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A Survey of McGill University
Museums.

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A SURVEY OF
McGILL UNIVERSITY
MUSEUMS



MONTREAL
February, 1932

A SURVEY OF
McGILL UNIVERSITY
MUSEUMS

BY
CYRIL FOX, Ph.D. (Cantab.), F.S.A.
Director, National Museum of Wales.



McGILL UNIVERSITY
MONTREAL · CANADA
FEBRUARY 1932

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PREFACE

IN July, 1931, Sir Henry Miers and Mr. S. F. Markham came to Canada to begin a Survey of the Museums of the British Empire which was financed by the Carnegie Corporation. We had for some time considered the necessity of having made a survey of the museums of the University, and advantage was taken of the visit of Sir Henry and Mr. Markham to ask their advice.

They suggested that the British Association of Museums undertake a detailed survey and make recommendations as to what should be the policy, the future development and building programme for a modern university museum.

After careful consideration Sir Henry Miers asked Cyril Fox, Ph.D. (Cantab.) F.S.A., Director of the National Museum of Wales, and former Superintendent of the Field Laboratories of Cambridge, to undertake this important work, independently of the Carnegie Survey in Canada.

As a result of a series of studies carefully carried out by various corporations in the United States, and by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees of London, England, museums in the United States, Great Britain, Germany and France are now spending a great deal of thought and money in rearranging their collections for academic and popular use with great practical advantage. Long before any other country took the matter up seriously, however, Sweden led the world, as she still does, in the skill and thoroughness with which her museums in cities, towns and villages throughout the country were developed in the service of education.

As Dr. Fox points out, the work of education involves more and more widely the development of the powers of observation, and in this process, where students learn by seeing, museums are an essential part of the equipment of a university. They are, in their peculiar way, the visible mirrors of the past.

At McGill University, Dr. Fox considered the McCord, the Library, the Peter Redpath, and the Ethnological Museums as being of particular academic and popular value. Of these four, the Peter Redpath Museum is the parent of them all, and the part played by it in the development of the University during the past fifty years is notable and important.

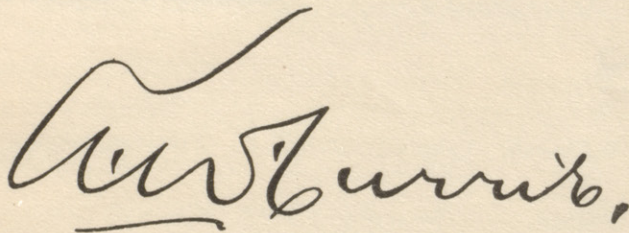
When, in 1882, the Redpath Museum was presented to McGill through the generosity of Peter Redpath, one of the most decisive steps was taken in bringing the University and its work before the public. Through this gift Sir William Dawson's scientific collections were safeguarded and made available to generations of students. In addition, valuable and interesting museum material has been kept on public exhibition and this has resulted in an increasing stream of gifts of Natural History and ethnological objects. The material thus acquired is now quite beyond the capacity of the building and has had to be stored in every available corner of the galleries, the main floor, and the basement.

Peter Redpath's munificence placed McGill in the front rank of progressive Universities. At that time, probably not half a dozen others on this continent could have pointed to a building so admirably suited to its purpose. It is to be regretted, however, that in the fifty years since its erection the absence of benefactions, like that of Peter Redpath, for the development of museums has largely defeated the purpose of his gift. It is because the collections have grown so remarkably, owing to the generosity of numberless donors, that many of the exhibits have had to be removed and installed elsewhere. Whereas, to begin with, the Museum encompassed the whole field of Natural History and many other branches of knowledge as well, it now accommodates only the large collections of Geology and Zoology, and these so inadequately that their purpose and that of the Museum itself are in large measure thwarted.

To look back fifty years to the time when this "Mother of Museums" at McGill was the last word in museum building and planning and the most up-to-date in its appointments, must induce a feeling of pride in everyone acquainted with our history. But McGill cannot, and will not, be content to rest upon her laurels. "McGill had . . ." and "McGill was . . ." must give way to "McGill has . . ." and "McGill is . . ." and these conditions must only be considered as earnest of continuous progress. Without modern Redpaths, Macdonalds, Strathconas, McGill may have to be content to cling to the

memories of past glories. She will never be able to put her best foot forward; she will scarcely be able to stir either foot. She will be doomed to stand still, a link with the past, but out of step with to-day and an anachronism to-morrow.

Citizens of Montreal and graduates of the University will be interested to read the considered judgment of a scholar and expert on the condition of the Museums of McGill and will be concerned to know that their high educational value in illustrating the history of Canada in particular and of Man in general is greatly reduced by the grave limitations which Dr. Fox describes. The museum departments of the University have a special appeal to many people, who have given, and given with great generosity. But to put it quite bluntly, it is now plain that further additions of material, so necessary for the growth and development of our museums, will embarrass rather than assist the work of the University, unless proper facilities for housing and exhibition are at the same time provided. It is my hope that this report of Dr. Fox will arouse and stimulate an interest which will not cease until we have at McGill a first class museum.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "A. W. Burns". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper. The first name "A. W." is written in a smaller, more compact cursive, while "Burns" is written in a larger, more flowing cursive. There is a horizontal line under the "A. W." part of the signature.

Principal.

In accordance with a request from the Principal of McGill University transmitted to me through Sir Henry Miers, President of the Museums Association of Great Britain, I visited Montreal in November, 1931, in order to examine and report (*inter alia*) on the Museums of McGill University.

My report deals with the character and significance of these collections, with their future development or reorganization, and with the possibilities of collaboration with institutions outside McGill University, with a view to providing the best possible Museum service for the City of Montreal.

I would first wish to express my appreciation of the ready help and courtesy which I have received in the course of my investigations from everybody concerned in the direction and administration of the University Museums; in particular from Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D., Principal, from the Heads of Departments in which Museum collections are housed, from departmental Curators and honorary Curators, and from Mr. E. L. Judah, Curator of Museums.

C. F.

II LIST OF MCGILL MUSEUMS

The following Museums and Collections were examined and form the subject of my Report:—

Name.	Location.	Nature of Collections.
1. The McCord National Museum.	McCord Museum.	Historical (Canadiana).
2. The Peter Redpath Museum.	Peter Redpath Museum.	Palaeontological, Zoological, Anthropological, Mineralogical.
3. The Library Museum.	University Library.	Historical (History of the Book).
4. The Anatomical Museum.	Medical Building.	Anatomical and Anthropological.
5. The Medical Museum.	" "	Medical.
6. The Ethnological Museum.	" "	Ethnological.
7. The Pathological Museum.	Pathological Building.	Pathological.
8. The Museum of Hygiene.	Medical Building.	History and Practice of Hygiene.
9. The Rutherford Collection.	Physics Building.	Historical (Experimental Physics).
10. The Geological Collection.	Chemistry and Mining Building.	Economic Geology.
11. The Botanical Collection.	Biological Building.	Botanical.
12. The Architectural Collection.	Engineering Building.	Architectural (Casts, etc.).
13. The Gest Chinese Collection.	University Library.	Oriental objects.
14. In addition to the above there is the Peterson Coin and Gem collection, at present in store.		
15. The Museum Laboratory in the Pathological Building also comes under review, and		
16. The Biological Museum in Macdonald College.		

III DESCRIPTION OF MUSEUMS OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

1. THE MCCORD NATIONAL MUSEUM.

The McCord National Museum is housed in a building adjacent to the campus, on the north side of Sherbrooke Street, erected as a private house. Eleven rooms, the hall and passages are occupied by the collections, and there is a small room used as an office. The collections were presented to the University in 1919, the donor, David Ross McCord, having been honorary Curator until his death. Subject to certain life interests, he bequeathed the major part of his estate to the University "as an Endowment Fund for the maintenance and development of the McCord National Museum." The bequest has now taken effect and, though the annual revenue now barely covers running expenses, it is, I understand, probable that a large sum (estimated at \$25,000) will in a few (say five) years' time, be available for the purposes named. The collections consist, in the words of the donor, of "articles illustrative of the history and social life of Canada." It is indeed a Canadian Historical museum.

