

3/10 miles west of camp. Shot one *Lepus townsendi*. This gulch is supported with grasses but ^{periodic} rain keeps soils hard & eroded. Artemisia on slopes in favorable places. Returned to base camp.

4 1/2 mi. S and 2 mi. W Casper, 5550 ft., Natrona Co., Wyoming

Aug. 8, 1948

Inspected research area A-8-7-48 as follows: Trap 3 *Microtus montanus* 1-8-8-48. From research area B-8-7-48; 28 *Peromyscus maniculatus* 2-8-8-48; 43 *Peromyscus maniculatus* 3-8-8-48. From research area B-8-6-48; 52 *Peromyscus maniculatus* 4-8-8-48; 54 *Peromyscus* 5-8-8-48; 62 *Peromyscus* 6-8-8-48; 70 *Microtus montanus* 7-8-8-48; 76 *Microtus longicaudus* 8-8-8-48. From research area C-8-7-48 20 returns. The following grasses, however, from this research area.

11-8-8-48

12-8-8-48

These grasses were associated with small shrubs where runways were located.

This afternoon investigated higher elevations on Casper Mountain. Typical montane community near top of Mt. On return photographed the plains and mountain contact and change of grasslands to ponderosa pine in photo 13-8-8-48. The flat country to the NW is typical of this section of Wyoming and extends to the Big Horn Range. Photo 14-8-8-48 to N with *Pinus ponderosa* in foreground as a frame of picture. The degree of slope and drainage seems to be the principle factor in the distribution of the ponderosa pine onto the plains. It invades the lowlands mainly in erosional areas where soils have been affected. Photo 15-8-8-48 give aerial aspect of area under consideration. Casper is in upper right of photo with North Platte River leading west, Fort Casper west of Casper. In lower right the ponderosa pine extends onto prairie along erosional slope that has not developed the grass vegetation. A chaparral community is placed between the prairie and the slope. Montane vegetation penetrates plains along edge of creeks but soon changes to other types of vegetation. Country to north is flat and suitable for *Microtus ochrogaster* but is quite dry & semi-desertlike with corresponding erosional features. The entire plains, especially along streams should support *M. ochrogaster* especially if there is overhead protection of tall grasses. Returned to camp