

tive divisions when this would best develop their capacities.

The great growth of Field Museum has coincided with Dr. Osgood's régime as Chief Curator of Zoology. This growth has been two-fold: in the direction of exhibition on one hand and in the development of the scientific collections and of the researches based on them on the other. No one in Field Museum's organization has played a more active or more effective part in this vital developmental period of the Museum than has Wilfred Hudson Osgood.

—STANLEY FIELD

President, Field Museum of Natural History

PERSONAL APPRECIATION

Dr. Osgood's history may be read from his successive environments. After a childhood in New England, he moved to California at the age of twelve. Ten years were spent in California, the next twelve in Washington (and in his long expeditions to Alaska), and since 1909 he has been a member of our staff and thus a Chicagoan. His first interest was in birds, beginning when, as a child, he was a collector of birds' eggs. . . .

At Stanford University he became saturated in the traditions of the great Louis Agassiz by his association there with one of Agassiz' most brilliant pupils, David Starr Jordan. . . .

His professional career began with the United States Biological Survey. . . . In the late nineties he made a trip to Alaska over White Pass and down the Yukon to Bering Sea, collecting and charting as he went. His ambition almost got the better of him in this particular trip, as his boat was so overloaded with specimens that it was swamped in the icy waters of the Yukon. It is fortunate for zoology that Dr. Osgood had become an able swimmer in his earlier years. This icy bath did not cool his enthusiasm for successive expeditions to Alaska.

On this eventful trip Dr. Osgood expressed the wish that he might traverse in a similar manner the other great rivers of the world. As the years passed, his hopes were realized to a great degree, for his research expeditions took him down the Amazon in 1912 and down the Nile in 1927. In the course of his twenty-two scientific expeditions he has visited the mountains of Abyssinia and the jungles of Indo-China, although his principal interest has been in his repeated expeditions to South America. . . .

Dr. Osgood's research and publication exhibit the variety of his interests. A glance at his bibliography of nearly two hundred titles reveals not only many contributions to the taxonomy and nomenclature of mammals and many faunistic reports, but outstanding works of other kinds. In the field of conservation and economic zoology, there is his notable report on the fur seals of the Pribilof Islands. In mam-

malian anatomy his monograph on the marsupial *Caenolestes* is a monumental contribution. The general reader who would have an accurate story of what happens on an expedition is referred to Dr. Osgood's "Artist and Naturalist in Ethiopia. . . ."

My own acquaintance with Dr. Osgood covers the past fifteen years, during which time it has been my privilege to witness at first hand and in his company the splendid development of the Department of Zoology, of which he was Chief Curator. In that time I have come to know him as a friend as well as a colleague. . . . My appreciation of him prompts this brief sketch in the hope that others may learn to know him not only as the eminent scientist that he is, but also as a well-rounded and most likable personality, a warm friend, and a genial and co-operative co-worker.

—CLIFFORD C. GREGG

Director, Field Museum of Natural History

CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION OBTAINS 8,000 CRYPTOGAMIC SPECIMENS

Field Museum's botanical expedition to California, which left Chicago on August 29, returned recently. La Junta and Manitou Springs, Colorado, Great Salt Lake, and Reno, Nevada, were visited on the journey westward. The members of the expedition, Dr. Francis Drouet, Curator of Cryptogamic Botany, and Mr. Donald Richards, of the University of Chicago, spent two weeks in northern California in the vicinities of Alturas, Redding, Dunsmuir, and Weaverville, collecting largely algae and mosses. During a week at Berkeley studies were made of specimens in the Herbarium of the University of California, and algae were collected in and about San Francisco Bay. At Palo Alto members of the party collected in the foothills in company with Dr. D. A. Johansen, of the Department of Botany, Stanford University. The northern part of the San Joaquin valley was then visited, from Los Banos to Mariposa and Yosemite, and south as far as Fresno.

Dr. Drouet spent a short time in the sandy agricultural region about Selma, and then with Dr. M. J. Groesbeck explored, for cryptogams, the hills between Porterville and Springville. The last two weeks of October were devoted to an examination of the deserts of southeastern California—from the Mojave Desert to Needles, south to Blythe, west to Palm Springs, south along the Salton Sea to Calexico, and west through the mountains along the Mexican border to San Diego. Because the state of California is too large an area for careful exploration in less than two months, the collecting became necessarily a matter of sampling the flora here and there, chiefly in regions where no such collecting had been done before. About 8,000 specimens, mostly cryptogams, were brought back for the Museum's collections.

Mrs. James Nelson Raymond Contributes to Museum

Mrs. James Nelson Raymond last month again made a gift of \$2,000 to Field Museum, bringing the total of her contributions in 1941 to \$6,000. The gift is for the maintenance of the varied activities of the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures. Mrs. Raymond established this Foundation in 1925, as a memorial to her husband, the late James Nelson Raymond, and at that time she provided a large endowment for its support. Every year since she has made further liberal contributions for the current expenses of conducting its work.

The Raymond Foundation sends lecturers into the schools to provide supplementary education in the natural history field for the hundreds of thousands of children of this city and suburbs; conducts tours of the exhibits for groups of children brought to the Museum; provides several series of motion pictures and other programs every year which children may see, free of charge, in the James Simpson Theatre of the Museum; and engages in many other forms of educational endeavor.

The Wild Life of Illinois in Post-glacial Time

Fossil vertebrates of post-glacial time, collected in central Illinois by Mr. Edwin C. Galbreath, and presented by him to Field Museum, show that the wild life of this area was once much more diversified than it is now. These fossils were collected near Polecat Creek in Coles County. Included in the finds were bones of the mastodon, the deer-moose, the ground sloth, and the giant beaver, all of which are now extinct. The cotton-tail, shrew, turtle, and muskrat are still with us, as well as an occasional raccoon. The coyote has at times been seen near Chicago in recent years. Early records of white settlers indicate that they found deer and wapiti, wolf, bobcat, bison, and turkey, but the musk-ox and grizzly bear disappeared before the white man came. The skull of an Indian, and the jaw-bone of an Indian dog, show that at least some of these animals were contemporaneous with man. The woods found—hickory, elm and tamarack—indicate a climate not much different from that of the present.

False Fossils

Some young men once brought bones dug up in a field near Chicago to Field Museum for identification. When the paleontologist told them the specimens were not fossils, but common modern horse bones the visitors were dubious, and asked how such bones could occur six feet under ground. As gently as possible the paleontologist inquired what they thought farmers did with their dead horses.



Gregg, Clifford C. 1942. "Personal Appreciation." *Field Museum news* 13(1), 4–4.

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