

Director's Report for 1918¹

THE retirement of Dr. William T. Brigham as Director of the Bishop Museum, foreshadowed in his annual report for 1917, took place at the beginning of the present year. By vote of the Trustees, he was given leave of absence for the year 1918, and appointed Director Emeritus and Curator of Anthropology beginning with the year 1919.

Dr. Brigham's retirement as the active head of the museum after nearly 30 years of service is regarded with regret by those under his direction, as they appreciated the helpful interest he displayed in their work. The advantages of his many accomplishments and wide experience, he was always ready to share with his assistants, while his courtesy and consideration are among the characteristics that have endeared him to them. It is a matter of great satisfaction, however, to those formerly under Dr. Brigham's charge, that his valuable services have been recognized by the Trustees with the title of "Director Emeritus" and that his association with the Museum will continue.

During Dr. Brigham's leave of absence, and pending the appointment of a new Director, Mr. John F. G. Stokes, Curator of Polynesian Ethnology, was requested to assume administrative responsibility for the Museum, with the title of Curator in Charge.

Before leaving for the mainland on his well-earned vacation, Dr. Brigham was able to make another contribution to the study of Hawaiian featherwork, which included all the information he had gathered up to date. This was published as *Memoirs Volume VII, No. 1, Second Supplement Hawaiian Featherwork*. He also completed his Annual Report for 1917, which was, as usual, published in *Occasional Papers*.

The first Territorial Fair, conducted largely as a food conservation measure, took place in Honolulu in June. The Museum was invited to exhibit from its extensive collection of fruit and fish

¹ The Director's Report for 1918 was prepared by John F. G. Stokes, Curator of Polynesian Ethnology.

casts. As no provision was made for the protection of fruit casts from being handled by the public, this portion of the exhibit was withdrawn. For the fish section, however, casts of thirty of the largest edible fishes, especially of those somewhat neglected by the fish-eating public, were selected and exhibited in the rotunda of the Aquarium, where they showed to far better advantage than in the Museum cases. As the Aquarium (which was made part of the Fair) was able to exhibit only the smaller species in its tanks, the combination with the Museum contribution made a very comprehensive exhibit.

