

sects but also timber damage caused by borers and other insects which caused reduced timber values, affected chances of forest reproduction and impeded the growth of trees. A large amount of timber damaged by insects lends itself to salvaging operations.

The annual loss by decay has been estimated to be 300,000,000,000 board feet. Timber losses caused by erosion of soil are small, since the presence of tree stands are a protection against erosion, except in small areas, such as the banks of streams.

Although timber is being cut from some land to permit extension of farm areas, the amount of land formerly used for farming and allowed to revert to classification as "forest land" is larger. Any losses of timber resources that otherwise might take place are thus offset.

The Forest Service is now making a survey of forests in the United States which will require several years for completion. Survey work already has advanced in the Pacific Northwest region and in some other sections.

#### THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE annual report of Mr. Stephen C. Simms, the director of the Field Museum of Natural History, a book of 256 pages with twenty photogravure illustrations, has been issued. The museum was the recipient of a number of noteworthy benefactions during the year. Gifts received for various purposes include \$154,547 from Mr. Stanley Field, president of the institution; and \$166,000 from Mr. Marshall Field, of New York, a trustee.

After allocation of all contributions, and all income from the museum's endowments and other sources, the museum ended the year with an unprovided for operating deficit of \$114,898. Total expenditures for the year, including general operating expenses, purchases of collections, cost of expeditions (excluding those privately financed for the museum by various sponsors), equipment, the N. W. Harris Public School Extension of the Museum, and the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures, amounted to \$920,110. Mr. George A. Richardson was elected a trustee to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the death of Chauncey Keep.

Mr. Simms reports that the museum received 1,322,799 visitors during the year, and in addition, outside activities conducted by its units known as the N. W. Harris Public School Extension, and the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation, reached approximately 716,000 children in the schools, at camps, community centers and elsewhere.

The report gives detailed accounts of the work of seventeen expeditions which the museum had in operation both in this country and in distant parts of the world during 1930. Most important of these were the Vernay-Lang Kalahari Expedition, the Field Museum Archeological Expedition to the Southwest (financed from a fund established by Julius Rosenwald and the late Augusta N. Rosenwald), the two Chancellor-Stuart-Field Museum Expeditions to the South Pacific and to Aitutaki (Cook Islands), an expedition to Africa sponsored and led by Captain Harold A. White, of New York, and Major John Coats, of London; an expedition to India sponsored and led by C. Suydam Cutting, the Field Museum-Oxford University Joint Expedition to Kish, Mesopotamia, the Frederick H. Rawson-Field Museum Ethnological Expedition to West Africa and the Marshall Field Botanical Expedition to the Amazon.

A new exhibition hall devoted to marine mammals was opened, and throughout the museum a large number of new exhibits illustrating anthropological, botanical, geological and zoological subjects were installed. Work was begun on preparation of two new halls which will be devoted to comprehensive exhibits relating to prehistoric man and to physical anthropology. Hundreds of gifts of material for addition to exhibits and study collections were received from donors located in all parts of the United States and many foreign countries.

#### THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

THE American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, will hold its annual meeting on April 23, 24 and 25. The president, Dr. Francis X. Dercum, and the vice-president, Dr. Henry Norris Russell, of Princeton University, will preside over the session. Dr. Russell will give the evening lecture on "The Chemistry of the Stars." The annual dinner will be given at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on Saturday evening. A large number of papers will be presented on the opening day and a symposium has been arranged on "The Changing World," which is as follows:

##### SECTION I. TENDENCIES IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

- "The Astronomer's Goal": Frank Schlesinger, director of the Yale University Observatory.
- "The Assault on Atoms and Molecules": Arthur H. Compton, professor of physics, University of Chicago.
- "Hopes in the Biological Sciences": William Morton Wheeler, professor of entomology and dean of the Bussey Institution for Research in Applied Biology, Harvard University.
- "Lengthening the Span of Life": Lee K. Frankel, second vice-president of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. (Introduced by Dr. Huebner.)