

1948.

PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1948.

Ordered to be printed, 18 November, 1948.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,—

The Trustees of the Australian Museum have the honour to submit to Your Excellency their ninety-fourth Annual Report for the year ending 30th June, 1948.

1. Trustees.

In December, 1947, Mr. H. B. Mathews was unanimously elected President for the year 1948.

During the year, leave of absence was granted to Mr. F. B. Spencer during his absence abroad, and to Mr. E. C. Andrews on account of ill-health.

The list of Trustees at 30th June, 1948, is shown in Appendix "A".

2. Staff.

At the meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science held in Perth during August, 1947, the Museum staff was represented by the Director (who was the official Museum delegate), Messrs. E. le G. Troughton, G. P. Whitley and H. O. Fletcher, and Miss J. Allan.

The Director was elected as President-elect of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science for its meeting to be held in Hobart in January, 1949. He was also awarded the Clarke Memorial Medal for 1948 by the Royal Society of New South Wales for his researches in Australian palaeobotany.

In terms of an Agreement concluded between the Public Service Board and the Public Service Association, the titles of the Scientific officers were changed from Scientific Assistants to Curators and Assistant Curators.

One science trainee was appointed, Mr. D. F. McMichael, who entered upon the Science Course at the University of Sydney.

By death the Museum lost the services of Mr. G. C. Clutton, Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Preparation, on 19th December, 1947, after forty-three years of service; Mr. J. H. C. Wright, Assistant Taxidermist, who was on leave prior to retirement, on 8th March, 1948; and Mr. G. W. Gow, Assistant, on 9th April, 1948.

Mr. S. E. Roe, Assistant Mechanic, transferred to another department on 15th June, 1948.

3. Field Work.

Mr. J. R. Kinghorn accompanied Mr. J. R. Slevin, of the California Academy of Sciences, on a field trip to the Hampton district. Mr. H. O. Fletcher made collecting excursions to Brookvale Quarry and Whale Beach, and visited Burrigorang Valley and Gunnedah with officers of the New South Wales Geological Survey. Mr. F. D. McCarthy recorded groups of aboriginal rock engravings near Wiseman's Ferry and at Cowan Point and Patonga. A party of preparators accompanied Mr. A. Musgrave to Barrington Tops and carried out general collecting.

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4. Australian-American Arnhem Land Expedition.

A request was received from the Commonwealth Department of Information for the services of Mr. F. D. McCarthy on the Australian-American Expedition to Arnhem Land to be conducted jointly by the Department of Information, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Geographic Society. Approval was granted and Mr. McCarthy left with the expedition in February for about nine months' field work in Arnhem Land. Apart from the experience gained by Mr. McCarthy in this work, it is expected that the Museum will benefit greatly by additions to the collections.

5. Gallery Exhibits.

Improvements were made in the exhibits in the Bird gallery.

A small exhibit of uranium-bearing minerals was prepared and placed in the Entrance gallery.

A series of fossil reptilian footprints from Berowra Creek, obtained through the good offices of Mr. G. Scarratt, were placed on exhibition.

The New Guinea Ravi Group was removed to a more suitable position in the Gallery and arrangements made for its repair and overhaul.

Casts of a number of fish were prepared with a view to their inclusion in exhibits at a later date.

Delay in the commencement of the Black Cockatoo Group was due to the impossibility of obtaining the necessary iron for construction of the background. The difficulty appears to have been overcome and it is hoped soon to start on this work.

6. Library.

During the year 250 volumes were added to the Library, apart from the usual additions of unbound serials. Many exchanges suspended during recent years were resumed. The assistance rendered to Government departments and institutions, not only in this State, but also those of the Commonwealth, other States, and the nearby Dominion of New Zealand has increased in volume. It has afforded pleasure to be able to help research work and investigations by making available the resources of this specialised library. Investigators from abroad, as well as manufacturers, journalists, and artists, have also been assisted.

Difficulties in the way of labour and materials have proved a great hindrance in bookbinding.

As in previous years the librarian has rendered assistance in editing and the preparation of material for publication.

7. Publications.

During the year Volume IX, Parts 5, 6 and 7 of the "Australian Museum Magazine" were issued. Publication of the Magazine has been somewhat irregular during recent years, and steps were taken to endeavour to resume issue at regular intervals in future.

