

staff, was reported at the expedition's headquarters at Kom Oshim near Cairo in the Faiyum Desert.

The recovery of Stone Age artifacts together with fossil animals will make it possible to reconstruct the life and con-

ditions of this period, and possibly necessitate a redating of the lake, Dr. Huzayin said.

The fossil specimens include hippopotamus, wart hog, gazelle, large ante-lope, elephant, crocodile, turtle, and fish.

*Science News Letter, January 31, 1948*

GENERAL SCIENCE

## 17 Expeditions Planned

Scientists of the Chicago Natural History Museum will go to Bermuda to study sea life, to Burma to collect birds, to Peru and Bolivia to collect plants.

► STRANGE creatures from more than a mile under the surface of the ocean off Bermuda, fossils of invertebrates 450,000,000 years old from the mountains of Pennsylvania, birds from Burma and insects from Guatemala are a few of the prizes which scientists from the Chicago Natural History Museum plan to collect this year.

In all, 17 expeditions at locations ranging from Africa to Arkansas and from Alaska to Burma will make studies and collect specimens.

The three-month Bermuda Deep-Sea Expedition will start work June 1, under the joint sponsorship of the museum and the Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc., St. Georges, Bermuda. The "Caryn," a 98-foot ketch loaned to the Bermuda station by the Oceanographic Institution of Woods Hole, Mass., will be used by the expedition to study sea life at depths of from 8,000 to 12,000 feet.

Loren P. Woods, curator of the museum's division of fishes, will be leader of the expedition, with Dr. Dugald E. S. Brown heading the Bermuda group.

Another large expedition will be the museum's archaeological expedition to the Southwest, where a large staff will continue excavations of prehistoric Indian sites. Dr. Paul S. Martin, chief curator of anthropology, will lead.

The Rush Watkins Southeast Asia Expedition will leave Chicago in September to collect birds in Burma. Mr. Watkins, a Chicago businessman, and Dr. Austin L. Rand, the museum's curator of birds, will conduct the work. Melvin A. Traylor, Jr. museum associate, will head another ornithological expedition which will collect Mexican birds in the Mt. Orizaba region, beginning in June.

Eugene S. Richardson, curator of invertebrate fossils, will collect invertebrates of the Ordovician period in the mountains of Pennsylvania, while Dr. Rainer Zangerl, curator of fossil reptiles,

will conduct a search for specimens of prehistoric reptiles and amphibians in the Alcova formation of central Wyoming.

Four botanical groups will be in the field. Dr. Hugh C. Cutler, curator of economic botany, will spend several weeks next month in Cuba with Dr. B. E. Dahlgren, curator emeritus of botany, who is studying palm genetics. In April, Dr. Cutler will fly to Peru and Bolivia to collect plant specimens in those countries. Paul C. Standley, curator of the museum's herbarium will collect botanical specimens in Central America, beginning in September, while Dr. Francis Drouet, curator of cryptogamic botany, will at the same time collect mosses, seaweeds and other specimens in coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico from Louisiana to Florida.

Harry Hoogstraal, assistant curator of insects, is in Africa with the University of California expedition, and Rupert L. Wenzel, assistant curator of insects, will leave in April for Guatemala where he will collect insects for the museum.

Mammal specimens from the state of Arkansas will be studied by Colin C. Sanborn, curator of mammals, starting in March, while the assistant curator of mammals, Philip Hershkovitz, will leave in October for Colombia to begin a year of mammal collecting in that country.

Dr. Robert Kriss Wyant, curator of economic geology, and Harry Changnon, curator of exhibits, will collect ores in the Black Range Mountains, N. Mex., and Dr. Sharat K. Roy, chief curator of geology, will continue his field study in the Adirondack Mountain areas of New York, New Hampshire and perhaps Massachusetts.

Material for use in a habitat group of the precious sea otter will be collected in Alaska this summer by Frank Wonder, staff taxidermist.

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TECHNOLOGY

## Short Length Nylon Fibers Make Wool-Like Garments

► LADIES' stockings, more sheer than any you have seen, and warm, wool-like socks for men, both made of nylon, were displayed at the DuPont plant in Seaford, Del.

Other all-nylon products shown were: woolly sweaters, soft blankets, upholstery and felt.

Some of these new nylon developments are made possible by cut-to-length, staple nylon. The synthetic fibers are stretched, crimped and cut into lengths of two or three inches. Instead of the sheer fabrics such as are produced from

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