

# SCIENCE

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## EDUCATION AND EXPLORATION BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM

THE report of President Henry Fairfield Osborn, of the American Museum of Natural History, for the year 1921 is a concise recountal of the accomplishments of the institution and records the firm establishment of the policy inaugurated in 1917—the policy of a broader and more varied service calculated to prove of scientific and educational value, not alone to the citizens of New York, but also to those of the entire nation.

The most conspicuous event of the year last past was a favorable attitude adopted by the city administration toward this institution—the decision to begin the construction of additional wings which have been urgently needed for more than fifteen years, but which because of the war and the high cost of building immediately following, it was found impracticable to start before the current year. At a meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, held on December 26, 1921, the sum of \$1,500,000 was unanimously voted to erect the southeast wing on Central Park West and the southeast court building adjacent thereto as planned in 1875. In providing these additional halls, the city administration is liberally supporting the public educational activities of the museum's work. During the past year the museum, which serves alike the schools of the five boroughs, reached 1,500,000 school children, 869 natural history collections were in use among the elementary schools. This is exclusive of the number of lantern slides distributed which illustrate the work of the museum in all parts of the globe and provide the latest accepted methods of visual instruction in geography, zoology, forestry and history, totaling 210,000, or a service of 182 schools. The number of schools reached outside the museum was 477 in all of the boroughs, and the number of scholars was 1,247,515. By the methods initi-