friends of the museum: Mrs. George Blumenthal, Mrs. Edward F. Dwight, Mr. and Mrs. Ward Melville, Messrs. Frederick F. Brewster, Guy Emerson, Edgar J. Marston, E. Hope Norton, Duncan H. Read and Henry D. Sharpe. Carll Tucker provided a motion picture camera and a supply of 16-mm Kodachrome film.

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution lent much apparatus, including two bathythermographs, which would have been otherwise unobtainable. The Hydrographic Office of the United States Navy and the Coast and Geodetic Survey furnished essential scientific and navigational equipment as well as credentials and other aid. The Governments of the Republics of Panama, Colombia and Ecuador, through the good offices of their respective embassies at Washington, and the executives of the Panama Canal Zone all offered their patronage and granted facilities and privileges in part unprecedented. Particularly generous and effective was the cooperation of the Colombian authorities, in whose national territory or zone of special interest the greater part of the period of the expedition was spent. In addition to the assignment of Lieutenant Fallon as a fellow-worker, the civil and military officials, together with numerous private citizens and foreign residents, extended hospitality and assistance at every opportunity.

Reports on the findings of the *Askoy* expedition will, of course, have to await dynamic interpretation of the statistical records and study of the collections. Most numerous among the latter are marine invertebrates of many classes, especially noteworthy being the organisms associated with coral growths. The apparent Indo-Pacific affinities of some of these will, in the opinion of Dr. Armstrong, necessitate modification of certain currently accepted zoögeographic views.

The collection of fishes promises to be interesting, particularly because it includes a number of commensal species and a few luminescent deep-sea forms captured in plankton nets during night towings. Among other vertebrate collections are reptiles and amphibians from island and continental localities and about five hundred birds, mostly sea fowl. The distinctness of the warm-water area of convergent current movement in the tropical bight from the cool zone of divergence to the south, *i.e.*, the Humboldt Current littoral, is emphasized by the fact that the marine bird skins of the expedition include 19 species not taken during the American Museum's lengthy field work of earlier years along the coast of Peru. Incidentally, the area of *Askoy's* operations proved to be the seasonal non-breeding range of three northern-hemisphere birds of hitherto uncertain winter status, namely, the least petrel (*Halocyptena*), Sabine's gull (*Xema*) and black tern (*Chlidonias*). The stomachs of most of the sea birds were preserved, and it is hoped that their contents may be correlated with plankton and other collections so as to throw new light on the ecological chains that begin with such fundamental oceanic pasture as the diatoms.

Other data of the *Askoy* expedition are represented by field journals totaling 130,000 words, abundant photographs and colored motion picture film recording geographical and natural history subjects, oceanographic technic and the life of primitive Chocó Indians inhabiting the western watershed of the Baudó Mountains and the basin of the River San Juan.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE FAIRCHILD CONNECTICUT GARDEN

IN 1895 Benjamin Thomas Fairchild (1850–1939) purchased several hundred acres of land on Quaker Ridge, North Greenwich, Conn., for the purpose of carrying out a long cherished dream of establishing a wild flower sanctuary or preserve for the woody and herbaceous plants of Connecticut, and the region from Bar Harbor to the Adirondacks. He was thus a pioneer in conservation. The next forty years were spent in developing this tract by bringing in additional quantities of plants already there, and others not already on the tract. At the time of Mr. Fairchild's death, more than 400 species native to Connecticut and the more northern region had become established and listed.

In addition to the flowers the garden has an abundance of native animal life, including deer, ducks, rabbits, woodcock, pheasants, quail and grouse; it also has many varieties of native and migrant song birds, thus serving as a bird sanctuary. A bird census of the garden, made on May 18 by Dr. Frederick H. Pough and Roger Peterson, of the National Audubon Society, resulted in the listing of eighty-two species of birds.

Mr. Fairchild was not only a nature lover, but a man of scientific training, at the head of his own chemical manufacturing firm. A trustee of New York University, he was interested in education, and it was his plan to have the Connecticut Garden serve an educational end in addition to being a plant "sanctuary." On Mr. Fairchild's death the property had a value of approximately $127,000. In order that his wishes for the development and active use of the garden might be carried out his heirs formulated a plan to turn it over to a board of trustees for $60,000, or less than half its appraised value.

