

logical Survey, it is evident that this "gumbo" corresponds to his "Loveland," which he has found there well exposed and widely distributed, and has been the first to recognize.

The Boulder-bearing Portion of the Kansan

At the fine exposure at Coon Valley only a trace of Kansan boulder-bearing clay is left; but it appears in all the deep cuts to the south. The characteristics of this portion of the drift have been so frequently stated that a description is here omitted. South of Whitebreast Creek and across Lucas County numerous sand boulders form a conspicuous feature of the Kansan boulder clay. In places, where "gumbo" is not present, there is evidence of post-Kansan wash.

No Aftonian nor Nebraskan Exposed

The study of the section was undertaken with the expectation that numerous exposures of Aftonian interglacial deposits and of Nebraskan drift (sub-Aftonian) would be found; but the cuts are through the hills, and fills extend across the valleys. At the Avon gravel pit in the southern part of Polk County a steam shovel is now removing a coarse sand close to a level at which near by mastodon or elephant remains are said to have been found a number of years ago. These deposits are thought to be of Aftonian age. In a cut in Marion County the bottom of the Kansan drift there exposed contained a boulder of blue clay apparently Nebraskan. With the exception of these two places all evidence of distinct Aftonian and of distinct Nebraskan is wanting. (The work of excavation is not fully completed near the southern part of Marion County.)

The Des Moines Formation

The Des Moines shales are frequently found above the level of the track bed from the outcrop near Coon Valley to the northern boundary of Lucas County, south of which place they appear but once. These exposures afford excellent opportunity to study variations in a preglacial surface.

The exposures in their present perfection will not last long, but at present they will well repay a day's tramp south from Des Moines, or, at Chariton, north from Chariton River.

Acknowledgments

During the summer several of the most important exposures were visited by Professors George F. Kay, B. Shimek and James H. Lees together with the writer, and the conditions found discussed in the field; but the parties named are not responsible in any way for the above presentation.

JOHN L. TILTON.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

THE eighth annual meeting of the American Association of Museums was held in Philadelphia, June 3-5. The most prominent feature of the convention was the discussion of general questions of policy in relation to future work.

The representation of museums of science in the membership has always largely exceeded that of museums of art, although the essential idea in the organization of the association was to afford a common meeting ground for the discussion of the "principles of organization and administration of museums, and their problems of technique, rather than matters of art, history or science as such." There is a strong sentiment among both science and art members that, since all museums exist for the purpose of giving visual expression to ideas, the methods of accomplishing this purpose must be fundamentally similar and vary only in application according to the nature of the material and of the ideas to be expressed. The field of the association, therefore, in no way conflicts with any of the many scientific, artistic or historical societies. For the purpose of promoting a more general appreciation of these facts, and to endeavor to secure greater equality of representation of the various classes of museums in the membership and in the programs of the meetings, a special committee was appointed. With an art man as president for the ensuing year, the time seems particularly opportune for this movement which is so essential to the full function of the association.

A committee was also appointed to consider what methods the association may adopt to promote the increase and successful development of

museums. It is generally recognized that the field for special museums in our large cities is extending rapidly, not only in the more familiar forms of museums of art, history and science, but in the newer form of industrial, commercial, technological and social museums. It is also recognized that the field of the general museum as a center, not only of education, but of civic and social movements in smaller communities is only beginning to be appreciated. These smaller institutions differ in many ways from those of the larger museums of more limited scope, and they feel the need of organized assistance from the association.

Taken as a whole, the papers and discussion at recent meetings indicate a desire that the association shall formulate a digest or compendium of museum practise which may be used as a guide by the smaller museums. The Directory of Museums, published for the association in 1910, was designed to afford a part of the data for such studies, and more recent statistics on some of the points covered by that work will be available in the forthcoming report of the United States Commissioner of Education, which will include, for the first time, a section on museums.

The following papers were read at the meeting and will be published in full in the *Proceedings*:

"Industrial Museums for American Cities," Franklin W. Hooper, The Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"A Group Showing Animals of the Wharf Piles," Roy W. Miner, The American Museum of Natural History, New York.

"Meteorite Collecting and Collections," Oliver C. Farrington, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

"A Method of Mounting Wet Specimens Showing their Natural Environment," Charles F. Silvester, Museum of Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

"Use of Museum Resources in Public Instruction," Witmer Stone and Stewardson Brown, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

"Observations in European Museums of Art," Benjamin Ives Gilman, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

"Museum Work at the Capital of Canada," Harlan I. Smith, Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa, Canada.

"Museum of the Ohio State Archeological and Historical Society," William C. Mills, Ohio State Archeological and Historical Society, Columbus, O.

"Ichthyological Explorations in Colombia," C. H. Eigenmann, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Why this Association should Promote Museum Extension Work," W. B. Ashley.

"The Museums and the Boy Scouts," Charles Louis Pollard, Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences, New Brighton, N. Y.

"Museum Work for the Boy Scouts," William L. Fisher, The Philadelphia Museums, Philadelphia.

"Insurance, Retiring Allowances and Pensions for Museum Men," M. J. Greenman, Wistar Institute of Anatomy, Philadelphia.

"Needless Regulations in Museums," A. R. Crook, Illinois State Museum, Springfield, Ill.

"The Functions of Museums and the Question of Special Exhibitions," Frederic A. Lucas, American Museum of Natural History, New York.

"The Museum Point of View in Botany," Edward L. Morris, Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"The Molding and Casting of Mushrooms and other Plants," Antonio Miranda, Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"A Celestial Sphere—An Apparatus Installed to Promote Interest in Astronomy," W. W. Atwood, Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago.

"The Deutsches Museum at Munich," Charles R. Toothaker, The Philadelphia Museums, Philadelphia.

"Legislation in the Interest of the Ohio State Museum," William C. Mills, Ohio State Archeological and Historical Society, Columbus, O.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Benjamin Ives Gilman, secretary of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

First Vice-president—Oliver C. Farrington, curator of geology, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Second Vice-president—Arthur Hollick, curator of fossil botany, New York Botanical Garden, New York.

Secretary—Paul M. Rea, director, The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.

Treasurer—W. P. Wilson, director, The Philadelphia Museums, Philadelphia.

Councilors (1913-16)—Henry L. Ward, director, Public Museum of the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee; Edward K. Putnam, director, Davenport Academy of Sciences, Davenport, Iowa.

The association selected Milwaukee as the meeting place for 1914.

PAUL M. REA,
Secretary