Volume XXI, Part 9, of the "Records," containing the List of Contents and Index, was issued, and Volume XXII, Part 1 was printed and ready for issue.

A new edition of "Australian Aboriginal Decorative Art," by F. D. McCarthy, was published during the year.

A list of the Museum publications in stock was prepared and submitted to the Auditor-General.

Arrangements were made to distribute to schools a number of surplus copies of early issues of the Museum Magazine.

8. Lectures.

The Popular Science Lectures delivered at the Museum were again well attended, and the lectures to School Children aroused much interest amongst the pupils.

The attendance at these lectures were as follows:—

12 Popular Science Lectures	1,183
12 School Lectures	2,126

Members of the scientific staff also delivered lectures and talks to various scientific societies and groups interested in natural history.

9. Education Officer.

Several attempts were made, but without success, to fill the vacant position of Education Officer, and the matter has been listed for further action during the coming year. It is regretted that this work, which had proved so promising in the educational field, has lost its continuity but it is hoped that it will be resumed at the first opportunity.

10. Broadcasting.

The scientific staff have continued to contribute to the nature study sessions in the school broadcasts by the Australian Broadcasting Commission and have also, from time to time, contributed to the news reviews on subjects of current scientific interest.

11. Centenary of Public Education in New South Wales.

During the week's celebration of the Centenary of Public Education in New South Wales, several special exhibits were placed in the galleries, and a series of Natural History films were shown each afternoon. The attendance at the film showings averaged about 100.

12. Films.

Only a small amount of film work has been carried out. Additional shots were taken at Barrington Tops, and occasional shots for a mammal film, as opportunity offered.

13. Buildings and Equipment.

The storage problem remains acute. As noted in the previous report, the sum of money placed on the Loan Estimates was quite inadequate for the erection of the proposed small brick building for storage purposes. However, further plans were submitted for construction of the two lower floors in the proposed extension of the Museum building along the William Street frontage. These sketch plans were approved by the Trustees and, as much-needed storage space would be provided, it is hoped that early provision will be made for a commencement of the work.

The Mezzanine floors in the rooms of the Entomologist and the Conchologist were completed and provided some relief in the storage problems in those two departments.

In February portion of the stone fence in College Street was severely damaged by a trolley bus which had got out of control. A suggestion was made that, in conjunction with the repair of the fence, some improvement might be made to the Museum entrance as had been planned in 1941. This was approved and it is understood that it will be carried out during the coming year.

The asphalt roadway within the Museum grounds, which had become very dilapidated and even dangerous in parts, was replaced by a concrete road.

14. Finance.

The total expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year (excluding Statutory Endowment of £1,000) was £22,688 16s. 7d. compared with £20,927 2s. 3d. last year. Net expenditure from Trustees' Account Funds (including Statutory Endowment) was £1,196 6s. 5d. compared with £969 4s. 6d. for 1946-47.

The cash balance in the Trustees' Account at 30th June, 1948, was £511 16s. 9d. Trustees' Invested Funds at 30th June, 1948, were: Commonwealth Inscribed Stock, £5,350; Commonwealth Savings Bank, £62 1s. 6d.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year is contained in Appendix "B".

15. Public Attendances.

Statistics of attendances for the years 1943-44 to 1947-48 are as follows:—

	Week days.	Sundays.	Total
1943-44	200,520	82,751	283,271
1944-45	178,317	78,397	256,714
1945-46	160,584	67,922	228,506
1946-47	120,194	54,801	174,995
1947-48	136,082	61,745	197,827

16. Country Museums.

The Trustees have agreed to co-operate with the Trustees of the Museum of Technology and Applied Science, by giving attention from time to time to the natural history exhibits in country museums. The exhibits at West Maitland Museum were inspected and arrangements were made for the repair and reconditioning of the bird exhibit, which is of considerable interest to visitors to that Museum.

