

BUILDING THE AMERICAN MUSEUM 1869-1927



“For the purpose of establishing and maintaining in said city a Museum and Library of Natural History; of encouraging and developing the study of Natural Science; of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and to that end of furnishing popular instruction.”

**FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR 1927 · THE AMERICAN
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Issued May 1, 1928**

BUILDING THE AMERICAN MUSEUM 1869-1927

PRESIDENT HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

And David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and of good courage, and do *it*; fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, *even* my God, *will be* with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord."—*Chronicles I, XXVIII.*

In 1869, Albert S. Bickmore, a young naturalist of the State of Maine, projected this great Museum. First advised by Sir Richard Owen, Director of the British Museum, the plans for the building grew by the year 1875 into the titanic dimensions plotted by Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of Central Park.

The approaching sixtieth anniversary of our foundation, on April 6, 1929, will witness the construction of fourteen out of the twenty-one building sections planned by Professor Albert S. Bickmore and Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted. With strength and courage, the seventieth anniversary, April 6, 1939, will witness the completion of the Museum building according to the plan set forth in this Report.

THE Fifty-ninth Annual Report is devoted to the building of the American Museum of Natural History from the Charter year 1869 to the present year 1928. It is remarkable that the official Olmsted twenty-one-section ground plan of the year 1875, projected on a scale which seemed stupendous and almost fantastic at the time, in area proves to be none too large for the future City of New York. It is also fortunate that the great 800-foot square with its intersecting cross buildings adapts itself to the wonderful development of Natural History and related physical and astronomical sciences since the year 1869.

Meanwhile, the building sections which we expect to see completed by the year 1939, the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Museum, will not far from equal in estimated cubage the original twenty-one sections projected by Frederick Law Olmsted, as shown in Figure 1 of this Report.

New York had in the year 1869 no Museum of any kind, either for art or for natural history, such as were to be found in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington and in all the capital cities of Europe. Young Theodore Roosevelt built a small museum on the back porch of his house. His father in 1869 enlisted in the movement to start the American Museum of Natural History, and a

year later the Metropolitan Museum of Art followed. After fifty-eight years of financial, political, administrative and educational struggles, these sister institutions have reached their present high rank. Art and natural history collections which in 1869 were to be seen only in the houses of the wealthy are now within reach of people of every class in the City of New York, while the educational influence of these institutions spreads to all parts of the United States and to every city in the world.

Besides his cooperation in the American Museum, the President has had the privilege of working with the public-spirited and munificent group of men who founded the Zoological Park in 1895 and of taking over the management of the New York Aquarium in 1902. The intense public concern and the unanimous interest and approval of the people of New York, young and old, are shown by the attendance figures of the year 1927, a number which exceeds the entire population of the City of New York:

Visitors to the New York Zoological Park, The Bronx.....	2,750,704
Visitors to the New York Aquarium, Battery Park.....	2,129,305
Visitors to the American Museum of Natural History.....	2,292,876
	<hr/>
Grand Total Attendance in 1927.....	7,172,885

Despite its phenomenal growth in population and wealth, New York, in its museum buildings, is still relatively far behind Paris, London, Vienna, Berlin, Moscow, Leningrad and even Peking. The Russian capitals of Moscow and Leningrad, also Peking, have recently followed the enlightened example of Paris in 1792-1800, in converting the palaces of kings, emperors and princes into public educational museums. In these museums the imperial art and natural history treasures are now devoted to the education of the masses under the direction of state teachers. There are said to be several miles of free museum galleries in Russia. In Peking, the President of the American Museum in 1923 was invited to plan a natural history museum within the sacred imperial palace now the property of the Chinese Government!

What has been accomplished by revolution and confiscation in Paris, Leningrad, Moscow and Peking has come to pass in New York through voluntary gift to the public of private collections,

together with financial support by endowment, without precedent in the history of civilization.

In brief, the free public educational use of museums under public and private government is now universal in every part of the world, and museums are considered an essential part of public education of young and old.

On the completion of thirty-seven years of continuous service to the City of New York as Curator, Trustee, Assistant to the President, Chairman of the Executive Committee, and President, of The American Museum of Natural History, I desire to set forth the following concise financial and building history of the Museum from 1869 to December 31, 1927, referring for details to the first Annual Report written in 1870 by Joseph H. Choate and to the fifty-seven successive reports to the Department of Parks, ending with the Fifty-eighth Annual Report of the President, entitled: *The American Museum and School Service*, pages 259-284.

INCORPORATED ON APRIL 6, 1869, AS A FREE PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Under Andrew H. Green, father of Greater New York, the American Museum was incorporated:

"For the purpose of establishing and maintaining in said city a Museum and Library of Natural History; of encouraging and developing the study of Natural Science; of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and to that end of furnishing popular instruction."

Under Chapter 290 of the Laws of 1871, the City of New York set aside the entire Manhattan Square for the Museum, and on September 17, 1875, the Comptroller and the Department of Parks officially approved the design of Frederick Law Olmsted, and Section 1 out of 21 Sections of the original Olmsted Plan was constructed and opened by the President of the United States on June 2, 1874.

In a period of 32 years, between 1874 and 1906, eight Museum Sections out of the 21 planned by Olmsted were constructed under

the original State Charter of 1869, *at the rate of a Section every four years, so that building kept pace with the gifts of citizens for this period.*

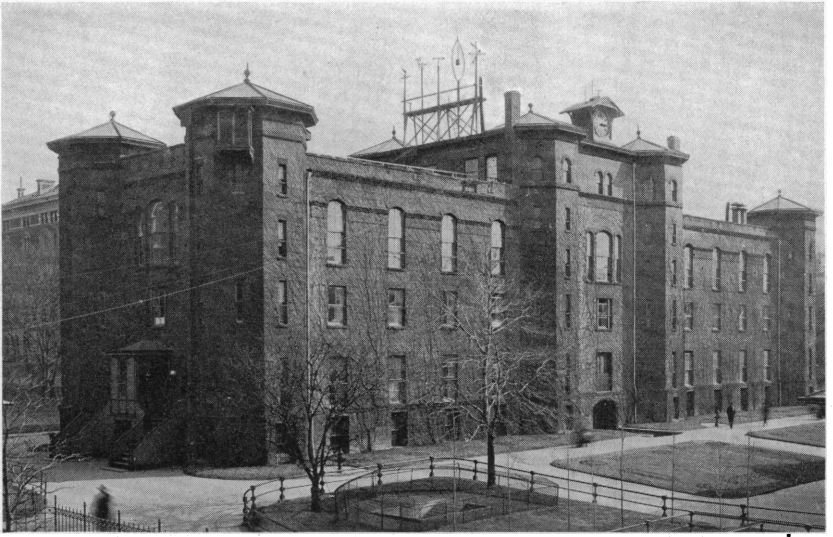
THE RECIPROCAL CONTRACT OF 1878 AS TO COLLECTIONS AND BUILDING

An extremely important contract was drawn up in 1878 between the Trustees and the City of New York, through the Department of Parks, ratified by both bodies, and recorded February 16, 1878, at nine o'clock A. M. Since the days of the first known museum and library in the City of Alexandria, 332 B.C., this contract between the City of New York and the American Museum is the most advantageous that has been entered into by any municipality. Its main educational provisions are:

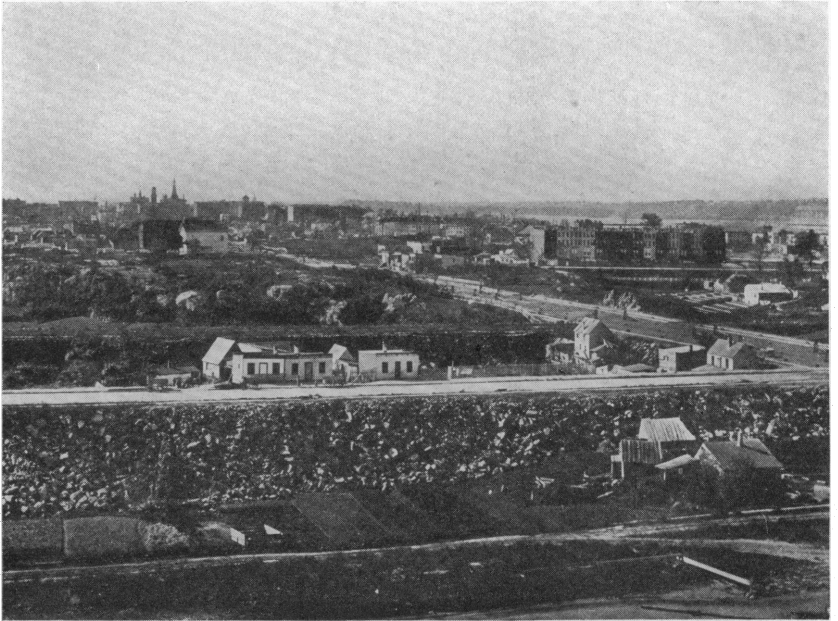
That the City shall establish, build and maintain; that the Trustees shall transfer to these buildings its museum, library and collections, and apparatus, to which all professors and teachers of the public schools of the City of New York, or other institutions of learning in said city, in which instruction is given free of charge, shall be admitted to all the advantages afforded by the said party of the second part, through its museum, library, apparatus, and collections, or otherwise, for study, research and investigation, free of any charge therefor, and to the same extent and on the same terms and conditions as any other persons are admitted to such advantages, as aforesaid.

