

much of value. The University of Toronto possesses an excellent series of minerals (the Ferrier Cabinet), a growing collection of fossils and considerable petrographic material. The Education Department is rich in archaeological specimens and curios. The department of biology of the University has a considerable collection of material in its especial field. Directly or indirectly all this material is the property of the government, yet it is so ill-housed, so separated and under such diverse control that its value is largely destroyed. In fact, instead of being an inspiration and a valuable exhibit of the resources of the country, the breaking up of specimens into little groups restricts their use to the persons immediately interested. Could the province do better than to erect a building for the proper reception and display of all this material? Could anything be of more value to the geologist and to the active mining man? Could a better inspiration be found for the creation of future generations of mining engineers? I need not fall back on the somewhat unpleasant argument as to what other countries have done in this matter; we are rather tired of hearing of the advance of this state or that along some particular line. Let us not fall so far behind in the matter of museums that the term may be used as a reproach to us.

The creation of an adequate provincial museum is not a small matter or one that can be accomplished all at once. The details of any scheme of development would require much time and thought. Briefly, I may be permitted to state my ideas as to the general lines along which development would be the easiest. A building should be designed to fill the requirements of all branches commonly interested in museum display. This building should be so designed that it could be built in sections. The first section built should be that of geology and mining. The various departments should be under the control of the professors of those departments in the University, thereby saving the expense of especial curators.

At the present moment the Department of Geology has more material than can be housed in the University buildings.