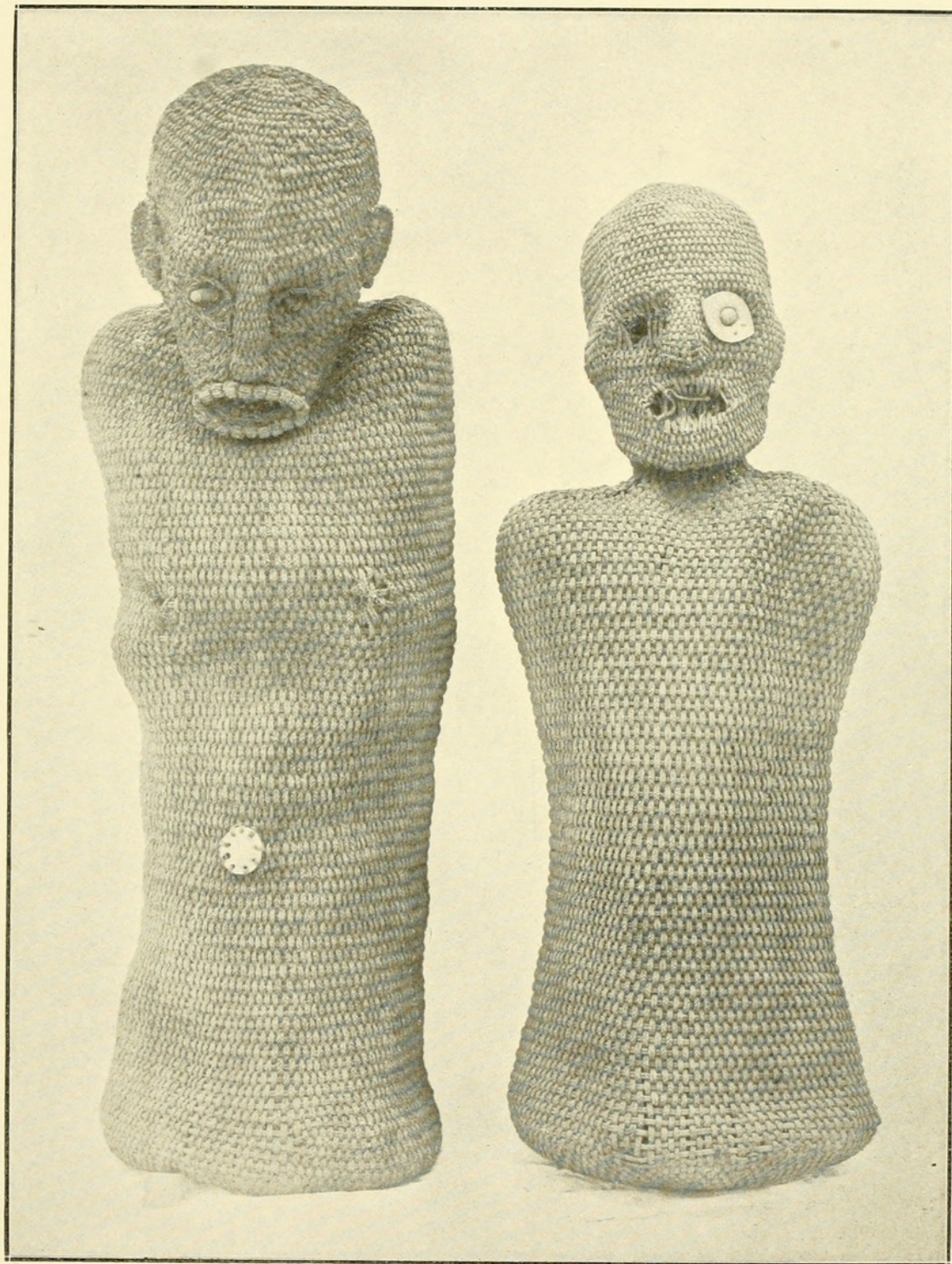
Attention is drawn to twelve enlarged photographs of the fire-pit of Kilauea Volcano which have been mounted and displayed in Hawaiian Hall, in front of the model of the Volcano. The plates were selected by Dr. T. A. Jaggar, Director of the Volcano Observatory, to illustrate the successive changes in the fire-pit during a period of a year and a half. Their educational value has been further enhanced by the descriptions written by Dr. Jaggar.

During the latter part of the year, the unusually severe wind storm, which did much damage in Honolulu, made itself felt on the Museum buildings. The stone and concrete portions of the structure were unaffected, but the skylight of the photographic studio was broken in, and the crestings of the exhibition building carried off.

A very satisfactory evidence of the progress of the Museum in the estimation of Hawaiian people, was given during the year when the bones of two of their kings were placed in the Museum in order that the remarkable workmanship of the caskets might be studied to advantage. (See p. 5 and Pl. I.) Remains of Hawaiian kings having always been regarded with the greatest veneration by their subjects (a veneration that very properly continues among Hawaiians living today), the recognition of the purposes of the Bishop Museum, and the confidence shown by this action, is not only a matter of gratification to the institution, but indicates an intellectual keenness and an appreciation of scientific knowledge on the part of the Hawaiian people not equalled so far by any other race.

ETHNOLOGY.

Mr. J. F. G. Stokes, the Curator of Polynesian Ethnology, reports:



FIBRE CASKETS OF KINGS LILOA AND LONOIKAMAKAHIKI.

The number of ethnological accessions during the year was 365, classified as follows: gifts, 180; purchases, 126; loans, 15; gifts of relics, 44. This is less than the average for the preceding five year period, in the early part of which large collections were made, given and purchased.

GIFTS.

