

unable to furnish the relatively small amount necessary to render fruitful the work of the museum. One consequence is that the research work does not go on as it should, and in particular those specialists who would gladly cooperate with the museum have to turn elsewhere, often to foreign institutions, as I could readily explain in detail. There is, underlying these matters, a not unnatural difference of opinion. Most of the output of the museum ministers to the cultural side of life, to the advancement of knowledge, without obvious immediate economic significance. The ultimate economic significance of such knowledge can be urged with every reason, but this does not interest the man whose needs are pressing at the present moment. Much of the work, however, has a cultural purpose, giving real value to those who can utilize it but barren to those who can not.

Recently I took part in a symposium on adult education, held in Denver. I ventured to urge the publication of a series of small books, designed to interest the public in the natural history and physical features of the state. Directly I sat down, I was confronted by a prominent trades union representative, who exclaimed, with some show of emotion, that all those things were useless, if a man did not have a job. I could understand his point of view, but it seems to me that we must continually urge the importance of the cultural side of life, without which the economic security we all desire will prove a qualified blessing.

T. D. A. COCKERELL

THE FALL OF BROWN SNOW IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DURING the early morning of February 25, 1936, about 2 cm of sleet and hail fell at Hillsboro, N. H., following about 10 cm of light snow the evening before. The hail had a distinctly brownish, purple color, and contrasted strongly with the pure white new snow beneath when the crust was broken. Close examination revealed that the color was due to minute particles of soil. The day before newspapers had reported severe dust storms in Colorado and other parts of the West. Connection between the two occurrences seems generally accepted. In order to determine the amount of silt deposited, 3 samples 1 sq. m. in area were laid out on level ground about 100 m. apart, and away from trees or buildings near Hillsboro, N. H., alt. 800'. All the snow and hail showing discoloration was removed from the sample areas with a clean plate and placed in clean enameled kettles. When melted the resulting water was distinctly dirty and some sediment quickly settled out. Dark purple, oily bubbles were common on the surface. After standing one week in a large graduate the suspension had cleared partially, but the purplish film persisted on the sur-

face. The water from the meter-square samples was evaporated by boiling and the sediment collected in a Gooch crucible in sample I and in weighed filter papers in II and III after it had proven extremely slow work to get water to pass through the soil collected in crucibles. The samples were then oven-dried, cooled in a desiccator and weighed. The results were as follows:

	Wt. of silt deposited on 1 sq. m.
Sample I	1.6192 grams
Sample II	1.1600 grams
Sample III	1.6682 grams
Av.	1.3825 grams

This is at the rate of 1,382 kg. per sq. km. and roughly equivalent to 12.3 lbs. per acre or almost 4 tons per sq. mile.

HENRY I. BALDWIN

HILLSBORO, N. H.

THE OSBORN LIBRARY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY

AMONG other interests the late Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn was deeply concerned with the problem of making the literature of vertebrate paleontology accessible to workers, not only through bibliographies in which he strongly believed, but by collecting the actual volumes and separata in one departmental library. To that end he established the Osborn Library of Vertebrate Paleontology in 1908, presenting his personal library as a nucleus. To this the American Museum of Natural History added such volumes as it already possessed, its very excellent file of paleontological periodicals which it has kept up to date, and continued purchasing such new volumes as its funds made possible.

As in any departmental library, however, the separata are the greatest needs of the worker, Professor Osborn continued to turn over to the Osborn Library files of those papers which he received from his colleagues. Among the minor results of his death is the fear that this library which he founded will have its usefulness diminished because comparatively few of those actively engaged in paleontological publication realize that securing author's separata is an almost impossible task without the author's cooperation.

It is earnestly urged that those who have exchanged papers with Professor Osborn during his life will continue to keep the Osborn Library on their lists. It will be at once a tribute to Professor Osborn's memory and a service to fellow-workers since the Osborn Library is open to all. To those who are newcomers in the field it may be said that the gift of their papers will be a courtesy which will be deeply appreciated.

BARNUM BROWN