

Chicago Natural History Museum

FOUNDED BY MARSHALL FIELD, 1893

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

GEORGE A. RICHARDSON

1887-1958

With profound regret, we announce the death on April 15 of George A. Richardson, formerly a Trustee of the Museum, whose retirement was announced in our October, 1957 BULLETIN. Mr. Richardson died at his home at Rancho Santa Fe, California. He had been in apparently splendid health up to the time of his death.



George A. Richardson

In addition to his service as a Trustee of the Museum for a period of 28 years, he had also been active in other civic enterprises, serving as an alderman of Lake Forest, and as president of the Chicago Council of Foreign Relations. He served as a Major of Field Artillery in World War I and as a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army Air Force in World War II.

Although he had retired from the Museum Board of Trustees, his loss as a friend will be keenly felt.

C.C.G.

JULIUS FRIESSER

1873-1958

With sorrow, members of the Museum staff received news of the death on April 9 of their former associate, Julius Friesser. Mr. Friesser had reached the age of 84. He served the Museum as a Staff Taxidermist for nearly 44 years, from 1905 until his retirement on pension in 1948.



Julius Friesser

Born October 6, 1873, in Marburg, Austria (a section now a part of Yugoslavia), Mr. Friesser first devoted himself to collecting birds and small mammals in his homeland as a schoolboy. He took up taxidermy, which was to become his life work, while still in his teens. In 1892, at the age of 19, he came to the United States and soon settled in Chicago where he obtained employment as a commercial taxidermist. When the Museum needed a man qualified in his craft for a collecting trip to Mexico in 1902, he applied and received the commission. His success on this expedition led to his joining the Museum staff.

During his career at the Museum, he was one of the most productive and skillful taxidermists in the country. Exhibits prepared by him at the Museum, including both elaborate habitat groups and individual mounts of large mammals, total more than 200. In many cases the animals upon which he practiced his art were specimens he had collected himself. Between 1910 and 1933 he was sent on expeditions to Alaska, Mexico, the Olympic Mountains, British Columbia, and Guadalupe island off the coast of Mexico. Among the most spectacular groups he produced are those of American bison, Alaska moose, giant elk, Rocky Mountain goats, polar bears, and sea elephants.

GIFTS TO THE MUSEUM

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

Department of Anthropology

From: E. J. Grumbecker, Chicago—5 Philippine knives; Mrs. C. A. Reed, Portland, Ore.—a Chinese gown; the Rev. Miss Ellen Studley, Chicago—a Chinese rubbing

Department of Geology

From: Florida Geological Survey, Tallahassee, Fla.—casts of Miocene mustelids, Florida and Nebraska; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kirkby, Riverside, Calif.—Permian brachiopod, Devonian corals, Miocene crayfish, and scaphopods, from Arizona, Texas, Oregon, California

Department of Zoology

From: Miss Dorothy E. Beetle, Laramie, Wyo.—a collection of inland mollusks; P. K.

THIS MONTH'S COVER

The Museum's habitat group of Rocky Mountain goats pictured on our cover might well be labeled "Monument to a Taxidermist."

It is one of 26 such groups representing the work of a truly great taxidermist, Julius Friesser, whose death is reported elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin. The scene is typical of the Kootenay District in British Columbia where these agile animals abound. Though less widely known than the famous Carl E. Akeley, Friesser's huge volume of work of superlative quality in the Museum entitles him to a place beside the great master of taxidermic art.

Chin, Jesselton, North Borneo—2 fishes; Borys Malkin, Minneapolis—2 microscope slides with 7 aphids, U. S. and Mexico; Museum and Art Gallery, Durban, Natal, South Africa—3 birdskins, Africa and South America; Lt. Col. S. S. Nicolay, FPO, San Francisco—24 salamanders, 55 frogs, 4 lizards, Riu Kiu Islands; Tarpon Zoo, Tarpon Springs, Fla.—2 snakes, a turtle, Colombia; U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pascagoula, Miss.—31 lots of fishes

NEW MEMBERS

(March 15 to April 15)

Life Members

Mrs. Vernon Armour, Mrs. Laird Bell, Carl P. Clare, Dr. Vernon C. David, Mrs. Herbert A. Friedlich, William M. Hales, John Woodworth Leslie, James G. McMillan, William R. Odell, Dr. Eric Oldberg, J. Sanford Otis, Shepherd M. Roberts, Mrs. Moses E. Shire, Edward Byron Smith, Solomon B. Smith, James P. Soper, Jr., David B. Stern, Jr., Frank L. Sulzberger, John R. Thompson, Jr., Mrs. Patrick A. Valentine, Paul G. Warren, Robert E. Wilson, Hampton Winston

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1958. "Julius Friesser, 1873-1958." *Bulletin* 29(5), 2-2.

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