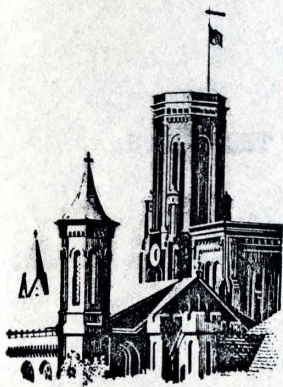
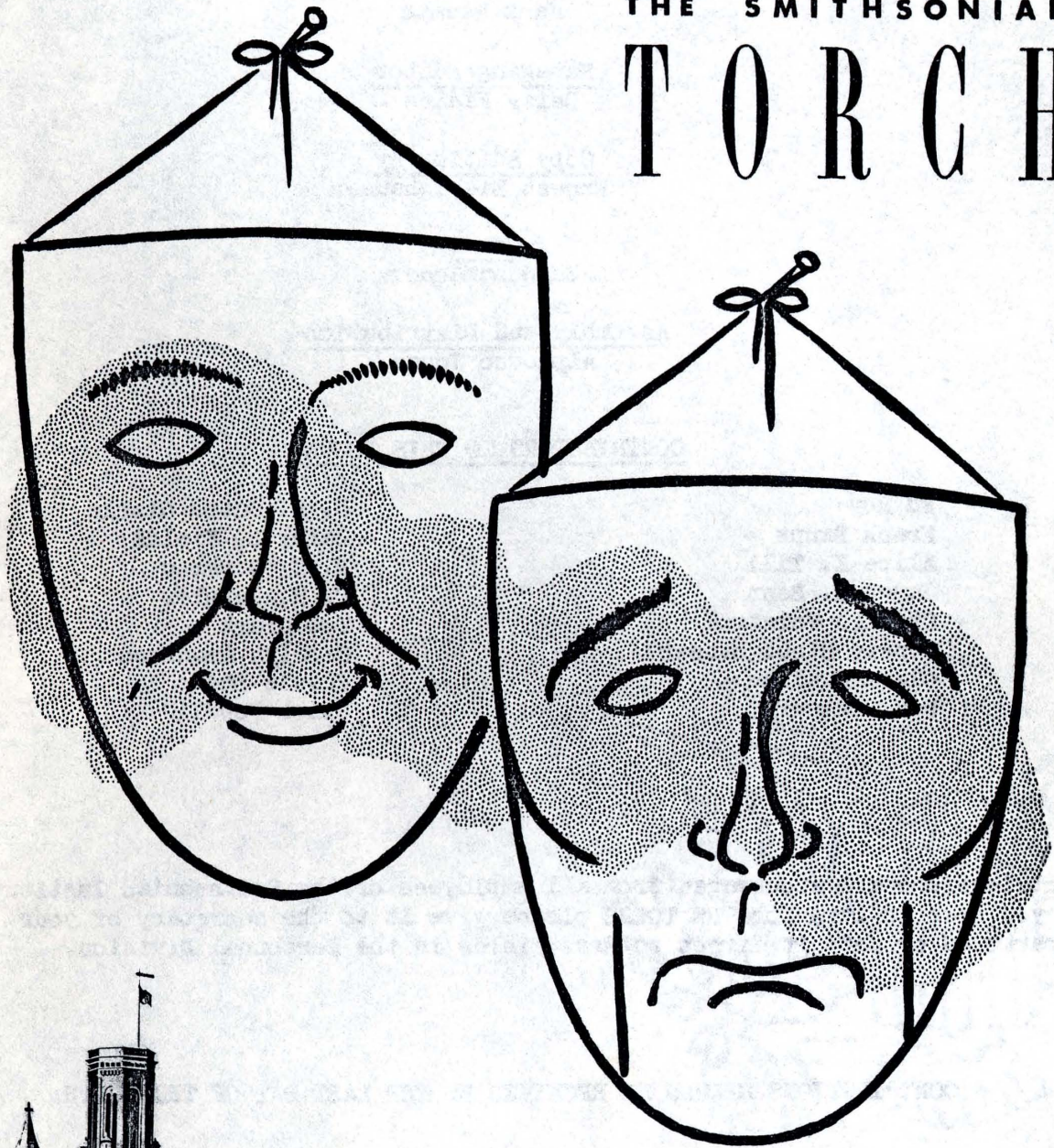




February 1957

THE SMITHSONIAN
TORCH



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Contributions are encouraged from all employees of the Smithsonian Institution. If you have an item for THE TORCH please give it to the secretary of your department or send it direct to Mrs. Fields in the Personnel Division.

CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH.

PORTRAITS IN PLASTER

The Department of History has arranged an exhibition of "Portraits in Plaster" featuring casts of life and death masks of noted European and American statesmen, writers, and musicians. The display, in the foyer of the Natural History Building, opened February 5 and will continue through February 28.

There are 36 masks and 10 busts displayed in the exhibit. All are from the collection donated to the National Museum two years ago by Henry McComas of Baltimore. Mr. McComas became interested in masks when he saw an exhibit of them at Princeton. He had copies made of those he liked and later he made some of his own.

Included in the display are life masks of Washington and Lafayette, by Houdon, and a death mask of bearded Walt Whitman. Other notable faces depicted are those of Daniel Webster, Robert E. Lee, U. S. Grant, Thomas Paine, and William Tecumseh Sherman.

The exhibit was arranged by Charles G. Dorman, assistant curator of the Department of History, and Rowland Lyon, of the National Collection of Fine Arts.

