

In view of the fact that the Statute refers to a museum without indicating its character, it became necessary for your Committee first of all to examine very closely what is the fair interpretation of this word and within what lines the projected Museum may be fairly carried out, and it is desirable, therefore, that we should know---

#### WHAT IS A MUSEUM?

Your Committee report that they have found that museums of a comprehensive character include the various departments Geology, Paleontology, Archeology, Natural History, general Historical Relics. Other collections were reported relating to the Industrial Sciences and containing Technological exhibits.

Your Committee were informed that one of the best general museums on this continent was that at Cambridge, which is contained in a series of buildings connected with each other. The Philadelphia, Washington and Cambridge museums are the largest in America, but the best museum, apart from the importance of the specimens—that is, the best arranged museum—is the Redpath Museum in Montreal.

The tendency in large cities has been to specialize, and your Committee have had some difficulty in keeping in view the limits of a museum for a city of the size, requirements and expectations of the City of Toronto. Your Committee did not consider that they were at liberty to take into considerations the requirements of an educational or strictly scientific museum, and have limited themselves to what in their opinion would be a popular museum for the chief city of the Province.

Dr. Heilprin of Philadelphia, who is a distinguished authority, in answer to the question of what a museum ought to be, says as follows: