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.