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CARMICHAEL ELECTED TO NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

Dr. Carmichael recently was elected to the board of trustees of the National Geographic Society. With his election, the Society's governing body is now at its full strength of 24. Members serve for life.

AUTHORS BOOK ON PSYCHOLOGY

"Basic Psychology," a book written by Dr. Carmichael, was published by Random House last month. The book comprises 327 pages.

The following review of the Secretary's latest book appeared in a recent issue of Library Journal (vol. 82, no. 3):

"Dr. Carmichael has written an introduction to psychology that is complete enough to serve as a student's supplementary text, yet broad enough to be of interest to the general reader. Psychology here is considered as a discipline or point of view by means of which modern man may better cope with and control the pressures of his increasingly complex environment. The arrangement of the book follows the usual arbitrary breakdown of psychology into specialties (physiological, social, dynamic, learning theory, personality theory, etc.) and a brief historical summary is presented for each. But the author emphasizes the interdependence of these various specialties and then illustrates the need which other fields, such as economics, political science, and industrial relations, have for the principles of academic psychology. Index. Highly recommended.- George Adelman, Ln., Office of Naval Research, Boston, Mass."

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Man's reputation is his greatest monument.

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EARLY AMERICA HALL OPENS

The new hall entitled "Everyday Life in Early America" was opened to the public on Sunday, January 27.

Filling a gallery 180 by 55 feet on the second floor of the Natural History Building, the new hall is a novel installation. It provides for the first time in Washington a comprehensive display of the domestic paraphernalia, furnishings, and settings of seaboard America from its initial European settlement to the industrial revolution.

Also for the first time in an exhibition of American cultural history in a large museum, it introduces the revolutionary new exhibit techniques first applied to exhibits of natural history.

In an actual 17th-century school-room, and in 52 professionally designed case exhibits, specimens are used not only to exploit their own intrinsic qualities but also to illustrate ideas and tell a narrative history.

Illustrations, diagrams, models, maps, and narrative labels supplement specimens, while colorful backgrounds and dramatic lighting help to vary pace and overcome "museum fatigue." Push-button switches, which the visitor can operate to change room lighting from daylight to candlelight, and an introductory tape-recording triggered by a proximity switch add modern dimensions to this hall of antiquities.

The larger proportion of material shown is from the gift of Mrs. Arthur M. Greenwood and the late Dr. Greenwood, of Marlborough, Mass., supplemented by loans of rare objects from their private collection. The Arthur V. Michael collection of New England pottery, Daniel W. Quattlebaum gift of American blown glass, and numerous individual donations and acquisitions are also shown.

Outstanding exhibit in the hall is the 17th-century Massachusetts Bay Colony house. The kitchen and parlor are authentically furnished with objects from the first century of settlement in New England. Rough white oystershell-lime

plaster has been laid on hand-split oak laths nailed against the ancient studs and timbers of the house. As it was originally, the ceilings are open, with the huge "summer" beams and ceiling joists exposed. Fireplaces have been painstakingly reconstructed, their bricks laid in clay brought from New England.

Visitors will see the rooms through glass panels in the doorways. They will be able to look up from the entry to the unfinished second floor and see the house construction.

Rare objects in the house are an oak table with carved drawer front from Plymouth, a carved chest from Medway, Mass., a Connecticut oak chair table, and an English three-cornered chair of Elizabethan style, brought to Massachusetts in the 17th century. The house and its furnishings are part of the Greenwood gift.

Illustrating the transition from the medieval character of the 17th-century house to the classical feeling of the Georgian period is a room interior depicting a prosperous rural New England household of about 1720. This is sheathed with early 18th-century "feather-edged" wainscoting, stained with "Indian red," and includes a unique casement window with bulls-eye panes and a pine corner cupboard, or "bofat."

Delft and Rhenish stoneware displayed in the bofat include a Grenzhäusen jug bearing the likeness of William III who reigned in England between 1688 and 1702. A ball-foot chest from Marlborough, Mass., with its original red and black painted "graining," dates from 1702. An early 18th-century desk on frame, still bearing original red paint, from Sudbury, Mass., is also seen here.

The full-fledged classical style of the late 18th century is seen in a parlor from the Reuben Bliss house, Springfield, Mass. All four walls of the room are paneled, unusual in colonial houses. Windows and fireplaces are framed by fluted pilasters.

A corner cupboard is embellished by rosettes and diagonal panels characteristic of Connecticut Valley interior work. A primitive painted landscape covers the overmantel. Furnishings, almost entirely from the Greenwood collection, include a Queen Ann desk on frame, a high chest of drawers of the same period, an oak paneled chest, all from Massachusetts.

Somewhat later, but in the same tradition, is a small parlor from Sussex, Va., acquired with the assistance of Mrs. George Maurice Morris of Washington. A staircase with a section of Chinese Chippendale rail gives this room a special charm. It is furnished as it would have been in the last decade of the 18th century.

Far less formal is a gaily stenciled bedroom of about 1820. Copied from a room in the Charles-Gilman house in East Brimfield, Mass., this is made up of old woodwork and fireplace material from the neighborhood of the original. Furnished with painted country furniture from the Greenwood collection, it has a simple bed covered with a remarkable hooked coverlet, dated 1794.

The school-room is comprised of old woodwork and is designed as the interior of a typical one-room school of about 1820. It is equipped with well-worn benches, salvaged by Mrs. Greenwood from the Glebe District School in Westmoreland, N. H., as well as blackboard and teacher's desk.