Mr. Bruce Cartwright, Jr., presented an accumulation of small loans made by him from time to time and amounting in all to fifty-two specimens; Judge S. B. Dole—one of the rare Neckar Islands stone idols, which makes a total of nine now brought to light; Judge H. E. Cooper—a tobacco pipe, apparently of slate, which was dug up in Manoa Valley, Oahu, the same valley in which an Indian arrow head was found many years ago.

The *wa'u ipu* (scraper of cowry shell) lost sight of until 1916 when specimens of it were found by Messrs. Judd and Cooke on deserted house lots on Molokai (described in Occasional Papers Vol. VI, p. 232) has now been turned up in great numbers, as shown by the gifts of Messrs. Judd and Munro.

Another gift worthy of special mention (although outside the province of the museum) was a collection of Moro weapons captured by men of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, U. S. A., in the Philippines. It was presented by the men of the regiment when vacating their station at Schofield Barracks, Oahu.

LOANS.

Among other things deposited in the Museum by the various interests concerned, were two cocoanut fibre caskets (Pl. I), believed to contain the bones of Liloa, king of Hawaii about 1500 A. D., and Lonoikamakahiki, a great grandson who reigned later. Examples of this form of body encasing have not been observed before and undoubtedly are extremely rare. They will be described in a later publication.

A feather cape (Pl. II) and three *lei* (ornamental strings of feathers) which were taken to New England in 1822 by Mrs. Lucia Ruggles Holman, one of the earliest missionaries, were lent by the present owner, a descendant. The cape was given by Queen Kaahumanu to Mrs. Holman, probably for her daughter, claimed to be the first white child born in the Hawaiian Islands. It is remarkably well preserved, the feathers showing very little wear. The colors are yellow (oo), red (iiwi,) and black (oo), and the measurements are: length of back, 355 mm.; length of fronts: right 272, left 260; greatest width 820.

PURCHASES.

A collection of stone implements made by Mr. H. Schultz, during his residence of a quarter of a century on the island of Kauai, was the most important purchase of the year. It consisted of eighty-five items, which brought several new forms to our knowledge.

RELICS.

During the year two royal standards were received, for each of which was claimed the distinction of being the royal standard lowered at the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893. One was given by Mr. A. A. Brown of San Francisco, and the other by Mr. George E. Smithies of Honolulu. The flags are of similar design but differ in other respects. In the hope of establishing the identity of this historical specimen, inquiries have been made among persons who witnessed the revolution, but with no definite results.

Mr. Smithies also presented, in the name of his wife, many other relics including the sword of his late Majesty Kalakaua. Mrs. Smithies was the daughter of the late Colonel Samuel Nowlein, who commanded the body guard of the Queen, at the time of her deposal.

Acknowledgments of gifts have been sent to Mesdames C. M. Cooke and C. N. Forbes; Messrs. L. J. Bouge, A. A. Brown, Bruce Cartwright, Jr., C. Montague Cooke, Jr., C. M. Cooke III, H. E. Cooper, S. B. Dole, A. F. Judd, James Munro, R. Nui, G. W. Paty, A. Perry, J. W. Pratt, H. Roberts, W. S. Rycroft and G. E. Smithies; the Hawaiian Evangelical Association and the Twenty-fifth Infantry, U. S. A.

