

There are exceptions to this classification as, for example, college museums that serve the public; but they are few. More significant is the variety of forms assembled within each group. Among public museums there are some in every stage of development, from the merest beginnings in rooms to large establishments with buildings and extensive educational and technical activities. There are museums which are exhibits and nothing more, and others which are almost disembodied services using borrowed temporary displays. Historical houses, themselves exhibits, are the homes of many passive museums; other shrines of this kind hold active organizations. In parks—national parks in particular—there are outdoor museums. These are instances of the diversity among public museums; university, college, and school museums are equally many in kind. Such conditions require that information as to the number of institutions be supplemented by data measuring size, or be qualified in some other way by figures or discussion.

If, at any point in the following account, undue importance seems to be attached to very small new institutions, it should be remembered that most museums start in a modest way. A short time may remove the disparity in size between, let us say, the Greater Saint Louis Museum of Natural History which has no quarters and scarcely any income at the present time, and the Rodin Museum which has sprung into life full fledged, with a building and substantial revenues.

### I. STATISTICS OF PUBLIC MUSEUMS

During the biennium 52 public museums were founded. This represents a rate of one new museum every fortnight—which is slightly higher than the average rate for the past 10 years, or one museum every 16 days. The newly established institutions, with their localities and dates of origin, are as follows:

TABLE 1.—*Public museums established in 1929 and 1930*

Alabama:	
Anniston.....	Regar Memorial Museum of Natural History (1930).
Montgomery.....	Alabama Society of Fine Arts (1930).
Arizona:	
Phoenix.....	The Heard Museum (1929).
Arkansas:	
Helena.....	Philips County Museum (1929), Helena Public Library.
Connecticut:	
Milford.....	Milford Historical Society (1930).
New London.....	The Lyman Allyn Museum (1930).
Westbrook.....	Bushnell House (1929), Society of Descendants of Westbrook Settlers.