Exhibits in the hall are arranged in a generally chronological sequence. The concerns of the first settlers--shelters, obtaining food, necessary tools, religion, Indians--follow introductory exhibits on the cultural backgrounds of the colonies. Others pick up the activities and interests of the colonists after permanent settlement was made--the medieval tradition in early architecture, lighting, cooking, needlework. One case is devoted to

artifacts excavated from the 17th-century site of Kecoughtan, Va., by Alvin and Joseph Brittingham of Hampton, Va. Community and social organization is shown by a model of a New England town and by a Virginia plantation layout. Domestic duties of the housewife and husbandman, 18th century architecture, trade ceramics, Federal-period clothing, the archeology of John Mercer's plantation at Marlborough, Va., are all aspects of 18th- and early 19th-century life shown in exhibits. So are silver, iron, pewter, glass, and woodenware. The Pennsylvania "Dutch" culture is treated in a separate alcove.

The life of the child in early America is shown in displays of dolls, games, and rare early children's books lent by Mrs. Greenwood. Folk paintings and carvings by self-trained artists will fill one alcove.

Objects of outstanding interest include a carved, pedimented Philadelphia Chippendale "highboy"; an engraved blown glass bowl made in 1789 for Margaret Thomas of Montgomery County, Md., at John Frederick Amelung's New Bremen Glassworks; a silver tankard made by Samuel Minott of Boston as a gift to Elias Hasket Derby, famous Salem merchant and shipowner; a finial from the old North Church steeple in Boston; and a petit-point needlework picture made in 1744, depicting "The Wisdom of Solomon."

Organization of the new hall was directed by C. Malcolm Watkins, associate curator of cultural history. Installation was directed by John E. Anglim and supervised by Rolland O. Hower.

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Even the woodpecker owes his success to the fact that he uses his head.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH PUBLISHED

A splendid account of the activities of Alexander Wetmore, former Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, appears in the Winter 1957 issue of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters.

Prepared by Dr. Carmichael and Paul Oehser, the article tells how Dr. Wetmore, the son of a country doctor in Wisconsin, at an early age developed an interest in the study of natural history that eventually carried him to the directorship of one of the world's foremost scientific and cultural institutions.

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VISITING SOUTH AMERICA

George Griffenhagen, curator of the division of medicine, left by plane for South America on February 2. He will visit Caracas, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo, Lima, Guayaquil, Panama City, and Havana--all within a period of about three weeks. He will be back at his desk on Monday, February 25.

Although Mr. Griffenhagen's trip is primarily on business as executive secretary of the Fourth Pan-American Congress of Pharmacy and Biochemistry to be held in Washington later this year, he intends to visit several Latin American museums, including the Pharmacy Museum of the Brazilian Pharmaceutical Association in Rio de Janeiro, and the Museo Maldonado de Farmacia, Laboratorios Maldonado in Lima.

His friends will be very fortunate if he is able to bring back one-half of the 'little mementos' they have requested.

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MOONWATCH STATIONS

Forty MOONWATCH stations in all sections of the United States have been accepted and registered by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, according to Leon Campbell, supervisor of station operations. Total membership in the 40 stations is approximately 750.

There are numerous prospective MOONWATCH stations in the process of organizing and their registration may be expected in the near future.

It has been noted that the area from southern California through Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas was "sparsely" represented, and a plea was made to interested individuals and institutions in that belt to organize teams. Mr. Campbell points out that the section was particularly important because the first orbiting of the U. S. earth satellite was expected over that area.

"Early visual detection of the satellite after launching is imperative," Mr. Campbell states, "especially if the Minitrack radio transmitter in the satellite fails to operate." Minitrack is a tiny radio transmitter, the signals from which are expected to be received by special radio receiving stations. These signals would reveal the position of the orbiting satellite.

MOONWATCH teams are made up of volunteers, mostly amateur astronomers, who band together to set up stations to find and then track the satellite to be launched by the United States during the International Geophysical Year, which commences July 1, 1957, and ends December 31, 1958.

The Satellite Optical Tracking Program, of which MOONWATCH is one part, has been assigned to the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory by the U. S. Committee for the International Geophysical Year, through the National Science Foundation.

A 2-day conference of the National Advisory Committee of the MOONWATCH program was held at Cambridge, Mass., February 1-2. Guest at the conference from the Washington office was Paul H. Oehser, chief of the editorial and publications division and Smithsonian public relations officer.

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FABULOUS TOWN, TOO

The following quotation is from a Florida newspaper:

"The Smithsonian Institute in shrd cmfw shrd shrd cmfwy hr Washington, D. C. has a fabulous collection of early American bicycles."

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SATELLITE TRACKING

A steering committee recently was appointed at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory to provide scientific and technical advice in the MOONWATCH program and to aid in coordinating the visual observations of artificial satellites with other parts of the optical tracking program.

The chairman of the new committee is Dr. George Van Biesbroeck, who recently joined the Smithsonian staff. For more than 40 years he has been well known as an astronomer at the Yerkes Observatory of the University of Chicago, actively engaged in observing double stars, comets, asteroids, and solar eclipses.

Other members of the committee are Dr. Joseph Ashbrook, researcher in variable stars at Harvard Observatory; Dr. Don Lautman, head of the

satellite computing center; Dr. G. F. Schilling, formerly program officer of the U. S. National Committee for the International Geophysical Year and now a consultant on the Astrophysical Observatory staff.

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LECTURES ON BRACHIOPODS

Dr. G. A. Cooper, head curator of the department of geology, gave an illustrated lecture on "Evolution of the Spiny Brachiopods" before the Geological Society of Washington at the Cosmos Club on January 9.

