it to do. The present report consists of xxiv + 157 pages, a trifle larger than the average of the reports, and besides the matter pertaining solely to the workings of the Association, comprises the address of the president, Dr. Henry Woodward, twelve papers, general notes, museum reports and a list of museum publications. Dr. Woodward's address is practically a brief review of the relations of the British Museum to the public and what it has done in the way of the arrangement and display of specimens to interest and instruct visitors, particular attention naturally being given to the display of paleontological material. Dr. Woodward has come to the same conclusion as that expressed by the writer some years ago in SCIENCE, that the complete mixture of recent and fossil animals in the exhibition series is inadvisable and the best results are to be obtained by introducing a few carefully selected and typical examples of living animals into the series of fossils, and rounding out the display of recent animals by the introduction into the exhibition series of a few fossils. "This limited introduction of existing forms, aided by diagrams, drawings and separate parts, does not break up the arrangement of the collection (of fossils) as a whole, but vastly enhances its usefulness to the student."

The aims and arrangement of various museums are described in more or less detail in several papers, including the Hastings Museum, Worcester, by W. Edwards; the Horniman Museum, London, by Richard Quick, and the Norwich Castle Museum, by Henry Woodward.

W. M. Flinders Petrie discusses the question of a 'National Repository for Science and Art,' advocating the acquisition of about a square mile of land within an hour of London (the scheme naturally applies to all large collections) on which should be built a series of one-storied galleries lighted from above; these galleries to be 54 feet wide and about 400 feet apart. The object to be attained by this method is to provide ample room, at a moderate cost, for the housing of material which would be at once preserved and available for study, museums in large cities whose cost of maintenance is high being largely devoted to exhibition.

F. A. Bather described a series of 'Exhibition Labels for Blastoidea,' specially intended for the student who goes to a museum with a definite purpose of acquiring information regarding fossil crinoids. Incidentally we are given a suggestion for a dichotomous arrangement of a museum. The text of the 44 labels is given and they practically amount to a condensed text-book with the specimens serving as illustrations. No one will deny the value of such a system to the student, but would an entire museum thus planned and labeled appeal to the general public, for which, after all, the exhibition portion of a museum is intended?

The 'Reproduction of Art Objects' is treated by Robert F. Martin, who notes that Venetian glass, old majolica, bookbindings, bronzes and even tapestries are now successfully duplicated, so that art museums may by the use of these reproductions fill gaps in historical series for a comparatively small price, where originals would either cost large sums, or be quite unobtainable.

J. W. Carr explained the use of 'Photography in Museum Work' for illustrating features which could not be adequately represented by specimens alone. Among such he instanced various geological phenomena; the habits and habitat of animals; forest trees and the general facies of the landscape caused by differences in the flora.

At the business meeting of the association the question of publishing a monthly journal devoted to museum matters was the subject of a 'Report from the Council,' and while the project was not then definitely settled, it has since been decided to publish such a periodical. The details have not as yet been made public.

F. A. L.

THE SCIENTIFIC ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK.

RENEWED efforts are being made to secure an adequate building for the societies composing the Scientific Alliance of New York. Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan has made a conditional subscription of $25,000, and several smaller amounts have been subscribed. A Committee of Cooperation with the Council of the Alliance has been formed consisting of Andrew H. Green, *Chairman*, 214 Broadway, Edward D. Adams, Abram S. Hewitt, W. E. Dodge, John S. Kennedy, Andrew Carnegie, F. W. Defoe, J. Hamp-

den Robb, D. Willis James, Sam'l Sloan and John J. McCook. This committee has issued the following appeal:

The Council of the Scientific Alliance of New York, composed of delegates from the New York Academy of Sciences, the Torrey Botanical Club, the New York Microscopical Society, the Linnæan Society of New York, the New York Mineralogical Club, the New York Section of the American Chemical Society and the New York Entomological Society, is endeavoring to obtain by subscription a fund for the erection of a building for the use of these societies and others joining the Alliance.

The building is needed as a common meeting-place for the societies, which now occupy rooms in various parts of the city, for the housing of their libraries, which are now widely scattered, for a large lecture hall, for laboratories and other rooms for scientific research, and as a central point of influence upon the community.

The scientific societies are about the only agencies of modern culture for which permanent homes have not been provided in the Metropolis. In this respect New York is strangely behind many smaller cities in the United States, and suffers still more in comparison with the great cities of Europe, most of which have creditable buildings devoted to the use of such organizations. As much original scientific research is carried on in the city of New York as in any other city of the United States, and only public encouragement and support of its already very efficient societies are needed to make New York the scientific center of the country.

The Council of the Scientific Alliance has been incorporated by a special act of Legislature, with power to acquire real estate and to receive bequests. It holds as a nucleus for the present undertaking the sum of $10,000, contributed by Mrs. Esther Herrman, and a number of smaller subscriptions. It is estimated that land can be purchased and a suitable building erected and equipped for the sum of $500,000, which it is the aim of the Alliance to raise.

The undersigned Committee of Cooperation with the Council commend the undertaking and urge all public-spirited citizens to unite with them in the endeavor to bring it to a speedy realization. Subscriptions will be received by the chairman of the Committee or by any member of the Council.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

IN view of the fact that the National Academy of Sciences is about to hold its annual meeting at which new members are elected, it may be of interest to give the members of the Academy who have died and who have been elected during the past ten years.

Deaths.	*Elections.*
1891.	
Julius E. Hilgard,	None.
John Le Conte,	
Joseph Leidy,	
Miers F. Longstreth.	
1892.	
T. Sterry Hunt,	Carl Barus,
Joseph Lovering,	S. F. Emmons,
J. S. Newberry,	M. Carey Lea.
Lewis M. Rutherfurd,	
William P. Trowbridge,	
Sereno Watson.	
1893.	
W. H. C. Bartlett,	None.
F. A. Genth.	
1894.	
Charles E. Brown-Sequard,	None.
Josiah P. Cooke.	
1895.	
James D. Dana,	W. L. Elkin,
John Newton,	C. S. Sargent,
James E. Oliver.	W. H. Welch,
	C. O. Whitman.
1896.	
Thomas L. Casey,	C. D. Walcott,
G. Brown Goode,	R. S. Woodward.
Benjamin A. Gould,	
H. A. Newton.	
1897.	
E. D. Cope,	W. H. Dall,
M. Carey Lea,	F. A. Gooch,
A. M. Mayer,	C. S. Minot.
J. H. Trumbull,	E. W. Morley,
F. A. Walker,	
Theodore Lyman.	
1898.	
James Hall,	None.
William A. Rogers.	
1899.	
	Charles E. Beecher,
O. C. Marsh.	Geo. C. Comstock,
	Theodore W. Richards,
	Edgar F. Smith,
	Edmund B. Wilson.
1900.	
James E. Keeler,	Franz Boas,
Fairman Rogers.	James E. Keeler,
	H. F. Osborn,
	Samuel L. Penfield.