

MUSEUM'S BIRD GROUPS SHOWN IN 'THREE-DIMENSION PICTURES'

The habitat groups of birds exhibited in Hall 20 of the Museum have been reproduced in "three-dimensional pictures" in a new book, *The Bird Kingdom*, which will go on sale during the first week of May. This book is a companion volume to *The Animal Kingdom*, published a few months ago, containing the same sort of illustrations depicting Field Museum's habitat groups of American, Asiatic, and African mammals.

Each copy of these books is accompanied by an optical device known as the "Orthoscope," and the pictures are printed by a special process which makes them appear, when viewed through this device, as though they were in three dimensions like the groups which they depict. The birds and animals stand out vividly from the background and seem to come to life. They and the objects that surround them are brought into high relief just as they might be seen in nature.

Both adults and children will find these pictures fascinating and interesting.

Included among the groups pictured in *The Bird Kingdom* are such widely varied species as the northern loon, golden eagle, California condor, whooping crane, wild turkey, white pelican, ruffed grouse, flamingo, jabiru stork, horned screamer, scarlet ibis, Alaskan water birds, albatrosses and other mid-Pacific birds. Opposite the three-dimensional pictures are black-and-white illustrations, with key-numbers for identification, where necessary. An informative text accompanies each group.

The book is 9 by 11 inches in size, and bound in dupont leather. The Orthovis Company of Chicago is the publisher. Copies will be on sale at the Museum at \$2.00 each, plus 15 cents for postage if ordered by mail.

Representations of bacteria as seen through a microscope may be inspected in the Hall of Plant Life.

AN ETHNOLOGICAL COLLECTION FROM PACIFIC ISLANDS

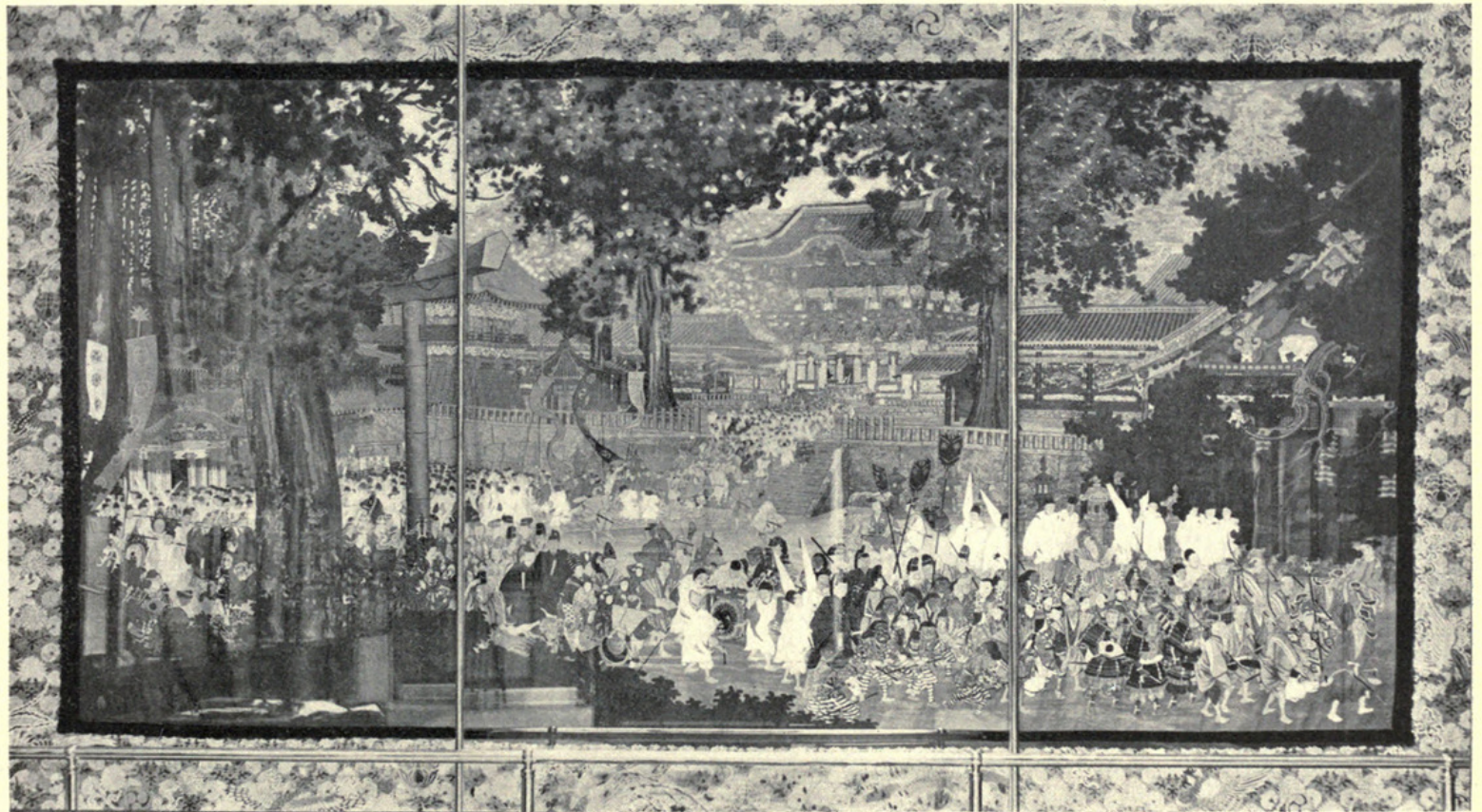
A collection of 835 ethnological specimens from the Pacific islands of the Melanesian and Polynesian groups has been presented to the Museum by Templeton Crocker of San Francisco. The collection is of high value, and will be a most desirable supplement to the material the Museum previously possessed from these regions, notably the exhibits in Joseph N. Field Hall (Hall A), and Hall F.