The constructive educational purpose of this contract is reiterated and confirmed in the Greater New York Charter, as amended in 1921 by the Legislature as follows:

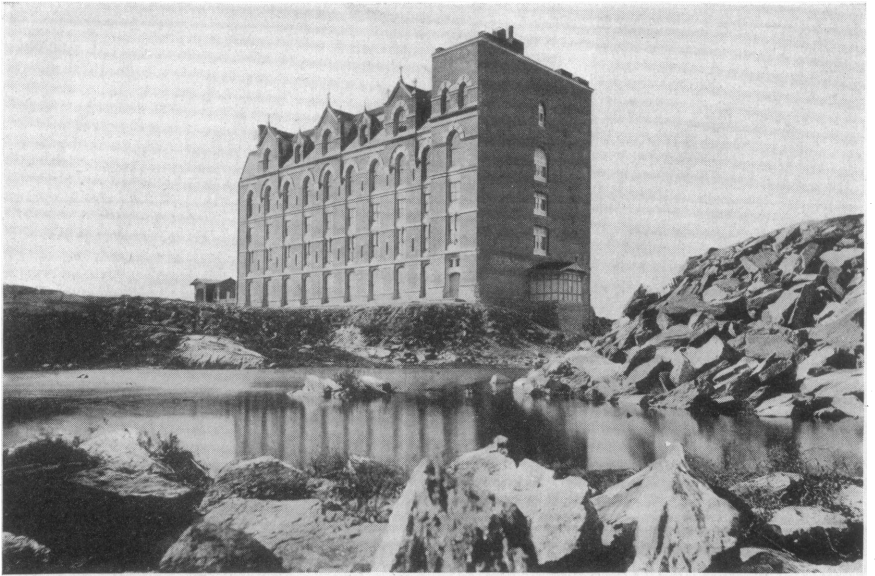
The city of New York shall not, except as hereinafter provided, expend any part of the proceeds of sales of corporate stock or serial bonds for other than revenue-producing improvements, except for the erection of school buildings and the acquisition of sites therefor and the acquisition of houses for school purposes, and except for the erection and equipment of the buildings of the American Museum of Natural History which by charter and contract with the city is an adjunct of the educational system of the city, . . .



THE ARSENAL BUILDING, CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK CITY
First Home of The American Museum of Natural History, 1869 to 1877

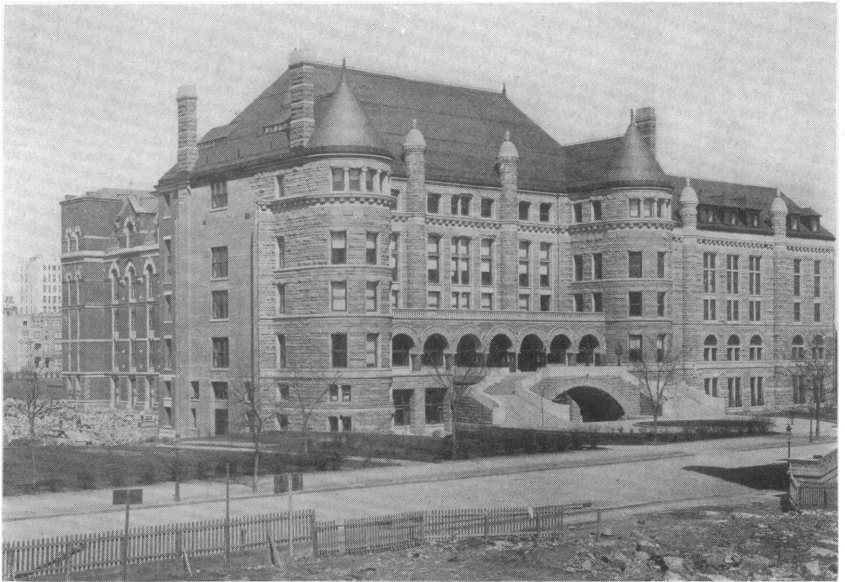


PANORAMIC VIEW, SOUTH AND WEST OF THE MUSEUM
The Intersection of Columbus Avenue and Seventy-seventh Street, About 1878



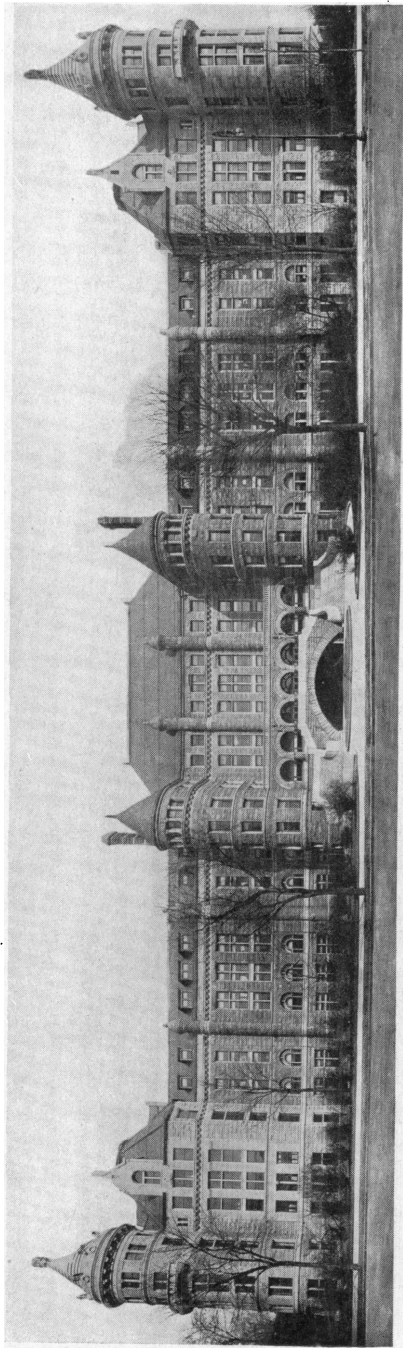
BICKMORE SECTION

First Section of the American Museum Building, Completed in 1877

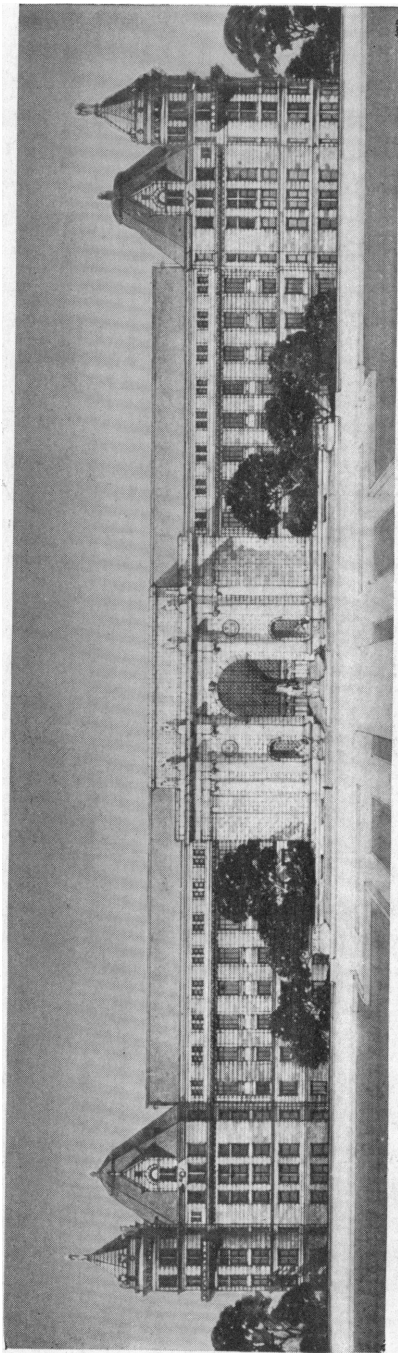


CENTRAL SECTION AND EAST WING (Sections 2 and 3)

1895

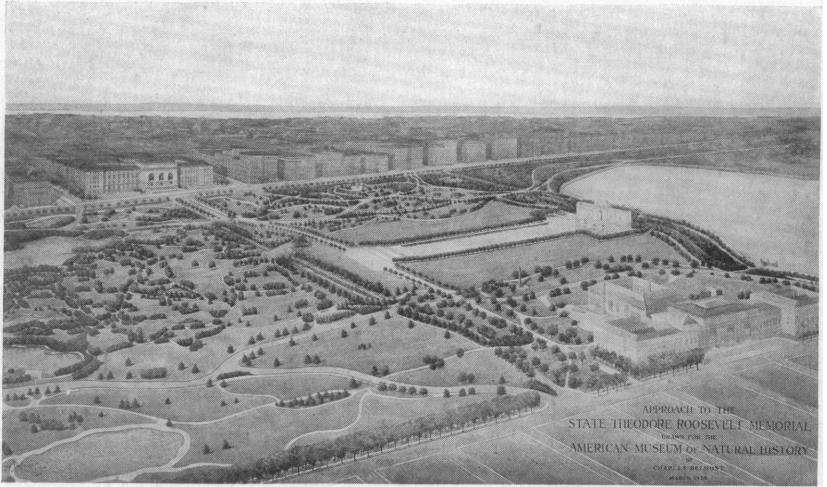


SOUTH FAÇADE OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM
1900



PROPOSED EAST FAÇADE, FACING CENTRAL PARK
1928

Proposed New York State Roosevelt Memorial Building in the Center, JOHN RUSSELL POPE, *Architect*



**SKETCH OF PROPOSED INTERMUSEUM PROMENADE
Connecting the American and Metropolitan Museums
1924**



Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc., N. Y. C.

