

In presenting the above estimate of the money value of the natural history collections the writer desires to emphasize the fact that these collections have an intrinsic value which cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. They contain many specimens whose chief value lies in the fact that they are the only specimens in existence. They cannot therefore be duplicated and their destruction by fire would inflict upon the institution a loss which would be absolutely irreparable.

The natural history collections of the University of Kansas are also of especial value from the fact that they embody the personal labor of members of the University faculty, who have not only given their time in summer vacations to laborious service for the good of the University without recompense, but have also endangered life and health in visiting regions infested by hostile Indians, by malarial diseases and by pernicious extremes of heat and cold. The very life of these enthusiasts for university advancement has in a peculiar way been incorporated into the results of their vacation labors. While other great museums have acquired their treasures chiefly by purchase at a cost of hundreds of thous-

ands of dollars, the museum of the University of Kansas has involved no expenditure by the state beyond the mere traveling and living expenses of the professors and students conducting the various collecting expeditions. The total money cost to the state of Kansas of the University collections in natural history has been less than one-tenth of the amount of the itemized inventory as given above. These valuable results of scientific research should be preserved from destruction in a fire-proof building. The present natural history building is already crowded from basement to attic with the laboratories and museum collections of four different scientific departments, and there is no room for future growth of the museum. Moreover, it will be impossible long to retain the services of such men as Dyche, Williston and Haworth unless suitable provision is made for housing the results of their scientific expeditions. Every foot of space in the present natural history building is needed for the laboratory requirements of the various departments of natural history.

And in the year 1897 The report of the Board of Regents went as follows. It was directed to Governor J.W. Leedy.

Reasons for a Museum Building.—When the present hall of natural history, known as Snow hall, was erected the accommodations were ample for the exhibit of the collections in zoölogy, botany, entomology, and geology, and there was ample provision for the laboratories and lecture-rooms required by the condition of the University at the time of its erection. When that building was erected the present Chancellor of the University was the only full professor, and Mr. L. L. Dyche was the only assistant. At the present time the teaching force in biology has been increased until there are now in Snow hall three full professors, two associate professors, and three instructors, while the number of students has increased threefold. The natural-history collections, through the enthusiastic vacation activities of the force of instruction, have been greatly enlarged, until more than one-half of the entire material is packed away in boxes and attic storerooms, from lack of floor space for its proper display. The University of Kansas now has in this building a large amount of material which is not to be found in any other museum in the world, aggregating in value at least \$150,000. This material, whose destruction would entail an irreparable loss, because it could in no possible way be duplicated, is stored in a building of a dangerously combustible character. On sound business principles, a fire-proof structure should be erected for its safe-keeping. Such fire-proof museum building should be erected at a convenient but safe distance from the present natural-history building. Every foot of space in the present building is needed for the work of instruction.