

poses to meet immediate wants by the erection of a laboratory building in which the work of preparing and mounting material for exhibition can be carried on.

The report on the 'Prize Essay Contest' for 1901 shows that this is an effectual method for attracting the public school children to the museum.

Accompanying the report of the director is a handsomely printed pamphlet giving an account of the seventh annual celebration of Founder's Day and containing the addresses delivered on that occasion by White-law Reid, R. W. Gilder and Joseph Jefferson.

It may be added that parts three and four, completing the first volume of the *Annals of the Carnegie Museum*, have just been issued.

THE *Annual Report* of the director of the Field Columbian Museum for 1901-1902 notes at the outset that the building has about reached the limits of repair. It is to be hoped that an arrangement may soon be made by which the large and valuable collections of this institution may be properly housed. The museum did much field work during the past year, resulting in important accessions to the divisions of anthropology, zoology and paleontology. The attendance has increased and the series of excellent lectures were well attended, both these facts marking a growing interest of the public in the museum.

From a comparison of reports it would seem that museum lectures are vastly better attended in the United States than in Great Britain, but the lavish use of lantern slides here doubtless accounts for a part of the difference. Like the Carnegie Museum, the Field Columbian Museum makes a direct effort to attract the pupils of the public schools, and with equal success.

Of particular interest are the descriptions, with illustrations, showing methods of installation of corals, paleontological specimens and economic collections in the department of botany. It is something of a question if the new cases are not a little too severely simple in their design, for while the prime object of a case is to protect its contents, a

case is unavoidably a feature of the hall containing it. It would, therefore, seem to call for some architectural treatment, and the total abolition of cornice and sash moldings gives a case too much the appearance of a mere box.

Besides the illustrations referred to there is a plate of a group of zebras, and views of the groups recently completed by Mr. Akeley, showing the Virginia deer in spring, summer, autumn and winter. These have been in preparation for a long time past, and are unquestionably the most elaborate of the kind anywhere, and the most successful of attempts to imitate nature in museums. F. A. L.

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#### THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

THE 'Thirty-Fourth Annual Report' (that for 1902) of the American Museum of Natural History was placed in the hands of the officers of the Park Department on May 1. It includes, besides the president's report, the financial statement for the year, the list of accessions, and lists of the members, fellows and patrons of the museum.

A summary of the president's report is as follows:

The timely increase on the part of the city of its annual appropriation for maintenance (from \$135,000 to \$160,000) enabled the museum to complete its year's work without calling upon the trustees for additional funds. The city also appropriated \$200,000 for a power and heating station.

Heretofore it has been necessary to borrow money at the beginning of each year to pay the current expenses for maintenance, pending the refunding of such sums by the city, but at the last annual meeting of the board of trustees one of its members very generously gave \$15,000 to be used as a capital to meet the current bills, pending their repayment by the city, the only condition of the gift being that the treasurer's report should show a credit balance of \$15,000 at the close of each year. The terms of the gift have been fully complied with.

At the annual meeting of the board of

trustees held in January, 1902, expenses from the general and maintenance funds were authorized to the aggregate amount of \$210,260, involving a deficit of \$19,560. The report of the treasurer shows that the museum has not drawn upon this deficit. The invested funds, however, have not been materially increased, and in the absence of any large income the museum is obliged to depend upon the liberality of friends for the development of its collections.

The financial transactions of the museum are now divided into three separate accounts: (1) City maintenance account, covering the receipts and disbursements of moneys received from the city; (2) general account, including the receipts and disbursements of the income from invested funds, membership and admission fees, state superintendent of public instruction, and contributions (not for specific purposes) from the trustees and others; (3) endowment and investment account, including the receipts, investments and disbursements of moneys received from bequests, and contributions for specific purposes. The sums received from bequests and the interest thereon are invested in securities for the permanent endowment. Special funds are kept apart.

The membership of the museum increased during the year. The field parties covered a large territory, and the museum acknowledges the aid rendered by the various railroad companies in lessening the cost of transportation of the men and of the material collected.

The large attendance at the museum by the public and by teachers with their classes, and the attendance upon lectures given at the museum, were gratifying. Several scientific societies held their regular meetings in the museum building. In October, 1902, the International Congress of Americanists held its thirteenth annual session at the museum, and there were present delegates from many foreign countries. The subjects discussed related to the native races of America and the history of the early contact between America and the old world.

Certain facts connected with the work in

the several departments of the museum are mentioned.

