

inside could hardly be seen, and yet for the same cost cases might have been built with five times the glass exposure had they been made of painted pine and placed against the wall as fronts simply, the shelves being attached independently to the wall itself. Such cases may be constructed quite economically and are perfectly satisfactory. It is well to have the cases nearly white in color and the room itself as light as possible so long as the blazing sun light is avoided.

The labelling of the specimens is a most important matter, for a collection without labels is of no use whatever. The labels should be amply descriptive, concisely expressed and distinctly written on one sort of paper or card, except for class or general labels, and, if possible, in one sort of hand writing or one style of printing.

With the exception of such bulky specimens as wood, cones and other fruits, the botanical collection is best kept on shelves in tightly closed cupboards. All the dried plants should, of course, be poisoned and mounted on paper of the standard size, in order that one collection may be united with another if required in the future. The birds, to save expense, may, if numerous, be kept as skins in shallow drawers, only one set being stuffed and mounted for public exhibition. Eggs and nests should be placed with the species of birds to which they belong. The mammals must be stuffed and the fishes and reptiles likewise, if possible, for specimens preserved in alcohol and other liquid preparations are troublesome and quite expensive to maintain and only of service to students. They are almost useless for public exhibition because, aside from the distorting effect of the liquid, nearly all lose their original color and change to a dirty white in a few years. The minerals and rocks on exhibition should be reasonably large, characteristic specimens and there should not be so many of one sort as to be confusing.

One of the most difficult collections to care for is the insect collection. Insects are the most numerous of all animals. The best results for the local museum are gained by collecting only the larger and more interesting insects, enlarging the scope of the collection from time to time. In this way the butterflies and