**AERIAL VIEW OF CENTRAL PARK
White Line Indicates Route of Proposed Intermuseum Promenade
1928**

This completes the brief legal history of the American Museum as a Free Public Educational Institution by a series of steps which may be epitomized as follows :

Since 1869, the cooperation of the City of New York and The American Museum of Natural History has been secured by legislative Charters, by a series of Contracts, also by verbal Agreements.

1869—Chartered as a free Public Educational Institution.

1875—City sets aside Manhattan Square and plans twenty-one-section building, estimated at \$14,700,000, according to 1875 building costs.

1878—Andrew H. Green and Joseph H. Choate prepare a Contract as to Building and Maintenance by City, and Gifts of Collections, Library and Apparatus by Trustees.

By the 1878 Contract, citizens present, up to the year 1928, Collections, Library and Apparatus to a total value of \$23,000,000.

By the 1878 Contract, City builds, up to the year 1924, eleven sections at a total cost of \$8,390,599.68; ten sections remain to fill the City plan of 1875.

1921—Charter amended and Museum placed on the same basis as Public Schools in Bond Issues for future building.

1919—Roosevelt Memorial started by verbal Agreement of the Governor of the State, the Mayor, and the Comptroller, with President Osborn.

1928—January 9—Board of Estimate considers estimates of African Hall (Section 13), and Power and Service Building (Section 17), and plans of Roosevelt Memorial (Section 12), and suggests to President Osborn that these three buildings ought to be constructed concurrently.

1928—February 7—Governor Smith reaffirms by letter his support of the Roosevelt Memorial and considers that nothing should stand in the way of its construction in 1929.

FINANCING OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING, 1869-1927

In the Charter, as amended in 1921, the American Museum Building is placed on precisely the same financial basis as School Buildings in the City of New York. The Act covering this amendment was suggested in the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in 1921, at which time

President Osborn represented the Museum. It was duly adopted by the Legislature, approved by the Mayor and became a law under which building appropriations were to be financed from the date May 6, 1921.

This amendment to the Charter proved to be a turning point in the building of the American Museum, for between 1906, when Section 8 (European) was begun, and 1922, when Section 9 (Asiatic) was begun, *sixteen years had elapsed, during which the Museum collections had trebled, while no buildings were added.*

Consequently, the City of New York was sixteen years behind its own official building program of 1875. The overcrowded condition of the Museum was so serious that just before the World War (1914) the President made a great effort to build a new section by individual subscription. This effort ended abruptly when the World War began.

Immediately after May 6, 1921, plans and estimates for Sections 9 and 10 were prepared, and an appropriation of \$1,500,000 was made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on December 28, 1921. Section 11, the School Service Building, was finished in 1927, at a final cost of \$881,800, and is to be opened to the public on January 17, 1928.

To recapitulate—the financial history of the Museum Building from 1869 to 1927, a period of fifty-eight years, is as follows:

ELEVEN SECTIONS COMPLETED TO 1928		Approximate Cost
Section 1, BICKMORE, 1874-1877		\$700,000.00
Section 2, MEMORIAL, 1890-1891		800,000.00
Section 3, NORTH AMERICAN, 1894-1895.....		600,000.00
Section 4, SOUTH AMERICAN, 1895-1897.....		511,775.00
Section 5, NORTH ASIATIC, 1897-1899.....		529,002.50
Section 6, POLYNESIAN, 1897-1899		417,632.50
Section 7, AUDITORIUM, 1899-1900.....		108,900.00
Section 8, EUROPEAN, 1906-1908		511,090.63
Non-Building Interval, 1906-1922		
Section 9, ASIATIC, 1922-1924.....	}	1,500,000.00
Section 10, OCEANIC, 1922-1924.....		
Section 11, EDUCATION, 1924-1926		
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Sections 1-11, Supplementary equipment, 1900-1926.....		1,830,399.05
		<hr/>
Total cost of Museum Building from City Appropriations, 1869-1927		\$8,390,599.68

During the 25-year period (1902-1927), the City of New York, from its relatively small and inconspicuous position, bounded forward to become the largest, most populous and richest City in the entire world. During this same period:

Cash gifts, bequests and endowment flowed into the Museum to the amount of.....	\$20,000,000
Expended in the construction of Sections 9 and 10 for the reception and care of these collections.....	1,500,000

The result of this retarded building and unprecedented inflow of gifts, not only from citizens of New York but from almost every state in the Union, as well as from many foreign countries, is that the American Museum is now congested from basement to roof with study collections and with the most superb exhibition collections ever assembled, especially from all parts of the continents of Asia and Africa. It is for the free public educational preparation and display of these collections that two new Building Sections are immediately and urgently needed, namely:

Section 13, AFRICAN HALL	\$1,350,000
Section 17, POWER AND SERVICE BUILDING.....	900,000
	<hr/>
	\$2,250,000

NEW SECTIONS TO BE ERECTED BEFORE THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Section 13, AFRICAN	\$1,350,000.00
Section 17, POWER AND SERVICE.....	900,000.00
Section 12, ROOSEVELT*	3,000,000.00
Section 7, ASTRONOMIC†	1,689,525.00
Section 15, AUSTRALIAN	1,006,549.00
Section 14, MIDDLE AMERICAN	2,306,592.00
Section 16, LECTURE AMPHITHEATRE	2,994,529.00
Section 19, SOUTH OCEANIC	1,006,549.00
Section 18, PREPARATION AND STORAGE.....	500,000.00
Estimated cost of equipping and casing of Sections 13, 17, 12, 7, 15, 14, 16, 19, 18.....	1,250,000.00

Estimated cost of erecting and equipping Sections 13, 17, 12, 7, 15, 14, 16, 19, 18.....	\$16,003,744.00
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Thus, the total actual and estimated cost of the American Museum Building, 1869-1939, as at present planned, will be,

1869-1927, 11 Sections Completed and Equipped.....	\$8,390,599.68
1928-1939, 9 Sections to be Constructed.....	16,003,744.00

Total actual and estimated cost of the 19-section† American Museum Building as at present planned.....	\$24,394,343.68
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*To be erected by the State of New York.
 †Astronomic Hall to replace present auditorium.

The less than half completed American Museum building of the year 1927 is by far the most economic and effective public building construction in the City of New York, but it is wholly inadequate in space. Building costs have doubled or trebled since the year 1875, and Section 13, AFRICAN HALL, now urgently required, is estimated at \$1,350,000 as compared with the \$700,000 cost of Section 1. The Power and Service Building will cost \$900,000.

ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

TO BE ERECTED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Eight years ago, in December, 1919, began the Roosevelt Memorial movement which will probably culminate in the year 1929 with an appropriation by the State of New York to erect a magnificent new entrance hall to the museum at the intersection of Seventy-ninth Street and Central Park West, at an estimated cost of \$3,000,000 in addition to the \$250,000 already appropriated by the State for the preparation of the detailed plans. At a very critical time for this great project, when a concerted attempt was made to transfer the Memorial from Theodore Roosevelt's birthplace to Albany, a public hearing was held in the State Capitol at which the relative claims of the two cities were presented. The Roosevelt Memorial Commission divided on the question, and the situation was saved by the decisive action of Senator James J. Walker, now Mayor of the City of New York, resulting in the following action of the Legislature:

CHAPTER 615, LAWS OF 1924

AN ACT providing for the construction of a free public education building as a memorial to Theodore Roosevelt, and making an appropriation for expenses therefor to be incurred in the year commencing July first, nineteen hundred and twenty-four.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. As a tribute to the memory of Theodore Roosevelt there shall be erected, at a cost to the state of not exceeding two million five hundred thousand dollars, in the city of New York upon a site provided by the authorities of such city, adjacent to the American Museum of Natural History in such city, an education building, chiefly for the benefit

of the youth of the state, which shall hereafter be known as and become the New York State Roosevelt Memorial. Such city is hereby authorized to dedicate to the state the site therefor.