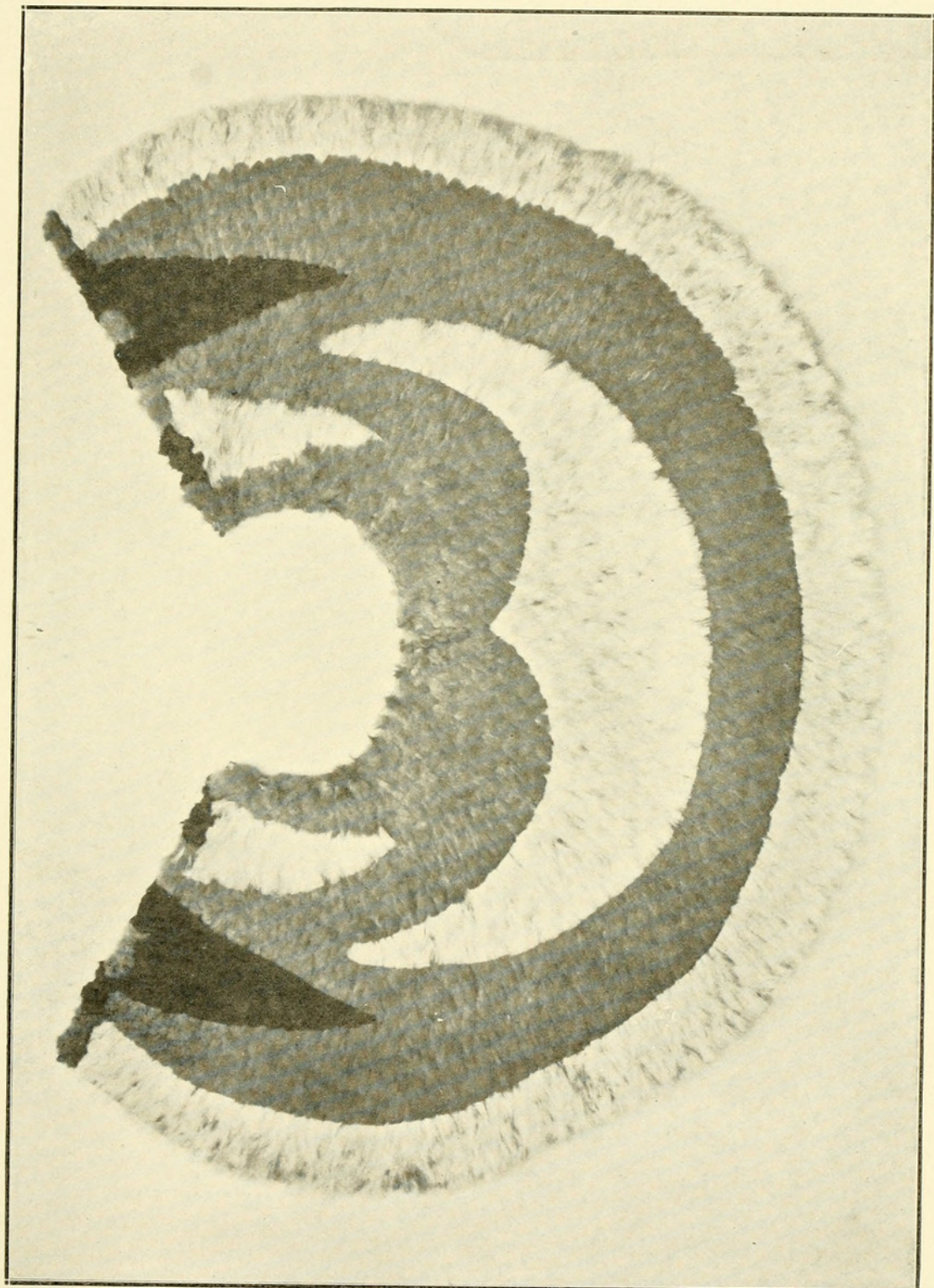
While Prof. J. Macmillan Brown, vice-dean of the University of New Zealand, visited the Hawaiian Islands, to continue his Polynesian researches, it became the good fortune of the curator of ethnology to conduct the noted anthropologist to various parts of the island of Oahu.

PULMONATA.

Dr. C. Montague Cooke, Curator of Pulmonata, reports for his department as follows:

During the past year, fewer shells have been added to the collection than in any year since the curator has been employed by the Museum. The reason for this is that a little more than half of the year was spent in preparation of a manuscript dealing with the Hawaiian Pupillidae. The whole of the Museum collection of our species belonging to this family (catalogued up to December 31, 1917) has now been classified and arranged. A large number of new species was found in the collection, as about two-thirds of the species and varieties dealt with are new. The manuscript has been slightly enlarged by Dr. Pilsbury and will appear shortly in the Manual of Conchology.

