

THE department of anthropology has recently received as a gift from Mrs. Wm. Tod Helmuth a sacred belt, apron, and headdress from Darjeeling, Tibet. They are made of shuttle-shaped pieces of human bone, ornately carved and strung together with smaller bead-shaped bits of bone, against a background of green cloth. The Tibetan wearer believes that the garments have the power of transmitting to him the virtues of the saints of whose bones they are made. In recognition of this gift, Mrs. Helmuth has been elected a Patron of the American Museum.

MR. ALESSANDRO FABBRI has been appointed research associate in physiology in the department of anatomy and physiology of the American Museum. Mr. Fabbri, who has gained fame for his marvelous work in the production of motion picture films of microscopic forms, is at present devoting himself to making motion photographs of isolated living cells in which it is intended to show, in a graphic way, contractility and like phenomena. Mr. Fabbri will present to the Museum copies of the films he makes.

THE first exhibition of prizma motion pictures, given at the American Museum of Natural History on February 8, called forth more than three thousand spectators, so many that to accommodate an overflow of fully a thousand people the films were run through a second time. The prizma pictures furnish a most remarkable reproduction of the colors of nature. Four colors, made up of two pairs of complementary colors, and covering photographically the whole range of visible colors, are made use of to give a roundness and depth to the pictures which could never be attained in black and white. The pictures are taken on standard panchromatic film, and, although in the hand they have the appearance of the black and white films in general use, they possess color values which are reproduced by special attachments applicable to standard projecting machines.

THE American Museum has acquired by purchase the complete fall of the new meteorite known as Burkett. It is in six pieces and weighs 8,018 grams. The specimen was found by Mr. W. A. Smith, October, 1913, on the premises of his father-in-law, Mr. D. W. Howe, in Coleman County, Texas, about eighteen and a half miles

northeast of Coleman City on the waters of Pecan Bayou known as Section 24, surveyed by the Houston, Texas, and Brazos River Railroad, and patented by D. W. Howe. The Holloway Peaks bear east about three miles, and the town of Burkett bears north about three and a half miles, latitude thirty-two degrees north and longitude one hundred degrees west from Greenwich. The mass was partially buried with the large end down, dipping toward the east at an angle of about twenty degrees. It was found on level ground. The soils of this area are sandy loam and gravelly loam types, interspersed with belts of black soil. These soils seem to be of residual origin, the sands, sandy loams, and gravelly loams being derived from the underlying Carboniferous sandstones and conglomerates,—all of which are overspread with a dwarfish growth of post oak, Spanish oak, mesquite, elm, and hackberry. A portion of the fall was analyzed by Booth, Garrett, and Blair, of Philadelphia, for the Foote Mineral Company, in 1915. The composition of the meteorite is as follows: silicon, 0.004; sulphur, 0.172; phosphorus, 0.169; nickel, 6.670; cobalt, 0.560; copper, 0.014; carbon, 0.163; iron, 90.028; and iron oxide, 2.230. The specific gravity is 7.718.

One piece was used for the determination of troilite and schreibersite. The amount of sulphur is so small that the presence of troilite is doubted. Material resembling schreibersite to the amount of 9.343 per cent. was obtained, that is, 1.1175 grams of material insoluble in dilute hydrochloric acid was obtained from 11.96 grams of the original iron. This by analysis gave: iron, 68.594; phosphorus, 2.350; nickel, 4.920; cobalt, 0.180; and iron oxide, 24.000. This composition does not conform to that of schreibersite, and must represent some other phosphide.

MR. GEORGE K. CHERRIE, who left New York for South America in May, 1916, has returned after ten months spent in the swamps and forests of Paraguay and Brazil. During these months he continued the explorations begun by the Roosevelt-Rondon Expedition, which explored the "River of Doubt" in 1914, but which was unable to remain to investigate closely the life histories of the remarkable birds and mammals of the region. The most serious work of the new expedition began at Puerto Pinasco