

museum matters. The best interests of the museum are considered to be served by encouraging the members of the staff to visit other museums, and to attend the meetings of scientists and museum administrators.

The new Victoria Memorial Museum building was erected at a cost of over a million dollars. It is practically fire-proof and is more than ordinarily satisfactory for museum purposes. The lighting is good by day, and can be supplemented by electric light supplied by dynamos in the building. There are three elevators for passengers and one for freight. At present seven large halls are available for exhibition while three more, now occupied by the National Gallery, are expected to be ultimately available for the museum. The adjacent land at the ends of the building provides ample space for additional buildings in architectural harmony with the main museum. Such additions would serve for offices, shops, and storerooms as more of the present building becomes needed for exhibition purposes. The building is maintained and cared for by the Department of Public Works, and is policed by the Dominion police.

The expeditions of the Geological Survey explore the more remote and varied regions of British North America, and because of the initiative, resourcefulness, and inventiveness of the men in charge, valuable collections are brought back to the Museum. So abundant is this material that the Museum is often able to send considerable quantities of specimens to other institutions. Specimens are purchased when needed, but the collections obtained by the survey are accompanied by much more valuable data in the form of photographs, maps, measurements, labels, accessories, etc., and the cost of collecting is less than that of purchase. One expedition in 1912, working about four and a half months, brought in one hundred and thirty-five boxes of specimens at a total cost of not over one thousand dollars, or less than eight dollars per box.

In order to prepare the material gathered by the Survey both for research and exhibition, skilled mechanics and artists are being added to the staff. It is recognized that one of the greatest needs of museums today is more mechanical and clerical help to release the higher paid specialist from much of the work which could just as well be done by others and so enable him to devote his entire time to his special work. Desirable shop work is often of such a special character that one has to search far and wide to find suitable men. One of the shops is devoted to the construction of relief models from topo-