Five thousand one hundred and ninety-eight (5198) specimens were catalogued during the year. These specimens are distributed in five hundred and sixty-seven (567) catalogue numbers. Specimens have been received from the following: Mrs. G. W. Bryan, Miss M. Burbank, Miss M. Clough, Messrs. J. S. Emerson, C. F. Mant, A. Gouveia, J. C. Bridwell and E. R. Davis.



THE HOLMAN FEATHER CAPE.

Dr. Cooke also prepared in the early part of the year, a preliminary catalogue of the Lepachatinae and Tornatellinidae in the Bishop Museum. The paper, while illustrating the extent of his work in these families, serves the wider purpose of a check list of the species, and an indication of their distribution. The catalogue appears in Occasional Papers, Volume VI, Number 5.

It might be mentioned that the rapid expansion of the collections in this curator's charge, had so limited the space for the re-classifications made from time to time, that an additional room was assigned to him—the room that had been used for instruments.

BOTANY.

The report of the Curator of Botany, Mr. C. N. Forbes, covers a period of two years, 1917 and 1918. Mr. Forbes observes that 1917 was exceptionally dry on most of the Hawaiian islands, with the exception of Lanai, and was, on this account, a very favorable year for the botanical collector. On Kauai, during July and August, the section west of the Waimea River, covering a large portion of the country near the Kokee stream was explored.

The region is so extensive and so cut up into numerous ridges and gulleys, that it was hardly more than skimmed over in the time that I was there. The lower ridges represent one of the driest habitats on the island of Kauai, while the vast dissected upland plateau known as the Alakai Swamp is a region of perpetual rainfall. In a region of such diversified habitats, the flora is naturally very rich and varied and possesses additional interest as being the type locality for most of the species collected by Valdemar Knudsen and described in Hillebrand's Flora, and also many of Wawra's species. I received much kindly help from Hon. E. A. Knudsen, and through his assistance covered more territory than would otherwise have been possible.

During September a short visit was made to Lanai as the guest of Mr. G. C. Munro. Under Mr. Munro's system of plowing and seeding paddocks, coupled with unusually rainy weather, the country was quite green. Owing to the decrease in the number of wild goats, the forest undergrowth on the main mountain was much thicker than on my last visit in 1912. I was especially fortunate in being able to find a single specimen of *Hesperomannia arborescens* in its type locality. Part of September and the month of October were spent on Maui, in Honokohau valley, where I camped at the in-take of the plantation irrigation ditch. Several trips were made to the summit of Eke, a small isolated crater with a peculiar and very interesting bog flora. The flora of the valley itself showed the effect of an unusual drought. A fern, *Dryopteris cyatheoides*, which was very common

on the steep sides of the gulch, hung down in dry festoons, while even patches of the comparatively semixerophitic *Gleichenia linearis* were withered in places. Trees showed varying degrees of resistance, species of *Straussia* apparently suffering the most. Many thanks are due to Mr. David Fleming for permission to camp in the valley.

The most notable acquisition to the herbarium was a collection of plants named by Hillebrand, already mentioned in the Director's Annual Report for 1917.

Returning in the latter part of September, 1918, after nine months leave of absence, the greater part of Mr. Forbes' time was occupied by the routine work which had accumulated. With the aid of a temporary assistant the bulk of the material has been poisoned, and much of it mounted. A brief monograph on the Genus *Lagenophora* was published with Occasional Papers Volume VI, Number 5.

The accessions to the herbarium for the two years are as follows:

1917.

A. S. Hitchcock, U. S. Grasses by exchange.....	104
C. M. Cooke, Oahu.....	8
J. C. Bridwell, Oahu.....	6
H. Graves, U. S. by exchange.....	13
G. C. Munro, H. I. purchase.....	134
J. W. Thompson, Oahu.....	1
D. Thaanum, U. S.....	25
J. M. Lydgate, Hillebrand collection purchase.....	589

CURATOR'S COLLECTION

Oahu	316
Kauai	2765
Lanai	597
Maui	1300
Total	5858

1918.