On the passage of this Act, Governor Smith appointed a Board of Trustees, with Henry Fairfield Osborn as Chairman. This Board immediately laid down requirements for a competition for plans, according to the law of the State. The result of this competition of eight architectural firms in various parts of the State was the unanimous selection by the Trustees of the plans of John Russell Pope of New York, on June 2, 1925. Immediately after this choice was made, Chairman Osborn, with the cooperation of the other Members of the Plans Committee, Messrs. Chauncey J. Hamlin and Sullivan W. Jones, began a detailed study of the plans, which resulted in an entire modification of the original design of the interior of the Memorial, also in numerous changes on every floor level, to better adapt the building to the reception of large crowds of people, to the care and comfort of visitors from upper parts of the State, to the educational service of the State of New York and to the contiguous exhibition halls, south, west and north of the Memorial. The Chief Engineer of the Board of Transportation in charge of the new Central Park West subway cooperated by modifying the original station plans providing a convenient entrance from the Memorial to the new subway system of the City. All these matters are fully reported upon in the successive reports of Chairman Osborn to the State Legislature.*

It would be impossible to convey to the readers of this Report any idea of the time and labor which have been devoted to the financing and to the design of this Memorial, but some notion may be gained from the following epitome of the successive steps in the history of the Roosevelt Memorial movement up to the present time:

Theodore Roosevelt died on January 6, 1919, honored with nation-wide and world-wide respect. Two great American newspapers, *The World* and *The New York Times*, independently advocated a memorial connected with the American Museum of Natural History. The movement has at all

*First Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the New York State Roosevelt Memorial, 1925.

Second Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the New York State Roosevelt Memorial, 1926.

Third Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the New York State Roosevelt Memorial, 1927.

times been non-partisan. The project of the memorial in the City of New York was successively approved by Mayor Hylan, Comptroller Craig and Governor Smith, by Judge Morgan J. O'Brien and Charles F. Murphy, as well as by the leading newspapers of the Democratic Party in New York and in Albany.

On December 9, 1919, Governor Smith advised President Osborn that this was a matter for legislative decision and action. In 1920 the State Legislature passed "An act creating a commission to investigate and report on the proposed Roosevelt memorials, and making an appropriation therefor." The Legislature of 1924 passed "An act providing for the construction of a free public education building as a Memorial to Theodore Roosevelt, making an appropriation for expenses therefor to be incurred in the year commencing July first, nineteen hundred twenty-four," and on May 5, 1924, enacted a law which provides that as a tribute to the memory of Theodore Roosevelt, there shall be erected a Roosevelt Memorial at a cost to the State not exceeding \$2,500,000.

In 1925 the Trustees invited a competition of the leading architects of the State of New York, in which competition John Russell Pope of the City of New York was awarded the prize. On July 28, 1926, the plans and specifications were ready for the award of the contract. On December 22, 1926, the model of the Memorial was completed. On March 31, 1927, Chapter 615, Laws of 1924, was amended by Chapter 549, Laws of 1927, of the Legislature, and provides among other enactments that the Trustees in office when this Act takes effect shall continue in office as a temporary Board of Trustees, and that upon completion of such building and its acceptance by resolution of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the City of New York, it shall be maintained by and under the supervision and control of such city.

This Act of the Legislature, suggested by Governor Smith, is extremely important because on completion the State Memorial Building passes entirely under the control of the City of New York and the American Museum of Natural History like all other parts of our building. This will greatly simplify the administration, whereas the original plan of having the building under the control of the State would have involved many difficulties in practical administration and maintenance.

Since December 1, 1927, the President has been engaged in prolonged and repeated conferences with Park Commissioner Herick, Mayor Walker, Comptroller Berry, and President McKee of the Board of Aldermen, resulting in a most important suggestion by the Mayor that the construction of the Roosevelt, the African and the Power Service buildings should proceed concurrently. This reaffirmation by the City of New York of its desire

to see the Roosevelt Memorial constructed as soon as possible and of its purpose to make financial provision for the erection of adjacent buildings, was the most fortunate outcome of a long series of negotiations and conferences, beginning December 1, 1927, and ending shortly before the preparation of this Report. The President and Trustees desire to express their very warm appreciation of the helpful attitude of the Governor, the Mayor, the President of the Board of Aldermen, the Comptroller and the Park Commissioner in this great advance for popular education and civilization in the City of New York.

THE COMPLETED BUILDING PLANS

Since 1908, the President has been continuously studying the building plans of the Museum with the cooperation of the administrative and scientific staffs, in order to insure an ideal educational sequence in all branches of natural history, to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing number of students and visitors from all parts of the country and in fact of the world. The new ground plan, published for the first time in the present Annual Report, practically represents twenty years of continuous study during the period in which the whole theory of Museum exhibition has been completely revolutionized, partly through discoveries in our own institution, partly through discoveries made by our sister institutions in this country which we are only too glad to adopt. The chief change is the shutting out of the rays of sunlight from all the exhibition halls in which the delicate colors of mammals and of birds are displayed, thus insuring the *permanence* of these beautiful colors.

The habitat group has grown from the tiny bird groups produced in our Museum by Mrs. Mogridge* of the British Museum (Natural History) to the large elaborate groups for the Akeley African Hall in the American Museum, which are now being designed at an average cost of \$25,000 each. Each of these groups is a *permanent* contribution to natural history. The present nomenclature and arrangement of the exhibition halls is as follows:

*1886.

**PROGRESS OF THE NINETEEN BUILDING SECTIONS AND KEY TO
PROJECTED ARRANGEMENT OF EXHIBITION HALLS**

<i>Name of Section</i>	<i>First Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Third Floor</i>	<i>Fourth Floor</i>
<i>I Bickmore</i>	Northwest Coast Indians	Birds of the World	North American Bird Groups	History of the Earth I
<i>II Memorial</i>	Jesup Memorial	World Bird Groups	Primates	Age of Man (History of the Earth V)
<i>III North American</i>	Jesup Hall of North American Woods	North American Mammals (Allen Hall)	Mammals of the World (Buffon Hall)	Age of Mammals (Osborn Hall)
<i>IV South American</i>	Indians of the Eastern Wood- lands Pro-Astronomic Corridor	African Ethnology Burroughs Local Birds Corridor	Siberia Audubon Gallery	Minerals and Gems (Morgan Hall) Age of Horse Corridor
<i>V North Asiatic and Arctic</i>	Darwin Hall of Biology	North Asiatic Polar Life	Insect Life	Closing Age of Dinosaurs (His- tory of the Earth IV)
<i>VI Polynesian</i>	Indians of the Plains	Prehistory of South America	China and Japan	Races of Man
<i>VII (Astronomic)</i>	Meteorite Hall	Cosmic Geography	Gallery	The Firmament
<i>VIII European</i>	Indians of the Southwest	Ancient Peru	Peoples of Malaysia	Stages of Human Culture
<i>IX Asiatic</i>	Fishes of the World	Mammals of Southern Asia	Reptiles of the World	Early Age of Reptiles
<i>X Oceanic</i>	Mollusks and Cetaceans			
<i>XI Education</i>	Education Hall Nature and Man (Public Health) Corridor	Class Rooms	School Service	Laboratories
<i>XII (Roosevelt)</i>	Association Headquarters	Roosevelt Memorial	Gallery - Roosevelt Memorial	Education Rooms
<i>XIII (African)</i>	Land Mammals of the World	Akeley Memorial African Hall	Gallery - Akeley Memorial African Hall	History of the Earth II
<i>XIV (Middle American)</i>	Aztec and Toltec	Maya	Central American Culture	Pacific Island Peoples
<i>XV (Australian)</i>	California and Plateau Indians	South American Tribes	Life of Australia	Study Hall (Crafts and Textiles)
<i>XVI (Lecture Amphitheater)</i>	Main Floor	Main Floor	Balcony	
<i>XVII (Power and Service)</i>	Power	Engineering Service	Engineering Service	Storage
<i>XVIII (Preparation and Storage)</i>	Preparation	Preparation	Storage	Storage
<i>XIX (South Oceanic)</i>	Birds	Birds	Birds	Birds

