

FIVE MORE FREE PROGRAMS OFFERED FOR CHILDREN

During November the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures will continue its autumn series of free motion picture programs for children on Saturday mornings. There will be two performances of each program, one at 10 A.M., and one at 11, in the James Simpson Theatre of the Museum. No tickets are necessary. Children may come alone, accompanied by adults, or in groups.

Following is the schedule:

November 2—ASIA'S SOUTHEAST CORNER; and a cartoon.

November 9—CHINA AND HER PEOPLE; and a cartoon.

November 16—THROUGH THE ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH SEAS; and a cartoon.

November 23—WHY A THANKSGIVING, and a cartoon.

November 30—OUR NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS.

MATERIAL COLLECTED FOR GROUP OF INTER-TIDAL PLANTS

BY EMIL SELLA

CHIEF PREPARATOR OF BOTANICAL EXHIBITS

Material and data on inter-tidal vegetation, tide pools, and other details necessary for the preparation of a north Atlantic coast habitat group of marine algae were collected recently by the writer on a field trip to the northeastern shore of Maine. The collections supplement those made by a previous expedition to Maine and the Bay of Fundy region. The group, upon which work is now under way in the plant reproduction laboratories of the Department of Botany, is to occupy a space at the north end of Martin A. and Carrie Ryerson Hall (Hall 29), adjacent to the Illinois woodland group.

A number of localities were visited, some as far south as Bar Harbor, but most of the collecting was done on the shore of Quoddy Head near Lubec in the Bay of Fundy. This is the easternmost point within the borders of the United States.

In the vicinity of Quoddy Head the continual recurrence of a thick fog called forth spasmodic blasts of the new fog horn at the lighthouse. This harsh sound usually can be heard over a radius of twenty miles, and at first it nearly floors an unsuspecting stranger, such as the writer was, who happens to approach from the seaside during one of its lulls.

Luckily, the low tide period was ideal for working during the best part of the day. Thus, since the tidal range on this coast is 23 to 25 feet, the approach, and means to study the growth and habits of the marine algae, were greatly facilitated.

Sketches and a number of rubber and plaster impressions were made of specimens and barnacle-covered rocks. A limited

number of seaweeds was gathered to supplement the large number of specimens previously obtained by Mr. John R. Millar, Curator of the N. W. Harris Public School Extension and formerly a member of the botanical staff, who in 1938 visited the same locality and as far north as Nova Scotia. Along with great quantities of required specimens, Mr. Millar secured valuable color notes and photographs.

NOVEMBER GUIDE-LECTURE TOURS

Conducted tours of exhibits, under the guidance of staff lecturers, are made every afternoon at 2 o'clock except Saturdays, Sundays, and certain holidays. Following is a schedule for November showing the subjects on each date, and the names of the lecturers assigned to special subjects:

Friday, November 1—Animal Life of South America (Mr. Loren P. Woods).

Week beginning November 4: Monday—Stories of the Past as Told by Fossils (Mr. Bert E. Grove); Tuesday—General Tour; Wednesday—In the Land of the Eskimos (Miss Elizabeth Hambleton); Thursday—General Tour; Friday—Evergreens of North America (Miss Marie B. Pabst).

Week beginning November 11: Monday—How the Life of a People is Affected by Their Environment (Mrs. Leota G. Thomas); Tuesday—General Tour; Wednesday—The Cedar and Salmon Indians (Miss Elizabeth Hambleton); Thursday—General Tour; Friday—The Distribution of Living Things (Mr. Loren P. Woods).

Week beginning November 18: Monday—Minerals of the United States (Mr. Bert E. Grove); Tuesday—General Tour; Wednesday—The Indians' Contribution to Thanksgiving Dinner (Miss Marie B. Pabst); Thursday—Thanksgiving holiday, *no tour*; Friday—Weavers and Potters of the Southwest (Miss Elizabeth Hambleton).

Week beginning November 25: Monday—The Changing Earth (Mr. Bert E. Grove); Tuesday—General Tour; Wednesday—The Contributions of Plants to the Welfare of Man (Mrs. Leota G. Thomas); Thursday—General Tour; Friday—The Home Life of Birds (Mr. Loren P. Woods).

Persons wishing to participate should apply at North Entrance. Tours are free. Guide-lecturers' services for special tours by parties of ten or more persons may be arranged for with the Director a week or longer in advance.

World's Largest Snake

The largest extant species of snake is the reticulated python of the East Indies, of which a specimen twenty-six feet long is exhibited in Albert W. Harris Hall (Hall 18). The maximum size attained is said to be about thirty-five feet.

The culture of Australian aborigines, who live today in a Stone Age state of development, is illustrated by a collection in Hall A-1 on the ground floor of the museum.

THINGS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

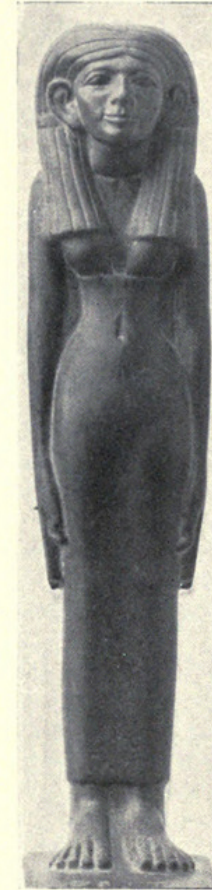
Gallantry in Ancient Egypt

The artists of ancient Egypt displayed a marked gallantry toward women. In the portrait statues they made, it was an art convention that a woman subject must never be represented either as being obese or as showing traces of the burden of years.

In depicting male subjects they occasionally permitted signs of portliness or age to appear, but even among their sculptures of men the ideal slenderness of youth or the vigor of the prime of life predominates.

A collection of such portrait statues is on exhibition in the Hall of Egypt (Hall J) at Field Museum. The figures were used as magic substitutes for or duplicates of the earthly bodies of the dead, and were placed in tomb chambers or temple courts. The Egyptians believed that the soul could occupy the figures at will, and thus participate in the offerings made at the tomb or in the holiday festivities of the gods.

These Egyptian statues show the influence of both idealism and reality. Dom-



Ancient Woman
Named Ari

nant was the idea that the soul must be able to recognize its "body." Hence there was a tendency to individualize the face, to represent the clothing, and to paint the whole in appropriate colors. As the water colors used have largely succumbed to time, present appearances commonly misrepresent the ancient craftsman's work. Various stones, and wood, were the materials most commonly used by the sculptors. The statue shown in the accompanying illustration is identified in the inscription simply as a house mistress named Ari. This statue dates to about 2000 B.C., and is made in chlorite schist. A prayer, together with the woman's name, occupies the plinth and space in front of the feet. The statue is one of many objects presented to the Museum years ago by the late Edward E. Ayer.

Figures of servants, or servant groups, also shown in Hall J, often accompanied their master's burial in tombs. The artists treated these subjects with much more freedom than they permitted themselves in portraiture of the more powerful classes.



Sella, Emil. 1940. "Material Collected for Group of Inter-tidal Plants." *Field Museum news* 11(11), 7-7.

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