The talk covered the rise, development, and disappearance of these peculiar animals in the seas of some 200-350 or more million years ago, in the Paleozoic era. Dr. Cooper showed some excellent photographs of the internal and external structure of these creatures, which were collected on various Smithsonian field expeditions.

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MORE TRUTH THAN POETRY

When the other fellow acts that way, he is ugly; when you do, it's nerves.

When the other fellow is set in his way, he's obstinate; when you are, it's just firmness.

When the other fellow doesn't like your friends, he's prejudiced; when you don't like his, you are simply showing that you are a good judge of human nature.

When the other fellow tries to treat someone especially well, he's toadying; when you try the same game, you are using tact.

When the other fellow picks flaws in things, he's cranky; when you do, you are discriminating.

When the other fellow says what he thinks, he's spiteful; when you do, you are frank.

-----Author Unknown

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ADVENTURES OF A PLANT HUNTER

Dr. Lyman B. Smith of the department of botany is collecting plants in a remote area of Brazil. The following paragraphs are quoted from recent letters that he wrote from Itajai, in the state of Santa Catarina.

"A one-week trip on Campo dos Padres was a pretty rigorous one, but it showed I picked the right people to work with down here. These Catarinenses don't let anything stop them. Padre Raulino broke a steering rod on the jeep on the way up, but he patched it with a monkey wrench just long enough to make a repair shop. On the way back we had a flat and a cracked radiator, and finally a choked feed line, but we picked up a tow from a truck.

"Roberto Klein had four attacks of malaria in a week but was up and working hard after each one. Roberto lugs a field press in a special pack with enough paper for a day's collecting--it is an effort just to lift the thing let alone go up a wet slippery mountain trail with it.

"After escaping horse transportation for nearly 20 years my luck changed and I spent a large part of the past week aboard one. It was a terrifying experience at times when we went along a cliff edge or down a trail so steep I had to hang on to the saddle horn to keep from going over the horse's head.

"Up on the Campo dos Padres we stayed at two different ranch houses. The first one was full of holes and the weather was quite cold. However, we had

only one day of rain--much better than average. No alarm clock was needed here as we slept over a rooster.

"On another trip we collected from a dugout canoe at Porto Uniao. I was in fear but I did not dare tremble for fear the thing would roll over.

"Porto Uniao is of interest because of a boundary dispute (it got a bit bloody too) between Parana and Santa Catarina. It was finally settled by running the boundary down the middle of the railroad, and the northern half of the city became Uniao de Vitoria in Parana. Further west near Palmas (Parana) the center of the federal military road is the boundary.

"At the Argentine line there is a city with three names--Dionisio Cerqueira (Santa Catarina), Barracao (Parana), and Bernardo Irigoyen (Argentina).

"I am an expert on country hotels now. Each one has some peculiarity like running water or soap but none ever has a full set of equipment. The wooden ones are of more interest to an entomologist but the cement ones are more comfortable for sleeping purposes. They all agree in serving coffee, milk, and bread in the morning and steak (very good), rice, and beans at the other two meals.

"With one beautiful exception the roads are all dirt and rock. It is a question which is worse, the dust in dry weather or the mud in wet. Padre Raulino jeeped me through western Santa Catarina for 22 days, and we celebrated Christmas by the worst day's travel of all, including a 60 km. stretch that was indicated as good on the map but proved barely passable."

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Some people fall for everything and and stand for nothing.

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INCENTIVE AWARDS

The National Gallery of Art recently presented certificates and cash awards under its incentive awards program to the following personnel:

Pvt. Anthony Grazewich, for detecting a hazardous condition affecting safety of a work of art.

Pvt. Jefferson McNair, for suggesting a method to better protect valuable books.

Mrs. Virginia Daniel, for suggesting improving the appearance of the checkroom by hanging prints there.

Miss Muriel M. Thorne, for suggesting a cost-saving method of handling the mailing of slides to borrowers.

Mrs. Pauline DeYoung, for a suggestion improving the services to the public who visit the Gallery.

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FORMER CURATOR HONORED

Mrs. Catherine L. Manning, curator emeritus of the division of philately, celebrated her 76th birthday on January 24. A group from the department of history visited her home in Arlington to help her celebrate. They came equipped with birthday cake, ice cream, and flowers. Among those extending congratulations at the party were Mrs. Margaret Brown Klapthor and her new daughter, Frances, J. R. "Russ" Sirlouis, Francis McCall, and Franklin R. Bruns, Jr.

Mrs. Manning, retired since 1951, has remained close to home for over a year, following a slight heart attack.

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LETTER FROM BUDAPEST

The following is an excerpt from a letter received from Budapest, Hungary, by one of our curators:

"Our museum (Magyar Nemzeti Museum, Termesztudományi Muzeum) suffered terribly. The Mineralogical, Paleontological, Geological Departments are utterly destroyed, with hundreds of thousands of specimens, and almost as many books. Of the Zoological Department, the Ornithological, Ichthyological, Herpetological, Mollusca, Diptera (except Acalyptrata), Trichoptera, Odonata, Lower Invertebrate Phyla Collections are also absolutely wiped out, with only the charred and blackened walls standing. Tens of thousands of types lost forever, countless specimens burned. We were trying to save, and fought a losing battle with the flames, all in vain. It was indescribable."