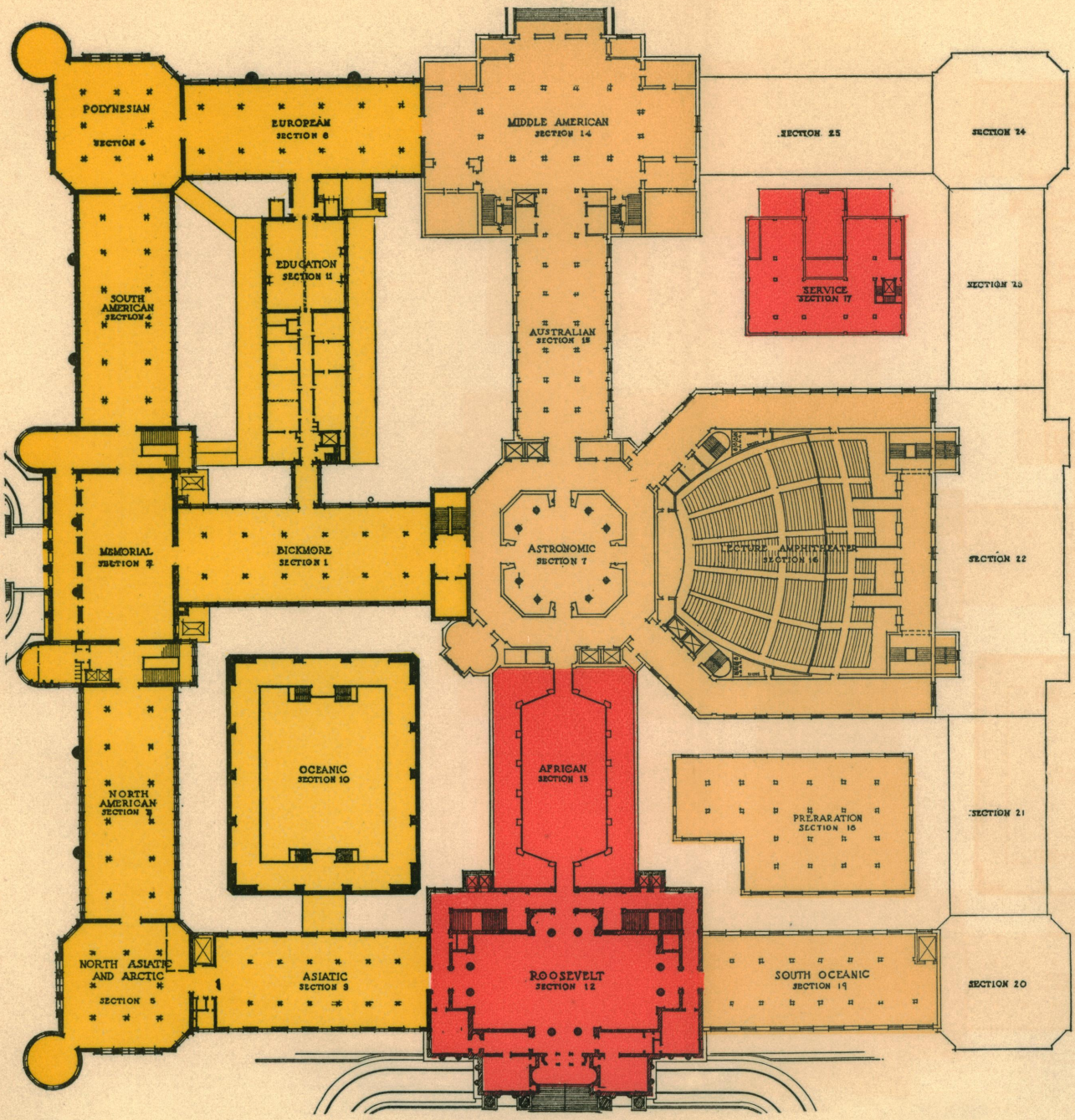
SUMMARY

Exhibition Halls	50	Assembly Halls	2
Exhibition Corridors and Galleries.....	8	Public Reception Halls.....	2

COLUMBUS AVENUE

SEVENTY-SEVENTH STREET

EIGHTY-FIRST STREET



CENTRAL PARK WEST

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Nineteen Building Sections for Which Plans Have Been Prepared

Yellow, Sections Completed; Red, Sections Ready for Construction and Appropriations Pending; Buff, Sections in Preparation

THE AFRICAN HALL—A REALITY

It hardly seems possible that Carl E. Akeley's dream of the African Hall is to be realized in a manner far exceeding even his fondest dreams. The dominant motive of the African Hall is the lifelike and artistic preservation for all time of the beauty and grandeur of the African continent. The plans of the thirty-six groups were considered up to the very last moment by the President and Mr. Akeley before Mr. Akeley's departure on his last journey to Africa. Mr. Akeley's estimate of a million dollars as the total cost seemed fantastic and prohibitive, but the present outlook is that the completed Hall will not fall far short of this figure. The groups now planned and fully financed are as follows:

- | | |
|---|--|
| The African Elephant from Kenya Colony.
Two males, cow, calf. | The Klipspringer Group from Kenya Colony.
Klipspringer, Reedbuck, Baboons, Hyrax. |
| The White Rhinoceros from the Belgian Congo.
Male, cow, calf. | The Wild Dog and Roan Antelope of Tanganyika Territory.
Nine specimens. |
| The Gorilla of Kivu.
Two males, two females, young. | The Plains Group of Tanganyika Territory.
Grant Zebra, Gnu, Hartebeests, Robert's Gazelle, Thomson Gazelle, Topi. |
| The Greater Koodoo of Tanganyika Territory.
Two males, two females, young. | The Water Hole of Kenya Colony Group.
Giraffe, Grevy's Zebra, Oryx, Grant's Gazelle. |
| The Lesser Koodoo and Gerenuk of Tanganyika Territory.
Six specimens. | The Buffalo Group, Kenya Colony.
Two males, females, young. |
| The Sable Antelope from Portuguese West Africa.
Two males, two females, young. | The Impalla Group of Tanganyika Territory.
Six specimens. |

Proposed Groups for Which Materials Have Not Been Fully Collected

- | | |
|--|---|
| The Lion.
Two males, two females, three young. | The Giant Eland. |
| The Bongo and Giant Forest Hog. | The South African Gnu, Springbok, Blesbok, and Aard Wolf. |
| The Congo River Group.
Pigmy Elephant, Red Buffalo. | The Nile River Group. |
| The Okapi. | The Water Birds Group. |
| The Sabre Antelope, Addax and Dorcas Gazelle. | The Ratel and Honey Bird. |
| | The Aard-Vark. |
| | The Greater and Lesser Bustard. |

The Vulture, Jackal, Hyena, Marabout and Glossy Starling Group.	The Mongoose.
The Leopard, Red-River Hog and Ibis Group.	The Duiker, Suni.
The Ground Hornbill Group.	The Mandrill (West Africa).
The Pangolin.	The Cape Town Bay Group.
The Greater Otter.	The Lemurs, Insectivores (Madagascar).
The Inyala.	The Dik-Dik.

The following are the chief donations which have been made to the proposed 36 groups in the African Hall:

The African Elephant Group, collected by Carl E. Akeley and Theodore Roosevelt, presented by the Morris K. Jesup Fund.

The Gorilla Group, collected by Carl E. Akeley, presented by the Morris K. Jesup Fund.

The White Rhinoceros, collected by the Lang-Chapin Expedition as a gift of a number of the Trustees.

The Sable Antelope Group, collected by Messrs. Arthur S. Vernay and Herbert Lang, presented by Mr. Vernay.

Two groups including a lion group, to be collected and donated by Mr. and Mrs. G. Lister Carlisle.

The following groups are the gifts of Messrs. George Eastman, Daniel E. Pomeroy and D. B. Wentz, collected by the Eastman-Pomeroy-Akeley Expedition, 1926-27:

The Lesser Koodoo.	The Impalla.
The Greater Koodoo.	The Buffalo.
The Klipspringer.	The Water-hole Group.
The Wild Dog.	The Plains Group.

For the Hall of Mammals of the World, Floor I, the African Section, materials for two important groups have been donated by Mr. Irving K. Taylor:

The White-eared Cob.	The Nile Lechwe.
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THE SOUTH ASIATIC HALL—NEARING COMPLETION

Our British friends, Mr. Arthur S. Vernay and Colonel J. C. Faunthorpe, have indicated their intention not only to complete the collection of the large animal groups for the Asiatic Hall but to attempt to secure the rarer and nearly extinct forms of South Asiatic life, such as the lion of India, the Sonda rhinoceros of Burma, the native two-horned Sumatran rhinoceros and many other smaller forms of mammals which will be planned as accessory exhibits in the great habitat alcoves of this Hall.

For the purpose of detailed study of the backgrounds, Mr. Vernay and Colonel Faunthorpe made a special tour of India, accompanied by Mr. Albert E. Butler, the Assistant Chief of our Preparation Staff, and Mr. Clarence C. Rosenkranz, artist. This expedition as reported was very successfully terminated early in the year 1928. The completed and prospective groups of the South Asiatic Hall are as follows:

The Banting. Two adults.	The Sumatran Rhinoceros. One adult, one young.
The Sloth Bear. Two adults, one young.	The Tiger. Two adults, two young.
The Blackbuck. Two adults, two yearlings.	The Indian Elephant Two adults.
The Axis Deer. Four adults, two young.	The Hog Deer and Boar Group. Four specimens.
The Indian Sambar Deer. Two adults, one young.	The Indian Rhinoceros. Two adults.
The Swamp Deer. Two adults, one young.	The Indian Buffalo. Two adults.
The Thamin Deer. Three adults, one young.	The Leopard Group. Two adults.
The Nilgai. Two adults, one young.	

GROUPS FOR THE NORTH ASIATIC HALL

The southeast hall of Floor II, long occupied as an atelier for the sculptural work of Carl E. Akeley, is being transformed by generous City appropriations into what will be known as the North Asiatic Mammal Hall, to be devoted to nineteen habitat groups of the large mammals of the northern mountainous, desert and steppe regions of Asia. This exhibition will furnish a most striking contrast to the mammalian life of the South Asiatic Hall characteristic of the warm southern climate of India, Burma, Siam and the East Indian Islands.