17. Return of Stolen Butterfly Collection.

The Butterflies stolen from the Australian Museums by Colin Wyatt were returned to Australia in August, 1947. The entomologists from the Museums at Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide met at the South Australian Museum, and sorted out the collection of returned specimens as well as was possible, having in mind the difficulties resulting from changes that had been made in the labels on the specimens. The Trustees are further indebted to Dr. G. A. Waterhouse who has examined many of the specimens since their return to the Museum and who, from his personal knowledge of the collections, was able to identify some of the specimens with changed labels, and to remedy some of the errors which were unavoidable in the work of sorting the collections at Adelaide.

18. Museum Participation in the Work of UNESCO.

Australian participation in the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation is carried out by a series of National Co-operating bodies. The Director is a member of the Museums Co-operating Body, and also represents that body on the National Co-ordinating Committee which consists of one member of each Co-operating Body and which co-ordinates the work of all the bodies and forwards reports thereon for consideration by the Commonwealth.

19. The Collections and Scientific Work.

The collections in the galleries and in storage have received regular attention and are in satisfactory order. Some of them, however, are stored under conditions which are far from satisfactory and constant vigilance is necessary to prevent damage and deterioration. Owing to the dampness there are periodic outbreaks of various moulds which necessitate treatment by appropriate spraying. This condition will continue until satisfactory storage accommodation is provided, which can best be done by erection of a new building. Plans were submitted to the Trustees for erection of two lower floors of proposed extension of the northern wing of the Museum building along William Street, and it is earnestly hoped that the plans will be carried out as they will provide accommodation in which the vulnerable collections can be suitably housed.

Members of the staff contributed articles for the Museum Magazine and delivered talks to various scientific societies and groups interested in Natural History. Assistance was also given in the preparation of various sections of "Australian Science Abstracts."

Specimens were made available to students and artists for their work, and also to a number of commercial firms for use in window displays.

Birds (J. R. Kinghorn in charge; J. A. Keast, Science Trainee).

Nine hundred and sixty-four specimens were added to the registered collection—these included the collection of skins presented some time ago by Mr. W. Plowden Wardlaw, and a valuable series of Birds of Paradise and other New Guinea birds presented by Captain N. B. Blood. Many skins have been made up for exhibition and for educational purposes. Improvements have been made in portion of the gallery exhibits, and the collections have received regular attention by the preparators. The reference collections are in good order, except that in the basement mildew from time to time affects the eggs and some of the skins.

Assistance has been given to ornithologists in other parts of Australia and overseas by furnishing results of examination of specimens. Many visiting ornithologists have been helped by discussion of their problems and use of the collections.

Government departments, both State and Commonwealth, have been furnished with advice and reports on various subjects associated with birds and bird life.

Reptiles and Batrachians (J. R. Kinghorn in charge).

Two hundred and eighty specimens added during the year included collections by Mr. E. Worrell from Northern Territory, and by Museum parties at Barrington Tops and in the Cox River Valley and Hampton district. Specimens were also received from Mrs. G. Longley.

Types and other specimens have been examined for a number of herpetologists.

The number of visitors seeking information has been unusually large.

One paper, "A New Species of *Typhlops* from New Britain," was published in the *Records*.

Mammals and Skeletons (E. Le G. Troughton in charge).

Additions to the collection included a platypus rug, of seventy-five finely graded skins, received from Miss E. A. Hill; specimens from Taronga Park Trust, including possible new species and races of tree-kangaroos and a rare dorcopsid wallaby from New Guinea; about fifty species of mammals and a series of twenty-seven marsupial and dingo crania from the estate of the late J. H. C. Wright; and African bat species from Mr. E. Erasmus, of Pietermaritzburg.

A considerable amount of time was spent with Dr. D. H. Johnson, of the United States National Museum, reviewing the scrub-typhus material and associated problems.

Dr. G. H. H. Tate, of the American Museum of Natural History, spent some weeks in Sydney prior to departure for Cape York Peninsula, and much time was spent examining the mammal collections with him and assisting in his arrangements for field work.

Mr. Troughton acted on Inter-Departmental Committees reporting on the activities of Koala Park and on Live Hare Coursing. He also prepared reports on a variety of subjects for the Chief Secretary's Department, e.g., revision of Protection Act, open season for kangaroos west of Darling River, fauna and fire control, control of bandicoots. Other departments, State and Commonwealth, were assisted with advice and reports on native fauna and rabbit control, identification of bats as reservoirs of *Plasmodium*, zebu and buffalo distribution, and conservation in relation to farming and the pastoralist.

