and other points of interest in the area.

Beeson said the class is making the trip here as "this particular section of the country is extremely interesting for anthropological studies since three separate cultural entitles are represented—the Navajo, the Hopi and the present-day American." The group will entrain here for the return trip to Sacramento next Friday night.

DR. JAMES E. McDonald, the University of Arizona atmospheric physicist who has been chasing down data on that mysterious cloud that appeared over Flagstaff last Feb. 28, is highly enthusiastic about the cooperation he has received from everybody in the Flagstaff area — cloud observers or not.

As new photographs turned up during his two-day fact-finding visit to the city last week, Jean and Trox Photos obligingly dropped other work and rushed through developments and enlargements so the scientist could determine the camera angles from which they were taken within a few hours.

This, McDonald says, helped him "immensely" to get through his tight schedule on his weeklong sortie into the Northland.

Also, McDonald reported full cooperation from the management of Bright Angel Lodge at Grand Canyon National Park on his request to obtain a list of between 200 and 300 guests at the lodge on the evening the strange, 28-mile-high cloud appeared.

McDonald feels that some of the tourists and visitors there may have photographed the rare phenomenon, and left Grand Canyon before hearing or reading reports of its apparent uniqueness.

Pictures of the cloud from the areas north of Flagstaff — such as Grand Canyon and Page — "are now the most important missing link" in his investigation, McDonald says.

THE NEXT MEETING of the executive committee of the Arizona Academy of Science is scheduled for Flagstaff on May 30—Memoral Day. The session will be the first to be presided over by new academy president Dr. E. B. Kurtz, UA botanist, since he took over Mar. 30 from past president, Dr. Robert C. Euler, Arizona State College anthropologist.

THE SOUTHWESTERN Archaeology class of Dr. Charles McNutt at ASC is planning a four-day field trip early in May to visit major prehistoric Indian ruins in the Southwest.

About 15 students are expected to make the trip which includes stops at the Betatakin ruin at Navajo National Monument 140 miles north of Flagstaff; Mesa Verde National Park in Southwestern Colorado; and Aztec and Chaco Canyon National Monuments in Northwestern New Mexico.