Through the expedition and gifts of Mr. William J. Morden and through the remarkable success of the Morden-Clark Expedition into Central Asia, the Museum has suddenly come into possession of magnificent materials which will form the central features of the North Asiatic Hall, now in the course of construction under an appropriation from the City of New York. The crowning feature of this collection is the material for a superb group of *Ovis poli* from the Russian Pamirs, which will form the central group beneath the dome; hardly less important are the Thian Shan ibex. Plans for this Hall have been gradually advancing, and when it is completed the Hall will display all the hardy large mammals of northern Asia, in contrast to the great mammals of southern Asia in the South Asiatic Hall. It is hoped that the northern or Siberian tiger may be added to this series, which will form a striking contrast to the southern or Bengal tiger.

Of the North Asiatic groups proposed for the North Asiatic Hall, the following are the gifts of Mr. William J. Morden as a result of the Morden-Clark Expedition to Central Asia:

Marco Polo's Sheep.
Thian Shan Ibex.

Roe Deer.
Snow Leopard.

As gifts of the benefactors of the Central Asiatic Expeditions, there have been collected under the direction of Doctor Roy Chapman Andrews materials for the following groups:

Takin.
Wild Ass and Goitered Gazelle.
Serow.

Goral.
Muntjac.

CENTRAL BIRD HALL

For ten years past, the building committee has been planning the reconstruction of the older portions of the building so as to increase the exhibition space and adapt this increased space to modern and up-to-date methods of exhibition. The formerly dark South Central Exhibition Hall on Floor II is being converted into a beautiful new Central Bird Hall around which will be placed superb new habitat groups, representing the varied environment of birds in every region of the world. Of the twelve groups planned for this beautiful exhibition, the following are completed or in progress:

Tropical Bird Group of the Barro Colorado Island, Panama Canal, gift of Dr. Evan M. Evans.

Andean Highlands Group of South America, collected by Mr. Frederic C. Walcott and Doctor Frank M. Chapman.

Sub-Antarctic Penguin Group of South Georgia, collected by Doctor Murphy.

Pampas Group of South America, collected by Doctor Chapman.

Pheasants of the World Group, collected for Colonel Anthony R. Kuser by Mr. William Beebe.

Arctic Island Group of the Pacific.

The remaining six groups will be planned during the coming year. These twelve superb bird habitat groups of the world will form the central axis of the south side of the Museum and will connect to the north with the systematic collection of birds of the world known as Elliot Hall.

THE OCEANIC HALL

An Oceanic Hall for the life of the sea was projected by the President in 1910 and found its way into the great building of the southeast court, known as the Oceanic Hall, planned on a scale adequate to exhibit the whales and all other oceanic mammals, the marine invertebrates or shell collection, and all the great aspects of sea life, from the oceanic Coral Islands to the Polar Seas of the North. The exhibits have been planned by a special committee of the Scientific Staff with the welcome aid of Director Townsend of the Aquarium and Curator Bashford Dean. Many extremely difficult architectural, artistic and zoological problems are in the course of solution, including the designs of a superb series of twelve mural paintings surrounding the walls. Meanwhile, the great groups of marine life planned for this hall are the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Elephant Seal. | 8. Pacific Walrus. |
| 2. Hooded and Harp Seal. | 9. Sea-otter. |
| 3. Hair Seal. | 10. Action Group of Cetaceans under water. |
| 4. Antarctic Group. | 11. Sea-turtle group. |
| 5. Australian Dugong. | 12. Coral Reef. |
| 6. Steller's Sea-lion. | 13. Pearl Fishery. |
| 7. Fur-seal. | 14. Sponge Fishery. |

It is planned to open this Hall, as well as the adjacent Fish Hall, during the autumn of 1928.

IMMEDIATE PREPARATION PROGRAM

The following is a summary of the *ninety-two* groups in progress or required for the six new exhibition halls:

South Asiatic—8.
North Asiatic—19.
Akeley African—36.

Central Bird—12.
Oceanic—14.
Fishes of the World—3.

This gives some idea of the extent of our preparation program, which will take from five to ten years to complete; and of the stupendous amount of work required to carry this program through.

CHIEF EXPEDITIONS OF THE YEAR 1927

The interest in world-wide exploration is growing by leaps and bounds, and the Museum is fortunate to receive a series of splendid donations for this purpose, in addition to a constantly increasing number of donors, either to finance, or to finance and conduct, expeditions in various parts of the world. All together, during the year 1927, thirty-two expeditions were sent out from the American Museum. These are important factors in the future development of our Museum. The President takes pleasure in giving the following brief summary of the expeditions.

THE CENTRAL ASIATIC EXPEDITIONS. The Central Asiatic Expedition was unable to carry on field operations during 1927, owing to the political upheavals in China. However, Mr. Walter Granger and Mr. Nels C. Nelson spent several months in Yunnan Province in southern China, examining fossil and archæological sites. The Expedition will take the field early in 1928, when it is planned to visit a part of the interior hitherto scientifically unexplored. Supported by friends of the Museum.

THE MORDEN-CLARK ASIATIC EXPEDITION. In March of 1926, Messrs. William J. Morden and James L. Clark set out to secure specimens of *Ovis poli* and other Asiatic fauna in Chinese Turk-estan. After a thrilling series of adventures, some of which threatened to be tragic, the Morden-Clark Expedition succeeded in reaching Peking with a splendid series of specimens for Museum groups. They returned to the Museum in February, 1927, bringing also several thousand feet of motion picture film and

numbers of still photographs made along the trip. The expedition was financed and led by Mr. William J. Morden.

THE TAYLOR SUDAN EXPEDITION. Mr. Irving K. Taylor, and Mr. Harold E. Anthony, who is Curator of the Department of Mammalogy, left New York in November, 1926, on the Taylor Sudan Expedition to collect mammals and birds on the White and Blue Nile. The expedition was fortunate in securing representatives of all the species planned for, as well as a series of shallow-water fishes. The party returned to the Museum in June, 1927. The work was financed by Mr. Irving K. Taylor.

THE RUWENZORI-KIVU EXPEDITION. In January, 1926, Dr. James P. Chapin of the Department of Ornithology, accompanied by Messrs. De Witt L. Sage and Frank P. Mathews, left New York on the Ruwenzori-Kivu Expedition to collect birds of the subtropical zone in Ruwenzori and Kivu, and in Kenya Colony, Africa. The trip was a long and difficult one, but recompensed with much valuable material. Mr. Mathews returned to New York in the late summer of 1927, but Doctor Chapin and Mr. Sage did not return to this country until October of 1927. The Expedition was made possible through the generosity of Mr. Henry W. Sage and Mr. Childs Frick.

THE LEE GARNETT DAY RORAIMA EXPEDITION. Through the generosity of Mr. Lee Garnett Day, the Roraima Expedition left New York in July, 1927, to collect birds and mammals on Roraima, a high plateau in British Guiana. Members of the Museum staff, Messrs. George H. H. Tate and T. Donald Carter, are conducting the Expedition. They planned the trip by way of the Amazon to Manaos, thence along the Rio Branco to the limit of navigation, and by porters the remainder of the way. They are expected to return early in 1928.

THE WHITNEY SOUTH SEA EXPEDITION. The Whitney South Sea Expedition, under the auspices of Mr. Harry Payne Whitney and leadership of Mr. Rollo H. Beck, has continued for the eighth year collecting birds of the Pacific. During the year, collections have been made among the Solomon Islands. At the New Hebrides, collections were made of birds never before represented in the Museum collections, and some quite new to science. The

Expedition has been augmented by some new members, and will continue its work actively during 1928. The expedition is under the directorship of Curator Robert Cushman Murphy.

PALAEONTOLOGIC EXPEDITIONS TO THE SOUTHWEST. Through the generosity of Mr. Childs Frick, several expeditions were made in the West during the summer in search of palaeontological material. Mr. Albert Thomson was again in charge of work on Pliocene fossils in western Nebraska. Mr. Carl Sorensen worked in cooperation with the Colorado Museum on Miocene deposits of western Nebraska. Mr. Barnum Brown conducted a reconnaissance in Cretaceous and Jurassic material in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. Messrs. Joseph Rak in New Mexico and John C. Blick in Keams Canyon, Arizona, secured a collection of Pliocene material.

EXPEDITION TO NORWAY AND SWEDEN. Mr. George D. Pratt visited Norway and Sweden during the summer and secured a fine series of educational films for use in the school service work of the Museum.

EXPEDITION TO THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES. In June, Mr. Philip H. Pratt sailed to the Mediterranean, where he visited the ports of Alexandria, Jaffa, Beirut, and Piraeus, as well as the countries of Syria, Palestine, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Turkey, Roumania, and Egypt, making still and motion pictures of the peoples of those lands for use in the school service work of the Museum. The trip was made possible through the generosity of The Export Steamship Corporation of New York. Financed by Mrs. Leonard K. Elmhirst and the Carnegie Corporation.