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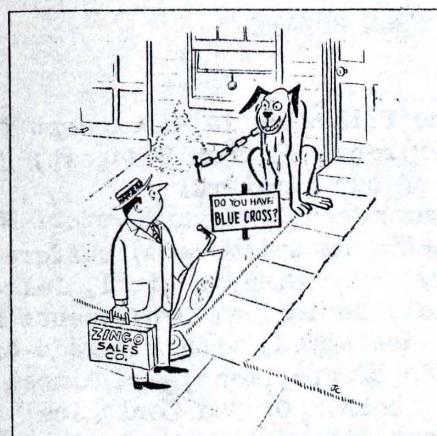
LARGEST ACCESSION OF STAMPS

In the largest accession in its history, the division of philately and postal history has received, as a transfer, well over \$100 million worth of United States Internal Revenue stamps. This transfer is the fourth of a series authorized by Russell C. Harrington, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. It was effected through General Services Administration and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

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"Creditors have better memories than debtors" -----Benjamin Franklin

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TELLS ABOUT CHIGGERS

What are "chiggers"--the irritating pests of woods and brier patches which bore into the skins of man and other animals and engorge themselves with blood?

They are only one stage in the life cycle of a tiny, spiderlike mite that goes through seven stages from egg to adult. They represent the only stage that is parasitic. Later ones are active and carnivorous, preying on insects and insect eggs.

This is pointed out by Dr. Charles E. Farrell, of Vanderbilt University, in a systematic study of one genus of these creatures, the *Euschingastia*, common over much of North America. Dr. Farrell's work was published recently in the proceedings of the U. S. National Museum.

Relatively little has been known about the systematics of the pest in the past, but recently there has been a considerable awakening of interest. During World War II especially, there was an urgency to find out everything possible about the typhus-spreading mites of the Pacific area. This interest, Dr. Farrell points out, has spread to other members of the group not necessarily concerned with transmission of any malady. Those mites which prey on man, however, always are suspect.

Man is not the only victim. The blood-sucking little animals make life miserable for all sorts of birds and mammals, and some are quite specific in the hosts they choose. Only a few species prefer man. It is generally agreed that a few are enough.

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ROBERT STERLING CLARK

Maj. Robert Sterling Clark, who was appointed by the Smithsonian in 1922 as a collaborator in zoology, died on December 29 at the age of 79.

Maj. Clark was a co-founder of the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute at Williamstown, Mass.

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NEWCOMER

On January 17 the Freer Gallery welcomed a new little American, David Yuso, son of Mr. and Mrs. Takashi Sugiura. Mr. Sugiura, who is the mounter and restorer of Oriental paintings at the Gallery, came to this country in May of 1953. He was followed two years later by Mrs. Sugiura and their daughters Motoko and Kumi and their son Atushi.

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Nature is wise: in devising a mortal's hinges she knew he would have little occasion to pat himself on the back.

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TELEVISION PERFORMERS

The department of history was active in the television field towards the end of January.

On January 20, Mendel L. Peterson, head curator, appeared on CBS's "Odyssey" program from Miami in his capacity as an authority on underwater exploration.

Edgar M. Howell, acting curator of the division of military history, appeared on Washington's WMAL on January 17 to announce the "Omnibus" program of January 20, which was devoted to "Lee at Gettysburg."

John L. Rawls, museum aide in the division of naval history and a student on matters relating to the Confederacy, served as a technical advisor for the "Omnibus" program, with emphasis on the arms and accoutrements. He loaned weapons from his personal collection and appeared on the show as an extra in the enactment.

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IN ECUADOR

Dr. M. W. Stirling, director of the Bureau of American Ethnology, recently left by plane for Ecuador to make an archeological reconnaissance, primarily along the coast. There is no other place in South America where materials have been excavated that shows a closer connection with Southern Mexico and Central America than does this region.

If time permits, visits will be made also to the primitive Colorado and Cayapa Indians. These are the only two primitive groups still living on the western side of the Andes. Cliff Evans of the division of archeology and Betty Meggars, who have been working on the Napo River

in Eastern Ecuador, will meet Dr. Stirling when he arrives and they will spend about a week together.

Dr. Stirling's party will consist of Mrs. Stirling, who will assist him in the field, and Mr. Woodbridge Williams, photographer of the National Geographic Magazine.

Dr. Stirling has collected from the Jivaro Indians in Ecuador some of the smallest heads in the New World. Later he went to Mexico and collected those "colossal stone heads of the Olmec." This time he hopes to strike a happy medium.

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BOUQUET

Mr. Frank Setzler, head curator of the department of anthropology recently received a letter from which the following is quoted:

"Thank you no end for your courteous letter of Dec. 12, and for the information you gave me on the violin maker, Salzard. It was very kind of you to go to so much trouble in a minor matter. But that, I have found, is characteristic of the personnel of the Smithsonian Institution."

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HEART FUND DRIVE

You'll find it in the news every day--the fact that heart disease is a major threat to American leadership and power. Heart disease is our nation's number one health manace, accounting for more deaths than all other causes combined. Each year it exacts a terrible toll among thousands of wage earners, heads of families, leaders and workers in all fields of business and industry.

Even more tragic is the fact that many of these people are in the prime of life and normally should have many more productive years of service.

When you give to the Washington Heart fund you help speed the work of medical scientists who are seeking the causes of hardening of the arteries, high blood pressure, and rheumatic fever. These three conditions account for more than 90 percent of all heart damage.

Climax of the 1957 Washington Heart Fund Drive, February 1 to 28, will be Heart Sunday, February 24. On that date more than 9,000 volunteers will call on their neighbors to give them an opportunity to contribute to the fight against heart disease. Be ready--give generously.

