

THE MUSEUM NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

Vol. IX

JANUARY 15, 1932

No. 14

NATIONAL PARKS MAKE PROGRESS IN MUSEUM PROGRAM

DIRECTOR LISTS NINE PROJECTS COMPLETED LAST YEAR

The National Parks were the scene of great museum activity during the past year. Five museum structures were completed and another was put in service. Construction was begun on two buildings in national monuments to include museums. Three other new museum projects were completed in the parks.

On the shore of Lake Yellowstone in Yellowstone National Park the Fishing Bridge Museum was completed and its bird and geology rooms opened to the public. Notable features of these rooms are the "related story" exhibits in the bird room and the relief maps and diagrams with simple text prepared by E. J. Raisz of Columbia University to make plain the geologic history of the region. The Trailside Museum at Obsidian Cliff, showing columnar basalt and obsidian, was also completed. Both these museums were built by the American Association of Museums

(Continued on page five, column one)

NATIONAL PARKS MUSEUMS

(Continued from page one)

under the supervision of the Committee on Outdoor Education, Hermon Carey Bumpus, chairman, with funds appropriated by the Laura Spellman Rockefeller Memorial and continued by the Rockefeller Foundation.

In Crater Lake National Park the Sinnott Memorial, built with funds appropriated by Congress, was opened to the public. This building, which overlooks the lake, serves as an orientation point for all visitors to the park. Also, through a five thousand dollar grant from the Carnegie Corporation, exhibits have been installed to assist in appreciating the scenery and interpreting the geologic history of the lake.

In the Rocky Mountain National Park the museum erected with government appropriations was opened to the public. In getting this museum ready the Park Service had the cooperation of the Colorado Museum of Natural History at Denver, which helped in securing specimens and in preparing accessories for the groups, and of Jonas Bros., taxidermists, who donated habitat groups of local birds and small mammals.

In the Yosemite National Park a new replica has replaced the old Galen Clark cabin. This replica is designed to serve as a museum and information station. In the Hawaii National Park a structure of volcanic rock and metal has been built at Uwekahuna Bluff with funds from the Hawaiian Volcano Research Association and Hui O Pele. This contains a large museum room,

lecture hall, photographic laboratory, and seismograph room.

On the north rim of the Grand Canyon a small museum was established in the tower room of Grand Canyon Lodge through the courtesy of the Union Pacific. In the Sequoia National Park, the Tharp log, a hollow Sequoia log which was used as a home by one of the pioneers, has been restored, and historical exhibits have been installed. In Mount Ranier National Park the museum at Longmire Springs has been remodeled and the displays added to and improved. The University of Washington made several gifts toward completing the new exhibits. In Casa Grande and Petrified Forest National Monuments construction was begun on new administration buildings, each of which will include a museum.