

## Chicago Natural History Museum

FOUNDED BY MARSHALL FIELD, 1893

Roosevelt Road and Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 5

TELEPHONE: WABASH 2-9410

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LESTER ARMOUR	SAMUEL INSULL, JR.
SEWELL L. AVERY	HENRY P. ISHAM
WM. MCCORMICK BLAIR	HUGHSTON M. MCBAIN
WALTHER BUCHEN	WILLIAM H. MITCHELL
WALTER J. CUMMINGS	JOHN T. PIRIE, JR.
ALBERT B. DICK, JR.	CLARENCE B. RANDALL
JOSEPH N. FIELD	GEORGE A. RICHARDSON
MARSHALL FIELD	JOHN G. SEARLE
MARSHALL FIELD, JR.	SOLOMON A. SMITH
STANLEY FIELD	LOUIS WARE
	JOHN P. WILSON

### OFFICERS

STANLEY FIELD	.....President
MARSHALL FIELD	.....First Vice-President
SAMUEL INSULL, JR.	.....Second Vice-President
JOSEPH N. FIELD	.....Third Vice-President
SOLOMON A. SMITH	.....Treasurer
CLIFFORD C. GREGG	.....Director and Secretary
JOHN R. MILLAR	.....Assistant Secretary

## THE BULLETIN

### EDITOR

CLIFFORD C. GREGG.....Director of the Museum

### CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

PAUL S. MARTIN	.....Chief Curator of Anthropology
THEODOR JUST	.....Chief Curator of Botany
SHARAT K. ROY	.....Chief Curator of Geology
KARL P. SCHMIDT	.....Chief Curator of Zoology

### MANAGING EDITOR

H. B. HARTE.....Public Relations Counsel

### ASSOCIATE EDITORS

HELEN A. MACMINN.....BARBARA POLIKOFF

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

## WHY WE NEED MUSEUMS

The basic reason for maintaining museums and for the pursuit of knowledge through the research conducted in them was succinctly stated by Benjamin Franklin when he wrote in *Poor Richard's Almanack*: "What signifies knowing the Names, if you know not the Natures of Things."

### 'Mayan Fire Plant' Wins in Name Contest

Responding to an invitation to send in their choice of a popular name for *Columnea stenophylla*, the plant that Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, Curator of the Phanerogamic Herbarium, introduced to the public on Sunday, March 14, on John Ott's television program "How Does Your Garden Grow?" (Station WNBQ, NBC, Channel 5), several hundred contestants wrote in selections ranging from "Scarlet African Violet" to names honoring Curator Steyermark. The name finally chosen was "Mayan Fire Plant," submitted by Ernest A. Kokoska of Hinsdale, Illinois. As an award, Mr. Kokoska received a potted specimen of the plant.

The winning name is most appropriate. It combines the historic land of the Mayas, in which the plant grows, with the red color

of the flowers and the fiery volcanoes of this section of Guatemala. Announcement of the decision was made on the Ott program on Sunday, March, 21.

### Annual Report of Director Going to All Members

The Annual Report for 1953 of the Director of the Museum to the Board of Trustees was published in April and distribution of copies to all Members of the Museum has begun. In the report, which fills a volume of 139 pages and contains 24 illustrations, Colonel Clifford C. Gregg, Director, gives detailed information on all phases of Museum activities during the year—expeditions, research, new exhibits, accessions, maintenance, financing, etc. It was printed by Chicago Natural History Museum Press.

### Field Trip to Study Ants

A field trip to Louisiana combining research on insects and reptiles will be made early in May by Henry S. Dybas, Associate Curator of Insects, and Hymen Marx, Assistant in the Division of Amphibians and Reptiles. Dybas will devote himself particularly to investigation of the nesting system of the leaf-cutting ant, and Marx will make observations on vertebrate fauna associated with the nest colonies.

### Fossil Collecting in Indiana

Dr. Rainer Zangerl, Curator of Fossil Reptiles, and William D. Turnbull, Preparator in the Division of Vertebrate Paleontology, made the first of a series of trips to a locality near Mecca, Indiana, in April. The site is an exposure of fossil-bearing black shale of Pennsylvanian age.