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LECTURES ON PREHISTORIC GREECE

About 325 persons attended an illustrated lecture on "The Grave Circles of Mycenae" that was given in the auditorium of the Natural History Building on February 6. The speaker was Prof. George E. Mylonas, chairman of the department of art and archaeology at Washington University, St. Louis, and professor of archaeology at the University of Athens. The lecture was sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Archaeological Institute of America.

About 75 years ago Heinrich Schliemann discovered and explored the first royal cemetery of Prehistoric Mycenae. Its graves, enclosed by a circular wall, yielded a great number of works of art which focused the attention of the western world on the capital of Agamemnon and opened up for research the prehistoric age of Greece.

In 1952 the Greek Archaeological Society began the exploration of another grave circle, and by September 1954 it had brought to light some 14 royal graves. The graves are somewhat older than those found by Schliemann, and their contents have not only increased our knowledge of

17th century B. C. Greece but also have solved a number of problems raised by Schliemann's discoveries.

Dr. Mylonas participated in the direction of the excavation of the Second Grave Circle of Mycenae, and in his lecture he discussed the finds from both circles. He illustrated with colored slides the objects found in both excavations and the work of discovery actually in progress.

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COSMOS CLUB OFFICERS

At a recent election, A. G. Wenley, director of the Freer Gallery of Art, was elected Vice-President of the Cosmos Club of Washington; Paul H. Oehser, chief of the editorial and publications division, was re-elected the club's Secretary for the eighth consecutive year; and Frank M. Setzler, head curator of anthropology in the National Museum, was elected a member of the Board of Management. R. J. Gettens, of the Freer Gallery, is the new chairman of the club's art committee.

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LINCOLNIANA

Asked whether Mary Todd, who became his wife, was from a good family, Abraham Lincoln responded: "The very best. Why, the Todds spell their name with two d's; one was good enough for God!"

Irritated by the inaction of General George B. McClellan, who in 1862 was in command of the Union forces, Abraham Lincoln wrote him briefly:

"My dear McClellan: If you don't want to use the army, I should like to borrow it for a while."

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REPORTS ON METEORITE RESEARCH

A challenging problem in the designing of inter-continental missiles is the tendency of the atmosphere to burn them up as they descend through the atmosphere. Dr. John S. Rinehart, assistant director of the Astrophysical Observatory, made this statement in a talk at the American Physical Society meeting in New York on February 1. He was reporting on research he had done on meteorites.

Dr. Rinehart described his "post mortem" studies of 70 meteorites, and his statement in regard to inter-continental missiles was based on these studies of spent "shooting stars." (A shooting star--or meteor--becomes a meteorite when it lands as a solid upon the earth.)

His paper stated that the speed of a meteor entering the earth's atmosphere is on the order of 7 to 44 miles a second, but that most meteors actually enter it at a speed of about 10 miles a second. He added that at these extreme speeds meteorites "suffer rapid loss of material" because of "aerodynamic heating and abrading (wearing away) forces." He concluded that the total amount of material that a meteorite may have lost in flight cannot be fixed accurately, but that it might be as high as one-half.

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CREDIT UNION PAYS DIVIDEND

The Smithsonian Institution Employees Federal Credit Union declared a 4-percent dividend at its annual meeting on January 15. The dividend amounted to \$5,193.25. This is the Credit Union's 20th consecutive dividend, and it brings to \$36,077 the total amount of dividends paid.

Mario A. Kidwell was elected to the Supervisory Committee. All other committee members were re-elected. The full committees are as follows:

Board of Directors: T. F. Clark, J. A. Collins, Margaret Brown Klapthor, Lucile McCain, Eileen McCarthy, Marguerite W. Poole, Waldo L. Schmitt, William B. Stiles, and Lillian C. Warfield.

Credit Committee: George W. Cornell, James M. Derrow, Burton B. Gilbard, Cornelius Johnson, Lucile McCain, E. L. Roy, and Lillian C. Warfield.

Supervisory Committee: Mario A. Kidwell, Betty J. Morgan, and Darnell G. Talbert.

The year 1956 was one of the best in the history of the Credit Union. A net gain of 18 members brought its membership to 716; its assets increased \$5,823.64 reaching \$159,670.93; and it sold 194 U. S. Savings Bonds with maturity value of \$13,775. Since 1935, the year it was chartered, the Credit Union has made 6,822 loans totaling \$1,558,600.

Members are requested to send in their passbooks so that their dividends may be entered and the books audited by the Supervisory Committee. Checks have been sent to members whose shares have reached the \$1,000 maximum.

The annual report of the Credit Union's treasurer appeared in the January issue of The Torch.

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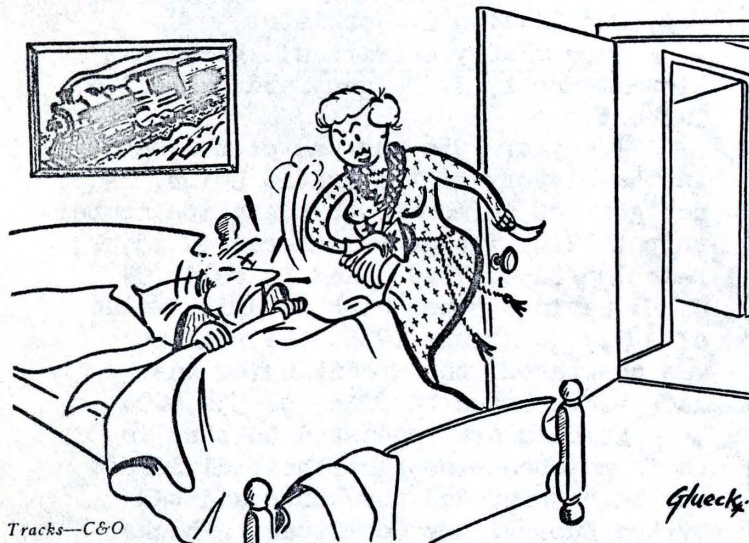
An ounce of enterprise is worth a pound of talk.