On February 9, 1941, the Fairchild Connecticut Garden, Incorporated, a non-profit educational corporation, was formed, which has acquired title to 127.49 acres of the garden, the portion of greatest floristic and ecological value. It is planned to make it a center of educational work for nature study and related subjects.

The trustees of the Fairchild Connecticut Garden, Inc., are as follows: B. Tappen Fairchild, president of Fairchild Brothers and Foster, manufacturing chemists, who inherited the estate from his uncle; Mrs. B. Tappen Fairchild (Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild have maintained the sanctuary since the death of Benjamin Fairchild); also Thomas J. Watson, president, International Business Machines Corporation; Dr. Harry Woodburn Chase, chancellor of New York University; Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, curator of oceanic birds, American Museum of Natural History, and honorary president of the National Audubon Society; Dr. Elmer Drew Merrill, professor of botany and supervisor of the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University; Dr. Frederick H. Pough, assistant curator of mineralogy, American Museum of Natural History. Dr. C. Stuart Gager, director, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, is serving as president *pro tempore,* and Percy H. Jennings, president of the Vita-Glass Corporation, is treasurer.

THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY AND ORGANIZED LABOR

EFFORTS to enrol chemists in the ranks of organized labor are opposed by the American Chemical Society, according to an announcement made by Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the society.

The society has been informed of "a very serious situation" at Emeryville, Calif., where an attempt is being made to force professional men, including all research workers below the rank of department heads, to join a closed shop union within the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, a C.I.O. affiliate. The plant affected is that of the Shell Development Company.

The directors of the society, Dr. Parsons points out, have definitely gone on record against the association of professional chemists and chemical engineers with a union, "thereby being rated as laborers and losing their status as professional men." He questions whether a pure research corporation can hope to survive under non-professional control.

Dr. Parsons wrote to members of the society in Emeryville in part as follows:

> Nothing could be more fatal to the chemist, the engineer, the doctor or the lawyer than the loss of professional status. The society, of necessity, would be obliged to inform the chemical departments of every college and university, as well as the chemists of America, as to the conditions to which their graduates would be subject should they accept employment with any corporation that would consent to any such fate for its professional men.
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> In the event that the Shell Development Company consents to a closed shop, with the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians as sole bargaining agent, and includes its professional men—which I can not conceive to be possible—every chemist who is a member of the union will very distinctly jeopardize his future.

Dr. Parsons reports that the American Chemical Society now has approximately 28,000 members, the largest number in its history. He states that the society will resist any attempt to coerce its members into any form of closed shop unionization. He concludes: "This is a professional organization, and the membership must make every effort to see that it so remains."

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS

THE twenty-third annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists was held in Chicago from June 9 to 13.

Officers of the society elected for the ensuing year are as follows: *President,* Walter P. Taylor, Texas A. and M. College, College Station; *Vice-presidents,* E. Raymond Hall, University of California at Berkeley, and A. Brazier Howell, the Johns Hopkins Medical School; *Recording Secretary,* Robert T. Orr, California Academy of Sciences; *Corresponding Secretary,* Emmet T. Hooper, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan; *Treasurer,* Viola S. Schantz, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.; *Editor,* William B. Davis, Texas A. and M. College, College Station. *Directors,* elected for the period 1941–1943, are: Victor H. Cahalane, National Park Service, Washington, D. C.; William J. Hamilton, Cornell University; John Eric Hill, American Museum of Natural History; Remington Kellogg, U. S. National Museum, and Otis Wade, University of Nebraska. *Additional directors* are: William H. Burt, University of Michigan; Joseph S. Dixon, National Park Service, California; Colin C. Sanborn, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; W. E. Saunders, London, Ontario, and George Willett, Los Angeles Museum, California.

The following resolution unanimously adopted by the society is of general interest:

> WHEREAS, There is now before the House of Representatives of the United States a bill known as the Murdock Bill (H. R. 2675) and a companion bill before the Senate (S. 260) to open the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, to prospecting and mining;
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> WHEREAS, The Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument was established to preserve for public use, education and