Mr. Troughton accompanied a deputation to the Minister for the Interior which urged the establishment of a fauna research and conservation park in the Australian Capital Territory and a zoological park in Canberra.

A series of about seventy crania of kangaroo species was identified for the South Australian Museum.

Little time was available for research, but as opportunity offered compilation of notes for revision of certain genera was continued and preliminary work was done for preparation of a "Check-list of Mammals of New Guinea" in collaboration with Mr. T. Iredale.

Fishes (G. P. Whitley in charge).

Noteworthy additions to the collections included a *Paralepis* from the stomach of an Antarctic blue whale; freshwater fishes (including new species from the Northern Territory), from Messrs. E. Worrell and M. Ward and Dr. D. Thomson; a new genus from Lord Howe Island, from Mr. R. Baxter; an oil fish and a new shark; coral fishes from New Caledonia, from Dr. R. Catala; European fishes from Professor T. Gislén; and razor fish from New Guinea, from the National Museum, Melbourne.

Research work included descriptions of some new genera and species of sharks and fishes, the following papers being published: "The Fluvifaunulae of Australia" (*Western Australian Naturalist*), "New Sharks and Fishes from Western Australia," "A New Aquarium Fish from North Queensland" (*Australian Zoologist*) and "Studies in Ichthyology, No. 13," in the *Records*. Other papers were also completed for publication.

Numerous inquiries on ichthyological matters were dealt with, many of them concerning sharks and shark attacks, fishes and fisheries, and identification of species.

Assistance was also rendered to scientists overseas and to various Government departments on many aspects of ichthyological questions.

Insects and Arachnids (A. Musgrave in charge and K. C. McKeown; Nancy B. Adams, Assistant).

For the greater part of the year work was carried on under difficult conditions owing to construction of a mezzanine floor in the entomologist's room. The completion of this work in March, 1948, resulted in improved working space and additional storage accommodation.

In August, 1947, Mr. Musgrave went to Adelaide for the purpose of assisting Messrs. A. N. Burns (Melbourne) and N. B. Tindale (Adelaide) in sorting the collection of stolen butterflies returned from London. Later all the specimens which had been in this stolen collection were labelled distinctively for the benefit of future workers on the butterfly collections.

Lists of the types of Australian Moths described by E. Meyrick, housed in this Museum were prepared for the Entomological Department of the British Museum. A catalogue of the Spiders of Tasmania was prepared by Mr. Musgrave at the request of the Director of the Queen Victoria Memorial Museum, Launceston, for publication in the records of that Museum. A paper by Mr. McKeown (in collaboration with Mr. V. H. Mincham) was published in the *Australian Zoologist*, and two papers, "A reference list of Types of Coleoptera in the Australian Museum," and "Australian Cerambycidae, viii," appeared in the *Records*.

A card catalogue of Australian Tabanidae (March flies) was prepared and the cabinet collection revised.

Work proceeded on the film of Barrington Tops which is now nearly complete.

In addition to supplying replies to very numerous inquiries, assistance was rendered to such departments as Department of Agriculture, New South Wales Forestry Commission, Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

Shells (Joyce Allan in charge; D. McMichael, Science Trainee).

Completion of a mezzanine floor in the Conchologist's room during March, 1948, provided improved working conditions and additional storage accommodation. It is now possible to make a greater portion of the reference collection easily accessible to the Conchologist by moving collections from the basement to the new mezzanine floor.

During a visit to Perth, in August, 1947, Miss Allan examined the Molluscan collections in the Western Australian Museum and also had an opportunity of inspecting the very fine collection of Western Australian shells belonging to Mr. B. Bardwell.

In preparing replies to many inquiries, reports were furnished on a small freshwater snail (*Hydrococcus graniformis*) suspected of carrying "bather's itch"; the so-called "Japanese snail" introduced by the Japanese into the South-west Pacific where it has proved a great pest; and pond snails, principally fluke-carrying types. Information concerning the habits of a carnivorous snail which attacks the garden snail has been received from Mr. C. F. McLauchlan.

