

Blind children studying at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City

local museum service are to be found at the following towns, all of which have a population of over 60,000:

Croydon	233,000
Willesden	184,000
East Ham	142,000
Rhondda	141,000
Walthamstow	132,000
Ilford	131,000
Leyton	128,000
Ealing	117,000
Hendon	115,000
Wallasey	97,000
Hornsey	95,000
Dagenham	89,000
Smethwick	84,000
Edmonton	77,000
Heston and Isleworth	75,000
Stockton-on-Tees	67,000
Enfield	67,000
Tynemouth	64,000
Chesterfield	64,000

These towns just prevent us from equalling Sweden or Germany in museum facilities, and deprive us of our place in the first group of museum countries.

The second group of countries, those which have a museum for roughly every 60,000 or 70,000 people, is mainly Anglo-Saxon, including New Zealand, Great Britain, and Canada; but the group also contains Holland, France, Denmark and Belgium.

The third group, where museums will be found for every 100,000 population, includes Finland, Czechoslovakia, and the United States well up in the list, whilst Italy, Spain, Australia and Hungary bring up the rear. Ireland and South Africa, however, are well down in the fourth group—those which have a museum to every 200,000 population—where they keep company with the Balkans and West Central European countries. The last group, those countries which have few museums, includes Russia, South and Central America, Japan, India, China and Egypt. All these last-named, however, have remarkable art and archaeological collections, but they are centred in the large cities, and the use of museums does not appear to be appreciated by the smaller cities and towns.

Landmarks of Progress

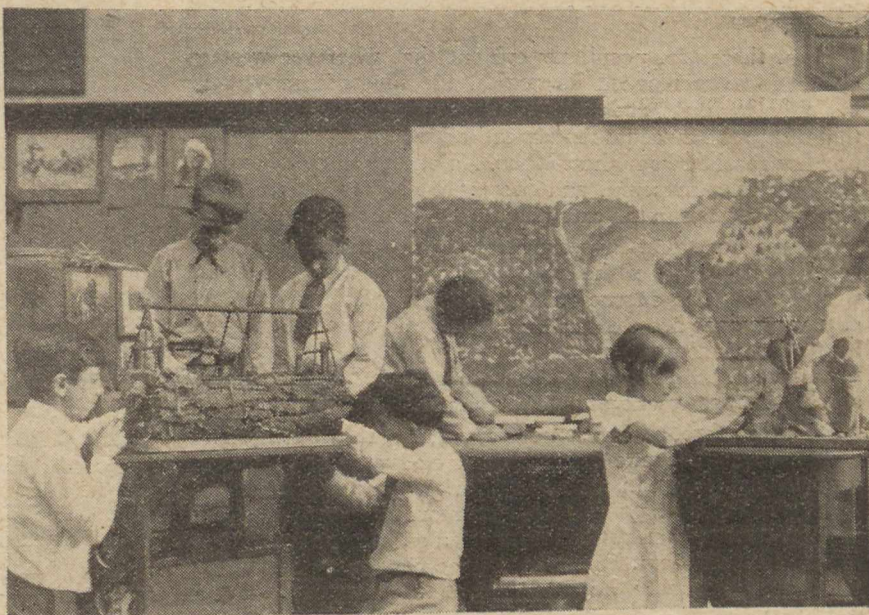
Another look at the above table, and a still deeper enquiry into the actual situation of museums, brings out two more

the two most progressive areas of the world's surface.

As a general rule, it will be found that wherever the purely Teutonic or Anglo-Saxon races are concentrated in the greatest numbers, there the museum movement will be found to be most flourishing, and it is rather extraordinary that this works out with a kind of mathematical accuracy. In other words, the odds are that wherever 40,000 Teutons or 70,000 Anglo-Saxons are gathered together, whether in a single township or spread over a province, they will have a museum, and if there be more than this number, museums will increase in almost exact proportion.

The United States, with her population of 137,000,000, has 1,370 public museums, but if her non-Nordic stock be deducted, it will be found that there is a museum for every 70,000 of Nordic stock.* Canada, with a population of over 10,000,000, has 123 museums; again take away her negroes, Asiatics, etc., and you have a museum per 70,000 population. France, of course, is the brilliant exception to any such computation, but, generally speaking, in areas where Latins or

very surprising facts. The first is, that of the 8,000 museums in the world more than half are concentrated in an area barely 1,200 miles across. If a circle be drawn with a radius of 600 miles, having Osnabrück or Hanover, in Germany, as its centre, it will be found to include all the important museums of Ireland (excepting only Cork), Scotland, England, Wales, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, West Poland (including Warsaw), West Czechoslovakia, West Hungary, Austria, North Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, and all France except the Pyrenean area. In all, well over 4,000 museums are concentrated in this tiny area of the world's surface. Of the remaining 3,900, nearly a quarter are to be found concentrated in another small area of the globe—the Great Lakes-Atlantic Seaboard area of North America. If a five-sided figure be drawn to include St. Louis, Milwaukee, Montreal, Boston and Delaware State, it will be found to include nearly two-thirds of the museums of Canada and half the museums of the United States—in all, nearly a thousand museums are contained in an area 1,200 miles long and barely 500 miles wide. These two areas are, singularly enough,



Children studying Red Indian life by handling exhibits at Rochester Museum, New York

Eastern Europeans predominate, the proportion is much less.

By contrast with these areas in which the white races are dominant, those in which the white races have exercised a very considerable cultural influence would appear to be the next

*In 1930, there were 11,000,000 negroes and 240,000 Asiatics in the U.S.A. The foreign-born population of Celtic, Levantine and West European stock numbered nearly 7,000,000. It seems impossible to secure accurate information as to those American-born citizens who are purely descended from these stocks, but it is estimated at over 15,000,000. Mexicans and South American stocks account for another million.