The Indian material is comprehensive, representing the western tribes (and the Eskimo) as well as the eastern (Micmac, Iroquois, Algonquin, and Huron).

The historical material includes objects illustrating the French régime; the conquest of Quebec; the period of the American War of Independence, and that of the War of 1812.

One room illustrates the activities of the early Protestant Churches of Canada and their missions; another those of the early Jesuit missions and the Roman Catholic Church in Canada. There are also exhibits illustrating the work of the Arctic explorers of Canada and of the fur-trading companies. There is also historical material relating to Europe. At the time of my visit, a special exhibit (James McGill and his times) and a loan exhibit (Watercolours and Prints, lent by Mr. R. W. Reford) were also on view.

The Museum is now managed on behalf of the University by a Committee consisting of members of the staff of the University and others interested in the history of Canada and the preservation of its monuments, presided over by the Principal of McGill University and in his absence by the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. W. D. Lighthall, K.C., executor of the donor's will.

The salaried staff consists of Mrs. Warren, Assistant Curator, and her assistant. Mr. E. L. Judah, Curator of Museums, acts as technical adviser. Professor T. W. L. MacDermot acts as Secretary of the Museum and has a seat on the controlling committee.

2. THE PETER REDPATH MUSEUM.

The Peter Redpath Museum, a dignified building in the Neo-Greek style, situated between the University Library and the Arts Building, was erected by the donor whose name it bears and handed over to the University in 1882, the architects being Hutchison and Steele.

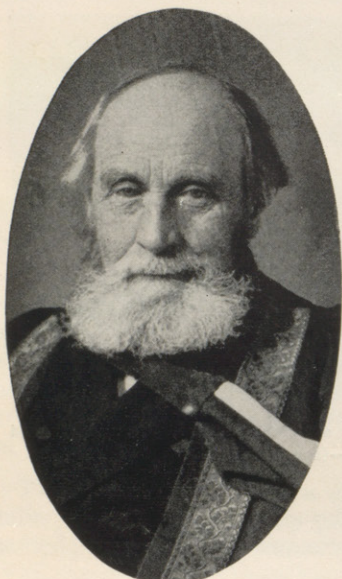
Its immediate function was to house the palaeontological collection made by the late Principal Dawson. It is the only building in the University solely designed for Museum purposes. It now contains, on three floors, a great variety of Museum material, the most important collections being the palaeontological, the mineralogical, and the zoological. There are also special collections—the Carpenter Collection of Mollusca, and the Lyman Entomological Collection.

The Palaeontological Collection is in charge of Professor J. J. O'Neill, Director of the Department of Geology; Dr. T. H. Clark, Logan Professor of Palaeontology in this Department, being the Curator. The Zoological Collection is in charge of Professor A. Willey, Strathcona Professor of Zoology. Professor R. P. D. Graham, Professor of Mineralogy, is in charge of the Mineralogical Collection. Mr. A. E. Winn is Curator of the Lyman Entomological Collection. There is no expert conchologist at present on the staff of the University, and the Carpenter Collection of Mollusca is looked after by Dr. Willey. I understand that the formal charge of the building as a whole rests on no one individual. There were formerly a number of ethnographical specimens in the Peter Redpath Museum but, as no Department in the Museum was specially interested in them, the Museum Committee authorized the Curator of Museums to remove them to the Medical Building (q.v.) and to reorganize, relabel, and rearrange them.

The salaried staff consists of Professor Clark (whose Museum work—in Palaeontology only—is regarded as part of his official duties), Mr. Winn, for Entomology only, and Mr. S. Chambers, Assistant Curator, with a janitor, a woman cleaner, and a boy.

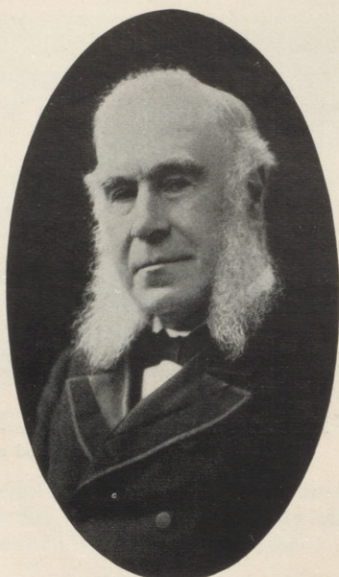
The Palaeontological Collection: This is on the floor of the main gallery and occupies the greater part of this gallery. In addition to a very wide range of vertebrate and invertebrate palaeonto-

FIG. 1.



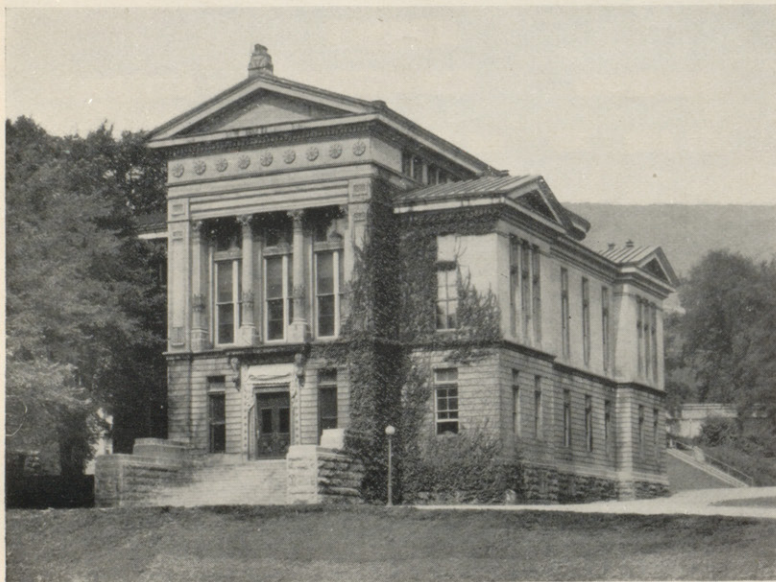
SIR WILLIAM DAWSON
1820 - 1899

FIG. 2.



PETER REDPATH ESQ.
1821 - 1894

FIG. 3.



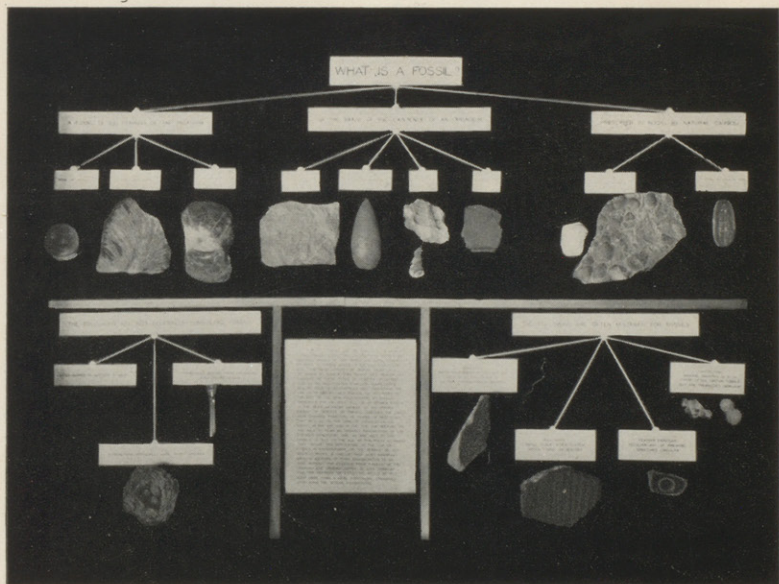
THE PETER REDPATH MUSEUM

FIG. 4



REDPATH MUSEUM: Forty-year-old case showing crowded, ill-arranged and poorly labeled collection.—(See page 19).

