

MUSEUMS AS AIDS TO FORESTRY.

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In gaining due recognition and support from the great mass of the people, museums may be great aids to forestry. Even the further application of museum methods in forestry, may be of valuable service. The extent of the possibilities in these lines of recruiting aid by means of museum methods of publicity, recreation, instruction and research can hardly be forecast. Such museums or methods, however, must be properly administered to be effective. The methods used, for instance, in the large and costly Botanical Museum in New York, would be of little or no avail to forestry. That museum may be of use to scientists, but is not of much human interest to me, and, therefore, I judge, not to the average citizen, lumberman or forester.

Vast expenditure of time and money is not necessarily needed to secure valuable aid by these means. Museum cases, if such are really required, may be made at a cost of less than four dollars per foot front, as I have pointed out in *THE OTTAWA NATURALIST* of May, 1915, and *The Scientific American* of May 29, 1915. A large collection of specimens, maps, photographs and labels is not needed to inoculate whole regions with the germs of the ideas of the practicability and economic importance, to say nothing of aesthetic values and the love of forestry. A small exhibit may teach the general and valuable principles of forestry, perhaps even better than a complete exhibit of all kinds of trees, such as is shown in the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Such a complete exhibit might confuse or burden. The persons to be influenced to give aid to forestry might be lost in the woods as it were.

In the Rocky Mountains Park Museum at Banff, Alberta, a beginning to a tree exhibit has been made. There are eleven species of trees in the Park. Five grow in the valley, but the other six are found only on the higher land. A complete collection of the trunks and leaves of the trees growing in the valley was made in two half days as a bi-product of other work, and without any expense except as for time in cutting the trunks to lengths for exhibition. At the same time two photographs were made of each of these five kinds of trees; one of a grove or group of each kind of tree from a distance, and one of the details of the trunk, bark, leaves and such flowers or fruits as were then in season. Later photographs are to be made of the