

OBITUARY

Alice McDougall Patterson

Mrs. Alice McDougall Patterson, collector of and authority on the Aphids of British Columbia, died in Vancouver on 5th November, 1935.

Alice McDougall was born in Minnesota and received her primary education in that State. Her father moved to Terrace, B. C., where Alice lived a few years and then attended McMaster University at Toronto where she was granted a B.A. degree. Upon the death of her father, she made her home with an aunt in New Westminster and attended the University of British Columbia at Vancouver where she took her Master of Arts degree in Biology, specializing in the study of Aphids.

She was an energetic and enthusiastic collector and soon had a large number of friends sending in specimens from many points in the Province. Moreover, she corresponded with specialists all over North America and when she returned to Toronto for the doctor's degree, she took advantage of scientific meetings in the East to become acquainted with many leading Entomologists on this continent. At Toronto, she complied with all requirements for her final degree, including a thesis on "The Classification of the Aphids of British Columbia," but did not take the final examinations.

In 1926 she married Mr. P. G. Patterson, a geologist now in Bolivia, but spent most of her time in Canada, working in her private laboratory at New Westminster. By 1933, she had over 200 named species of Aphids and a considerable number of undescribed species. At this time she contracted tuberculosis from which she died two years later.

She had many other interests besides Entomology and engaged in several commercial undertakings.

In the spring of 1936, her husband returned to Vancouver to wind up her estate and very generously presented her entire collections to the University. These consist of nearly 1,000 microscope slides, representing 211 species of Aphids, a very large number of mounted slides, tentatively identified, some 700 collections of aphids in alcohol and a large amount of general laboratory equipment of all kinds. Of particular importance is her library of books, bulletins and separates dealing entirely with Aphids.

—G. J. Spencer