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MARY CYNTHIA DICKERSON, Editor

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The Journal is sent free to all members of the Museum.
As we are reviewing Professor Putnam’s work while he was connected with the American Museum only, it is not necessary to consider the expeditions sent out under his direction from other institutions. Yet, note may be made of the fact that he is the most conspicuous figure in Ohio mound exploration and really began what the state of Ohio is now carrying out so well—namely, a systematic archeological exploration of the entire state.

Although living to an advanced age Professor Putnam was an enthusiastic anthropologist to the very last. Just a few weeks before his death the writer received from him a long letter in his own handwriting discussing the problem of man’s antiquity in America. Notwithstanding the disappointments in the pursuit of this problem, he was still cheerfully optimistic and firm in the faith that we should ultimately find satisfactory proof of man’s presence in America during the last period of glaciation.

His death marks the end of a long and interesting career. To him was granted the privilege of living happily and long enough to see the results of his striving; but what is still more, he continues to live in the hearts of the many men and women he has helped to something better than they could have attained alone.

MUSEUM NOTES

A rare collection of archeological objects from the Department of Ica, Peru, was recently purchased by Mr. A. D. Juilliard and presented to the Museum. This collection represents the results of numerous expeditions during the last nine years by Mr. Manuel Montero to the desert regions to the south and west of Ica. These visits to the prehistoric burial grounds were his vacations, and every object in the collection was excavated by him. The most notable objects are nine large shawl-like garments covered with conventionalized figures in embroidery. The beautiful color schemes seen in these textiles make them a joy to the artist, and they will doubtless be copied eagerly by the numerous art students who make constant use of the Museum collections. Besides these shawl-like garments there are many smaller pieces of cloth which are highly ornamented.

The metal work of these ancient people is represented by objects in silver and copper. There are several pairs of large silver earplugs, ornamented with embossed figures of birds, silver tweezers also ornamented with raised bird figures, and a number of shawl pins with finely executed figures of birds and pumas on the upper ends. The other objects in the collection consist principally of the women’s workbaskets, with spindles and various colored threads, a loom with cloth in process of weaving, feather ornaments, slings, musical instruments and a few choice pieces of pottery.

The twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the New York Botanical Garden at Bronx Park was celebrated during the week of September 6. As early as 1888 the need of a botanical garden in the City of New York was considered. In 1889 the Torrey Botanical Club obtained the consent of the Department of Public Parks to the establishment of such an institution. By 1895 the necessary sum of $250,000 had been subscribed, and the site of the Garden covering an area of 250 acres had been selected. Through the concerted efforts of the several committees of the Torrey Club the Botanical Garden in twenty years has acquired such an extensive number of collections that an additional appropriation of land has been made necessary, totaling in the entire reservation nearly four hundred acres.

Among the more important features of the week’s program were the several sessions for the reading of scientific papers, inspection of various botanical exhibits, and visits to Staten Island and to the Brooklyn Botanical Garden.

News of the safety of Vilhjálmur Stefánsson, leader of the Canadian Arctic expedition,
SQUARE-LIPPED RHINOCEROS. THE SO-CALLED "WHITE RHINO" OF AFRICA

Shot by Mr. John H. Prentice north of the Lado Enclave, Bahr-el-Ghazal Province, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, and presented to the American Museum in mounted form. The work of mounting was done by Mr. James L. Clark as the first of the specimens for the Museum's white rhino group.
and of his success in finding new land north of Prince Patrick Island, has just been received. After a dangerous trip of seven hundred miles northward across the ice from Martin Point on the mainland, Stefansson and his two companions were able to reach Bank's Island. Here the winter was spent and during the next spring exploration toward the north resulted in the discovery of land which may or may not be connected with the supposed large land mass north of Alaska and Siberia. In the meantime the Southern Party of the expedition has been carrying on work in geology, topography and ethnology along the northern coast of Canada from the Mackenzie River Delta to Coronation Gulf. Because of the great delay through the loss of the “Karluk” it is planned to continue the explorations until 1917. A base camp for the northern party has by this time probably been established at the northern end of Prince Patrick Island. This will allow a wide radius for exploration over the ice during 1916.

The Collins-Day South American expedition previously announced from these pages, presented on its recent return large collections of birds and mammals to the American Museum. The interesting itinerary of the expedition will be reported in a succeeding issue of the JOURNAL.

On June 24, the new orange, white and blue flag designed for the municipal buildings of the City of New York was hoisted on the American Museum building, where it has since floated on the tower of the east wing. The colors under which the new Constitution was founded in 1826 have again become the official colors of the City, their renewed adoption taking place on the 250th anniversary of the installation of the first Mayor and Board of Aldermen. At the ceremonies in commemoration of this anniversary and of the adoption of the ancient civic emblem as a new flag of the City, the American Museum was represented by the following delegates: Messrs. Cleveland H. Dodge, Frederic A. Lucas and Bashford Dean. The addresses of the occasion were by Governor Charles S. Whitman, Mayor John Purroy Mitchel, William Robert Shepherd, professor of history at Columbia University, and Dr. John H. Finley, president of the University of the State of New York.