Dr. Hovey, of the geological department, was sent by the museum on an expedition to Martinique and St. Vincent in May, 1902, and his treatment of volcanic phenomena in general and of the eruptions of Mt. Pelé in particular has received favorable comment throughout the scientific press.

The additions to the museum collection of mammals were unusually large.

The gift from the Peary Arctic Club of about one hundred mammals, collected by Commander Peary on his last arctic expedition, is especially noteworthy, and the museum is now doubtless by far the richest in the world in mammals from arctic America. Donations of specimens in the flesh were received from the New York Zoological Society and the Central Park Menagerie. The Andrew J. Stone Expedition continued its work of making collections of mammals of the Alaskan peninsula.

Material was collected in the Bahamas and Virginia for special bird groups.

In the department of vertebrate paleontology, the collections were enriched by expeditions maintained in the field, and the establishment of a fund by a member of the board of trustees for providing material to illustrate the origin and development of the horse produced immediate results of the highest importance. The purchase of the Cope collections was effected. These include fossil reptiles, amphibians and fishes, and the Pampean collection of fossil mammals from South America.

During the year a number of archeological collections not before exhibited were installed, notably the Hyde collections from the ancient cliff-houses, burial-caves and ruined pueblos of Colorado, Utah and New Mexico. Among the new exhibits installed during the year is the special exhibit of a portion of the material obtained during the researches in the Delaware valley, which have been carried on for over twenty years. It seems to show that man was in the valley of the Delaware at the

time that certain of the glacial deposits and those immediately following were made.

An exceptionally large amount of ethnological material was installed. Early in the year, the Chinese collections were placed on temporary exhibition, and in the spring work was begun on the installation of the Siberian collections of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition.

The work of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition progressed satisfactorily. The aim of the expedition to collect full information of all the tribes of the North Pacific coast has in the main been accomplished. The whole district from Columbia River in America westward to the Lena in Siberia, has been covered fairly exhaustively, and it is already evident that the relationship between Asia and America is much closer than has hitherto been supposed.

The Huntington California Expedition and the North American Research were continued, and much information gained in regard to certain of the native tribes of America.

The East Asiatic work of the Expedition to China promises important scientific results.

The Hyde Expedition carried on work in the southwest and in northern Mexico during the year.

The results of the work of the Mexican Expedition throw much light on the burial customs of the ancient Zapotecs, and the collections obtained add materially to the importance of the collection in the museum. Rare specimens of gold, copper and jadeite secured by the expedition, added to those already in the museum, make this part of the Mexican collections the best in any museum. From the Duke of Loubat, the museum received a gem collection of great importance from the state of Oaxaca.

Local explorations were carried on in the Shinnecock and Poospatuck reservations on Long Island and Staten Island and at Shinnecock Hills.

Several additions were made during the year to the gem collection in the department of mineralogy, namely, five magnificent crusts of amethyst, a large yellow sapphire, two

parti-colored sapphires, an immense star sapphire and a curious archaic axe of agate, gifts of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan. A splendid collection of gold and silver coins from the Philadelphia Mint, the gift of Mr. Morgan, was placed in the gem room.

The department of invertebrate zoology received an important accession in a collection of West Indian corals, actinians and alcyonarians collected in Jamaica.

The New York Zoological Society and the Department of Parks were the principal donors of reptiles and batrachians.

In the department of entomology, the Hoffman collection of butterflies was transferred to the new cases, and the Schauss collection of moths provisionally arranged. From the Black Mountains of North Carolina, 7,000 specimens were obtained for this department.

The publication of the scientific results attending the investigations of the museum progressed during the year.

Several courses of lectures were offered, under various auspices: To teachers, to members of the museum and to the public (holiday course), under a grant from the state; to teachers, by the museum in cooperation with the Audubon and Linnæan societies; to the public, by the city department of education in cooperation with the museum.

The president sums up his report in the following words: "In concluding this my twenty-second report, I take pleasure in assuring the members of this board that the past year has been one of achievement. The increase in the annual appropriation, the growing popularity of the lectures, the large sums spent for laboratory research, the long list of publications, the opening of new exhibition halls, the appropriation by the city of \$200,000 for a new power house, the receipt of large invoices of ethnological material from Siberia and China, the conclusion of negotiations leading to the purchase of the Cope collection, and the departure of several exploring expeditions, are only a few of the indices of activity at the museum, of the generosity of our friends, and of appreciation on the part of the city officers and the visiting public."