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Bill to Museum, Feb 10 1925

Setting up two Golden Eagles, supplying eggs and nest £38.10.0.

G. Hancock
Bolton Museum

ENTOMOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT

Members may be interested to know the address of a French entomological equipment supplier:-

Sciences Nat,
2 rue Andre Mellenne,
Venette,
60200 Compiègne,
France.

They offer a range of items not available in this county, for example die stamped mounting cards of standard sizes, continental height setting boards and spherical glass anti-spill fumigant cups on pins for store boxes etc.

Hildegard Winkler,
A-1180 WIEN,
Dittesgasse 11,
Vienna,

Also offer many items not available in Britain including die stamped cards and the full range of continental length pins (apparently the sole maker of these without forged heads).

J. Cooter
Natural History Dept.
Glasgow.

THE INSIDE STORY

This exhibition opened at Sunderland Museum at the end of April 1978, and provided an insight into the techniques used by taxidermists and featured some of the best examples of the art of taxidermy. The

'techniques' side of the exhibition was designed to be a travelling exhibition in its own right and is available for hire to museums and galleries in Scotland from August 1978 until July 1979, thereafter in the rest of Great Britain.

The exhibition consists of two upright cases (2000 x 1400 x 700mm), three desk cases (1000 x 1400 x 700 mm) and five free standing graphic panels (2000 x 900 mm). They are free standing and constructed from Click components in extruded aluminium and glazed with 6 mm plate glass.

Bird Mounting

An upright case containing a series of five Magpie skins demonstrating how a bird is skinned and mounted. One is a mount sectioned from bill to tail exposing the false body and wires. The final mount is represented by two Magpies robbing a nest, and there is a cabinet skin.

Small Mammal Mounting

An upright case using Grey Squirrels as examples showing a series of four skins in various stages of preparation, one being sectioned through. There are two cabinet skins, in winter and summer pelage and a final mount. In addition there are two record photographs of a specimen prior to mounting.

Freeze Drying

A desk case with a diagram and explanation of the freeze drying unit and the process together with the following examples : Wood Mouse, House Mouse, Willow Warbler, 3 Great Crested Newts, Adder, Weasel.

Casting Reptiles and Amphibia

A desk case containing a series of moulds and casts showing the various stages of producing a resin cast of a Common Toad. There are also two examples of cast Adders and a painted and an unpainted Slow Worm.

Fish Casting

A desk case containing a series of examples showing the stages in the preparation of a fibreglass cast of a Herring.

Graphic panels

Panel 1 Title panel and
Side A : Introduction based on design of poster
Side B : Historical background I

Panel 2

- Side A : Taxidermy and You
Techniques General. Cartoon
Side B : Historical Background II

Panel 3

- Side A : Large Mammal Mounting
Side B : The Guild of Taxidermists
British Taxidermists, A Historical Directory

Panel 4

- Side A : Large Mammal Mounting (Indirect Method)
Side B : Modern Commercial techniques illustrated by prepared
polyurethane foam manikins from Jonas Brothers, USA.

Panel 5

- Side A : Large Mammal Mounting with photo of Leopard manikin
in preparation
Side B : (in preparation)

The exhibition is designed to stand as a display in its own right, occupying approximately 60m² but may also form a nucleus of a larger exhibition prepared by the host venue. The organisers are willing to give advice on suitable material for a larger exhibition and where it may be obtained.

Posters and information sheets

Twenty posters are supplied free with the exhibition, additional copies are available at £7.00 per hundred plus postage. The format is A3 printed in 3 colours with space for overprinting. Information sheets are printed on the reverse of the poster design and are available at £8.00 per 100 plus postage.

Slides

For the large exhibitions at Sunderland Museum and the Collins Exhibition Hall, Glasgow, a slide pack of 80 slides was prepared for presentation in a back projection booth. The slides 1 to 48 show in detail the preparation of a leopard mount by Roy Hale of the British Museum (Natural History). The remaining 32 are of extremely fine dioramas in European and American museums. The slide pack can be made available for venues wishing to make their own arrangements for projecting them. It may be possible by special arrangement to borrow the back projection booth, although this is not offered as part of the exhibition package. Museums must provide their own Kodak Carousel 2000 S-AV equipped with 35 mm wide angle lens and interval timer.

Booking

The hire fee is £50 per four week period, and enquiries should be made to Martin Warren, Curator, Collins Exhibition Hall, University of Strathclyde, 22 Richmond Street, Glasgow, G1 1XQ. Telephone 041-552-4400.

MAG/NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES, TRANSACTIONS NUMBER 13. SEMINAR ON HEALTH AND SAFETY IN MUSEUMS

The contents of this special issue of MAG Transactions cover the proceedings of a seminar on 'Health and Safety in Museums' held at the National Museum of Wales on 14th and 15th April 1977. The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 imposes responsibility not only in respect of staff employed in a museum, but also when the general public is admitted to the galleries, and the papers in this issue indicate some of the problem areas and possibly some solutions.

Of particular interest to BCG members are the chapters on 'Design of Conservation and General Laboratories' (Colin Meredith, Dept. Zoology, Imperial College) 'Working with toxic hazards' (John R. Glover, Welsh National School of Medicine) and 'Diseases communicable from animals to man' (Bernard Williams, MAFF, Tolworth).

A wealth of information can be found throughout the publication, and it must feature as essential reading for all museum staff. Copies can be obtained (£3 each) from either MAG or the National Museum of Wales.

SUBSCRIPTIONS were due in January - have you paid yours yet ???