

development of the collections has resulted in disharmony in distribution which must be corrected. I am convinced that, though some inconvenience may temporarily be caused to certain Departments, they, as well as the University in general, will benefit by a development which will bring isolated groups of museum objects into a systematic and organized whole.

15. The problem of the Peter Redpath Museum and its collections in connection with this scheme has yet to be dealt with. Though drastic elimination of redundant and second-rate material would relieve the existing congestion, the building cannot be regarded as adequate for the permanent housing of the Palaeontological, Mineralogical, and Zoological collections, and it provides no adequate workroom, reserve and storage accommodation for these collections or for the student collections (Entomological and Conchological). Suppose it were decided to leave all the Geological material in the Museum, in view of its association with Sir William Dawson, and to remove all the Zoological material to the new Museum building which is envisaged; we are still faced with a serious difficulty—the building is not fireproof; the wooden cases are unsuitable and dust-collecting. Reorganization of an important collection with a view to development in an environment which presents potential danger to its very existence ought not to be considered.

I understand from Mr. E. L. Judah that a provisional estimate for rendering the Peter Redpath building completely fireproof has been obtained; it is \$200,000. Even if such a sum could be obtained, it would surely be better spent on a new building. Furthermore, the alterations would involve the destruction of the existing internal architectural features. This would be a pity. The Museum, an elaborately decorated late "Neo-Classical" structure, has its faults; nevertheless it stands out as the most scholarly, the most distinguished, the most beautiful building in the University, in a finely chosen position which gives an air of Athenian dignity to the Campus, hinting most fittingly at the ultimate dependence of the University spirit upon the Greek tradition. It is an historic document, marking a phase in cultural evolution as expressed in architecture, as well as a thing of beauty. Its isolation should be preserved (it could not be added to without ruining it), and its original character, whether *inside* or *out* should be carefully cherished. I recommended therefore that the use of the Peter Redpath building as a Natural History Museum be given up. The future use of the building is discussed later (par. 42).

16. My view, that the best course to take would be to provide accommodation in the new Museum building for the Zoological and Palaeontological collections, raises the same problems of policy