

Field Museum of Natural History

Founded by Marshall Field, 1893

Roosevelt Road and Lake Michigan, Chicago

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FIELD MUSEUM NEWS

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Field Museum is open every day of the year during the hours indicated below:

November, December, January	9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
February, March, April, October	9 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
May, June, July, August, September	9 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Admission is free to Members on all days. Other adults are admitted free on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; non-members pay 25 cents on other days. Children are admitted free on all days. Students and faculty members of educational institutions are admitted free any day upon presentation of credentials.

The Museum's natural history Library is open for reference daily except Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

Traveling exhibits are circulated in the schools of Chicago by the N. W. Harris Public School Extension Department of the Museum.

Lectures for schools, and special entertainments and tours for children at the Museum, are provided by the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures.

Announcements of free illustrated lectures for the public, and special lectures for Members of the Museum, will appear in FIELD MUSEUM NEWS.

A cafeteria in the Museum serves visitors. Rooms are provided for those bringing their lunches.

Chicago Motor Coach Company No. 26 buses go direct to the Museum.

Members are requested to inform the Museum promptly of changes of address.

MEMBERSHIP IN FIELD MUSEUM

Field Museum has several classes of Members. Benefactors give or devise \$100,000 or more. Contributors give or devise \$1,000 to \$100,000. Life Members give \$500; Non-Resident Life and Associate Members pay \$100; Non-Resident Associate Members pay \$50. All the above classes are exempt from dues. Sustaining Members contribute \$25 annually. After six years they become Associate Members. Annual Members contribute \$10 annually. Other memberships are Corporate, Honorary, Patron, and Corresponding, additions under these classifications being made by special action of the Board of Trustees.

Each Member, in all classes, is entitled to free admission to the Museum for himself, his family and house guests, and to two reserved seats for Museum lectures provided for Members. Subscription to FIELD MUSEUM NEWS is included with all memberships. The courtesies of every museum of note in the United States and Canada are extended to all Members of Field Museum. A Member may give his personal card to non-residents of Chicago, upon presentation of which they will be admitted to the Museum without charge. Further information about memberships will be sent on request.

BEQUESTS AND ENDOWMENTS

Bequests to Field Museum of Natural History may be made in securities, money, books or collections. They may, if desired, take the form of a memorial to a person or cause, named by the giver.

Cash contributions made within the taxable year not exceeding 15 per cent of the taxpayer's net income are allowable as deductions in computing net income under Article 251 of Regulation 69 relating to the income tax under the Revenue Act of 1926.

Endowments may be made to the Museum with the provision that an annuity be paid to the patron for life. These annuities are tax-free and are guaranteed against fluctuation in amount.

RAGWEED AND HAY FEVER

By PAUL C. STANDLEY

Associate Curator of the Herbarium

Every year many articles in newspapers and scientific publications are devoted to poison ivy, but the persons affected by that plant are relatively few, and are only those who actually come into contact with the plant as it grows in the fields and woods. A greater cause of discomfort to the human race is found in the plants that cause hay fever, for these pursue their victims to the cities, and cause there, among a denser population, a still greater amount of suffering than in the thinly inhabited regions where they grow.

As is well known, hay fever, an affection that causes such acute distress to its many victims and arouses so little sympathy among onlookers, is caused by the inhalation of wind-blown pollen of various plants. In Illinois there are three well-marked hay fever seasons: in April and May, when cottonwoods, elms, and oaks are in flower; in June, when bluegrass, timothy, and other grasses are blooming; and, of prime importance, a period from the middle of August to mid-September, when ragweeds are in full bloom.

Many other plants besides those mentioned are responsible for hay fever, but they are of minor importance. In northern Illinois they include such varied weeds as cocklebur, Russian thistle, lamb's quarters, pigweed, English plantain, and many others.

The ragweeds, however, are by far the most important cause of hay fever. Two kinds grow almost everywhere about Chicago: the common ragweed, that abounds on dusty roadsides, in harvested grain fields, and in vacant city lots; and the giant ragweed, that prefers low moist ground, especially in stream valleys, but thrives all too well in the waste land in Chicago. Both these plants are illustrated by lifelike reproductions in the Hall of Plant Life (Hall 29) in Field Museum.

