community and once remarked to me: "I believe that a modern well-equipped museum ranks among the greatest influences for culture, enlightenment and spiritual uplift in any community; because here, as with great music, writing and painting, men of vision may pass on their vision to their fellow men and to posterity. I believe that the language that a museum worker should be able to speak is the language of little children."

Mr. Whitlock has even taken the study of minerals and gems to the classrooms of New York City schools and colleges by means of special illustrated talks. His annual fall and spring series of lectures on jade and jade carving in the museum have made hundreds of enthusiasts for this beautiful gem stone. We are happy to announce that Mr. Whitlock will continue these talks in the future.

Under his leadership the collection of precious and semi-precious gems has increased from 2,060 to 2,562 exhibits, with many world-famous gems such as the magnificent De Long Star Ruby, the Schettler Emerald and the Morgenthau Topaz. The mineral collection has grown from 18,452 to 21,293, including many rare minerals discovered in recent years. Among the most recent additions is the mineral Whitlockite, a tricalcium phosphate discovered by Clifford Frondel and named in honor of Mr. Whitlock. All these specimens, selected with care after detailed scrutiny, have made the greatest single collection of minerals and gems on this side of the Atlantic. Outstanding among the exhibits is the magnificent Drummond Jade Collection, one of the most complete in the world, obtained through the efforts of Mr. Whitlock.

By action of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Frederick H. Pough, formerly assistant curator of geology and mineralogy, becomes, upon the retirement of Mr. Whitlock, acting curator of the Department of Minerals and Gems.

THE BOTANICAL EXPEDITION TO GUATEMALA OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

PAUL C. STANDLEY, curator of the herbarium of the Field Museum of Natural History, has returned to Chicago after an expedition of seven and a half months, during which he collected in almost all parts of Guatemala. He brought back approximately 30,000 specimens of plants for addition to the herbarium.

These plants and others collected on two previous expeditions conducted by Mr. Standley and Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, assistant curator of the herbarium, will be used in a research upon which will be based the preparation of the first complete flora of Guatemala to be published.

Mr. Standley reported that Guatemala is ably assisting in combating the problem of a possible shortage of supplies of the important drug quinine which might become unavailable from its present principal source, the Dutch East Indies, in the event of unfavorable developments in the international situation. He stated that quinine plantations, operated in Guatemala by United States capital, have been expanded rapidly and successfully, and will be able to produce a supply of the best grade of quinine adequate for a large part of American medicinal and industrial demands. In addition, Guatemala is operating the only commercial tea plantations outside the Orient.

Many species of plants hitherto unknown to science are included in the collections for the museum, and records were obtained of the growth of many plants known elsewhere but not previously found in Central America. The vegetation of the country is varied, ranging from plants of subarctic to tropical climate and from plants of the mountains to those of the plains. They include a wide variety of orchids.

THE HIGH SCHOOL OF SCIENCE IN NEW YORK CITY

THE first commencement of the High School of Science in New York City was held on June 26. Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Dr. Thomas H. Briggs, of Teachers College, Columbia University, and others cooperated with Associate Superintendent Frederic Ernst in the establishment of the school last autumn, and Dr. Maurice Meister was appointed head master. Dr. Irving Langmuir, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, who was expected to make the principal address, was unable on account of illness to be present.

The school is housed in a building originally designed for an academic high school of a different type. In order to provide the special facilities needed for science study, the physical plant was revamped from cellar to roof. A WPA project costing more than half a million dollars is now nearing completion. Every feature of this project was planned by the faculty and arose out of the needs of the students and of the curriculum. The school now boasts of eight modern laboratories, ten preparation and store rooms, three fully equipped shops and twelve special science recitation rooms. In addition, there is a visual instruction lecture room, a large library, an English workshop, a voice recording studio, four mechanical drafting rooms, a graphic arts shop, a music room, a gymnasium and a swimming pool. The auditorium platform is equipped with a movable demonstration table which makes possible the presentation of science experiments to large audiences. The Board of Education has supplied the necessary, up-to-date equipment, books and materials. Next autumn, when the renovation project is completed, the High School of Science will enjoy the most unique physical plant in the country for the teaching of science to high-school boys.