### Important Shell Collection Revised by Dr. Haas

The Webb Collection of non-marine shells, which Chicago Natural History Museum purchased from Walter F. Webb in 1942, has now been completely revised, catalogued, and labeled. It took the Curator of Lower Invertebrates, Dr. Fritz Haas, eleven years to perform this duty, often, of course, interrupted by research work and by collecting trips. Now that the integration of the vast quantity of material into this Museum's collection has been finished, exact figures about the Webb collection are at hand. It consists of 19,374 lots of shells, some lots consisting of only one example, while others comprise numerous specimens. The number of paratypes is 559, that of types is 11. The large number of paratypes results from the fact that Mr. Webb could incorporate into his private collection such important collections as that of the late Gerard K. Gude of London and of the late

## —THIS MONTH'S COVER—

The fast-stepping gentleman on our front cover is a Chinese shadow figure that has probably entertained many audiences in the courtyards of China. For the story of the ancient folk-art that he represents and the effects of the social and political changes of the 20th century upon this art, see the article on page 3.

John Ritchie, Jr., of Boston. The acquisition of such rich and precious material has raised this Museum's collection of shells to the level of the collection of the principal museums on the East Coast.

## NEW MEMBERS

The following persons became Museum members from March 15 to April 15:

### Associate Members

Miss Edna T. Cowen, Carlton Hill, Harold R. Ray, Miss Mary Louise Tockstein, George H. Watkins

### Annual Members

Edwin W. Ahern, Herbert R. Anderson, Carl Baechle, John T. Barlow, John H. Baxter, Charles M. Bell, R. D. Brizzolara, Mrs. Daniel C. Bryant, Homer J. Buckley, LeGrand Cannon, E. F. Chambless, Roswell H. Chrisman, Herbert B. Clark, I. Milton Cohn, John R. Cowan, Curt H. Dechert, John L. Dole, James M. Dow, Carl Dry, J. E. Duty, Mrs. Angela Ebzery, Miss Alice Eiberg, Miss Olga Eiberg, William L. English, Livingston Fairbank, Jr., Miss Mariana Field, C. R. Freeman, Miss Alice H. Gallagher, Edward Gudeman, Jr., Mrs. Virginia C. Halle, Dr. Ralph C. Hamill, Donald W. Hansen, Miss Margaret Higgins, Joseph H. Hinshaw, Cyrus E. Holland, John B. Holmes, Hjalmar W. Johnson, Clyde Kelly, Louis Kohn, Walter C. Krause, Dr. Henry E. Kritzer, Edwin A. Locke, Jr., Thomas E. Maddock, M. L. Magee, Arnold D. K. Mason, Richard McClung, William H. McDonnell, William B. McIlvaine, Dr. T. A. Melcarek, Earl A. Miller, Sidney J. Natkin, Edward J. Nell, Dr. Oscar B. Nugent, Klaus Ollendorff, Clarence Olsen, S. C. Owen, Niels Petersen, M. M. Philipsborn, Jr., Miss Irna Phillips, Edward H. Reese, Walter J. Reum, Keith P. Rindfleisch, Richard P. Robb, Dr. Edward J. Ross, Martin Rothschild, Derald H. Ruttenberg, Samuel J. Sackett, Miss Frances H. Sadauskas, Bernard G. Sang, E. D. Sawyer, Arthur H. Schomp, Robert M. Seeley, Millard D. Shriver, Warner Sivyver, George P. F. Smith, S. James Stiegel, Allen P. Stults, Mrs. Carroll Sweet, Merrill W. Tilden, Delbert N. Urick, Norman Vaughn, Charles F. Voytech, John M. Weaver, Vernon L. Wesby, William J. Whalen, Arthur L. Whall, Robert B. Whittaker, Russell M. Wicks, Howard L. Willett, Jr., Murray Wolbach, Jr., C. W. Wolf, Mrs. Elmer K. Zitzewitz



1954. "Fossil Collecting in Indiana." *Bulletin* 25(5), 2-2.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/25444>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/371042>

**Holding Institution**

University Library, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

**Sponsored by**

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the Chicago Field Museum.

For information contact [dcc@library.uiuc.edu](mailto:dcc@library.uiuc.edu).

Rights Holder: Field Museum of Natural History

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.