

opens with statements by the president, F. Trubee Davison, and the director, Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews.

The report of the director states:

The year 1939 was distinguished for the amount of new material placed on exhibition.

Ten years ago Harry Payne Whitney gave three quarters of a million dollars, matched by the city, to construct the Whitney Wing. Now this building stands as a model museum unit. Eight groups in the Hall of Pacific Island Birds were finished at the time of the formal opening in June, and a ninth is being built through the generosity of Richard Archbold. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, adding to the already great benefactions of himself and his family, has given funds for the completion of the remaining groups, so that this hall, one of the loveliest in the entire museum, will be finished as soon as we can gather and prepare the requisite material.

Mr. Andrews reports that with the installation of two groups in 1939 the entire second floor of the Akeley African Hall is now completed. One expedition is at present in Africa collecting materials for two groups, and as soon as seasonal conditions are favorable, a collector will secure specimens of the cheetah. This is the final group, and in the not distant future the entire exhibit will be complete.

For many years all fossil reptile specimens on exhibition have been crowded into one hall. The addition of the new Jurassic Hall, opened this year, provides space not only for the visitor to see the larger mounted skeletons in a proper perspective, but for an arrangement of the fossil reptile collection as a whole in chronologic order from the early Permian forms to those of the late Cretaceous.

In the new North American Mammal Hall the group of Rocky Mountain goats is finished, and the construction and preparation staffs are engaged in preparing cases and group accessories and animals for the remainder. Funds, the vital necessity before any construction can be undertaken, have been pledged by various friends and benefactors for all the larger groups in this hall.

Summarizing the accomplishments of the Ten Year Development Program for 1939 it is stated in the report that 1,235 subscriptions were received from all sources amounting to \$133,825, of which \$121,869 is applicable to 1939 operation; a new activity in 1939 enlisted New York City members in a membership campaign. Three hundred and fifty new members were obtained and the ground-work has been laid for further development. The Women's Century Fund Committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Winthrop W. Aldrich, raised \$23,109 during the year, and the Men's Committee, with Mr. S. Sloan Colt as chairman, obtained \$51,875. The efforts of the program in 1939 resulted

in raising the amount needed to balance the budget and provided a cash reserve for 1940.

THE EIGHTH SUMMER CONFERENCE ON APPLIED SPECTROSCOPY AT THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

A PROGRAM of some thirty papers on the applications of spectroscopy to problems of biology, chemistry, geology, metallurgy, medicine, physics and various industries has been arranged for the eighth summer conference on spectroscopy and its applications, to be held in the George Eastman Laboratories of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on July 15, 16 and 17.

As in previous years, morning and afternoon sessions will be held on all three days. The earlier sessions will be devoted to discussion of recent advances in spectrographic analysis of materials, both by emission and absorption methods, while later sessions will deal with specific applications of these techniques to the various scientific and industrial fields. The type of material to be discussed is represented in the proceedings of the fifth, sixth and seventh conferences, published by John Wiley and Sons.

Copies of the detailed program of the conference will be sent on request to any one interested. Since the attendance is limited to two hundred, and as there are usually more than this number of applications, persons expecting to attend from a distance are urged to write in advance for reservations. No fees of any kind are charged in connection with the conference.

The usual summer courses on practical and applied spectroscopy and a new course on line spectra will be offered between June 12 and July 22. Requests for special bulletins describing courses and conference, for reservations at the conference or for the conference program, should be addressed to Professor George R. Harrison, Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

THE BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

A BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE will be held by the University of Pennsylvania, beginning on September 16 and closing on September 20, as part of the program marking the observance of the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the university. Membership in the conference will be by application, and is open, within the limit of accommodations, to members of the staffs of invited institutions and organizations.

The program will consist of lectures and papers by a group of distinguished European and American scholars and leaders in the various fields of science and