In recognition of this generous gift, Mr. Crocker has been elected to the class of Museum membership designated as Contributors.

Summer Schedule Begins

The summer schedule of visiting hours begins at the Museum on May 1. From that date until Labor Day (September 3) visitors will be admitted between the hours of 9 A.M. and 6 P.M.

A LARGE JAPANESE SILK TAPESTRY, NOTABLE FOR ITS ART AND HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE



A Masterpiece of Artistic Weaving

Several hundred men worked for four years in making this unique tapestry. Field Museum, unfortunately no longer able to exhibit it, will consider offers from other institutions or private collectors for its sale or exchange.

This huge unique tapestry, measuring 22 by 13 feet, was made in Kyoto, Japan, for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, at the close of which it was purchased by Field Museum. Entirely hand made, several hundred men were engaged for four years in its production. The amount of labor spent on it may be gauged from the fact that the weaving of a single face represents a man's work for from three to ten days. Almost seven hundred different colors were used, and a hundred experiments were made with coloring the portal and the large tree.

The subject represented in this woven picture is the consecration of the celebrated temple in Nikko dedicated to the memory

of Prince Ieyasu, one of the prominent figures in Japan's history, who broke the power of the feudal lords and established himself as generalissimo (shogun) of the empire. His memorial temple was completed in 1635, and its consecration was celebrated on a grand scale with solemn ceremonies. Fifteen hundred men participated in the procession to the temple, and this procession is depicted in the tapestry. The main features of the festival are two portable shrines each carried by a hundred men. The wood carvings of the temple are exactly reproduced with their original designs and colors. The costumes likewise are represented with fidelity, making this tapestry not merely one

of artistic quality, but also an accurate document of historical value. The structure occupying the center is the Yomeimon, which is a gateway in front of the main building that contains the life-size statue of Prince Ieyasu. The three buildings on the right enshrine the numerous temple treasures.

The constant expansion of the Museum's collections, and space requirements for new material, unfortunately render it necessary to withdraw this tapestry from exhibition. The Museum therefore desires to dispose of it to another institution or a private collector, either by way of exchange or cash transaction. Interested parties should communicate with the Director.

—B. L.



Laufer, Berthold. 1934. "A Large Japanese Silk Tapestry, Notable for its Art and Historic Significance." *Field Museum news* 5(5), 3–3.

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