Mrs. A. H. B. Judd, teratological papaia.....	1
Bureau of Science, Manila, exchange.....	247
G. C. Munro, Lanai and Maui.....	33
E. L. Caum, Maui.....	2
J. F. G. Stokes, teratological papaia.....	1
A. D. E. Elmer, Philippine Islands, purchase.....	1318
J. R. Weir, U. S.....	13
Total	1615

ENTOMOLOGY.

The Honorary Curator, Mr. O. H. Swezey, has been much handicapped through the departure of Mr. Bridwell, his former assistant in the Museum. Mr. Swezey has comparatively little spare time to devote to collections of the Museum, nevertheless he has been able to increase them during the year by 1260 specimens, comprising 415 species. The courtesy of his employers, the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, in permitting him to take the honorary position and to devote certain hours to the work of the Museum, is very highly appreciated. The Honorary Curator reports that all of the Helms collection has been placed in the Museum cabinets, with the exception of the New Zealand Coleoptera yet remaining to be transferred from the old boxes containing them on arrival.

The Hawaiian insects formerly in the gallery of Hawaiian Hall have been removed to the metal cases, so that now they are convenient of access for reference or study.

During the year many insects were collected in the native forests and prepared for study. The localities and the approximate number of specimens and species follow:

	Specimens	Species
Iao Valley, Maui, August 8th.....	200	70
Haiku, Maui, August 27th.....	60	15
Haleakala, Maui, August 25th, 26th and 29th.....	300	70
Kaiwiki, Hawaii, September 22nd.....	260	75
Palolo and Mt. Olympus, Oahu, October 20th.....	160	60
Pacific Heights and Kaumuahona, Oahu, Nov. 17th.....	60	35
Lanihuli Ridge, Oahu, November 24th.....	120	40
Kuliouou, Oahu, December 22nd.....	100	50
	1260	415

This material includes many species not hitherto represented in the collection, also a number of species not previously collected or described.

When time or circumstances make it possible to work up this material in connection with the 3250 specimens collected by Mr. Bridwell in 1917, it will make a beginning towards supplying the species lacking in the Hawaiian collection, which contains but 64 per cent of the number of species listed in the Fauna Hawaiiensis.

In February, 1918, the para-types of the Hawaiian Heteroptera were lent to Mr. E. P. Van Duzee, Curator of Entomology of the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, for his assistance in working up the Hawaiian Heteroptera in the collections of several persons and institutions of Honolulu.

LIBRARY.

The Librarian, Miss E. B. Higgins, reports an unprecedented number of newspapers in the native language received from various sources during the year.

Until the beginning of the twentieth century, the vernacular newspapers comprised almost the sole native literature published, and they covered a transition period in native life but lightly touched upon by foreign observers. Being also the means of the natives' exposition of their own customs and folk-lore (although their intellectual leaders were educated and inspired by foreigners) the Librarian has made many efforts during the past few years to complete the early files. The largest contribution so far received came this year from the basement of Kawaiahao Church in Honolulu, from which thirty-four sacks and thirty-nine trunks of papers and native school books were taken. These were cleaned and sorted, and the duplicates—the greater bulk—were returned.

A smaller accession yielding greater proportionate results was the purchase of the files of a native minister which included in addition to many other fragmentary sets the following thirty-five complete or nearly complete volumes: *Ka Nupepa Kuokoa*, 24; *Ke Aloha Aina*, 2; *Ka Makaaainana*, 7; *Ka Loea Kalaiaina*, 2.

Local periodicals are now represented in the Library by seventy-five titles, classified as follows: English, 41; Hawaiian, 32; Portuguese, 1; Chinese, 1; the earliest date is 1834.

The files of scientific journals have been added to by purchase, gift and exchange, but numerous vacancies were still left as many parts and numbers were out of print. The lack was partly supplied by approaching the contributing authors—a mode suggested by Dr. Herbert E. Gregory on a visit early in the year. Twenty-one journals were added by subscription.