FIG. 5



REDPATH MUSEUM: Showing a well-arranged self-explanatory exhibit. (See page 19).

logical material chronologically arranged, there is an important palaeobotanic collection—"one of the best in North America." The skeletal casts of extinct mammals are "odds and ends," but a useful nucleus, as are those of Mesozoic reptiles. The Ami prehistoric collection in the vestibule, controlled by Professor Clark, brings Man's story down to the Neolithic phase of culture.

The Mineralogical Collection: This is arranged in a crowded group of cases at the end of the main palaeontological gallery.

The Zoological Collection: This, situated in the balcony above the main hall, consists largely of casual gifts and of accessions from the former Natural History Society of Montreal. There is a large series of birds, and the broader south end of the balcony is packed with cases of mammals and mammal skeletons so closely as to permit only one person to pass between them at a time. There are a few mounted fishes and, on the staircase, isolated groups of birds.

The Carpenter Collection of Mollusca occupies one end of this gallery. The shells, closely packed in the exhibition cases, are all named; there are also numerous drawers filled with specimens.

The Lyman Entomological Collection, principally of North American insects of all orders, occupies a small room on the ground floor, with its associated Library. It is continually being added to. The Curator finds it very crowded and has had to deposit some cabinets in the basement.

3. THE LIBRARY MUSEUM.

The Library Museum is housed in a toplighted upper floor of the new addition to the University Library.

It was created, and is controlled, by the University Librarian, Dr. G. R. Lomer, with the technical assistance of the Curator of Museums, Mr. E. L. Judah.

It contains in table and wall cases a series of exhibits (inscribed clay tablets, papyri, Mss, and printed books) illustrating the History of Writing and of the Book from the first millennium B.C. (in Egypt and Babylonia) onwards. There are also some objects from the Gest Chinese Collection (q.v.).

The University Librarian also maintains, in the gallery above the Reading Room, an Exhibition Gallery in which special exhibits and groups of objects of general interest are set out and changed from time to time. Recent exhibits include: The work of William Blake, Fine Bindings, Bookplates, Silhouettes, Children's Books.

An alcove adjacent to the entrance hall of the Library is

utilized, by means of internal lighting, as a display case for the exhibit of items of topical interest, such as anniversaries and events in the literary world. These are changed weekly. Recent exhibits include: Early Canadian Printing, the Schubert Centenary, Thomas Hardy, the new Poet Laureate, Designs by Leon Bakst, Armistice Anniversary.

4. THE ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

5. THE MEDICAL MUSEUM.

6. THE ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

These three Museums are on successive floors, of identical plan, of the Museum Annex in the Strathcona Medical Building. They are under the general control of the Dean of the Medical Faculty. Each is furnished with a set of modern metal-frame cases.

4. THE ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

On the top floor. Controlled by Dr. S. E. Whitnall, Robert Reford Professor of Anatomy. The collection is not intended for the public but for the student. It is a teaching museum arranged to illustrate, in connexion with the vertebrates, a variety of basic principles—e.g. of evolution, of function. The student learns the application of anatomical facts to general biological problems, and exhibits illustrate the science of Anthropology from the structural standpoint—the evolution of Man.

5. THE MEDICAL MUSEUM.

On the first floor. Dr. Maude E. Abbott, Assistant Professor of Medicine, has been the Curator of the Museum since 1908. The Museum is an organized teaching and historical collection. It is not intended for the public. It contains, in addition to the extensive and logically arranged series of medical exhibits, an historical collection of specimens associated with the teaching career of Sir William Osler, and the Casey Wood collection of drug and medicine containers. A scientific system of registration and classification has been introduced and applied to the collection by Dr. Abbott*.

6. THE ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

On the ground floor. In charge of Mr. E. L. Judah, Curator of Museums. It is open to the public. On this floor there is collected the important ethnological material removed from the Peter Redpath Museum, together with ethnological material from other

*For the system of classification, see Abbott, Maude E., *American Medicine*, Phila., 1903, v. 5, p. 541-4; and also *Jour. of Tech. Methods* and *Bull. of Int. Assoc. of Med. Mus.*, 1925, v. xi., p. 78-89.

sources, mainly Canadian Indian. There is a very important loan collection of models of canoes of the aborigines of North America, made by Mr. Adney; and the Garstang loan collection, illustrative of Egyptian culture through four millennia. The lay-out of the ethnological material is geographical.

7. THE PATHOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

In a room in the Pathological Building. Controlled by Professor Horst Oertel, Director of the Pathological Institute. Curator, Mr. E. L. Judah, Curator of Museums. The collection of pathological specimens, in glass jars, is a teaching, not a display collection. It is regarded as a storehouse in which all the objects are organized, labelled, and visible, and so readily accessible. Dr. Oertel considers that certain material in the Medical Museum is needed to complete it. X

8. THE MUSEUM OF HYGIENE.

The Museum of Hygiene is controlled by Professor A. G. Fleming, Director of the Department of Public Health; the Curator is Dr. T. A. Starkey, Strathcona Professor of Hygiene. It is situated in one large room of the Medical Building. The Museum is concerned with the history and practice of Hygiene. It contains actual specimens and some models illustrating Heating, Lighting, Water Supply, Sanitary Appliances, Drainage, etc. There are no cases, the material being set out on trestles or fixed to rough partitions. Most of the specimens were donated. The collection is used by the Department in the courses in Hygiene given to Arts and Engineering students. A descriptive catalogue of the Museum (now out of print) was issued by Dr. Starkey.

9. THE RUTHERFORD COLLECTION (Experimental Physics).

This collection is housed in the Physics Building, under the control of Professor A. S. Eve, Director of the Department. It consists of a number of objects and materials relating to the discovery of Radium D, E, and F at McGill University by Sir E. Rutherford (now Lord Rutherford), with notes in his own hand; also of equipment with which he carried out his researches. These objects are in a glass-fronted cupboard in the Secretary's office.

10. THE GEOLOGICAL COLLECTION.

A room in the Department of Geology (in the Chemistry and Mining Building) has been set aside for a collection illustrating Economic Geology. It is controlled by Professor J. J. O'Neill, Head of the Department. The collection is organized in a series of fairly good cases.

11. THE BOTANICAL COLLECTION.

This is a small collection in one room (the Library) of the Department of Botany in the Biological Building. It is in the charge of Professor F. E. Lloyd, Head of the Department. The collection consists of a variety of objects illustrating structural and economic botany placed in cases conveniently for use in teaching, and an herbarium of Canadian and exotic plants.

12. THE ARCHITECTURAL COLLECTION.

Professor R. Traquair, Head of the Department of Architecture, has gathered together a series of casts illustrating the development of architecture and of architectural decoration, and examples of metal work to "illustrate the technical possibilities of the material." These are all housed in his Department in the Engineering Building, in a room used in part as a drawing office. No special grants have been made by the University for the acquisition of the Collection, which is in constant use by his students and forms not a museum of casts (the money for this has not been available), but in his own words "a teaching collection of odds and ends."

13. THE GEST CHINESE COLLECTION.

Associated with the important Gest Chinese Research Library, which is an independent unit within the University Library, under the charge of Dr. R. de Resillac-Roese, is a miscellaneous collection of objects illustrative of the history of writing, of Tibetan and Buddhistic culture, and of Chinese decorative art, mostly of modern date. This collection is in part in the very congested Library quarters, in part temporarily housed in the Library Museum.