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D. C. INCOME TAX

Personal exemptions allowed in District of Columbia income tax returns have been lowered from \$4,000 for each taxpayer to \$1,000 for a single person and \$2,000 for a married couple or head of a family. As a result, it is estimated that more than 100,000 persons who did not file a return last year will be required to do so this year. These people will not receive their D. C. income tax forms in the mail.

The D. C. income tax forms (D-40) and declarations of estimated tax (D-40ES) are available at the Smithsonian's fiscal division. They may be picked up also at fire houses, police stations, post offices, banks, the District Building (14th and Penna. Ave., N.W.), and the Municipal Center (300 Indiana Ave., N.W.).



"Wake up, dear—you don't retire for 23 years, 4 months, 2 weeks and 4 days yet."

S. I. EMPLOYEES HONORED

At the annual meeting of the Inter-departmental Savings Bond Committee held on January 16 the employees of the Smithsonian Institution were awarded a certificate "for achievement in the United

States Savings Bond program, dedicated to the economic strength of the Nation and the financial independence of its citizens." Only six Government agencies received this award.

We are very proud of this award, which was a recognition of the splendid response made by our employees in the 1956 Payroll Savings Campaign. We have been asked by the Treasury Department to increase participation in the payroll savings plan by 25 percent during 1957, and we urge all employees who have joined our staff since we had our last campaign to participate in the plan, if they are not already doing so.

Forms and information may be obtained from the fiscal division.

RIVER BASIN NEWS

G. Hubert Smith, archeologist of the Missouri Basin Project, River Basin Surveys, left for Washington on January 12 to excavate the basement of the Old Stone House in Georgetown for National Capital Parks. Mr. Smith expects to return to Lincoln about the middle of February.

Harold A. Huscher, archeologist, completed his season's work with the Missouri Basin Project on January 11 and returned to New York the following week.

Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, chief of the Missouri Basin Project, spent the week of January 28 through February 2 in Washington attending the meetings of the Committee for the Recovery of Archeological Remains and conferring with Dr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., Director of River Basin Surveys, and with other Smithsonian officials.

Although the first floor of the River Basin Surveys' laboratory in Lincoln was completely redecorated and partially renovated a year ago, additional improvements have been

made since the first of this year in the form of new bookshelves for the individual cubicles. Larry Tomsyck and Lee Madison not only built the bookshelves, but have been at work in the basement constructing specimen-storage shelves and an artifact table for use of the laboratory technicians and archeologists.

ARE YOU SMITHSONIAN'S "NEW BLOOD"?

Your cooperation is urgently needed to help fill Smithsonian's quota as a member of the Red Cross Blood Donor Program this year. Under this program Smithsonian employees and members of their immediate families are eligible to receive blood free of cost in participating hospitals or whenever blood is drawn from the Red Cross supply.

If you and one other person in your unit will contribute just one pint of blood this year, Smithsonian employees will continue to benefit from the Donor Program. (If you are a "half-pint," that's needed, too.)

Your next opportunities to participate will be March 8 and March 29 at 11:00 a.m. If you wish to be included or desire further information, please call Miss Amundson, personnel division, extension 449, at your earliest convenience.

SAYS CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM FLEXIBLE

The following excerpt is from a recent address of Civil Service Commission Chairman Philip Young to the Annual Conference of the Society for Personnel Administration. It refutes the idea that many people have that the Classification Act is so rigid

that positions cannot be established and tailored by agencies based upon outstanding qualifications of individuals.

"To many people who are acquainted with the Federal job-classification system, the concept of 'rank in the man' rather than 'rank in the job' seems the most revolutionary feature of the Senior Civil Service as proposed by the Hoover Commission. It is true that the Federal personnel system has been criticized as being 'job oriented' rather than 'employee oriented.' But granted that our system operates within a fixed framework, I wonder whether everyone concerned realizes the degree of flexibility that we have built into the system in recent years. Very briefly I should like to mention some of the features that bring our system closer to the 'rank in the man' concept than may be generally realized.

"First, there is the long-standing authority for Federal operating officials to detail employees on a trial-run basis. Under this authority a promising junior can be tried out in a job at a higher grade or in a different line of work to see if he has the potential for permanent appointment to the job. This authority is also valuable in providing flexibility to meet emergency workloads.

"Next, there is a kind of flexibility that might be called 'finding the man and fitting the job around him.' For example, recruiters for a Federal scientific laboratory, in seeking a specialist in a certain field at a certain grade, may find instead a highly qualified scientist who is available at a different grade and in a different specialty. If his specialty is needed for another one of the laboratory's planned projects, an appropriate job assignment for which he is qualified can be developed, and he can be hired to carry out that assignment. This is a perfectly legitimate way of operating under the Federal personnel system, provided always that there is authorized work of the appropriate kind and that the candidate meets the qualification standards.

"A related kind of flexibility comes from the fact that an outstanding scientific or professional worker inevitably attracts to himself projects of progressively greater significance. As his job increases in this way, his classification can be adjusted accordingly. Thus the rank of the job grows with the increasing stature of the man.

