

the museum. They are accompanied by John T. Zimmer, of the museum staff. The explorers' itinerary includes Tanganyika, Uganda and the upper Nile.

An expedition to the Belgian Congo, led by Edmund Heller of the museum, is completing its work. Among the 800 mammals secured by this expedition is a fine male okapi, reputed to be the most difficult to obtain of all large mammals now extant.

The Field-Museum-Oxford-University joint expedition is continuing its archeological research in Mesopotamia under the leadership of Professor Stephen Langdon. Plans call for extending the work to include a town now known as Bughatait, 16 miles from Kish. Many rare finds have been made at the latter place. Plans also call for excavating the great temple of the mother goddess of Kish, situated in the eastern part of the city.

Associate Curator Elmer S. Riggs, of the museum, who left on April 10 for Argentina, is continuing the work of the Captain Marshall Field paleontological expedition which was temporarily discontinued last year. Mr. Riggs is directing excavations for prehistoric skeletal remains. He is being assisted by Robert Thorne of the museum staff.

Continuing work started last year, Dr. A. L. Kroeber, research associate in American archeology, is engaged in Peru in determining the culture of early Peruvian civilizations. W. Egbert Schenk, of Berkeley, California, is Dr. Kroeber's assistant.

The botanical expedition to Peru will continue its work of collecting herbarium and botanical specimens under the direction of Dr. A. Weberbauer.

Dr. Ralph Linton, assistant curator of oceanic and Malayan ethnology, is exploring the island of Madagascar and making an ethnological survey, securing collections illustrative of the life and customs of the tribesmen.

The museum will continue to receive materials from the third Asiatic expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, as a result of cooperative agreement. Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews is leader of this expedition.

Clarence J. Albrecht, taxidermist of the museum, is collecting marine groups of the northern Pacific, operating off the coast of the state of Washington. He is making a special effort to secure family groups of sea lions and other seals. The plans also call for him to secure a group of mule deer in southern Utah.

Charles A. Corwin, artist and background painter, who recently joined the museum staff, will visit southern Utah to make studies and notes for a natural background for the mule deer. Corwin also will visit Arizona to secure data for a background painting for the Canyon Diabolo meteorites at the museum. The museum collection includes the celebrated Canyon

Diabolo meteorite, weighing more than 1,000 pounds, the largest specimen of its kind thus far recovered.

Assistant Curator Sharat K. Roy is making a collecting trip of the middle Atlantic states in search of fossils of the Cambrian period—the period of earliest known life, having recently collected fossilized stumps of trees, ferns, branches and rootlets of the Devonian period.

Ethnological specimens obtained by M. G. Chandler during his work among the American Indians have arrived at the museum and are being prepared for exhibition. This expedition was financed by Julius and Augusta N. Rosenwald.

Considerable field work, largely for exhibition purposes, is being carried on in the Chicago area by Carl Neuberth of the department of botany. Botanical specimens are being collected in connection with the annual wild flower exhibit.

### THE BEIT FELLOWSHIPS

ELEVEN elections to Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research were made at a recent meeting of the trustees. Lord Clarendon was elected a trustee to take the place of Lord Irwin, who resigned on his appointment as governor-general of India. The honorable secretary, Sir James K. Fowler, presented the following report for the year ended June 30, 1926:

During the past year research has been carried on by two senior fellows (£600 per annum), two fourth-year fellows (£400 per annum), twenty-two junior fellows (£350 per annum). The directors of the laboratories in which the fellows have been working speak in the highest terms of the keen interest with which they have devoted themselves to the researches upon which they are engaged and also in some instances of important results which have been either already obtained or which are in prospect of realization. In 1923 the honorable secretary presented a review of the fellowships in relation to medical science and research, covering the period from the foundation of the trust in 1910 to that date. This included a tabular statement showing the after-careers of the first fifty fellows and particulars of some of those elected after that number had been reached.

Dr. T. R. Elliott (assistant honorary secretary) has now completed a record of the after-histories of the whole of the fellows appointed since 1910, and these interesting details will appear in the next issue of the book of regulations, a copy of which will be sent to all who have at any time held a Beit fellowship. As the book of regulations is enclosed with the form of application possible candidates will in future have an opportunity of realizing the kind of men who have held fellowships in the past and the research which in each case they were appointed to undertake, and thus to obtain some idea as to their own prospects of election, and also as to the suitability of the subject which they offer for consideration, having regard

to the fact that these fellowships were founded to promote research in certain special branches of science. Moreover, as years pass, this record may prove of some slight value as an indication of the problems which were uppermost at various periods of time.

