

These, too, were printed in Stockholm and were incorporated in due numerical sequence with the whole series.

The various sciences represented in the series are numbered with Roman numerals and are classified in the following eleven groups:

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| I. Geography | VII. Archaeology |
| II. Geodesy | VIII. Ethnography |
| III. Geology | IX. Meteorology |
| IV. Palaeobotany | X. Zoology |
| V. Invertebrate Palaeontology | XI. Botany. |
| VI. Vertebrate Palaeontology | |

A freer place is taken by the three volumes belonging to group X, Zoology, as they were published in the *Arkiv för Zoologi* of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Group VIII includes other subjects besides pure ethnography, such as descriptions of temples, lamaistic ecclesiastical art, Mongolian songs and music, interpretations of Sakian, Uighur and other ancient manuscripts found by us. Under the heading Archaeology is included the examination of craniological and other osteological material that were found in connection with the archaeological excavations.

The present volumes, bearing the common title »History of the Expedition», may be regarded as an introduction to the whole series, a survey of the course and organization of the expedition and a description of the circumstances under which we travelled, lived and worked in the heart of Asia. In these volumes will be found an account of how the expedition originated and became a reality, and how from 1927 to 1935 it underwent radical changes.

In this History of the Expedition the reader will find that the whole enterprise falls naturally into three different periods, so that strictly speaking we have to do with three separate enterprises, with in part different aims, working program, financial support and membership.

The first part is devoted to descriptions of the original expedition, whose main aim was the founding of an air-line between Berlin and Peking-Shanghai. By the side of the technical tasks scientific work was also carried out, especially in geology, archaeology, meteorology, topography, zoology, botany and physical anthropology. The period covered was from February 1927 to May 1928. The financial support was given by Deutsche Lufthansa. The members were German air-experts, and Swedish and Chinese scientists. In the beginning of every part there is a list of the members in the section of the expedition dealt with in the part in question.

Part II covers the period between the summer of 1928 and the autumn of 1933. This time the working program included only scientific tasks, and the greater part