

JANUARY 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 the schedule for January:

Week beginning January 1: Monday—New Year's holiday, *Museum closed*; Tuesday—Our Chicago Region Neighbors; Wednesday—The Dynamic Earth; Thursday General Tour; Friday—Plants People Eat.

Week beginning January 8: Monday—The Near East, Cradle of Civilization; Tuesday—North American Wild Life; Wednesday—Minerals and Rocks; Thursday—General Tour; Friday—Clothing and Shelter from Plants.

Week beginning January 15: Monday—Ancient Days in China; Tuesday—Animal Life of South America; Wednesday—Minerals Used for Precious and Semi-precious Stones; Thursday—General Tour; Friday—Plants and World Geography.

Week beginning January 22: Monday—America Before Columbus; Tuesday—Mammals and Birds of Africa; Wednesday—Plants and Animals of Prehistoric Times; Thursday—General Tour; Friday—How Man Classifies Plants.

Week beginning January 29: Monday—The First Americans; Tuesday—Animals of the Oriental Regions; Wednesday—Mineral Resources of the Western World.

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

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM

Following is a list of some of the principal gifts received during the last month:

Department of Botany:

From Dr. Earl E. Sherff, Chicago—96 photographic negatives of plant specimens; from Harry Hoogstraal, Chicago—70 herbarium specimens, Mexico; from C. C. Deam, Bluffton, Ind.—6 herbarium specimens, Indiana.

Department of Geology:

From Western Springs Park Board, Western Springs, Ill.—6 specimens of fossil bones, Illinois; from Fred Sullivan and Jack Paige, Chicago—2 cherts, Missouri; from Miss Ada Vanderpool, Quincy, Ill.—fragment of a mastodon tusk, Michigan; from Henry Herpers, Chicago—a specimen of cross bedding in sandstone, New York.

Department of Zoology:

From Michael Lerner, New York City—color film and slides of views of Mt. Egmont, New Zealand, to be used as studies in preparing the Museum's kiwi group; from Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield, Ill.—6 mammals and 13 birds; from John G. Shedd Aquarium, Chicago—a giant salamander and 6 fish specimens; from Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago—a large adult lioness, a giant skink, and 3 reptiles; from Schwab Brothers, Muscatine, Iowa—4 birds, Iowa, Palaearctica, and India; from Rupert

Wenzel, Chicago—7 beetles (including 4 paratypes of 3 species), United States, Panama, and South America; from Dr. Lewis H. Weld, East Falls Church, Va.—34 wasps and 12 galls, Turkey and United States; from Warren Buck, Camden, N. J.—9 fish specimens, West Africa.

The Library:

Valuable books from H. E. Varga, Cleveland, Ohio; Wrigley J. Brent, Tulsa, Okla.; New York Horticultural Society, New York City; Graham Aldis, and Karl P. Schmidt, both of Chicago.

"ROMANCE OF DIAMONDS" IS TOPIC OF JANUARY SUNDAY TOURS

On Sunday afternoons during January, Mr. Paul G. Dallwig, the Layman Lecturer of Field Museum, will present an entirely new subject in his series of lecture-tours—"The Romance of Diamonds from Mine to Man."

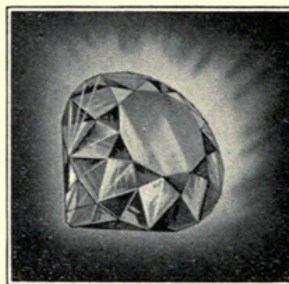
Mr. Dallwig will conduct his hearers on a tour of the gem room (H. N. Higinbotham Hall) and other halls in the Department of Geology containing exhibits pertaining to diamonds. Mr. Dallwig will tell the story of diamonds from their original "find" through the various stages of mining, sorting, cutting, and polishing, and will relate fascinating tales of hate, love, greed, and murder attached to the successive ownership of the world's "famous diamonds." He will dramatize in word pictures the finding of diamonds in Africa, the diamond rush that followed, life among the natives as encountered by prospectors and miners, and an imaginary trip through a diamond mine.

As each Sunday tour is necessarily limited to 100 adults (*children cannot be accommodated*), it is necessary to make reservations in advance by mail or telephone (Wabash 9410). Lectures begin promptly at 2 P.M., and end at 4:30. During a half-hour intermission midway in the tours, members of the parties wishing to do so may obtain refreshments in the Cafeteria, where they may also smoke. Special tables are reserved.

In February Mr. Dallwig's subject will be "Prehistoric Monsters in Nature's 'March of Time'."

A large collection of coal specimens from the important Saarbrücken field, in the heart of the European war zone, is on exhibition in Hall 36 of the Department of Geology at Field Museum.

Remarkable for its large size and symmetrical form is the large iron meteorite found near Tonopah, Nevada, in 1908, and now exhibited in Stanley Field Hall. It weighs 3,275 pounds.



NEW MEMBERS

The following persons were elected to membership in Field Museum during the period from November 16 to December 15:

Associate Members

Robert C. Biddle, Joseph L. Block, Philip D. Block, Jr., Mrs. Arthur H. Compton, Mrs. George L. Cragg, Mrs. Frank F. Ferry, Lawrence Hertzberg, Arthur A. Marquart, Mrs. A. D. Nast, Mrs. Robert G. Regan.

Annual Members

Harold V. Amberg, Mrs. Evan L. Ausman, John C. Bagby, John M. Berry, Mrs. L. W. Budd, Mrs. Emma Church, E. L. Clark, Ralph Ellis, Leo A. Goldstein, Allin K. Ingalls, Dr. Harry T. Jack, Louis Kahn, Samuel A. Marx, Dr. L. E. Nadelhoffer, George W. Nordstrum, Arthur J. O'Hara, Fred A. Preston, Royden K. Pretty, Edward H. Ravenscroft, Mrs. J. B. Rogers, Mrs. Walter A. Shaw, Louis Sisskind, James Slavik, Mrs. Philip T. Starck, Mrs. Marcy T. Weeks, David Maxwell Weil, William Ryer Wright, Dr. Hyman Yanofsky.

Ancient Romans Favored Asparagus

Common asparagus grows wild in Europe and Asia, especially in salt marshes, often occurring as a weed in fields and along roadsides. The plant has been under cultivation for more than 2,000 years, and was known to the ancient Romans.

MEMBERSHIP IN FIELD MUSEUM

Field Museum has several classes of Members. Annual Members contribute \$10 annually. Associate Members pay \$100 and are exempt from dues. Sustaining Members contribute \$25 annually for six consecutive years, after which they become Associate Members and are exempt from all further dues. Life Members give \$500 and are exempt from dues. Non-Resident Life Members pay \$100, and Non-Resident Associate Members \$50; both of these classes are also exempt from dues. The Non-Resident memberships are available only to persons residing fifty miles or more from Chicago. Those who give or devise to the Museum \$1,000 to \$100,000 are designated as Contributors, and those who give or devise \$100,000 or more become Benefactors. Other memberships are Honorary, Patron, Corresponding and Corporate, 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.



1940. "Ancient Romans Favored Asparagus." *Field Museum news* 11(1), 8–8.

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