14. THE PETERSON COIN COLLECTION.

This collection, presented recently to the University, has not been assigned to any Museum, but remains at present in the charge of the Curator of Museums. It is in a cabinet, and comprises the "best collection of Greek coins in Canada," as well as other important groups, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, etc. A series of gems is included.

15. THE MUSEUM LABORATORY.

In the Pathological Building. Staff: E. L. Judah, Curator of Museums; Joseph Giroux, Preparator. The work of the Laboratory is practically entirelyly medical—the preparation of anatomical, medical, and pathological specimens being undertaken. The

Department also carries out wood and metal work and electrical work, for case-fitting, frames, case-lighting, etc.

16. THE BIOLOGICAL MUSEUM, MACDONALD COLLEGE.

The only Museum in the College is in the Biological Buildings and is controlled by Dr. Brittain, entomologist. The Museum room (of good size and well lighted) was furnished with steel-framed cases designed by the architect in 1907, when the College was built, but it has never been developed as a Museum. There is no Museum grant. The Museum, such as it is, is a teaching collection not open to the public. The room is only partly occupied. It contains:—1. An American Herbarium in good cabinets. The material covers the whole continent, and is in process of being organized. Number of sheets not known. 2. A Collection of Insects. All the Orders that occur in the Canadian Faunal Zone are represented and properly set up in cabinets. The majority is named. 3. A few (German) models of Fungi, Mosses, Ferns, Flowering Plants.

Dr. Brittain has important teaching collections in his laboratories which I do not regard as part of the museum material.

IV THE CONTROL OF THE MUSEUMS

As will have been inferred from Section Three of this Report, the individual Museums are practically self-governing. Even the Peter Redpath Museum, in which unified control would seem inevitable, houses four independent organizations. Movement towards centralization has, however, begun. A General Museum Committee was appointed two years ago, under the Chairmanship of the Principal, in order to deal with matters of common interest and to make plans for effective co-ordination. As a step in this direction, Mr. E. L. Judah, who was in charge of the Museum Laboratory, has been appointed Curator of Museums. This title, however, is found on examination to be misleading. The Curator's relations to the Museums varies within the widest limits. In one (Ethnology) he is in full control as Curator; in others he is welcomed, but as a technical adviser, not curator; in a third he hardly dares to set (an official) foot. That Mr. Judah should have accomplished what he has done, placed in such an impossible situation, seems to an outside observer to be a tribute to his tact, good temper, and technical competence.*

*In justice to Mr. Judah, I ought to say that my estimate of the situation is the result of my own observations, no complaint regarding his office having been made to me by him.

The position of the Museum Laboratory, again, is difficult for an outside observer to understand until that of its controller, Mr. Judah, is appreciated. It does not serve, as might be expected, the whole group of the University Museums; it hardly does more than deal with the material sent to it from the Department of Pathology and the hospital wards with which the Department is associated. It is, indeed, under the control of the Head of that Department, Professor Oertel.

V COMMENTS ON MUSEUMS

In the pages of the report which follow there will be adverse comments on certain aspects of the Museum service in the University. I would first wish to say that, in my opinion, the creation, maintenance, and development of the collections in general, carried out as it has been largely without effective financial support and without much encouragement, reflects great credit on past and present Heads of Departments and Curators (usually honorary) concerned; and no inadequacies in respect of the collections, which in certain cases exist, can wipe out the debt which the University owes to these men and women for their services.

1. THE McCORD MUSEUM.

The McCord Museum contains the objects given by Mr. McCord, and others acquired subsequently. There is a large number of priceless objects and valuable documents illustrating the history of the settlement and development of Canada. These form a magnificent nucleus for a great historical Museum. It also contains and exhibits second-rate material of this character and some which is not properly "historical." The Indian material also is of two kinds: historical documents illustrating the relations of the settlers to the natives (such as certain wampum belts and chiefs' medals), and purely ethnological or archaeological objects (such as cradle boards and prehistoric pottery).

So far as I can ascertain, no definite policy has been laid down by the Committee. It is not clear whether the Museum is to become a purely historical or a general Canadian Museum. There is, I gather, no individual authorized to act as Director or Curator. The Museum is overcrowded with exhibits, many of which are consequently not well arranged. The rooms are small, and the building is quite unsuitable for its present use. It is not, and can hardly be rendered, fireproof.

The exhibits, though dealing with objects of equal interest to both English-speaking and French-speaking inhabitants of the City and Province, are labelled in English only. There is no

Guide to the Collections other than a cyclostyled sheet. The manner in which the Museum is organized does not seem to permit of effective action in respect of arrangement or of control of purchases. (See Figs. 6 and 7).

2. THE PETER REDPATH MUSEUM.

The Entomological Collection is well looked after. Part of the Palaeontological Collection has been overhauled by Professor Clark, who exhibits a good case entitled "What is a fossil? (See Fig. 5), and has built up an adequate teaching exhibit out of the Ami prehistoric collection. Some of the mineral cases rearranged by Professor Graham are instructive and interesting.

Generally speaking, however, the character and condition of exhibited material in the Peter Redpath Museum is unsatisfactory and discredits the University which owns and controls it. I understand that, though the Museum is open to the public, the numbers who enter are not great. This must be considered fortunate, under the circumstances. Case after case in the Palaeontological series contains material, ill-labelled, ill-arranged, with numerous duplicates. Many cases have probably not been touched for forty years. (See Fig. 4). In any rearrangement it is probable that one-half of the material could be relegated to storage. The absence of any stratigraphical material in this geological museum is remarkable.

The Carpenter Collection of Mollusca is not suitable for public exhibition without drastic reduction. I doubt if such a shell-series entirely dissociated from any study of the animals that created and inhabited them is of any use; any purpose the collection as a whole might serve could well be met by placing it in cabinets (drawers) accessible to students. The nomenclature is, I am informed, not up to date.

There are many duplicates in the Mineralogical collections, though Professor Graham assures me that there are other specimens in reserve which ought to be on view.

In the Zoological collections there is much duplication and much material that should be eliminated. Elements of the collection, such as those on the staircase, were, I understand, gifts to the University which it was "nobody's business to refuse." The labelling is not adequate; there is no real guidance for visitor or student. Much of the material is in no scientific order. The survey of this collection is a depressing experience. It is evident that no one has for years taken any interest in it, and it has never, as a whole, been subjected to scientific scrutiny with a view to the

illustration of the principles or significance of Zoology, and I doubt whether at present it serves any useful purpose in the University.

Though the Museum has been in existence for fifty years, no Department in it issues any guide, catalogue, pamphlet or other aid to members of the University or general visitors. Since the Peter Redpath Museum contains all its original case-fittings practically unaltered, and since its collections for the most part represent Museum technique as it was in the nineteenth century, it forms a remarkably complete and unusual example of conservation and inertia in this educational field. It would be improper and unfair to blame individuals; the Museum is the victim of a vicious circle. No one is paid to manage, and practically no one is paid to work in the Museum, and it is therefore no one's business to see that its requirements in staff, material, and money are met. It is starved, cannot develop, and so has passed to a large extent out of the active life of the University.

The revolution wrought by Professor Clark in a small portion of it in a short time, hampered as he is by other duties and absence of the trained assistance which a curator has a right to expect, shows what could be done if the University were to provide the necessary encouragement and support. The palaeontological material is of high value and importance, and though the zoological material is inadequate and has suffered from neglect, it is generally recognized that no University can afford to be without a properly organized collection illustrating this science.

The Peter Redpath Museum has no lighting system. It is not fireproof. Its cases cannot be remade to meet modern requirements. The problem it presents is therefore a difficult one (See pp. 27, 35).

