

And finally the third report by the Board of Regents to Governor W.E. Stanley in the year 1899, just previous to legislative session that allotted funds for the construction of a museum facility to store and display the works of Dyche.

Need of a Museum Building. The need of a museum building for the University of Kansas is so well known to every one who is in any way connected with the institution that it seems unnecessary to refer to the subject at length in this report. So urgent has this need become, however, that no efforts should be spared to make it plain to those whose knowledge of the University is less intimate. There are two principal reasons for the immediate erection of such a building: First, the entire structure which now contains the museum collections is needed for laboratory purposes by the natural-science departments; and second, the collections themselves, with the present accommodations, are not only crowded into quarters so limited that less than half of the material can be properly exhibited, but are exposed continually to the danger of destruction by fire. Either of these reasons alone would justify the present legislature in appropriating sufficient funds to erect a museum building.

When the present hall of natural history was erected the accommodations were ample for the exhibit of the collections in zoology, botany, entomology, and geology, and for the laboratory and lecture-room work required by the condition of the University at that time. The various branches of natural science were then included in one department, with the present chancellor of the university as the only professor and Mr. L. L. Dyche as the only assistant. There are now in Snow Hall four separate departments of natural science, with a teaching force composed of three full professors, two associate professors, one assistant professor, and four instructors. For the twenty-nine laboratory courses offered by these instructors, in which during

the last year 364 different students were enrolled, only five rooms are reserved. The remaining space is taken up by the workshops of the zoological and paleontological departments and by the greatly increased collections above mentioned. With the present crowded condition of the museum and storerooms, not more than one-third of this building is available for purposes of instruction, yet every foot of space which it contains is needed for laboratory use.

For more than thirty years the natural-science instructors of the University of Kansas have spent a large part of their time during the summer vacations in collecting material for the University museum. As a result of their labors, the hall of natural history now contains collections valued at \$150,000. The total cost of these collections to the state, however, has been less than one-tenth of that amount. While other great museums have acquired their treasures chiefly by purchase, at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars, the museum of the University of Kansas has involved no expenditure by the state beyond the actual expenses incurred by the various collecting expeditions.