

Most of the stuff I am sending you in the general statement that follows has reference to the collection of mammals. It is much easier to interest members of the Legislature and people in general in this part of the museum. Other collections may be just as valuable to an educational institution but are not so easily explained or so attractive to the public.

There is one point I omitted to touch upon in my general statement. It is this: There are at present 125 students in the department of Zoology. There is no class or laboratory room in the institution that the Department of Zoology seems to have any claim upon. For a few years past classes in Zoology have been held in the west basement room of Snow Hall. As classes in physical culture were held in one end of the room at the same time it was almost impossible for students to do creditable work. Students should not be asked to take a course when no better accommodations can be offered them. At the beginning of last Spring term 17 students presented themselves for a course in systematic zoology. After going over the ground thoroughly with the Chancellor it was found that there was no room in any building on the grounds that was available. The class had to be abandoned with the exception of five young men who undertook to do the work in the corner of the Taxidermic Shop, a place not at all suitable for students. If the collection in Snow Hall could be removed to a Museum building, then the large well-lighted rooms now occupied by the collections in that building would become available for class room and laboratory purposes.