3. THE LIBRARY MUSEUM.

The Library Museum is a new Museum. The cases are well designed, the material set out in a logical and attractive manner with informative and interesting labels. Many of the exhibits are in themselves of the greatest importance—e.g. Newton's *Opticks*, 1704, with his own corrections; and John Locke's *Essay*, 1690, with notes in his own hand—but it is the emphasis laid on the Book as the vehicle of history, and on the methods employed through three millennia in order to perpetuate man's thought and action, which makes the whole exhibit greater than any one of its parts. It is an excellent example of up-to-date Museum technique. Some aspects of the collection—e.g.

oriental Mss.—could be expanded with advantage; the present room is too small. It is also very inconveniently situated for the admission of the public (See Fig. 9).

The Library Museum, with the Exhibition Gallery, forms a valuable, interesting, and necessary extension of Library service. The Gallery seems, in a crowded building, to be particularly well utilized, as it is unsuited for the use of readers. The alcove exhibit in the hall is excellent. It is to be regarded as an example of the "educational work which a properly equipped library museum ought to carry on," in the view of the University Librarian. I agree.

I learned with some surprise that these important developments, which materially help to make the University Library a living and vital educational force for the general public as well as for the University, are "dependent almost entirely upon donations of material and money" and that no funds are provided from University sources. All the mechanical work of preparation and arranging of exhibits (in addition to the technical) falls on the Librarian and his Secretary.

4. THE ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.

This Museum, like Nos. 5 and 6, is fireproof. It is suitable for its purpose. The exhibits are well set up, well arranged and labeled. The backgrounds of the cases might be improved to eliminate reflection. The anthropological exhibits should form an admirable nucleus for an Anthropological Museum. The collection in general is, I understand, not likely to expand beyond the limits of the space at present available.

5. THE MEDICAL MUSEUM.

This Museum is well arranged and labeled, showing a very sound technique. The backgrounds of the otherwise excellent cases might be improved. The scope and function of the Medical Museum does not appear to be clearly defined. Much of the teaching, as opposed to the historical material formerly in the Museum has been transferred to the Pathological Museum, but a good deal remains. Thus the spheres of activity of the Medical and Pathological Museums respectively await definition, and it would be well if this definition could be brought about. It has been suggested to me that the collection and exhibition of medical material of special use to the clinics, such as the models of skin diseases now exhibited, might be extended. The Museum collections are expanding, under the competent control of Dr. Abbott.

6. THE ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

The exhibits in this Museum are well arranged and effectively labeled and form a good educational series which should be of great interest to the student and the general public. The whole represents a valuable collection of Indian objects of the prehistoric and historic periods, including fine basketry, with enough anthropological material from other sources to form the basis of a general Ethnological Museum. Many important additions are due to the zeal of the curator. The University should take steps to acquire the *unique* collection of canoe models, which shows how the study of technique in a particular industry can extend and correct the literary evidence bearing on the location, relationships, and migrations of tribes, and which also shows how the modern Canadian canoe was evolved under European influence. The models are all to scale and beautifully wrought. The possession of this collection would encourage the study of those aspects of ethnology which McGill University ought to, and in time will, make its own. Its loss would, to the same degree, be a set-back to the development of this research. (See Fig. 8).

The Garstang Egyptian (loan) collection is carefully selected to cover the whole Dynastic period 4000-300 B.C. The other Egyptian, Greek and Carthaginian objects are useful and interesting.

7. THE PATHOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

The cases in this Museum are designed for the purpose and are excellent. Mounting and arrangement of the specimens show an advanced technique. There is considered to be ample room for expansion.

8. THE MUSEUM OF HYGIENE.

This Museum is for students and is not suitable for the admission of the general public. The collection occupies only part of the room, the rest (one-third of the whole) having been recently boarded off and used for other purposes by the instructions of Dr. Fleming.

9. THE RUTHERFORD COLLECTION.

The material included in this Collection, intimately related as it is to one of the key discoveries in science, will increase in historical importance and interest as the years go by and should be properly and permanently housed in the Physics Department for the inspiration and instruction of successive generations of

students. A provisional scheme for this, prepared by Dr. Eve, seems to me very suitable, as it allows for additions of similar character which may from time to time be acquired by the Department.

10. THE GEOLOGICAL COLLECTION.

The artificial lighting of the room in which this collection is placed needs improvement; the room does not receive adequate daylight. The collection is cramped, and more room is needed. It can properly be classed as a Departmental (teaching) museum.

11. THE BOTANICAL COLLECTION.

There is no one at present working on, or interested in, the Herbarium material. The collection as a whole cannot, I think, properly be described as a museum, even in embryo; Professor Lloyd informs me that he has no present intention of developing it.

12. THE ARCHITECTURAL COLLECTION.

This teaching collection contains many interesting, important, and unusual pieces. It is unsuitably and inadequately housed. It forms the nucleus of what might, under favourable conditions, become an important architectural museum. Such a museum is needed in Montreal. In any case it ought, in the service of the School of Architecture, to be extended and the gaps filled up.

13. THE GEST CHINESE COLLECTION.

The best use for this collection (after setting aside what is needed to illustrate the History of the Book in the Library Museum) is to provide local colour for the Chinese Library. It is probably not of a character to justify development as an Oriental collection for public exhibition.

14. THE PETERSON COIN COLLECTION.

No comments.

15. THE MUSEUM LABORATORY.

I am informed (by one of those who benefits by it) that the work of the Laboratory is very competent. All that I have seen confirms this. The Preparator shows evidence of that capacity for improvisation which is the mark of a highly skilled laboratory man. The accommodation of the Laboratory is limited, barely sufficient for the present needs of the Department. The Curator, for example, has no private room. A ten-day summer course in

Medical Museum Technique, arranged by the Curator, the syllabus of which is before me, illustrates the vigour with which the Department is conducted. The 1930 course was attended by graduates from eight American institutions. No grant was made by the University for the expenses of this course!

16. THE BIOLOGICAL MUSEUM, MACDONALD COLLEGE.

This offers great possibilities for development as a Museum of Agricultural Botany and Zoology, and the question of organizing such a development should be considered.

VI GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The collections examined fall into four groups.

(a) Those which are suitable for the admission of the general public, and to which indeed the public now have access.

The McCord Museum,
The Ethnological Museum,
The Library Museum,
The Peter Redpath Museum.

(b) The Medical Museums (of Anatomy, of Medicine, and of Pathology), to two of which the public have limited access.

(c) Departmental Museums or teaching collections, not at present intended for the admission of the general public.

The Museum of Hygiene,
The Museum of Economic Geology,
The Architectural Collection,
The Botanical Collection,
The Gest Chinese Collection.

(d) The Biological Museum at Macdonald College.

OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEARING ON GROUP (A) MUSEUMS.

2. The most important from the point of view of this Report is Group (a). The Museums in this group contain unique, valuable, and important material for teaching and research within the University and for the instruction of the general public.

3. The Group (a) Museums are not used for the purposes indicated as fully as they should be, because they are (1) difficult of access (Ethnology and Library Museums), (2) archaic (Peter Redpath), or (3) inconvenient and over-crowded (McCord).

4. The lack of appreciation of the value of museum service in the University is illustrated by the absence from the old-established Museums of any pamphlets or guides for the information or instruction of members of the University or the public.

5. The *co-ordinating* authority in respect of the Group (a) Museums is weak and inadequate; the *controlling* authority does not appear to function.

6. The remarkable development of museum technique in recent years in all civilized countries and the realization of the importance of museums in the educational scheme, as providing an avenue to knowledge which cannot be secured by any other means*, throw into high relief the backwardness of McGill University public Museums and render it imperative that steps should be taken to provide a remedy.

7. The absence of an *adequate* public museum service in the City of Montreal places on McGill University, by reason of its historic and important position in the cultural life of the city and district and its possession of so much museum material, the duty of doing its utmost to provide such a service.