The distribution of scientific journals in the Museum Library, is approximately as follows:

Archaeology, anthropology and ethnology.....	41
Natural History	38
Botany	15
Conchology	1
Zoology, General	25
Ornithology	2
Mollusca	2
Microscopy	1
Geography	6
General Science	15
Geology	7
Museums	11
Miscellaneous	9

174

The following institutions have been added to our list of exchanges: University of Chicago; University of Illinois; Newark Museum; Société d'Études Océaniques.

This last named society has been recently formed in Papeete for the study of the Pacific.

Acknowledgment of author's separates, and other items, is made to the following: Messrs. L. J. Bouge, C. Montague Cooke, Jr., W. M. Giffard, Ivan C. Hall, A. F. Judd, Vaughan MacCaughy, Sidney Powers, T. G. Thrum and Harold Wright, and the Hawaiian Association through Mrs. R. W. Andrews.

A miscellaneous lot of books and pamphlets was purchased from the Rowell Estate—50 titles, including some duplicates. Among them were MS notes on the Hawaiian Bible, 1843, by Rev. G. B. Rowell.

Summary of accessions for the year is as follows:

	Volumes	Parts and Pamphlets
Exchange	181	411
Purchase	170	217
Gift	13	56
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	364	684
Grand Total—1048.		

This summary excludes incomplete volumes of local newspapers received, dating from 1846 to 1918, and representing 65 volumes and 47 titles—19 English, 27 Hawaiian and 1 Portuguese.

More than 200 volumes have been prepared for the binder; of these 165 volumes have been bound.

MODELING.

During the year, Mr. Thompson, Artist and Modeler, finished 70 models: 16 of fishes, 1 of a mammal, 16 of fruits, and 37 of ethnological specimens. He has 21 unfinished models on hand. He has also painted and prepared three coconut crabs from Fanning Island. An excellent representation was secured of a porpoise 7 feet, 7 inches long, weighing 375 pounds.

EXHIBITION HALLS

Mrs. Helvie, Superintendent of Exhibition Halls, reports that the attendance of visitors has kept up very well in spite of the lack of tourists—the military visitors from the various posts being greater than usual. The total attendance for the year was 14,029, a decrease from 15,145 the average for the five previous years. The

daily average was 54.4,—the halls having been open for 258 days in the year. The attendance by months, and classified according to race, is given in the accompanying table. The total includes 1367 pupils, representing 46 classes from schools in Honolulu.

TABLE OF ATTENDANCE.

1918		Whites	Portugueses Hawaiians	Chinese	Japanese	Others	Days Open	Average	Total
January	625	163	76	75	256	10	22	54.8	1205
February	787	117	111	148	241	10	20	70.2	1414
March	602	88	47	72	220	19	22	47.7	1048
April	561	194	64	80	193	14	22	50.2	1106
May	442	221	77	100	1087	44	21	93.9	1971
June	410	92	109	102	201	14	21	44.2	1928
July	584	59	81	62	108	20	21	43.5	914
August	491	91	58	76	212	24	23	40.2	952
September	555	239	97	90	268	45	21	60.2	1294
October	426	181	98	118	196	11	22	46.9	1030
November	408	130	72	105	273	33	21	48.7	1021
December	561	292	29	70	191	3	22	52.1	1146
Totals.....	6452	1867	919	1098	3446	247	258	54.4	14029

The steel feather-cloak case, ordered closed by the Trustees at the beginning of the year, was reopened in December for semi-monthly exhibitions of half an hour each, under the charge of Mrs. Helvie.

The establishment of a War Saving Stamp sub-agency in the halls was a great success.



Stokes, John F. G. 1920. "Director's report for 1918." *Occasional Papers of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum of Polynesian Ethnology and Natural History* 7(1), 3–12.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/32785>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/352065>

Holding Institution

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Sponsored by

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.