Dr. Robert H. Lowie and four members of the Museum resident in California, Dr. Jaime De Angulo, and Messrs. W. B. Bourn, William H. Crocker and William Kennon Jewett, were appointed by the Museum and the appointment officially confirmed by Marcus M. Marks, president of the Borough of Manhattan, to act as delegates on Manhattan Day, at the Panama California Exposition in San Diego, August 9, and the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, August 19.

The third and final shipment of the Lang-Chapin collections from the African Congo was received at the Museum in August. Recent word from Mr. Lang indicates that he will probably arrive in New York about the middle of October.

The American Dahlia Society in cooperation with the Horticultural Society of New York gave with gratifying success their first annual exhibition of dahlias at the American Museum of Natural History, September 24–26.

During the summer President Osborn accompanied the new Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Hon. Stephen Tyng Mather, on an excursion in the High Sierras, from the region of the Sequoia National Park westward. The tour included the ascent of Mount Whitney and extended to Owen's Lake on the east of the Sierras, from where point the party passed northward and took part in the opening of the reopened roadway along the line of the old Tioga Trail. The object of Mr. Mather's tour was to survey the region lying west of the Sequoia National Park with a view to its enlargement to include the superb region around Mount Whitney.

The Museum was represented at the recent meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science by Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn and Dr. W. D. Matthew, who took part especially in the conferences and discussions on the past history of the Pacific coast region during Miocene time. The meeting was followed by an expedition to the region of the Mohave Desert where fossil beds containing horses, camels, and other extensive Miocene forms have been discovered within the last few years. Professor John C. Merriam of the University of
California, who led this excursion, has been instrumental in presenting to the Museum recently several very fine skeletons of the mammals from the Rancho La Brea deposits near Los Angeles, including a complete sabre-tooth tiger and a complete wolf, which are now being mounted as an addition to the group exhibit prepared two years ago.

A series of enlargements of the remarkable photographs taken by the Australasian-Antarctic expedition under Sir Douglas Mawson has been placed on temporary exhibition in the west assembly hall of the Museum.

Mr. N. C. Nelson assisted by Mr. E. W. Morris of the University of Colorado, has completed for the time being the survey and excavation of the Galisteo ruins. At San Marcos, one of the largest of the ruins south of Santa Fé, Mr. Nelson excavated 475 rooms. Besides the San Marcos ruin five other ruins were excavated. Mr. Nelson will also visit the Mesa Verde country to inaugurate joint work between the University of Colorado and the American Museum.

There has been on exhibition during the past few months in the west assembly hall of the Museum a collection of paintings and bronzes by William de la Montagne Cary from studies made by him in the West between 1861 and 1874. Mr. Cary’s sketches are unusually interesting from the historic standpoint. They record the phase of western life when the buffalo was still on the Plains and the Indians were living according to their old ways.

Professor A. L. Kroeber of the University of California spent the month of July and part of August among the Zuñi of New Mexico where he secured over nine hundred specimens illustrating the everyday and religious life of these people. He made a detailed study of their system of relations and the terms employed to denote relationship.

Dr. Clark Wissler, curator of the department of anthropology, has spent the summer in an intensive study of the religious ceremonies of the Pawnee, with the aid of James Murie, the religious leader and chief of the tribe. Mr. Murie is able to read and write not only English but his own language as well, using for the purpose an adapted form of our ordinary alphabet.

Attention has already been called in the notes of the Journal to the remarkable Laysan Island group in the University of Iowa. The photograph published in this number (page 260) represents one-tenth of the whole cyclorama. Laysan Island in the mid-Pacific has a surface of sand and “phosphate” rock and is eneireled by an irregular series of coral reefs. It has no human inhabitants but in 1902 was said to be populated by nearly ten million birds.

The group reconstructs this island, attempting to show the real conditions on the island and the twenty-four species of birds nesting there. The canvas (138 ft. long) was painted by Mr. C. A. Corwin and the foreground (400 sq. ft.) was built by Mr. Homer R. Dill, requiring three years to mount the many birds and make the more than fifty thousand artificial leaves and the grasses used in the construction.

The annual meeting of the National Association of Audubon Societies will be held at the American Museum Tuesday, October 26. Among other features there will be an exhibition of motion pictures by Mr. Herbert K. Job, who was sent by the Association on a tour of inspection of the bird reservations in Florida and Louisiana. It was during this trip that Mr. Job was detailed by the National Association as Colonel Roosevelt’s photographer when the latter inspected the bird islands off the Louisiana coast, made reservations during his presidency.

Mrs. William M. Ivins has recently presented to the Museum a very valuable collection of baskets from Arizona, California and British Columbia.

During the past summer Mr. Roy C. Andrews spent several weeks in the Adirondack Mountains securing specimens and material for a group of Virginia deer which will be placed in the North American mammal hall of the Museum. The site selected for field study for the group was Shingle Shanty Stream on the Breasthre Preserve.

Mrs. William Churchill, who was born in Samoa and lived there for many years, has presented to the Museum a large collection of photographs and ethnological specimens illustrating the native life of the Samoan Islands.