

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.

The father of President Roosevelt was one of the founders of the American Museum of Natural History, and in December, 1919, a movement was started to create a memorial to honor both father and son. In 1924 the State Legislature appropriated \$250,000 to start the project.

NEW BUILDING FOR PLANT INDUSTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DR. R. W. THATCHER, president of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, formerly dean of the department of agriculture of the University of Minnesota, has accepted an invitation to deliver the address at the dedicatory exercises of the new plant industry building for agricultural biochemistry at University Farm, St. Paul, on Thursday afternoon, June 7.

The building will be formally presented to the university by President F. B. Snyder, of the board of regents. The address of acceptance will be given by Dean W. C. Coffey. Greetings from the American Chemical Society will be extended by its president, Dr. S. W. Parr, professor emeritus of the University of Illinois. Greetings from the American Association of Cereal Chemists will be voiced by Leslie Olsen, its president and chief chemist of the International Milling Company of Minneapolis. As the association and also the northwest regional group of the American Chemical Society will meet in Minneapolis the same week, it is expected that a body of 400 to 500 chemists will attend the dedication exercises.

The new building, 152 feet in length and 70 feet deep at its maximum, cost with its equipment approximately \$250,000. The construction material is cut limestone to the top of the basement, and brick the remainder of the exterior. Reinforced steel concrete was used throughout, with floors of concrete and terrazzo. The floor plans were designed with particular reference to research and teaching facilities.

The basement, which is largely above ground, combines a store room 24 by 42 feet and a laboratory of like proportions for semi-commercial scale experiments. The laboratory is provided with filter presses, vacuum pans and autoclaves. An optical room is used for physical-chemical research with the ultra-microscope and ultra-violet light. A large laboratory is used for cereal chemistry research. Constant temperature rooms are equipped and controlled for low temperature work.

The main floor is essentially a teaching floor, with the addition of offices and private laboratories for two members of the division staff. Two lecture rooms, capable of seating 70 students each, are on this floor. The second floor is a teaching and administration floor, with ample space for the division office and

library, and for laboratories for assistants. The third floor contains large laboratories for graduate students who are working on thesis problems, a large room for office and study, offices of staff members and two animal nutrition laboratories.

A nutrition laboratory, 24 by 31 feet, on this floor is used by students working thesis on nutrition problems, where the use of small animals is required. The experiment station projects on vitamins are conducted on this floor.

LECTURES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC

TWELVE lectures were held during the past season in Southern California under the auspices of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific as follows:

At California Institute of Technology, Pasadena:

Sun Rays in the Service of Man

Dr. C. G. Abbot
Smithsonian Institution

The Exploration of Space

Dr. E. P. Hubble
Mt. Wilson Observatory

Sun-Spots

Dr. S. B. Nicholson
Mt. Wilson Observatory

Stars in Action

Professor A. H. Joy
Mt. Wilson Observatory

The Interior of a Star

Dr. W. S. Adams
Mt. Wilson Observatory

Our Planet Neighbors

Dr. R. G. Aitken
Lick Observatory

At Public Library, Los Angeles:

Beyond the Milky Way

Dr. E. P. Hubble
Mt. Wilson Observatory

The Great Meteor of Central Arizona

Dr. Mars Baumgardt
Southern California Academy of Science

Telescopes

Dr. F. G. Pease
Mt. Wilson Observatory

The Sun

Professor F. Ellerman
Mt. Wilson Observatory

The Solar System

Dr. R. G. Aitken
Lick Observatory

Giant and Dwarf Stars

Dr. F. C. Leonard
University of California at Los Angeles