

# SPNHC

## The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections

### Collection Forum

Spring 1986, Volume 2, Number 1

#### OPINION

What is our Science?

Daniel J. Faber, *National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*

Teaching with Touching

Mary Parsons, *Ottawa, Ontario, Canada*

#### FEATURE ARTICLES

THE REDPATH MUSEUM: MCGILL UNIVERSITY'S TEACHING &  
RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

D. Alison, I. Birker, S. Gabe, J. Kaylor, and B. Larson  
*Redpath Museum, McGill University, Montreal, Canada*

The Redpath Museum of McGill University is briefly described. Although it is closed to the public, it serves important teaching and research functions for the natural history communities of Montreal, Canada and the rest of the world.

THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY INSECT COLLECTION:  
THIS ORPHAN NEEDS TO BE ADOPTED

Gordon D. Gill  
*Marquette, Michigan, USA*

A significant insect collection which has been assembled over a period of almost 40 years is about to become orphaned. What can be done about it?

COLLECTING DIATOMS IN INLETS OFF VANCOUVER ISLAND: AN  
ADVENTURE IN PARADISE

Richard L. Colby  
*Vancouver and Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada*

An amateur collector writes about his collecting and preserving activities in British Columbia while crying out for professional assistance. Can any readers help him?

#### RESEARCH ARTICLES

CLEANING A MAMMALIAN HEART FOR DISPLAY PURPOSES

C. Romero-Sierra, J.K. Desmarteau, & K.C. Carlson  
*Department of Anatomy, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6, Canada*

Some steps in the preparation of biological specimens for museum display are very time-consuming and damaging, for example, the elimination of fatty tissue from visceral organs by curettage. A method of chemical degreasing has been explored and results indicate it is useful in shortening the time of cleaning beef hearts of their fat. Chloroform had a harsher effect on the fat than did acetone.

## NEWS AND REVIEWS

### Meetings

### Miscellany

Reorganization of Paleontology Collection  
Julia Golden, *University of Iowa*

Survey of Natural History Collections in  
New Brunswick  
Don McAlpine, *New Brunswick Museum*

Survey of Avian Remains  
Julia Golden, *University of Iowa*

Survey of Collections Being Moved  
Julia Golden, *University of Iowa*

Financial Assistance Programmes for  
Canadian Institutions  
Susan Murdock, *National Museums of Canada*

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victoria Memorial  
Museum Building  
Joanne Faber, *Ottawa, Ontario*

### Reviews

Recent Publications in Natural History  
Daniel J. Faber, *National Museum of Natural  
Sciences*

### Supplies and Equipment

How Compactors Help to Give Collections Managers  
Control  
G. Brooke Ferris and D. Fenner, *Spacesaver Corp.*

## SOCIETY BUSINESS

Letters

Organizing Committee Meeting

Annual Meeting in Washington D.C.