Research has been carried out, as opportunity offered, on Opisthobranchia of Lord Howe Island, and on cephalopoda, heteropoda, pteropoda, and larval gasteropoda from the collections by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research research ship.

Several families in the collections were rearranged and revised.

A paper by Mr. C. F. Laseron, Honorary Correspondent, on "New South Wales Marginellidae" was published in the *Records*.

Crustacea and other Invertebrate Groups (F. A. McNeill in charge and Elizabeth C. Pope, M.Sc.; D. McMichael, Science Trainee).

Acquisitions include collections of plankton from Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Division of Fisheries, and a large collection of mixed invertebrate material, including Decapoda, Cirripedia, and Echinodermata, from Queensland, presented by Mr. S. Hynd. Members of the Sydney University Biological Society presented a collection of material from Heron Island. Type specimens of ten parasitic flatworms—all new to our collection—were received from Mr. P. Crowcroft. A large collection of lantern slides, useful for lectures, etc., was received from Mr. D. G. Stead.

A spirit collection of Porifera was checked and a list of the types prepared. Other spirit and dry collections were given necessary attention. Outbreaks of mould in the spirit collections, occasioned by long spells of wet weather, were checked by the use of appropriate sprays.

With the assistance of Mr. S. Hynd a considerable number of species of shrimps in the reference collection were named, and the collection of prawns (Penaeidae) revised.

Assistance rendered to various department, institutions and individuals involved identification of collections of marine invertebrates from Heron Island, of marine growths from floating mines, of New Guinea freshwater shrimps which are items of the food of the natives, and of local commercial prawns. The Commonwealth Department of Information received advice in connection with a Great Barrier Reef film, and the Department of Agriculture, as well as members of the public, sought information regarding the role of earthworms in soil fertility.

Research has included work on the identification of much unnamed material in the collection, and on the extensive collection of barnacles with the object of preparing a checklist.

Minerals (R. O. Chalmers in charge; J. F. Lovering, Science Trainee; Frida Sachs, Assistant).

One thousand and thirty-three specimens were registered, including 929 from the A. D. Coombe collection, which contains many fine specimens from new localities.

Of the inquiries received, many related to gemstones and radioactive minerals. On account of the public interest in radioactive minerals a special exhibit of uranium and thorium minerals was placed in the gallery. The light-proof exhibit was restored to working order, and fluorescent lighting was installed over some of the mineral cases.

Rocks (R. O. Chalmers in charge; J. F. Lovering, Science Trainee; Frida Sachs, Assistant).

Thirty-two specimens were added to the rock collections, the most interesting additions being the main mass (16 lb.) and several fragments of the "Dorrigo" meteorite, a portion of the Gundaring (W.A.) meteorite and a specimen of con-torted schist from near Kootingal presented by Mr. H. G. Hammond. The Dorrigo meteorite is rapidly attacked by salt-laden atmosphere and some difficulty was experienced in preserving it. The equipment for rock sectioning was installed in a new position and is nearly ready for resumption of this work.

An analysis was begun of the Forest Vale meteorite, and petrographic examination of the Nardoo aerolites Nos. 1 and 2 was begun.

Fossils (H. O. Fletcher in charge).

Acquisitions totalled 168 specimens, of which the most interesting were an opalized tooth of a Lower Cretaceous Crocodile from Lightning Ridge presented by Mr. T. Mitchell; additional insect remains from Permian rocks at Warner's Bay and Belmont, from Mr. O. L. M. Knight; and skull of a labyrinthodont allied to *Capitosaurus* and skull and body of the Jurassic fish *Uarbyichthys latus*, from Dr. R. T. Wade. Several collections of Permian marine fossils from the Gunnedah-Willow Tree district were received from the Geological Survey of New South Wales. A specimen of an almost complete skull of *Meiolania platyceps* from Lord Howe Island, and a series of fossil reptilian footprints from the Hawkesbury Sandstone at Berowra Creek were also obtained for the collection. The fossil footprints were placed on exhibition.

The type specimens in the collection are being checked and listed.

Many specimens were identified for visitors, and numerous inquiries were dealt with. A series of photographic enlargements of the more interesting fossils from the Wellington Caves was prepared for the Wellington Shire Council at the request of Mr. C. Robertson, M.L.A.

