

Field Museum of Natural History

Founded by Marshall Field, 1893

Roosevelt Road and Lake Michigan, Chicago

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FIELD MUSEUM NEWS

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Field Museum is open every day of the year (except Christmas and New Year's Day) during the hours indicated below:

Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar.	9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
April, September, October	9 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
May, June, July, August	9 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Admission is free to Members on all days. Other adults are admitted free on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; non-members pay 25 cents on other days. Children are admitted free on all days. Students and faculty members of educational institutions are admitted free any day upon presentation of credentials.

The Museum's natural history Library is open for reference daily except Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

Traveling exhibits are circulated in the schools of Chicago by the N. W. Harris Public School Extension Department of the Museum.

Lectures for schools, and special entertainments and tours for children at the Museum, are provided by the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures.

Announcements of free illustrated lectures for the public, and special lectures for Members of the Museum, will appear in FIELD MUSEUM NEWS.

A cafeteria in the Museum serves visitors. Rooms are provided for those bringing their lunches.

Chicago Motor Coach Company No. 26 buses go direct to the Museum.

Members are requested to inform the Museum promptly of changes of address.

MEMBERSHIP IN FIELD MUSEUM

Field Museum has several classes of Members. Benefactors give or devise \$100,000 or more. Contributors give or devise \$1,000 to \$100,000. Life Members give \$500; Non-Resident Life and Associate Members pay \$100; Non-Resident Associate Members pay \$50. All the above classes are exempt from dues. Sustaining Members contribute \$25 annually. After six years they become Associate Members. Annual Members contribute \$10 annually. Other memberships are Corporate, Honorary, Patron, and Corresponding, additions under these classifications being made by special action of the Board of Trustees.

Each Member, in all classes, is entitled to free admission to the Museum for himself, his family and house guests, and to two reserved seats for Museum lectures provided for Members. Subscription to FIELD MUSEUM NEWS is included with all memberships. The courtesies of every museum of note in the United States and Canada are extended to all Members of Field Museum. A Member may give his personal card to non-residents of Chicago, upon presentation of which they will be admitted to the Museum without charge. Further information about memberships will be sent on request.

BEQUESTS AND ENDOWMENTS

Bequests to Field Museum of Natural History may be made in securities, money, books or collections. They may, if desired, take the form of a memorial to a person or cause, named by the giver.

Contributions made within the taxable year not exceeding 15 per cent of the taxpayer's net income are allowable as deductions in computing net income for federal income tax purposes.

Endowments may be made to the Museum with the provision that an annuity be paid to the patron for life. These annuities are guaranteed against fluctuation in amount, and may reduce federal income taxes.

LIZARD EXHIBIT AUGMENTED

The two cases of individual models of lizards in Albert W. Harris Hall (Hall 18) have been completely rearranged, and to them have been added several new reproductions prepared by Staff Taxidermist Leon L. Walters with the assistance of Mr. Edgar G. Laybourne. The new models include an Australian gecko; the herbivorous spinytailed lizard abundant in the desert regions of North Africa; two lizards of the American family Teiidae; two of the large and striking types of Australian skinks, the stump-tailed skink, and the blue-tongued skink; a large specimen of the common monitor of the East Indies, which is the species most important in the modern trade in lizard skins for shoes and pocketbooks; and a notable large land iguana of the Galapagos Islands, a species very distinct from the common iguana of the American mainland.

The two large iguanas of the Galapagos Islands, the brown and yellow land iguana now placed on exhibition, and the darker colored marine iguana, have a romantic interest to scientists because of the freshness and charm of the first account of them by Charles Darwin, who visited the Galapagos a hundred years ago. It was his observations on the remarkable animal life of these islands that began the long train of deep study and thought which took form twenty-three years later in the publication of *Origin of Species*, the appearance of which was one of the most important events of the nineteenth century.

The land iguana is one of the largest living lizards. Its brown color, with yellow head and under surfaces, is in harmony with the reddish weathered lava of the older parts of the islands where this lizard is principally found. Like its counterpart, the marine iguana, which feeds on the algae of the island coasts at low tide, the land iguana is a strict vegetarian. It feeds on the fleshy expansions of the cacti and on their flowers and fruits. Its stocky body, with powerful limbs, represents the most generalized reptile type.