8. It is today more than ever important that McGill University should use every effort to confirm and extend its links with the life of the City and the Province, to demonstrate the value and importance of the cultural services which it can render to the community, to show that knowledge is an avenue to better, fuller, and happier living, to improve facilities for the self-education of the adult as well as the education of the young—today more important than before, because the shortening of the hours of labour of the great majority of people and the existence of unemployment have given leisure to thousands unaccustomed to it and incapable without guidance of using its opportunities to good advantage. It is relevant to point out that there is an overwhelming need for benefactions to maintain the efficiency of, and to secure the development of, the University; and that nothing is better calculated to encourage such benefactions than the extension of the work of the University in a sphere which, as all men can see, benefits the community without its walls as much as that within.

*Our educational systems were first based on classwork and book-work; then, when learning by **listening** was shown to be inadequate, craftwork was introduced—learning by **doing**. The third phase is just opening out; we are being taught how to observe, to analyse our impressions; we are learning by **seeing**. In this last phase Museums are essential.

9. The possession of (1) the collection of the McCord National Museum with its priceless historical material covering the whole of Canadian history; (2) of the Canadiana in the University Library; (3) of the Canadian Indian collections in the Ethnological Museum, enable the University to illustrate the prehistory and history of the Province of Quebec in particular and of Canada in general. Furthermore, material in the Redpath Museum forms an excellent basis for the illustration of the geology of Canada and its fauna.

10. Again, the general Historical, Ethnological, Zoological, and Geological collections provide comparative material which is needed for the student in these fields.

11. The reorganization of the University public museums necessitates bringing the prehistoric and historic collections together as far as is practicable, and making them readily accessible to the public. But since the McCord Museum is manifestly unsuitable and the Ethnological Museum difficult of access and since both are too small, a *new Museum building is absolutely and urgently necessary.*

12. This new Museum building should be sited in a prominent position visible and accessible from a convenient traffic centre. The site indicated is somewhere at the lower end of the campus (on or adjacent to Sherbrooke Street); a very suitable location would be on the tennis courts between the Library and the McCord building.

13. The Museum building should be designed to contain primarily the McCord and the Ethnological collections. *But no Museum plans for the future are adequate that merely aim at the improved housing of the existing organized collections of the University.* These are the result of haphazard growth and are, therefore, ill-balanced. *Nothing less than the illustration of the History of Man in Canada, illuminated by a summary survey of Man's history in general, should be attempted;* into such a synthesis the History of the Book and of Record-Keeping (the Library Museum) will naturally fit; and valuable nuclei presenting other facts of general history exist in the series illustrating the evolution of man in the Anatomical Museum; that illustrating Palaeolithic Man in the Museum of Paleontology (Peter Redpath Museum); the Garstang Egyptian (loan) collection and other historical material from Greece and Carthage now in the Ethnological Museum; and the Peterson Collection of Coins.

14. These proposals involve the resumption by the University of effective control over the disposition of the collections belonging to it, whether these are Departmental or general. The haphazard

development of the collections has resulted in disharmony in distribution which must be corrected. I am convinced that, though some inconvenience may temporarily be caused to certain Departments, they, as well as the University in general, will benefit by a development which will bring isolated groups of museum objects into a systematic and organized whole.

15. The problem of the Peter Redpath Museum and its collections in connection with this scheme has yet to be dealt with. Though drastic elimination of redundant and second-rate material would relieve the existing congestion, the building cannot be regarded as adequate for the permanent housing of the Palaeontological, Mineralogical, and Zoological collections, and it provides no adequate workroom, reserve and storage accommodation for these collections or for the student collections (Entomological and Conchological). Suppose it were decided to leave all the Geological material in the Museum, in view of its association with Sir William Dawson, and to remove all the Zoological material to the new Museum building which is envisaged; we are still faced with a serious difficulty—the building is not fireproof; the wooden cases are unsuitable and dust-collecting. Reorganization of an important collection with a view to development in an environment which presents potential danger to its very existence ought not to be considered.

I understand from Mr. E. L. Judah that a provisional estimate for rendering the Peter Redpath building completely fireproof has been obtained; it is \$200,000. Even if such a sum could be obtained, it would surely be better spent on a new building. Furthermore, the alterations would involve the destruction of the existing internal architectural features. This would be a pity. The Museum, an elaborately decorated late "Neo-Classical" structure, has its faults; nevertheless it stands out as the most scholarly, the most distinguished, the most beautiful building in the University, in a finely chosen position which gives an air of Athenian dignity to the Campus, hinting most fittingly at the ultimate dependence of the University spirit upon the Greek tradition. It is an historic document, marking a phase in cultural evolution as expressed in architecture, as well as a thing of beauty. Its isolation should be preserved (it could not be added to without ruining it), and its original character, whether *inside* or *out* should be carefully cherished. I recommended therefore that the use of the Peter Redpath building as a Natural History Museum be given up. The future use of the building is discussed later (par. 42).

16. My view, that the best course to take would be to provide accommodation in the new Museum building for the Zoological and Palaeontological collections, raises the same problems of policy

as did the collections concerned with Man. Are we to be content in the field of Natural History to perpetuate the ill-balanced character of the collections due to chance and individual idiosyncrasy? If not, what is to be the aim? It is, I venture to think, obvious. The presentation of Geology (Palaeontology and Mineralogy) should be broadened by the introduction of stratigraphical exhibits, primarily Canadian; the Zoological collections must be reconstructed on a broad basis; and place must be found for a Botanical Museum in which the flora of the Dominion, both from its systematic and its ecological sides, should be adequately illustrated. It is remarkable that no adequate Herbarium of native plants exists in the City of Montreal and that no attempt is being made in the University to develop the nucleus it possesses*.

17. Thus my scheme envisages a Museum in which the study of Man and his activities in Canada leads outwards to the study of Man and his activities in general, and in which the study of Man's environment in Canada (the rocks and minerals especially, and then the animals, the trees and flowers) leads outward to the study of the world environment of the human race.

18. I believe that sufficient financial support for such a concept, supported as it is by most valuable museum material which will go a long way towards its realization, will be found in the City of Montreal. It is not my province to make detailed recommendations concerning the Museum building, but I think that it should not be less than seven stories high—one each for the three natural sciences, one for Man in Canada, one for the history of Man in general, one in which Man as a record-keeper is studied, and one for administration. There should be reserve, storage, and study rooms on every floor. It should be linked by a covered passage with the Library if the site permits. It should be of the simplest architectural character externally, and interiorly free from all decorative detail, for attention should not be distracted from the exhibits. It should be well lit at night on the Sherbrooke Street facade, with its name and the hours of opening to the public. It should be fitted with dustproof exhibition cases.

19. The scheme that I have envisaged (or any scheme of unification) cannot be created or maintained without the provision of a competent whole-time officer in full control of the University Museum for which he is responsible and in a position personally to propose, explain and defend his policies before the appropriate executive body of the University. *The Director of University Museums* should have precisely the same privileges, salary and

*There is an excellent Herbarium in the University of Montreal which was not seen by Dr. Fox.

FIG. 6



THE McCORD MUSEUM

FIG. 7



MCCORD MUSEUM: Interior, showing crowded condition of the Ethnological exhibits.
(See Page 18).

FIG. 8



THE ETHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM: Showing the Adney Loan Collection.
(See page 22).

FIG. 9



LIBRARY MUSEUM: Showing crowded cases and unsuitable room.—(See page 21).

status as the University Librarian; he will occupy an analogous position; the services rendered by each are complementary, and both are extra-departmental.

20. I think it will be admitted that, speaking generally, departmental control of public museums, associated as it is with honorary Curatorship, is not satisfactory. Brilliant exceptions occur; they are to be seen in the McGill Museums, but the systems fail to maintain consistent development—Museum technique is a specialist's job. I would, therefore, urge that no Museum collection not now under Departmental control should be placed under such control, and that, wherever practicable, public Museums be transferred from Departmental control to that of the Director of Museums.

