that the measuring system also depends upon proximity to the earth's surface.

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A YEAR OF PROGRESS FOR ORGANIZED MUSEUMS

Two years ago The American Association of Museums secured pledges amounting to nearly $30,000 annually for three years, and established at Washington national headquarters which subsequently were removed to New York City. The work has advanced rapidly as indicated by the report for the year just closed—the second year of operations—which shows income of $120,000.

The short period which has elapsed since the enlarged program was undertaken has witnessed development of the various services which were projected at the outset, but experience has served to shift a part of the emphasis from service to independent researches and promotions. A number of such projects have been planned and financed successfully, and some have already been brought to completion. The most significant elements of the year's progress are felt to be such pieces of work that can stand alone.

THE YOSEMITE MUSEUM

An outstanding accomplishment has been the building of a museum in Yosemite National Park. In June, 1924, the association's Committee on Museums in National Parks made application to the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial for a grant to make possible the erection of a museum building in Yosemite Valley, and also to provide for installation of exhibits and staffing of the museum for three years, during which period its maintenance might be absorbed by the government. At the same time a small sum was requested for an investigation of museum needs in other national parks and the development of a comprehensive program.

On July 11, the memorial voted $70,500 for building, equipment and maintenance, and appropriated an additional $5,000 to the committee for its own work. Dr. Hermon C. Bumpus as chairman of a sub-committee made a trip to California and under his general supervision the work has been carried forward at so rapid a pace that within ten months the building has been completed and the preparation of exhibits far advanced.

REPORTS OF EUROPEAN SURVEYS

Director Charles R. Richards has completed a report of a survey made last year of industrial museums in Europe. The manuscript is in the hands of the publisher and will appear as a book entitled "The Industrial Museum." During the year, situations have developed in New York City and Chicago that promise early opportunities to apply the results of this study.

A report on industrial art museums in Europe, another investigation which was made last year by Professor Richards, is well advanced.

PROMOTION OF SMALL MUSEUMS

During the year Mr. Coleman has made three field trips which have enabled him to visit more than 200 museums in 85 cities in 24 states, from coast to coast and from Canada to Mexico. This survey was made possible by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and its purpose was to determine the conditions of museums in small communities.

This field work made plain the need for a comprehensive handbook of museum methods. Accordingly the secretary undertook the preparation of such a book, and the manuscript is now practically complete. The "Manual for Small Museums" will appear shortly as a book of some 45 chapters.

The development of this work has served to crystalize a program for the promotion of small museums, and has also offered many opportunities for local service.

FINANCING OF NEW PROJECTS

Five new undertakings have received grants during the year. The General Education Board appropriated $21,000 for the expenses of an official commission to the International Exposition of Industrial and Decorative Arts which is now being held in Paris, $10,000 to bring back from the exposition and to exhibit in the principal museums of this country a representative collection of the finest examples of European decorative and industrial art and $1,000 to develop and circulate collections of the best examples of American textiles, ceramics and other objects of industrial art. The Carnegie Corporation of New York has appropriated $1,500 for publication of the "Manual for Small Museums" and $2,500 for a study of museum fatigue.

The above-mentioned commission to Paris was appointed by Secretary of Commerce Hoover, with Director Richards as chairman. The study of museum fatigue has been placed in the hands of Professor Edward S. Robinson, of the University of Chicago, who has developed the outlines of an investigation to be carried forward with the help of the Art Institute of Chicago.

COMMITTEE WORK

Besides the Committee on Museums in National

Parks, to which reference has already been made, other committees which have been active are those on ethics, finance and accounting, and fire hazards.

The final report of the committee on ethics has just been adopted by the association and will issue shortly as a "Code of ethics for museum workers." The chairman of the committee was Harold L. Madison.

ST. LOUIS MEETING

The beginning of a new fiscal year was marked by the twentieth annual meeting of the association, held in St. Louis from May 17 to 21. On that occasion the membership of the governing body, the council, was increased from ten to thirty by constitutional amendment in order to make possible a representation of the museum interests of the country both geographically and with respect to subject.

The members of the council as just constituted are: S. A. Barrett, Milwaukee; Laura M. Bragg, Charleston; William Alanson Bryan, Los Angeles; Hermon C. Bumpus, Buffalo; Harold T. Clark, Cleveland; William Sloan Coffin, New York; Thomas Jefferson Coolidge, Boston; John Cotton Dana, Newark; Barton W. Evermann, San Francisco; Chauncey J. Hamlin, Buffalo; Robert B. Harshe, Chicago; William M. Hekking, Buffalo; Archer M. Huntington, New York; Frank Logan, Chicago; Richard Swann Lull, New Haven; J. Arthur MacLean, Indianapolis; John D. McIlhenny, Philadelphia; Charles B. Pike, Chicago; George D. Pratt, New York; C. G. Rathmann, St. Louis; William deC. Ravenel, Washington; Paul M. Rea, Cleveland; Paul J. Sachs, Cambridge; Samuel L. Sherer, St. Louis; George M. Stevens, Toledo; Douglas Stewart, Pittsburgh; Felix Warburg, New York; Frederic Allen Whiting, Cleveland; Edward Wigglesworth, Boston, and Clark Wissler, New York.

The officers elected by the association by ballots cast prior to the annual meeting were: *President,* Chauncey J. Hamlin, president of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences; *Vice-president,* Frederic Allen Whiting, director of the Cleveland Museum of Art; *Secretary,* Laurence Vail Coleman; *Treasurer,* George D. Pratt, trustee of the American Museum of Natural History. These officers tendered their resignations in order that the enlarged council might elect its own officers in accordance with the amended constitution. The president, vice-president and treasurer were reelected. Clark Wissler, curator of anthropology of the American Museum of Natural History, was elected secretary, and Mr. Coleman was appointed executive secretary.

