

**FREDERICK HOLBROOK RAWSON**

May 30, 1872–February 5, 1937

The Trustees and the Staff of Field Museum have learned with deep regret of the death on February 5, 1937, of Frederick Holbrook Rawson, former member of the Board of Trustees, and a Benefactor of the Museum. Mr. Rawson had been one of the most active and able men of the group charged with guiding the progress of the Museum, and his wise counsel and respected advice had been sorely missed ever since ill health forced him to retire from the Board of Trustees in 1935.

Because of his high standing as one of Chicago's leading bankers, his fellow Trustees placed Mr. Rawson on the Finance Committee shortly after his election to the Board in 1927. His services on that committee were of incalculable value to the Museum, especially during the recent years of depression when the institution's very existence was more than ever before dependent upon the sagacity with which its financial affairs were managed in the face of the extreme difficulties of the times.

The benefactions which the Museum owes to Mr. Rawson began even before he became connected with the Board of Trustees. On several occasions he contributed large sums of money to the institution for the carrying out of projects important to its growth and progress. In 1926 he organized the First Rawson-MacMillan Subarctic Expedition of Field Museum, and in the following year he made possible the larger Second Rawson-MacMillan Expedition, the members of which were enabled through his generosity to spend fully fifteen months in Labrador and Baffinland, making collections and conducting researches for the Museum. Both of these expeditions, under the leadership of Mr. Rawson's friend, the eminent Arctic explorer Lieutenant-Commander Donald B. MacMillan, obtained valuable results for the Museum's Departments of Anthropology, Geology and Zoology.

In 1929 Mr. Rawson sponsored a third expedition, the Frederick H. Rawson-Field Museum Ethnological Expedition to West Africa, which explored parts of that continent where little previous work had been done by anthropologists, and secured extensive collections of value for the Museum's exhibits and for use in research work.

A few years later Mr. Rawson contributed many more thousands of dollars toward the cost of groups restoring types of prehistoric man, thus taking his place among the foremost of those who enabled this Museum to create its Hall of the Stone Age of the Old World, which ranks as an achievement without parallel among the museums of the world.

Field Museum was not alone as a beneficiary of Mr. Rawson's philanthropy. He was one of those whole-hearted civic leaders who was ever ready to aid to the best of his ability any worthy cause. Libraries, hospitals, homes for the unfortunate, and universities all benefited by his generous gifts, and his devotion of his time and efforts to the promotion of their interests. In his



Frederick H. Rawson

business activities, too, he was well known as a great leader—one who possessed not only the qualities which brought him success, but who was imbued with a full measure of warmth and human kindness.

**MATERIAL FOR STORK GROUP  
RECEIVED FROM POLAND**

Material for a habitat group of European white storks was received at the Museum last month as a gift from the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce in Warsaw. The Polish government extended its cooperation in making possible the collection and presentation of this material. Included in the shipment are five stork specimens (an adult pair and three half-grown young), a large nest, and the gable and part of the roof of a house supporting the nest. Arrangements for collecting the birds and accessories were made through the assistance of Dr. Wacław Gawronski, Consul-General of Poland in Chicago, and Mr. Jerzy Bojanowski, an official of the consulate.

The group, which is to be installed in the foreign series in the Hall of Birds (Hall 20), will represent a view of a typical Polish village as seen over the rooftops. In the foreground will be the actual roof included in the gift, with the nest built upon it. The birds, mounted in natural attitudes, will be seen in or about the nest.

The stork is of great interest to ornithologists because it is the outstanding example of a large bird which, while not domesticated, has nevertheless almost completely adapted its mode of living to conditions established by civilized human life, states Mr. Rudyerd Boulton, Curator of Birds. That is, practically all storks, since the human inhabitants of Europe first began the building of houses, have deserted their former nesting places on cliffs to build their nests on the roofs of men's dwellings.

These storks migrate to Africa in winter. Among Negro tribes there are many legends concerning the birds, but they do not include the one associating them with the acquisition of human babies.

**Vegetable Oils**

In the living tissue of most plants there exist small drops of oil that serve as reserve food for the plant or its seedlings. The most common storage place for these fats is the seed, where oil is almost always present in at least a small amount or in some instances may be the dominant form of storage food. Edible vegetable oil is not confined to seeds, however, but is found also in the flesh of fruits, such as olives and oil palm fruits; in root-stocks and tubers, such as potato, iris and sedges; and in bulbs, such as onions.

The principal sources of edible oils are cotton seeds, peanuts, olives, coconuts, corn, soy beans, sunflower seed, mustard seed, and sesame seed.

In Hall 25, part of which is devoted to food plants, there is on display a representative series of edible oils from various countries, together with their respective plant-sources.

Pseudomorphic minerals—minerals which by substitution or alteration assume the form of other species—are represented by a large collection in Hall 34 (Case 34).

Into the making of one of the various Indian curry powders there go products from forty different plants. The ingredients in their raw state form an exhibit in Hall 25.

**BASQUE AND GEORGIAN  
RACES DEPICTED**

Less familiar to the average person than most European races are the Basques and Georgians. Types of these groups are included among the Races of Mankind series of sculptures by Malvina Hoffman, on exhibition in Chauncey Keep Memorial Hall.

The Basques inhabit the region of the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain, where they have had a long and troubled history, which continues to this very day, as some of them are involved in the present Spanish civil war. The chief industries of the Basque Provinces are sea fisheries and iron mining. Some of the mines around Bilbao are extremely ancient.

The language, which is spoken by half a million persons, is much isolated from the speech of surrounding regions, and is supposed to be the last representative of an ancient Iberian tongue that was superseded by Latin during the Roman conquest.

The Spanish Basques are a bold and independent people, who were able to maintain a degree of self-government until the year 1876. They are of that branch of the white race which is akin to the Berbers of north Africa. The bronze sculpture in the Museum portrays a man of good physique, with large regular features and deeply set eyes.

The Georgians inhabit the magnificent mountain region of the Caucasus near the eastern end of the Black Sea. Here they have dwelt for perhaps 4,000 years, boldly preserving their independence against attacks from both the European and Asiatic sides of the Caucasus barrier.

The languages spoken by Georgians are divided into two main divisions known as north and south Caucasian. They are marked by many guttural sounds. Georgian is the only Caucasian language that has developed a literature. This began with a translation of the Bible in the eighth century. The Georgians can be divided into several groups and many minor sections according



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**Basque and Georgian**

Two of the lesser known European races, as represented in sculptures by Malvina Hoffman. On exhibition in Chauncey Keep Memorial Hall.

to physical differences. They are generally regarded as being a handsome people. The bronze head of a Georgian male shows regular, moderately large features, and high cheek bones.

Photographs of the Basque and Georgian, as of nearly all the racial sculptures in Chauncey Keep Hall, may be purchased at the Museum. Available also are individual post cards, and post card sets of various geographic groups of peoples. Orders by mail are given prompt attention.





1937. "Basque and Georgian Races Depicted." *Field Museum news* 8(3), 3–3.

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