Reports were prepared on palaeontological matters for the Government Geologist, and some field work carried out in association with officers of the Geological Survey.

Specimens were made available to a number of research workers in palaeontology.

A paper on a new species of *Enorinurus* from Borenore was completed and work done on Permian fossils from New Zealand and additional trilobites from Silurian rocks at Borenore.

Anthropology (F. D. McCarthy in charge).

Additions to the collections were numerous and covered a wide range of anthropological material. They included an Eskimo kayak equipped with harpoons and other gear (from Dr. R. J. Tickle, Toronto, Canada); prehistoric stone implements, including new types, from Central New Guinea (Mr. A. J. Costelloe); art designs from Arnhem Land (Mrs. Margaret Preston); old Australian weapons (Mr. D. G. Stead); decorated weapons from North Australia (Mr. L. C. Bird); Groote Eylandt spear types (Mr. F. H. Gray); uniface pebble edge-ground axe from Port Macquarie (Mr. R. Dick); stone implements from Mackay (Mr. J. H. Williams); blow pipe and darts from Brunel, Borneo (Mr. D. G. Stead); Fijian pottery piece (Mrs. E. E. Corbett); and weapons from Wahgi Valley, New Guinea (Mr. Ray).

Aboriginal rock engravings were examined and recorded on Flat Rock Ridge, near Wiseman's Ferry, and at Arcadia, Patonga, and Cowan Point. At Patonga kitchen-middens were inspected and a fine series of charcoal drawings was found in a rock shelter on the Broadwater. At Cowan Point a small rock-shelter yielded portion of a human skeleton, the first found associated with the Bondaian culture in New South Wales.

Several chapters were written for the monograph on the aborigines of the Sydney-Hawkesbury district. A paper on a new type of waisted hammerstones was prepared for the *Records*, and one on prehistoric and unusual stone implements from New Guinea was prepared for publication in "Mankind." A paper on "The Lapstone Creek Excavation" was printed in the *Records*.

A list of unreserved aboriginal relics in the County of Cumberland was prepared for the Cumberland County Council.

Interesting subjects of inquiry during the year included aboriginal designs suitable for use on the buttons of a cloak to be presented to Princess Elizabeth; aboriginal art designs; carved trees in the Dubbo district; an aboriginal ballet scene; rock engravings in Kuring-gai Chase; and rock paintings in the Mudgee district.

In March, Mr. McCarthy left Sydney to join the Australian-American Expedition to Arnhem Land—a scientific expedition conducted under the joint auspices of the Commonwealth Department of Information, the Smithsonian Institution and the National Geographic Society. Up to the end of June Mr. McCarthy, as a member of the Expedition, had carried out investigations at Umba Kumba Mission Station, Groote Eylandt, Winchelsea Island, Bickerton Island, Lake Hubert and Central Hill, Amalipa, Chasm Island, and Onguruku Mission Station. These investigations covered a wide range of subjects, including native arts and crafts, native ceremonial rites, bark paintings, stone arrangements, native social organisation, totemic sites, etc.

Numismatics (F. D. McCarthy in charge; G. C. Heyde, Honorary Numismatist).

Mr. G. C. Heyde continued his work on the classification of Australian tokens, and sorted out the duplicates amongst the Australian tokens and military medals. He has dealt with numerous inquiries on numismatics.

Small series of mixed coins were presented by Messrs. T. P. Steel and A. A. Mawdsley, American coins by Mr. J. Lundby, British Regimental Badges by Miss J. M. Doak, and a bronze "Plimsoll" medal by Mr. R. A. Starre; a W. D. Wood token issued in Tasmania was obtained by purchase.

Department of Preparation (J. Kingsley, Preparator, in charge; W. Barnes, Assistant Preparator).

During the year one mammal and twenty-eight birds were mounted, twenty-four mammal skins, twenty-eight bird skins, two skeletons and thirty skulls were prepared, and eleven old skeletons repaired.

In the photographic section 218 negatives, 563 prints and 125 lantern slides were prepared, and 808 prints mounted.

Seventy-three moulds were prepared, sixty-two casts were made, and two casts were coloured. Some of the moulds prepared are for casting in phenolic resin, acrylic resin, or latex.

