

by Dr. Harold Gifford. Four artists will be at the station during the present year and will devote especial attention to recording the coloring of creatures too delicate to bear transportation alive to a temperate zone.

Among the incidental results of the work of the station is a rich and continuous supply of living animals to the New York Zoological Park, including such animals as the jaguar, ocelot, capybara, agouti, anaconda, and jabiru. This season a very much larger collection of living animals will be made and sent north.

HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

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### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### COLLECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

THE annual report of the director of the U. S. National Museum states that the total number of specimens acquired by the museum during the year was approximately 526,845. Received in 1,198 separate accessions, they were classified and assigned as follows: Department of anthropology, 12,333; zoology, 442,383; botany, 40,357; geology and mineralogy, 4,750; paleontology, 26,050; textiles, woods, medicines, foods, and other miscellaneous animal and vegetable products, 884; mineral technology, 62; and National Gallery of Art, 26. As loans for exhibition, 3,096 articles were also obtained, mainly for the divisions of history and American archeology and the Gallery of Art.

Material to the extent of 539 lots was received for special examination and report.

The distribution of duplicates, mainly to schools and colleges for educational purposes, aggregated 3,441 specimens, of which 1,378 were contained in seven regular sets of fossil invertebrates averaging 47 specimens each and six regular sets of mollusks of 174 specimens each. The balance comprised 19 special lots, consisting of marine invertebrates, reptiles, fishes, fossils, minerals and ores, stone implements, and basketry specimens.

In making exchanges for additions to the

collections, a total of 5,227 duplicate specimens were distributed. These consisted largely of plants.

Material sent out to specialists for study on behalf of the Museum amounted to 19,851 specimens, mainly biological.

In furtherance of its extensive historical exhibits, the Museum, early in the year, through cooperation with the War and Navy Departments, undertook the assembling and installation of a collection of materials connected with the World War, which may ultimately, require a separate building.

#### APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE HENRY DRAPER FUND OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

At its recent meeting the National Academy of Sciences made the following appropriations on the recommendation of the committee on the Henry Draper Fund:

\$400 to S. A. Mitchell, of the University of Virginia, to complete the purchase of a measuring microscope for use in the photographic determination of stellar parallaxes, on the basis of observations made with the 27-inch refracting telescope. The academy awarded the sum of \$250 from the Draper Fund to apply on the purchase of this instrument and the proposed grant of \$400 will complete the purchase. The microscope, costing \$650, becomes in effect the property of the academy. Professor Mitchell will devote an equivalent sum, \$400, to other needs of his parallax research.

\$300 to Joel Stebbins, professor of astronomy in the University of Illinois, to assist in the further development of the photo-electric-cell photometer.

\$400 to Frank Schlesinger, director of the Allegheny Observatory, to enable him to test an automatic zenith camera for the determination of terrestrial latitude, with the expectation that the results will be more accurate than any hitherto obtained by other means. It is proposed that this instrument be mounted temporarily at the International Latitude Observatory at Ukiah, California, where the astronomer in charge will operate it for a year or two as a labor of love. The grant is needed to install the instrument at Ukiah and to make certain auxiliary apparatus required in its operation. The Allegheny Observatory is loaning the objective and the photographic plates obtained will be measured by Dr. Schlesinger himself or under his immediate direction.

\$175 to E. B. Frost, director of Yerkes Observatory, for the purchase of a Hess-Ives tint photometer for use in the Yerkes Observatory, to supplement the Hartmann micrometer in the measurement of various illuminants, of the transmission of filters for various wave-lengths, of the absorption of photometric gratings, and of other phenomena and subjects.

\$500 to Dr. Antonio Abetti, director of the Arcetri Observatory, Florence, Italy, to apply on the cost of a combined spectrograph and spectroheliograph for use in combination with a 60-foot tower telescope now under construction. It is planned that this instrument shall be used by the son of the director, Dr. Giorgio Abetti, well known to many American astronomers, recently transferred from the Observatory in Rome to the Arcetri Observatory.

\$200 to Major William Bowie, chief of the Division of Geodesy, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, in temporary support of the International Latitude Observatory at Ukiah, California, to assist in meeting an emergency due to the failure of the Observatory's regular source of funds.

#### ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS MAKERS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE second annual meeting of the Association of Scientific Apparatus Makers of the United States as reported in the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, was held at Washington, D. C., Thursday and Friday, April 22 and 23, 1920, and was attended by thirty of the leading manufacturers of scientific instruments, analytical balances, chemical glassware, optical instruments and pyrometers.

The purpose of this association is to improve the construction and design of the scientific apparatus of this country and to standardize the same so as to get uniform quality and sizes; also, the most important object is to build up in the United States a precision instrument industry that will be of aid to the national government in time of emergency. Prior to 1914, practically all instruments of precision were imported and when our government declared war in 1917, it was found that there were not enough instrument makers and manufacturers to provide adequate supplies of precision instruments for the laboratory con-

trol of essential factories and to build fire control instruments for the Army and Navy. The association is now working to perpetuate this industry and to make the nation independent of any foreign country. In carrying out their program they are working in conjunction with the National Research Council, the American Chemical Society, Bureau of Standards and the various scientific bureaus of the National government.

One of the most important addresses of the occasion was given by Dr. S. W. Stratton, director of the Bureau of Standards, in which he set forth the various activities of the Bureau and stated how it would be possible to cooperate with this association. On Friday afternoon, at the invitation of Dr. Stratton, the association was shown through the various departments of the Bureau of Standards.

Committees were appointed on standardization in the various departments to work in conjunction with the above-mentioned agencies and also, if possible to correlate their work with the committee of the Society of Chemical Industry of Great Britain, which is working along similar lines. There was also a committee appointed on publication which will report later. The officers for the coming year are as follows: *President*, M. E. Leeds, of the Leeds & Northrup Company; *Vice-president*, H. N. Ott, of the Spencer Lens Company; *Secretary-treasurer*, J. M. Roberts, of the Central Scientific Company.

#### THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the last meeting of the board of trustees steps were taken to further equip and advance the work of the university's graduate school of medicine. A budget of \$158,079.37 was approved to meet such expenses as are not provided in the regular income of the school. Provost Smith appointed John C. Bell chairman of the joint committee on the graduate school of medicine.

A committee from the graduate school, consisting of Dean George H. Meeker, Dr. George E. de Schweinitz, Dr. Alfred Stengel and Dr. P. S. Stout, attended the meeting and ex-