HEILNER EXPEDITION TO ALASKA. Mr. Van Campen Heilner has collected several excellent specimens of the Alaska brown bear at Pavlof Bay for the basis of a museum group. Although Mr. Heilner is field representative in the department of fishes, he frequently takes trips into other fields of science. Financed by Mr. Heilner.

THE VERNAY-FAUNTHORPE EXPEDITION. Mr. Arthur S. Vernay has continued his interest in Museum collections with the

result that this institution has been the recipient during the year of several fine specimens to add to the Indian collections. In November he again set forth to collect in India the *Rhinoceros sondaicus* in order to complete the Museum's collections of Asiatic Rhinoceroses. Messrs. Butler and Rosenkranz of the Museum staff accompanied him to secure accessory material for the Asiatic groups and paintings for backgrounds. After leaving Mr. Vernay in India, Messrs. Butler and Rosenkranz will stop in Angola to obtain accessory material and background studies for the Giant Sable Antelope Group which Mr. Vernay collected there for the Museum.

BRAZILIAN EXPEDITION. Through the generous support of Mrs. Walter Wehle Naumburg, field work on birds has been continued in Brazil by Mr. Emil Kaempfer.

THE SIXTH BERNHEIMER EXPEDITION. Mr. Charles L. Bernheimer maintained and conducted the Sixth Bernheimer Expedition in the vicinity of Navajo Mountain, in further search of material for the Department of Anthropology.

EXPEDITION TO THE GASPÉ PENINSULA. Through the generosity of Mr. Childs Frick, Mr. George Goodwin spent two months this summer in southern Quebec collecting animals for study groups in the Museum. In all, 350 mammals were collected.

THE MARTIN JOHNSON AFRICAN EXPEDITION. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnson returned from Africa early in the year, with the photographic results of four years in Africa, including 200,000 feet of film of African wild life. This has been edited to form the great nature film, "Simba." These photographic records are of great importance in the preparation of the habitat groups for the Akeley African Hall of the Museum. Financed by the Martin Johnson African Expedition Corporation, Daniel E. Pomeroy, President.

THE GRISCOM-CROSBY EXPEDITION TO EASTERN PANAMA. Mr. Ludlow Griscom of the Department of Ornithology, with Mr. Maunsell S. Crosby, started in February for Panama and Pearl Island, to study the birds of Panama and its environs. Some

new species were found for the Museum collections. The party returned at the end of March. Financed by the Jesup Fund and Mr. Maunsell S. Crosby.

EXPEDITION TO BARRO COLORADO ISLAND. Last January, Dr. Frank M. Chapman, Curator of Ornithology, with Dr. Evan M. Evans, made a study of tropical bird life in the Canal Zone as found on Barro Colorado Island. Doctor Chapman returned to the Museum in May with some excellent studies. The expedition was financed by Dr. Evan M. Evans.

EXPEDITION TO MEXICO. Mr. Clarence L. Hay, Research Associate in Mexican Archæology, spent some time in Mexico in the early part of the year examining anthropological material. The expedition was financed by Mr. Hay.

EXPEDITION TO NEVADA. Dr. Chester A. Reeds, Curator of Fossil Invertebrates, spent some time during the summer in Nevada, examining meteorites. This trip was financed by Mr. J. P. Morgan.

EXPEDITION TO THE HACKENSACK VALLEY. Doctor Reeds during the summer spent considerable time on the varved clays of the Hackensack Valley. Financed by the Jesup Fund.

THE WOODCRAFT INDIAN TRIP. On June 20, Dr. G. Clyde Fisher undertook a trip with Mr. Ernest Thompson Seton and others to make photographs and studies of Indian dancing and sign talking. This was known as the Woodcraft Indian Trip, and extended from North Dakota to Arizona, including visits to the Grand Canyon and the Petrified Forest.

BEAR MOUNTAIN NATURE TRAIL AND TRAILSIDE MUSEUM. During the summer, the Bear Mountain Nature Trail and Trailside Museum attained considerable popularity under the direction of Mr. William H. Carr. Mr. Carr met with many difficulties naturally to be expected in the first year of such work, but, on the whole, the season was a very successful one. Established at the request of the Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park.

FIELD STATION FOR THE STUDY OF INSECTS. The insect station at Tuxedo, New York, under the direction of Dr. Frank E. Lutz, continued the splendid work already well established there. In the three years since the Station was established, it has had the volunteer assistance of bacteriologists, chemists and physicists, as well as of entomologists, and has proved its value. The Station was established through the courtesy and cooperation of the Harriman Estate.

EXPEDITION TO MONTANA AND WYOMING. President Henry Fairfield Osborn spent some time during the summer in the fossil fields of Montana and Wyoming, giving particular attention to the examination of dinosaur and mammal prospects and a first-hand study of artifacts in conjunction with the remains of Pleistocene bison.

EXPEDITION TO ARIZONA. Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, Assistant Curator of Physical Anthropology, visited Mitten Rock in the Navajo country east of the Arizona line in search of skeletal material. He secured a number of skulls and some representative pottery. Doctor Shapiro also attended a conference at Pecos, Mexico, on Southwest Archaeology. This work was financed by Mr. Ogden Mills.

EXPEDITION TO ST. LAWRENCE SHORE. Mr. Francis B. Shields of the Department of Mammals spent his vacation along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, where he made some Museum collections by means of a bow and arrow.

EXPEDITION TO NORTH CAROLINA AND KENTUCKY. During the summer, Mr. Clifford H. Pope visited the mountains of Western North Carolina and Eastern Kentucky to complete his studies of the salamanders of that region. This is Mr. Pope's second expedition to investigate the amphibian and reptilian faunas of these mountains. He secured many specimens for experimental research work. This work was financed by the Jesup Fund and the Herpetological Research Fund.

EXPEDITION TO MOUNT DESERT ISLAND. Dr. Roy W. Miner spent some time on Mount Desert Island, working in coopera-

tion with the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, and made studies to be used in constructing models for the Darwin Hall. Jesup Fund.

STUDIES AT WOODS HOLE. Dr. G. K. Noble spent part of the summer at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, where he made studies on the anatomy and evolution of the Amphibia. Jesup Fund and Herpetological Research Fund.

EXPEDITION TO THE OZARK MOUNTAINS. Doctor Noble visited the Ozark Mountains, Missouri, where he studied the salamanders found in the caves there. Jesup Fund and Herpetological Research Fund.

THE PUTNAM BAFFIN ISLAND EXPEDITION. Mr. F. N. Lime-killer accompanied the Putnam Expedition this summer to Baffin Island, in the interests of the Department of Preparation. Financed by contributions of Mrs. Dorothy Binney Putnam, Mr. David Binney Putnam, Mr. W. F. Kenny, Mr. Gustavus D. Pope, and the Jesup Fund.

PERU AND ECUADOR. The Museum has continued to receive birds from Ecuador and Peru from the Olalla brothers. This work is financed by the Jesup Fund.

VALUABLE GIFTS OF THE YEAR 1927

Among the many valuable miscellaneous gifts received during 1927, may be mentioned: A skin and skeleton of adult male wood bison, gift of the Canadian Government, through Professor William Rowan; nearly 1,000 feet of motion-picture negative of horses in action, and 200 feet of motion-picture positive, "Horsing the Army," from Mr. A. J. O. Culbertson; 12 reels of motion-picture positive—Amundsen-Ellsworth Polar Flight of 1925-1926, from Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth; 32 enlarged photographs of fishing scenes, hand-colored, from Dr. Zane Grey; a collection of Plains Indians specimens, from Dr. George Bird Grinnell; an ethnological collection from Dutch Guiana, from Dr. Morton C. Kahn; 10 reels of motion-picture positive, "Story of Copper," from Kennecott Copper

Corporation; a Dodge station-wagon, from Mr. Alfred L. Loomis; skins and skeletons of three Mediterranean seals, from Mr. Jesse Metcalf; 11 gems from Mr. J. P. Morgan; many specimens of mammals, birds and reptiles from the New York Zoological Society; serpent head from Temple of Quetzalcoatl, Teotihuacan, Mexico, from Paramount Famous Players Lasky Corporation; ethnological collection, Java, 9 reels motion-picture positive, 4 wood-carvings of Lapps, 4 reels motion pictures, "The Mountain People," from Mr. George D. Pratt; oil painting, framed, "Lion and Lioness," by Mr. Jan van Essen, 1887, from Mr. S. Brinckerhoff Thorne; 29 framed paintings of fish collected on the "Ara" Expedition (Mr. William Belanske, artist), from Mr. William K. Vanderbilt; and 100 mounted heads and horns from Mr. J. Norman de R. Whitehouse; a collection of Pleistocene fossils, from St. Petersburg (Seminole), Florida, gift of Mr. Walter W. Holmes; 3,004 slides and two flashlight outfits, from Mr. William Nesbit.