Preliminary work was done in preparation for the installation of a Black Cockatoo habitat group.

Arrangements for tanning of skins were made with the Sydney Technical College Tanning School, and this should prove useful for future sculpture taxidermy.

The collections in the gallery and in storage have received regular attention.

Mr. Barnes visited the Museum at West Maitland and reported on the condition of natural history exhibits.

Accessions for the year 1947-48 totalled:—

Vertebrata	1,074
Invertebrata	4,421
Geological	1,257
Ethnological	261
Miscellaneous	355
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	7,368
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Papers and articles published during the year totalled:—

Records of the Australian Museum	7
Australian Museum Magazine	21
Other Publications	6

The Common Seal of the Museum was hereunto affixed by Order of the Board this twelfth day of October, 1948.

H. B. MATHEWS, President.
A. B. WALKOM, Director.

APPENDIX A.

TRUSTEES OF THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM AT 30TH JUNE, 1948.

Crown Trustee	H. B. Mathews, B.A.
Statutory	His Honour the Chief Justice. The Hon. the Colonial Secretary. The Hon. the Attorney-General. The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer. The Auditor-General. The President of the Medical Board.
Appointed	The Hon. the President of the Legislative Council. The Crown Solicitor. The Surveyor-General and Chief Surveyor. The Hon. the Minister for Works. The Hon. the Minister for Education.
Elective	*E. C. Andrews, B.A. C. Gordon MacLeod, M.A., M.D., Ch.M. Professor A. N. St. G. Burkitt, M.B., B.Sc. Professor W. J. Dakin, D.Sc. Frank B. Spencer. John Spence, C.M.G. O. G. Vickery, B.E., M.I.E. (Aust.). Wallace C. Wurth, C.M.G., LL.B. Professor A. P. Elkin, M.A., Ph.D. F. McDowell. R. J. Noble, M.Sc., B.Sc.Agr., Ph.D. E. J. Kenny, M.Aust. I.M.M.

* Since deceased.

APPENDIX B.

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

Summarised Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year ended 30th June, 1948.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
<i>Appropriation Account—</i>			<i>By Salaries, etc.</i>	20,078	17 4
To Treasury Appropriations	22,688	16 7	Superannuation Contributions	1,035	7 6
			Insurance	377	4 0
			Maintenance Repairs, Alterations, etc.	65	3 1
			Travelling Expenses	152	3 6
			Freight, Cartage and Packing	87	2 1
			Books, Periodicals and Papers	305	9 4
			Fees, Commissions, etc.	47	2 0
			Laundry Expenses	27	7 10
			Postal and Telegraphic	78	15 10
			Stores, Provisions, Minor Plant, etc.	414	18 1
			Sundries	19	6 0
				22,688	16 7
<i>Trustees' Account—</i>	£	s. d.	<i>Printing and Publishing—</i>		
Statutory Endowment	750	0 0	Magazines	366	1 9
Donations	36	18 11	Australian Aboriginal Decorative Art	248	3 3
Sales of Publications	396	16 6	Utility Truck	328	0 8
Interest	97	19 6	Specimens	60	2 8
Miscellaneous	36	12 5	Stores and Services	136	11 10
	1,318	7 4	Miscellaneous Expenses	24	8 9
			Publication Sales paid to Treasury	32	17 6
<i>Vickery Bequest Account—</i>				1,196	6 5
Interest	16	2 2			
<i>Balances as at 1st July, 1947—</i>			<i>Balances as at 30th June, 1948—</i>		
<i>Trustees' Account—</i>	£	s. d.	<i>Trustees' Account—</i>		
Cash at bank and on hand	1,428	7 10	Cash at bank and on hand	511	16 9
Investments	4,373	9 6	Investments	5,412	1 6
	5,801	17 4		5,923	18 3
<i>Vickery Bequest Account—</i>			<i>Vickery Bequest Account—</i>		
Cash at bank	152	17 4	Cash at bank	168	19 6
Investments	400	0 0	Investments	400	0 0
	552	17 4		568	19 6
	£30,378	0 9		£30,378	0 9

A. B. WALKOM,
Director Australian Museum.