Thus, the McCord Museum and the Ethnological Museum, together with hitherto isolated groups of related museum material (see par. 13), should be placed under the direct control of the Director of Museums, and the Head of the Department of Zoology may not be averse to being relieved of direct responsibility for recreating the Museum of his Department. The new Museum of Botany, when its creation is found possible, should be under direct control, the existing Botanical collection being left in the Department as a teaching collection.

21. It is emphasized that the public museums contain collections primarily formed for the service of the University; and it should be laid down for the guidance of the Director of Museums that in the arrangement of the collections and in his administrative arrangements, the needs and convenience of professors, lecturers, and students of McGill University should receive careful consideration; and that he be authorized temporarily to exclude the public, if desired, from any gallery in which instructional work is being carried on.

22. The labeling of Canadian historical material and Guides dealing therewith should be carried out or published in both English and French. Guides to all collections to which the public are admitted should be prepared.

23. It is essential that the Director of Museums should be a man of sound scholarship in some one branch of human knowledge, and that he should have had experience of Museum work. The former qualification is particularly important, having regard to his duties and to his relations, both direct and indirect, with Departmental heads and their staffs.

While he will be able to call upon expert advice within the University in respect of all branches of Natural History, there is

lacking in the University any organized anthropological study. Since he will have important ethnological and historical material in his charge, I recommend that an ethnologist or anthropologist be looked for*. It is not necessary that he should have, prior to appointment, detailed knowledge of Canadian ethnology. Failing a man with these qualifications, I suggest an historian or archaeologist.

24. It is essential that the Director should be appointed before the projected Museum building is planned or built, in order (i) that his experience may be available for the Building Committee, and (ii) that his views as to requirements may receive consideration.

25. There should be an *Assistant Director of Museums* who is primarily a technician. He should be in charge of the Museum Laboratory, which should be controlled by the Museum organization instead of (as at present) by the Department of Pathology, and he should also be responsible, under the Director, for care and maintenance, finance and the service staff.

26. The accommodation of the Museum Laboratory should be extended. Provision might be made for it in the basement of the new building. The staff should be enlarged to include a taxidermist. The efficiency of this Laboratory justifies its use in a wider field of service than at present. The summer courses in Medical Museum Technique organized by Mr. Judah should be continued, adequately financed, and should prove of value in extending the influence of McGill University throughout the Continent and, if extended, in training young men for salaried posts in the reorganized University Museum.

27. Financial provision for the maintenance of public museums should be granted through the Museums Committee. No purely honorary curatorships should be permitted in the public museums of McGill. Heads of Departments, e.g., the University Librarian, which have collections exhibited under Departmental control in the University Museum, should appoint Curators—normally, members of their staffs. Provision for payment, however small,

*It is very important that the Canadian Indian material in the possession of the University should be properly and scientifically studied and extended, and that is why I press for an ethnologist as Director. This most interesting indigenous civilization with its remarkable transport aids—canoe, snowshoe and toboggan—its fine basketry, its striking philosophy of life, profoundly influenced the European settler, being influenced in turn by European ideas; the action and interaction thus developed could vividly be shown in a Museum. In addition to models, room should be provided for originals, especially of the birchbark canoe; Montreal's position on the great system of waterways renders the illustration of water transport in Canada of first importance. The collections should be developed to illustrate **native Indian culture areas**, and the gaps, which such a reorganization would demonstrate, filled up; the arrangement must be scientific rather than aesthetic.

of such curatorship should be made by the Museum administration, and in respect of his Museum work the Curator should be under the control of the Director of Museums; he should conform to any instructions designed to bring about or maintain uniformity of labeling, of registration, etc., but he should have a reasonable freedom in the arrangement and extension of his collections to suit the needs both of his Department and of the public. The provision of staff for the Director in respect of collections under his direct control will be determined by their development and the financial situation.

29. There shall be a Public Museums Committee (on which the Principal shall be Chairman and the Director of Museums, Secretary) which shall have the same authority as, and similar functions to, the Library Committee.

GROUP (B) MUSEUMS

30. The Group (b) Medical Museums — Anatomy, Medicine, and Pathology—are highly specialized; they are not, speaking generally, suited for the admission of the general public; they form a united group representing aspects of one science; they are modern in equipment, and are highly efficient. This being so, it seems unwise to interfere with the existing organization of control by the Medical Faculty. But the Faculty should take measures to define the “spheres of influence” of the Pathological and the Medical Museums respectively (see p. 21).

31. Assuming that the control of the Museum Laboratory which now serves the Medical Museums passes into the hands of the Director of Museums (par. 25), it is important that its functions in relation to the Medical Museums should be defined. I suggest that such rights as these museums enjoy at present should be maintained; but since services should be associated with representation, that the Director of Museums should have a seat on any Committee which the Faculty may appoint in order to co-ordinate the activities of these museums.

32. The Faculty will, I hope, find it possible in the interests of the University as a whole, to agree to the transfer to the public Museum, when built, of the anthropological material suitable for public exhibition now in the Anatomical Museum.

33. It is probable that the ground floor of the Strathcona Museum when it is vacated by Ethnology could be well utilized by the Medical Museum; this matter should be dealt with by the Faculty or its Committee.

GROUP (c) MUSEUMS AND TEACHING COLLECTIONS

34. These offer great variety of character: some are organized and may properly be classed as small specialized museums; others are collections of "odds and ends" serviceable and necessary for teaching purposes. I see no advantage to the University in bringing these into a unified scheme or in centralizing work connected with them, as things are at present. They do not, generally speaking, contain material of high value or importance. The growth of any such collections or changes in their character may, however, at any time render it desirable to bring them into the public museum scheme.

35. I therefore recommend that the Director of Museums shall take no cognizance of the Group (c) Museums or teaching collections, nor shall the Departmental controllers of such have any claim on the services of the Museum Laboratory; but the Director shall endeavour to assist such whenever possible.

36. It shall be, however, open to the Director of Museums, or to the Head of the Department concerned, at any time to place proposals before the Public Museums Committee for the transfer of a Group (c) Museum or teaching collection to the status of a "*Departmental Museum recognized by the Public Museums Committee.*"

37. The Director of Museums shall exercise a certain amount of control over Departmental Museums thus transferred, but the control shall be much more limited than that over the Public Museums. He shall be charged by the University with the duty of seeing that the Museums are properly looked after and the accessions registered in a manner uniform with that existing in the University Museum. Each Head of a Department controlling such a Museum shall appoint a Curator or Honorary Curator who shall be the person with whom the Director shall establish direct contact and whom he shall help in connexion with matters reserved to his authority. The Curator will have a right to claim assistance from the University Museum Laboratory (q.v.), and from funds at the disposal of the Public Museums Committee.

38. It should also be recognized that in the best interests of the University it may be found desirable to transfer a Departmental Museum of Group (c) whether recognized or unrecognized, to the status of a University Public Museum. The Architectural Collection, for example, is likely to become an organized museum suitable for the instruction of the public. Provision for such transfer should be made, proposals to be initiated either by the Professor concerned or by the Public Museums Committee.

39. Transfers and loans shall from time to time be made at the discretion of the authorities concerned between Public Museums and Groups (b) and (c) Museums.

GROUP (D) MACDONALD COLLEGE

40. The Head of Macdonald College should be consulted as to the disposal of the duplicate zoological material in the Peter Redpath Museum. I understand that such material would be welcomed by the members of the staff. The Director and the Museums Committee should consider, after consultation with the Head and the biological staff of Macdonald College and with zoologists on the staff of McGill, whether it would not be in the best interests of entomological studies in the University to transfer the Peter Lyman Collection* and its Curator to Macdonald College. Geographical considerations suggest that the Biological Museum should retain its independent status, but contact should be established by providing that the Director of Museums should sit on any committee which controls that Museum.