The classification of the fellowships into junior, fourth-year, and senior, which was effected in 1922 with a view to remove as far as possible the objection that as originally designed they opened up no career to those possessed of the spirit of research, has now been tested, and it is a source of satisfaction that Dr. David Keilin, lecturer in parasitology in the University of Cambridge, whose researches have proved of outstanding merit, should have been the first to complete the tenure of a Beit fellowship for seven years and thus to show "by his published work his fitness for a scientific career."

In the review of 1923 it is mentioned that "all who are competent to judge are agreed as to the high position which the fellowships now hold in the department of science with which they are concerned, and as to the legitimate satisfaction which may be entertained by the founder of the trust." It is believed that this may now be repeated without hesitation and also that "this foundation still stands for the advancement by research of knowledge for its own sake, apart from its material value."

#### THE DANIEL GUGGENHEIM FUND FOR THE PROMOTION OF AERONAUTICS

THE Daniel Guggenheim Fund for the Promotion of Aeronautics has announced two grants aggregating \$600,000 to California educational institutions. To Leland Stanford University at Palo Alto, a fund amounting to the income from about \$300,000 has been awarded, and to the California Institute at Pasadena \$200,000, and \$10,000 annually for a period of ten years.

The California institutions were notified of the grants by Harry F. Guggenheim, son of Daniel Guggenheim and president of the fund. In his communication to Dr. R. L. Wilbur, president of Leland Stanford University, Mr. Guggenheim outlined the purpose of the grant and said:

This gift is made also in recognition of the quality of work which is done in your school of engineering by Dean W. F. Durand and his associates, and also because of our belief that in the great educational institutions of California such important contributions already have been made to science that the world is justified in looking there for very great and outstanding results in the near future.

In a telegram to Dr. R. A. Millikan, president of the California Institute of Technology, Mr. Guggenheim, after referring to the purpose of the gift, said:

This gift is made also as a tribute to the distinguished work in science and education of yourself and associates, and because of our belief that you are developing in

Southern California an institution which is destined to make very great contributions to the progress not only of our own country but of the whole world.

A message from Stanford University announced that, in honor of the donor, the university authorities planned to establish the Daniel Guggenheim experimental laboratory of aerodynamics and aeronautic engineering.

A full course for the training of young men in aerodynamics and aeronautic engineering will be established. This course will be an extension of the present work of the university.

Work along three lines, each headed by an expert, is planned as follows: Aerodynamics, structural design and construction and laboratory research. The men to head the first two divisions are yet to be appointed. The laboratory will be directed by Professor E. P. Lesley, who has for a decade been associated with Dr. Durand in the work of the present laboratory.

A message from Dr. Millikan of the Institute of Technology said that a new Aeronautics Building, containing a ten-foot high-speed wind tunnel, would be built at once, at a cost of about \$200,000. It set forth that the grant would make possible the following:

(1) Extension of theoretical courses in aerodynamics and hydrodynamics, with the underlying mathematics and mechanics taught by such men as Professors Harry Bateman, Edward T. Bell and Paul S. Epstein.

(2) Initiation of a group of practical courses conducted by the institute's experimental staff, in cooperation with the engineering staff of the Douglas Airplane Company, with the aid of the facilities at the institute combined with those of the Douglas plant.

(3) Initiation of a comprehensive research program on airplane and motor design, as well as on the theoretical bases of aeronautics.

(4) Immediate perfection of the new stagger-decalage, tailless airplane recently developed at the institute, primarily by A. A. Merrill, a radical departure from standard aeronautical design, which in recent tests has shown promise of adding greatly to the safety of flying.

(5) Establishment of a number of research fellowships in aeronautics at the California Institute.

(6) Planning and manning of the new school so as to include the building and testing not only of models for wind and tunnel work, but also of full-size experimental gliders and power planes for free flight work.

#### MEETING OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

THE mid-western regional meeting of the American Society of Plant Physiologists was held at the University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 15, 16 and 17, 1926. On Thursday and Saturday the plant physiologists met in joint