

trolling it can be worked out by the ornithologist, the botanist and entomologist of the expedition, as a contribution towards researches in economic zoology and botany, which are necessary for the solution of important problems of human economy.

The study of malaria, of crop pests, of the means of developing and controlling the natural resources of countries, requires a clear understanding of the laws governing the interrelations of animals of all kinds and especially the regulation of their numbers. The data are not yet available for a complete understanding of these problems, but a preliminary contribution to them can be made through the working out of principles among a limited class of life in a place which the short northern season, the small number of species involved, and the absence of human interference make particularly favorable for the purpose.

Dr. T. G. Longstaff has consented to act as the leader of the party, which will consist of eight members. The expedition proceeds under the official authority of the university and with the official support of the Royal Geographical Society. It is assured not only of all facilities from the Danish government, but also of the benefit of the experience of the best Danish naturalists and explorers. The university has formally voted £50 towards the expenses of the expedition and the rest of the funds have been supplied by the members and their friends.

The personnel of the expedition will be as follows:

T. G. Longstaff, naturalist and topographer.  
Major R. W. G. Hingston, entomologist.  
E. M. Nicholson, ornithologist.  
C. G. Trapnell, botanist.  
W. G. H. D. Crouch, photographer and quartermaster.  
B. D. Nicholson, ornithologist and assistant surveyor.  
Sir John Hanham, assistant botanist.  
H. P. Hanham, assistant ornithologist.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICANISTS

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for the meetings of the twenty-third session of the International Congress of Americanists, to be held during the week beginning September 17 in New York. The invitations for the Americanists to meet in New York were extended at the twenty-second session, which was held in Rome in September, 1926, by the American Museum of Natural History, Columbia University, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, the American Geographical Society, the American Ethnological Society, the New York Academy of Sciences and the Archeological Institute of America.

The headquarters of the congress will be at the American Museum of Natural History, where the opening and closing meetings will be held. During the week there will also be meetings at Columbia University, the Museum of the American Indian, the Heye Foundation and the Brooklyn Museum. Prominent students of American Indian life and related topics will be in attendance from Europe and Latin America. The papers and discussions will deal with aboriginal inhabitants of the Americas, the origin and distribution of their cultures and matters of history, geology and geography bearing on the native populations.

FRANZ BOAS,

*Chairman of the Organization Committee*

P. E. GODDARD, *Secretary,*

*American Museum of Natural History,  
New York City*

#### BUILDING PLANS OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

PLANS for the construction of nine new sections to the American Museum of Natural History, to be completed by the seventieth anniversary of the institution in 1939, are contained in a report made to the trustees by President Henry Fairfield Osborn. In addition, a new building to be known as the Roosevelt Memorial, costing \$3,250,000, is to be erected as a new entrance hall at the intersection of Seventy-ninth Street and Central Park West.

Two of the new wings, the African hall, costing \$1,350,000, and the power and service section, costing \$900,000, together with the Roosevelt Memorial are to be constructed in the immediate future. The other sections, the building of which will be spread out over the next eleven years, are to be the astronomic hall, to cost \$1,689,525; Australian hall, \$1,006,549; middle American hall, \$2,306,592; south oceanic hall, \$1,006,549; lecture amphitheater hall, \$2,994,529; preparation and storage hall, \$500,000. The complete cost of the new sections and the Roosevelt Memorial will be \$15,004,744.

Dr. Osborn gave a *résumé* of the history of the museum since 1869, the year of its founding, and made note of the fact that only \$8,390,599.68 had been spent on the institution since that time, and when added to the proposed expenditures will make a grand total of \$23,394,343.68 for the nineteen section building as planned.

Dr. Osborn added that since 1902 more than \$23,000,000 in gifts and bequests had been received by the museum. In this summary of the history of the institution, the president recalled that in 1869 New York had no museum of any kind, while such institutions flourished in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington and in all the European capitals.