These lizards were collected by the Cornelius Crane Pacific Expedition of Field Museum on South Seymour Island, where they are fortunately still present in considerable numbers. They are to be found also on the black lavas of Narborough Island and on certain outlying islets which fringe some of the larger islands of the archipelago.—K. P. S.

Museum Open 9 to 5 in April

From April 1 to 30 visiting hours at Field Museum will be from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. instead of 4:30. From May 1 to September 7 (Labor Day) the hours will be 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.

PUEBLOS AND CLIFF DWELLINGS

Famous pueblos and cliff dwellings of both ancient and modern Indians of Arizona and New Mexico are reproduced in a number of models on exhibition among the North American archaeological and ethnological collections in Halls 6 and 7.

One of the sites represented is the famous ruin of Penasco Blanco, in Chaco Canyon, northwest New Mexico, which is regarded as one of the most remarkable prehistoric American structures north of Mexico. It is a huge pueblo village in elliptical shape, situated on a high mesa.

Another of the models of great interest is the Mummy Cave of Arizona, an important

cliff village which occupies a vast niche of rock shelter in the red sandstone bluffs of Cañon del Muerto. Many of the houses rise to three stories.

Other ancient ruins reproduced in models are the well-known Casa Grande ruin near the Gila River, Pinal County, Arizona; an ancient cave town and cliff ruin on the Rio de Chelly, Arizona; and an ancient cliff fort on Beaver Creek, Arizona.

Modern pueblo sites reproduced include that of cliff-built Acoma in New Mexico, which has been called "the most wonderful aboriginal city on earth"; the pueblo of Taos, New Mexico; the pueblo of Hano, Arizona, and the Hopi pueblo of Walpi, Arizona. These modern pueblos are all at present occupied by populations of several hundred each.

THYMOL, PRINCIPAL INGREDIENT OF NEW DENTAL ANAESTHETIC

Thymol, which has recently come into prominence as the principal ingredient in the Hartman formula for a desensitizer of dentine, is a camphor-like substance of vegetable origin. It is derived from the common garden thyme and from some related species of the mint family, as well as from at least one quite unrelated plant of the carrot family. These herbs, on distillation, yield oil of thyme, a volatile oil, the principal constituent of which is thymol. This can be separated readily, by appropriate chemical treatment, as a colorless translucent crystalline substance, sometimes known as thyme camphor. It has a pleasant, though pungent, characteristic odor, and some antiseptic properties. Discovered as early as 1719, it is one of the oldest of known volatile oil constituents. Specimens of thyme, thyme oil and thymol are included in the representative collection of essential or volatile oils used in perfumery and pharmacy, on exhibition in Hall 28 (Case No. 611).

RARE MARQUESAN DRUM

A rare ceremonial drum from the Marquesas Islands of the South Pacific is on exhibition in the Polynesian collection in Hall F. The drum is remarkable because of its height, seven feet. It is carved from a tree trunk. Such drums have not been used by natives of the Marquesas for more than fifty years, and it is believed that not more than four are in existence today. They were kept in temples, and used to call the tribesmen to ceremonial meetings at which the chief ritual often consisted of the offering of human sacrifices to the native gods. These native temples were areas of taboo ground, containing series of platforms and houses.

The drum was used in a vertical position, and because of its height the drummer had to stand on a stone about four feet high to reach the drum-head, which was made from the tightly stretched skin of a giant ray. No drumsticks were used; the skin was beaten with the drummer's knuckles. The log from which the drum is cut is tomanu wood, which closely resembles mahogany.

Steps in the separation of silver from lead, a model of the apparatus employed, specimens of ores, by-products, etc., may be studied in an exhibit in Frederick J. V. Skiff Hall (Hall 37).

Life-size groups in Hall 10 illustrate the chase and capture of seals by Eskimos, the preparation of skins, and the method of winter fishing through a hole in the ice.



1936. "Lizard Exhibit Augmented." *Field Museum news* 7(4), 2-2.

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