41. The rapidity with which the change over to mechanized agriculture is taking place in Eastern Canada emphasizes the importance of forming in the College an Agricultural Museum, in which the agricultural equipment of farms in the Province of Quebec characteristic of the 19th century (and earlier) should be collected and arranged, and its interest, technical and historical, explained by means of labels and guides. This should not cost a great deal to collect today: *obsolescent* material is always a drug on the market—but it will be of the highest interest and value tomorrow. A barn or big shed would serve to house the material until the amount collected justifies the erection of a Museum. The Museum should be of interest and educational value to the general public, and the Director of Museums should be invited by the College authorities to collaborate in its creation and development.

THE PETER REDPATH BUILDING

42. There remains the question of the Peter Redpath Museum. A worthy use can be found for this building which meets all difficulties. It is to hand it over as a home for the Department of Architecture. (1) This Department needs more room. (2) It is not fittingly housed in the Engineering building on the science side, for Architecture is an art not a craft. Placed on the west side of the Campus between the Library and the Arts Building, it would occupy its proper and significant place. (3) The floor of

*By the terms of the bequest, this cannot now be done.—Ed.

the main gallery of the Museum building would allow for the proper exhibition, and the extension into a state of organized completeness when money is available, of the Casts Collection. Such a collection is in its nature replaceable (if insured), and a fire-proof building is not essential.

The bays of the gallery (with the cases removed) could be fitted with tables for draughtsmen; the fixed cases on the balcony could be used for the smaller objects included in the teaching collection. There is ample accommodation for the staff of the Department on the ground floor, and the necessary expenditure on lighting the building, reconditioning it, removal of cases, modernizing its accommodation, etc., should not be more than \$15-20,000. I have reason to believe that this sum could be obtained for the purpose from private sources. It will not escape observation that, if financial provision is made to develop the architectural cast collections into an organized museum collection, it should not be difficult to provide for the admission of the public without undue interference with the work of the School.

43. Work which might be undertaken immediately involves the critical examination and weeding out of the whole of the McCord Collection. This could be undertaken by the Hon. Secretary of the Museum Committee, the University Librarian, and the Curator of Museums acting jointly. Indian material should be noted as (i) historical, or (ii) ethnological. The preparation of a pamphlet on the collections should be undertaken by the same group for the instruction and guidance of visitors, to be sold at say 10 cents. There are historical documents of secondary importance for the history of Canada on exhibition in the University Library. In reorganizing the McCord Collection the resources of both in this connexion should be pooled: reserve material from the McCord should be stored in the Library, and the best from both exhibited* in the McCord Museum. Documents required for instructional purposes can be temporarily withdrawn to the Library when needed.

The weeding-out and reorganization of the palaeontological collections in the Peter Redpath Museum should be continued, and a collection illustrating stratigraphical geology begun.

VII CO-OPERATION AND AFFILIATION

1. *The Art Association of Montreal*: In my proposals for the future development of the Art Gallery and Museum, I have suggested the appointment of a full-time paid Director; failing which, that the Association should approach the University au-

*Photostats in certain exceptional cases.

thorities with a view to the Director of Museums becoming their Adviser. The friendly relations at present existing between those interested in Museum work at McGill University and at the Art Gallery are of value; they should be continued and extended. The two institutions are complementary, and I recommend that any movement (should such arise) towards creating in the University an Art Gallery or Museum of the Arts and Crafts, similar to those controlled by the Association, should be discouraged. The two institutions can help each other by cross-loans of objects which may respectively from time to time come into their hands, and the Director of Museums should be empowered to make such loans.

2. *The Château de Ramezay*: In my proposals for the rearrangement and reorganization of the collections of the Archaeological and Numismatic Society in the Château de Ramezay, I have suggested that the Curators should concentrate on

- (i) Canadian historical and social material in general,
- (ii) French-Canadian Folk material,
- (iii) Ethnological material of the Province of Quebec,
- (iv) Coins in general.

I have recommended that such specimens as they possess of northern and western Indian tribes and Eskimo might be placed on loan in the Ethnological section of the (reconstructed) Museum at McGill. I hope that, if my suggestion is adopted, some means of reciprocation may be found. I also recommend that the McCord and the Château should never bid against each other at auctions but make friendly arrangement.

I do not think it wise to go further than is here suggested in the direction of avoiding overlap. Montreal is a very large and wealthy city and ought to be able to support two Museums collecting historic objects and material, with the more ease in that one naturally attracts the interest and generosity of the French element of the population, the other that of the English. I am assured that there are still in private possession in Montreal sufficient historical objects and materials for both museums to become adequately representative. No one museum, anyway, wants or should have everything—indigestion is inevitable.

It is, of course, of the highest importance that two institutions whose collections overlap so much should maintain constant contact. I think this contact, under the circumstances, had better be informal, as it is at present. It is gratifying to observe that the Curator of Museums at McGill is in close and most friendly touch with the Curators at the Château.

AFFILIATION

A survey of school and college museums in the neighbourhood of Montreal convinces me that a scheme of affiliation, whereby curators of these museums can obtain help and advice in the maintenance and improvement of their collections and can meet their fellow curators at least once a year in a Summer School, would be warmly welcomed. The scheme should, if possible, be fostered by the authorities of the University, of the Art Gallery, and of the Château de Ramezay, acting jointly; and the Summer School (2—3 days) might be held in turn at each of these institutions. It is in extra-mural services that close collaboration between these institutions can most easily be undertaken. I should be glad to advise in detail on such a scheme if desired; but it should await intra-mural reorganization.

VIII

EPILOGUE

These proposals based on a necessarily hasty, but I hope thorough survey, may in some respects be unacceptable owing to my inability to apprehend correctly the circumstances in one particular case or to appreciate all the factors involved in another; but I hope that the views I have expressed on the problems submitted will in their broader outlines be regarded as satisfactory, providing a workable scheme which will promote efficiency and which will prove advantageous to the University.

CYRIL FOX.

GENERAL MUSEUM COMMITTEE



- SIR ARTHUR CURRIE, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D. (Chairman)
Principal.
- E. L. JUDAH (Secretary)
Curator of Museums.
- W. H. BRITAIN, PH.D (Cornell)
Professor of Entomology.
- T. H. CLARK, PH.D.
Logan Professor of Palaeontology.
- F. CLARKE, M.A. (Oxon.)
Professor of Education.
- F. E. LLOYD, M.A. (Princeton), F.R.S.C., F.L.S.
Macdonald Professor of Botany and Director of the
Biological Building.
- G. R. LOMER, M.A., PH.D. (Columbia)
University Librarian, Director of the Library School, and
Professor of Library Administration.
- T. W. L. MACDERMOT, M.A. (Oxon.)
Assistant Professor of History.
- C. F. MARTIN, B.A., M.D., LL.D. (Queen's)
Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Professor of
Medicine.
- F. C. MORGAN, M.A.
Chairman, Museum Committee, Art Association.
- J. J. O'NEILL, M.Sc., PH.D. (Yale), F.R.S.C.
Dawson Professor of Geology and Director of the
Department.
- RAMSAY TRAQUAIR, M.A., F.R.I.B.A.
Macdonald Professor of Architecture.
- ARTHUR WILLEY, Hon. M.A. (Cantab.), D.Sc., F.R.S.C., F.R.S.
Strathcona Professor of Zoology.

NOTICE

The Principal will be pleased to forward copies of the enclosed Survey to those interested, upon the recommendation of any member of the Faculty or any University Graduate.

Names and addresses should be sent to:

E.L.Judah, Esq.,
Secretary,
General Museums Committee,
MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
MONTREAL, QUE.

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