The report of the treasurer showed that receipts during the year for general purposes had totalled approximately $35,500 and that the year had closed with a net income of more than $6,000. This surplus, together with a like amount from the previous year, has been set up as a reserve fund, and it was pointed out that the bulk of this reserve had been derived from items budgeted to the work of the director, but not expended because taken up from a special fund.

The total receipts for special purposes was shown to be in excess of $85,000 and the total for all purposes, therefore, to be more than $120,000.

PAN-AMERICAN PROJECT

Efforts to bring about closer relations between the museums of North, Central and South America were projected at the meeting—the matter being placed in the hands of the council, which accordingly appointed a committee on Pan-American cooperation. Dr. Clark Wissler is chairman and the other members are Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, and Dr. Leo S. Rowe, director of the Pan-American Union.

The present project is a development of plans that were begun a year ago. The tentative plan, as summed up in a memorandum which was referred to the committee, is as follows:

(1) To appoint a representative of the association to visit twelve or fifteen museums of the United States during the fall of 1925 for the purpose of explaining the plan to directors and trustees and of finding out exactly what help they are in a position to give to institutions in the South.

(2) To make provision for the representative to visit points in Mexico, Central and South America, to study museum problems, to invite cooperation, to spread an understanding of our attitude and to demonstrate our sincerity through actual service; university centers also to be visited; the report of the trip to include a directory of museums and a program for future cooperation.

It is not anticipated that material results will develop out of a first trip but there is every indication that such a mission would result in the formulation of a far-reaching program which would give a basis for independent activities on the part of American and Latin-American museums in cooperation.

DR. WILSON'S GIFT

In his report on museums in national parks, Dr. Bumpus emphasized the importance of creating museums that will minimize indoor exhibits in favor of the out-of-doors ones that nature has already provided, and made a plea for a cessation of collecting activities, even by museums, in places than can be developed as out-of-door exhibits by construction of little shelter museums.

Immediately after this report, Dr. William P. Wilson, director of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, presented to the association all the anthropological

material which he and Mrs. Wilson had collected in the Southwest in years past. It is his wish that the material be restored to the original settings if that course should prove practicable in the development of museums in the West. This gift was greeted as an important impetus to the movement for branch museums out-of-doors, and was also hailed as the entering wedge which may open up new activities by inducing the creation of official machinery to administer material for distribution to points of greatest need. It was suggested that the problem of mobilizing some of the excess material of large museums for the benefit of small ones might thus be approaching a solution.

At a later session, Dr. Wilson made his gift formally as follows:

At this, the twentieth annual meeting of The American Association of Museums, as an indication of my faith in the purposes of this organization, of which I was a founder and for twenty years have been an active member, I desire to give to the association all the archeological collections which were obtained by Mrs. Wilson and me, as a result of explorations which were conducted principally by her at Otowi, New Mexico, during the years 1915, 1916 and 1917.

In making this gift I am confident that The American Association of Museums, through its growing interest in science and popular education, will place and care for this material to enhance its value. The gift is only conditioned by the liberal regulations which control the disposition of all similar material secured from public lands under the control of the Department of the Interior.

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN,
Executive Secretary

JAY BACKUS WOODWORTH

ON August 4, 1925, after a long illness, Professor Jay Backus Woodworth, of the department of geology and geography at Harvard University, passed away in the sixty-first year of his age. He was connected with the university since the year 1890. After serving as instructor in geology, he was promoted to an assistant professorship in 1901 and to an associate professorship in 1912. Many thousands of students have been introduced to the science of geology by Professor Woodworth. He served the university, not only as an enthusiastic and respected teacher but also as an administrator, serving on many committees and for some years as chairman of the department. Throughout most of his professional career he was a member of the United States Geological Survey and has published many valuable memoirs under the auspices of that survey. Another of his leading contributions to science was a prolonged exploration in the geology of Brazil and other parts of South America. This expedition was financed by the Shaler Memorial Fund, which is controlled by the division of geology at Harvard. It was appropriate that Professor Woodworth could have been the first investigator to be aided by this fund for he was the trusted friend of his master, Professor Nathaniel Shaler, who organized the present department of geology and geography at the university. As a labor of love, Professor Woodworth undertook the rather arduous task of organizing and continuously administering the Harvard Seismographic Station, which has been in continuous operation since the year 1908. Professor Woodworth was one of the American pioneers in the scientific study of earthquakes, and the records from his station have been among those most prized by the seismological stations of the world. This is especially on account of the accurate timing of the records. It is important to note that Professor Woodworth has steadily held the opinion that, according to the testimony of both human history and the geological facts in hand, the city of Boston is not in serious danger from earthquake shocks. Like all other scientific students of New England earthquakes, he recognized that New England is sure to have small shocks at irregular intervals, but he strongly deprecated the effort now being made in certain quarters to lead the public to the opinion that science supports the claim of considerable danger to Boston and New England in general from earthquakes. Professor Woodworth's other chief researches have been in the field of glacial geology, where he was the recognized authority, and in the structural geology of New England, particularly Massachusetts.

Professor Woodworth has served for some years on the National Research Council, his most important contribution to the work of that council being perhaps his service as chairman of the committee on the use of seismographs in war, 1917–18. He was active in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and in the administration of the Geological Society of America, of which he had long been a fellow. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; past president of the Seismological Society of America; a member of the Washington Academy of Science, of the National Geophysical Union, the Meteorological Society of America, Boston Society of Natural History, and other societies.

Professor Woodworth was born at Newfield, New York, the son of the Reverend Allen Beach Woodworth. He is survived by a daughter, Miss Ethel Woodworth.