NEED OF \$5,707,831.69 ADDITIONAL ENDOWMENT

As repeatedly stated in previous Annual Reports, the American Museum needs for its educational and scientific operation a total endowment of not less than \$20,000,000, of which \$14,292,168.31 was in hand or in sight on December 31, 1927. This matter is of such extreme and pressing importance that the following statement by the Treasurer to March 21, 1928, is submitted:

The Permanent Endowment Fund of the Museum on January 1, 1928, amounted to a book value of \$12,161,452.52, which was invested as follows:

Book Value of Securities:

Railroad Bonds	\$8,925,091.38	
Industrial Bonds	825,651.25	
Public Utility Bonds	1,938,396.51	
Other Securities	472,313.38	\$12,161,452.52
		<hr/>
Uninvested Cash		1,096.68
		<hr/>
Total Endowment January 1, 1928.....		\$12,162,549.20

Bequests and Gifts Received January 1 to February 29, 1928:

Estate of Margaret Olivia Sage.....	\$90,000.00	
Estate of Wood Fosdick	36,328.00	
Subscriptions to Ralph Winfred Tower		
Memorial Fund	10.00	126,338.00
		<hr/>
		\$12,288,887.20

Schedule of Increase and Decrease in Permanent Endowment Fund:

Decrease in Book Value by Sale of Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. Co. Bonds	\$89,219.25	
Increase in Book Value by Sale of Securities other than Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. Co. Bonds.....	69,000.36	
	<hr/>	
Net Decrease in Book Value.....		20,218.89
Book value of Endowment Fund, February 29, 1928...		<hr/> \$12,268,668.31

Bequests and Gifts in Process of Settlement, on which the Museum is likely to realize within the next year or two:

Anna M. Harkness	\$1,000,000.00	
Wood Fosdick, balance	170,000.00	
Caroline B. Sellew (amount not obtainable)		1,170,000.00
	<hr/>	
		\$13,438,668.31

Bequests Subject to Life Interests:

Louis V. Bell	\$385,000.00	
Charles M. Jesup Trust Fund.....	300,000.00	
Louisa Combe	100,000.00	
J. Kennedy Tod	40,000.00	
Jennette Robertson	2,500.00	
Ludwig Dreyfuss	10,000.00	
James Gaunt	15,000.00	
Joseph E. Roelker.....	1,000.00	
Robert Jaffray (amount not obtainable)..		853,500.00
	<hr/>	
		\$14,292,168.31
Amount necessary to provide Endowment of \$20,000,000....		<hr/> \$5,707,831.69

Minimum Endowment necessary to operate Museum..... **\$20,000,000.00**

Bequests, Contingent:

Estate of Julius Hallgarten	\$42,000.00
Estate of Leo M. Prince.....	6,000.00
Estate of David Lydig.....	10,000.00
Estate of Henrietta Olive Littleton.....	10,000.00
Estate of Minna Godwin Goddard.....	50,000.00

The newly adopted budget of 1928 displays the larger divisions of budget expenditure as follows:

Administration and Operation	\$423,368.98
Financial Administration	65,229.44
Scientific and Research	274,378.85
Printing and Publishing	103,004.95
Preparation and Exhibition	128,129.74
Educational, Public School Work.....	72,788.01
	<hr/>
	\$1,066,899.97

This budget of \$1,066,899.97 will be aided by individual gifts during the year 1928, which already amount to \$398,173.86.

The thirty-three exhibition halls make constantly increasing demands on our funds for preparation which is the most important public educational feature of our work.

To keep pace with the educational demands upon the Museum there is urgent immediate need of \$5,707,831.69 which will be sufficient to raise the permanent endowment to \$20,000,000.

Since the World War, because of the decline in the purchasing value of our Endowment, the Museum's research work from endowment funds has been year by year curtailed and the Trustees and citizens alike who have knowledge of the facts have been most appreciative of the response which a number of individuals have given in making it possible through personal contributions to maintain each year a number of research workers in the field. A resolution adopted by the Trustees at the November meeting, expressing appreciation of the fact, disclosed that Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, President, had recently turned over to the Museum \$5,000 which he had received on his seventieth birthday. The gift of Professor Osborn will be used to establish the Osborn Palæontological Research Fund. Movements are in progress to establish other research funds.

CHANGES IN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees held January 3, 1927, the Trustees accepted with keen regret the resignation of Mr. Adrian Iselin who had been a member of the Board since 1905. The following resolution adopted at this meeting is indicative of the high esteem in which Mr. Iselin is held by his American Museum colleagues:

RESOLVED, That it is with deepest regret that the Trustees accept the resignation of their beloved colleague and friend, Mr. Adrian Iselin, as a Trustee of the Museum. Mr. Iselin has been a member of the Board for more than twenty-one years and was for nine years its Secretary. Throughout this period he served with singular devotion the interests of the Museum and his support of its work has been most generous. The Trustees regret that they are to be deprived of their delightful association with him as a member of the Board, but wish to assure him that he carries with him their very best wishes for continued good health and happiness.

Equally regretfully the Trustees accepted the resignation of Mr. George F. Baker, Jr., as Treasurer of the Museum. Mr. Baker's keen financial insight and his ever willingness to devote himself to the study of the Museum's perplexing problems of finance made his service in this office especially valuable. Mr. Baker had been Treasurer since 1922 and remains on the Board as a member of the Class of 1928. To the vacancy caused by Mr. Baker's resignation, Mr. James H. Perkins was elected Treasurer of the Museum.

At this meeting the following Trustees were elected: to the Class of 1928, Kermit Roosevelt; to the Class of 1929, Mr. Oliver G. Jennings; to the Class of 1931, Messrs. Frederick F. Brewster, Douglas Burden, Cleveland Earl Dodge, Childs Frick, James H. Perkins and Leonard C. Sanford. Messrs. Brewster, Burden, Dodge, Frick and Sanford were members of the Class of 1926 whose terms expired at the Annual Meeting of 1927. Mr. Roosevelt was elected to the vacancy due to the death of Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge, and Mr. Jennings to the vacancy caused by the ~~death~~ of Mr. Walter Douglas. At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 2, 1927, Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth was elected to the vacancy in the Class of 1927 caused by the resignation of Mr. Adrian Iselin.

The death of Dr. Walter B. James on April 6, 1927, removed from our midst a Trustee who has been singularly devoted to the Museum's work. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 2, 1927, the following tribute to Dr. James was adopted:

The Trustees desire to record their deep sense of loss through the death of their co-Trustee and friend,

DOCTOR WALTER B. JAMES

who passed away on April 6, 1927. Doctor James was elected to the Board in February, 1911, and served as a member of the Executive Committee from 1911 to 1913. He was also a member of the Committee on Buildings and Plans from 1912 to 1927; of the Nominating Committee from 1920 to 1927, and of the Pension Board from 1916 to 1927. Throughout his Trusteeship, he was intensely interested in all of the activities of the Museum and was always earnest and painstaking in his duties as a member of the various committees.

His advice and hearty cooperation were always valuable, especially where the welfare of our employees was concerned.

The same qualities which distinguished him as a Trustee of the Museum made him a valuable and influential citizen in the community.

His colleagues on the Board greatly miss his genial presence and valuable counsel.

The vacancy in the Class of 1930 caused by the death of Doctor James remains unfilled.

CHANGES IN THE SCIENTIFIC STAFF

During 1927 the following appointments and promotions were made in the Scientific Staff: Henry Fairfield Osborn, D.Sc., was appointed Curator-in-Chief of the Division of Mineralogy, Geology, Geography and Astronomy; G. Clyde Fisher, Ph.D., was promoted to Curator of Astronomy; Charles C. Mook, Ph.D., was promoted from Associate in Palæontology to Associate Curator of Fossil Reptiles; George G. Simpson, Ph.D., was appointed Assistant Curator of Vertebrate Palæontology; John T. Nichols, A.B., was promoted from Associate Curator of Recent Fishes to Curator of Recent Fishes; Francesca R. La Monte, A. B., was promoted to Assistant in Ichthyology; Clifford H. Pope, B.A., was promoted to Assistant Curator of Herpetology; Robert T. Hatt, A.M., appointed Assistant Curator of Mammalogy; William J. Morden was appointed Field Associate in Mammalogy; George C. Vaillant, Ph.D., was appointed Assistant Curator of Mexican Archæology; Hawthorne Daniel was appointed Curator of Printing and Publishing and Editor of *Natural History*; A. Katherine Berger was promoted from Assistant Editor of *Natural History* to Associate Editor of *Natural History*.

It is with keenest regret that we record the resignation of Dr. William Diller Matthew, Curator in Chief of the Department of Geology and Palæontology, who had been in the service of the Museum for more than thirty-two years. Doctor Matthew resigned to accept the important position of Professor of Vertebrate Palæontology in the University of California. While Doctor Matthew's departure is a great loss to the Museum because of the high quality of his research and his fine personal characteristics, his colleagues on the Staff wish him every success in his new field of endeavor, for which he is so eminently qualified. Doctor Matthew, throughout his long connection with the Museum, rendered conspicuous service, and it is largely due to his careful and painstaking labor that the collections of Vertebrate Palæontology, now numbering more than 21,000 specimens, are so orderly arranged and completely catalogued. Doctor Matthew's researches

and contributions place him in the front rank of Palæontologists of the day.

We also regret to record the resignation of Assistant Curator Ludlow Griscom, who resigned the latter part of the year to accept the position of Research Curator of Zoology in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.