Of all the annual weeds native in northern Illinois, none grows so rapidly and vigorously as giant ragweed. Large tracts of lowland in the Calumet region often are overgrown with the plants, six to ten feet high and so dense that it is almost impossible to force a way through them. Not even in the most favored sections of the tropics, probably, is it possible to find more luxuriant plant covering.

Each year about the middle of August some effort is made to destroy the ragweed patches that occupy the waste land in Chicago, in order to lessen hay fever suffering. While these local weeds are a menace to people living near them, ragweed pollen is so light that it is carried long distances by the wind, and there is an ample supply of it everywhere throughout the farming regions. Cutting the ragweed in the city, therefore, is of little value in relieving hay fever patients, and there is no hope that relief may ever be obtained for them by suppression of the source of the affliction.

LABRADOR SEA TROUT

By ALFRED C. WEED

Assistant Curator of Fishes

Many fishermen are surprised to learn that eastern brook trout or speckled trout frequently go to the sea in summer and spend several months growing fat on the abundant food in bays and inlets. It is even more astonishing to find that a close relative of the European charr is found in North America and spends most of its life in the sea. This fish is called "trout" in

Greenland and "sea trout" along the Labrador coast.

A fine male sea trout, collected by the Second Rawson-MacMillan Subarctic Expedition to Labrador and Baffin Land (1927-28), has been reproduced in celluloid by Staff Taxidermist Arthur G. Rueckert and is now on exhibition in Albert W. Harris Hall (Hall 18).

The salmon family, as understood at present, is divided into three great groups: the Pacific salmon; the Atlantic salmon and its relatives, including brown, rainbow, steelhead, and cut-throat trouts; and the charrs, including the European charr and the Dolly Varden, eastern brook, and lake trouts. The charrs are generally supposed to confine themselves strictly to fresh water. With the exception of the lake trout, they live mainly in the smaller streams, frequently at high altitudes.

European varieties of charr range from small residents of Alpine brooks to fish almost as large as salmon found in Sweden and Norway. Varieties of the same species are found in North America and Greenland. In streams of Baffin Land and Greenland they often reach a length of more than three feet, and weigh more than twenty pounds.

In Labrador, these sea trout spawn in the streams and probably spend their winters in lakes and deep pools. As soon as the ice opens up enough so they can travel in the rivers, they go down to the sea, where they stay until the approach of freezing weather starts them toward the breeding grounds. The young trout go to salt water when they are about a year old, and sometimes stay there through their second winter.

While living in the sea, these trout are colored similarly to the whitefish or lake herring. Their sides are silvery and their backs pearly green or blue. When they go up the streams to the spawning beds, their colors change. The back becomes a deep greenish or brownish black in which the brilliant red spots characteristic of charrs gleam like fiery coals. The silvery color of the sides of the males changes to a brilliant vermilion. The lower fins are vermilion, with borders of white. The sides of the females are even more brilliant, shining with an intense pure blood-red.

HOPI POTTERY

The Hopi Indians were manufacturing excellent pottery when first encountered by Spanish explorers in 1540. They or their ancestors had likewise turned out fine wares for centuries before the arrival of the Spaniards.

After the Spanish conquest, a marked degeneration of the industry set in. Many pueblos abandoned entirely the art of pottery-making, while others continued it but with a very poor technique.

In 1897, however, some archaeological work was being done by the late Dr. J. W. Fewkes at one of the ancient Hopi towns. One of the potters of a near-by village saw the beautiful pottery which was being excavated from graves. She was so inspired by the sight of the ancient wares that she began to copy their designs. As a result the Hopi potters at present are turning out fine work which is a skillful imitation of the lost style.

A collection of Hopi pottery has just been installed in Hall 7. Here may be seen pottery that was made about 1540, 1850, and 1910, together with an exhibit which illustrates the Hopi process of pottery manufacture step by step.



Standley, Paul Carpenter. 1933. "Ragweed and Hay Fever." *Field Museum news* 4(9), 2-2.

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