"In this connection, incidentally, I might make a brief comment on the idea I have heard expressed by some operating officials, including professional people, that they are strait-jacketed by the classification system; that the system in some way restricts them in the assignment of duties and responsibilities to their employees. My comment is this: Neither the Classification Act nor any Commission regulation in connection with it prescribes a single duty or responsibility for any position. The assignment of duties and responsibilities is the sole prerogative of management, and classification enters the picture only after management has determined what those duties and responsibilities are.

"Getting back to flexibility in assignment, this can also be provided by means of training and promotion agreements between the employing agency and the Commission, both for developing potential managers and executives and for broadening the experience of scientific and professional personnel. Many agreements of this type are currently in effect.

"In the Federal service there is a growing awareness of the importance of the contributions and the potential of individual employees. I urge all of you in the personnel field to inform yourselves fully of the various ways in which we can recognize rank in the man as well as rank in the job, and to apply them where it is appropriate."

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Worry is a refuge from doing something.

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FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN

The Smithsonian's second fund-raising campaign under the new federal plan has been set for the period February 25 to April 9.

This campaign will include contributions for the following national health agencies: American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation, Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, National Society for Crippled Children and Adults, National Tuberculosis Association, and United Cerebral Palsy Associations.

In addition, CARE and Crusade for Freedom are combining in a joint fund-raising drive. The Smithsonian Institution will run this drive concurrently with the national health agencies drive.

The support of our National Health Agencies is one of the brighter aspects of the American scene. These organizations have played a major role toward overcoming health problems, furthering scientific research, public education, and service to individuals. Our support of the joint crusade of CARE and Crusade for Freedom is direct evidence to the peoples of the world of our personal interest in their hopes and welfare.

This will be a solicitation drive and for further information you may consult with the keyman responsible for collecting in your area when he makes his call.

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LECTURES ON TURKISH ART

Prof. Nureddin Sevin of the Ankara State Conservatory gave an illustrated lecture in the Freer Gallery auditorium on February 5. His topic was "Turkish Art Through the centuries." The lecture was sponsored by Altamur Kilic, press attache of the Turkish Embassy.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Museum Aid:
Herman E. Demick (Aeronautics)
Consultant:
Derek J. Price (E&I)
Physical Science Aid:
Burke K. Zimmerman (APO)
Atmospheric Physicist:
Gerard Schilling (APO)
Publications Editor:
Lyle G. Boyd (APO)
Senior Clerks:
Aziz H. Isa (BSIE)
Roderick A. Latta (BSIE)
Secretary:
Ann P. Dempsy (APO)
Clerk-Dictating Machine Transcriber:
Jean H. Anderson (APO)
Clerk-Stenographer:
Helen Sahagian (APO)
Clerk-Typists:
Virginia C. Echols (Off. of Dir.)
Lily Shigezawa (APO)
Barbara A. Regan (APO)
Animal Keeper:
Leroy P. Robertson (NZP)
Messenger:
George Lewis (Library)
Guard:
Albert E. Montgomery

SEPARATIONS

Ione N. Knight
Milburn J. Benson
Ruben Hughes, Jr.
Dillard R. Williams
Kenneth Walker
Sue R. Harris
Billie R. Hanley
Josephine Doherty
Marjorie Kingsbury
William Truesdell
Heather MacKinnon

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"You may be deceived if you trust too much, but you will live in torment if you do not trust enough."

--Dr. Frank Crane

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BAE-BY

Dr. William Sturtevant of the Bureau of American Ethnology and Mrs. Sturtevant became parents of a baby boy last December 23.

Dr. Sturtevant took time off from the new baby to make a flying trip to Florida at the end of January. He was invited by the Historical Association of Southern Florida to deliver a public lecture in Miami on "The Indians of South Florida," and by the Florida Anthropological Society to deliver a paper on "Accomplishments and Opportunities in Florida Indian Ethnology" at the Society's annual meeting in Winter Park.

While in Florida he was able to see some of his Seminole friends for the first time in four years, and to do a little ethnological work with them.

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TAKE TIME

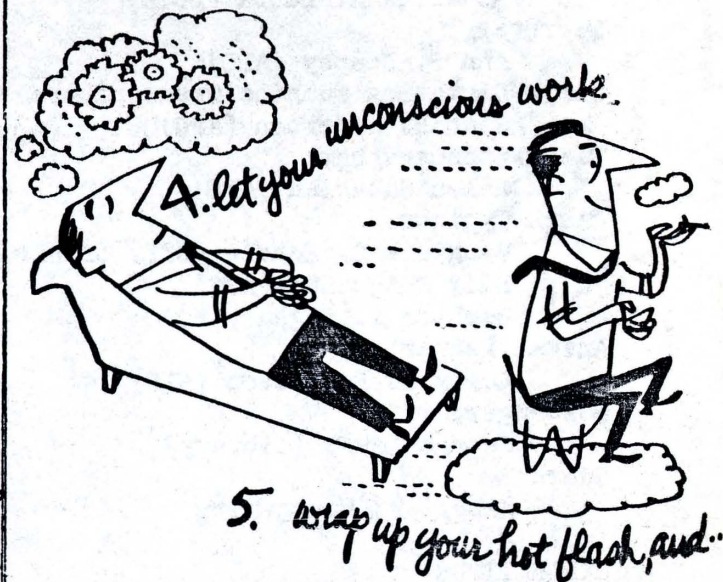
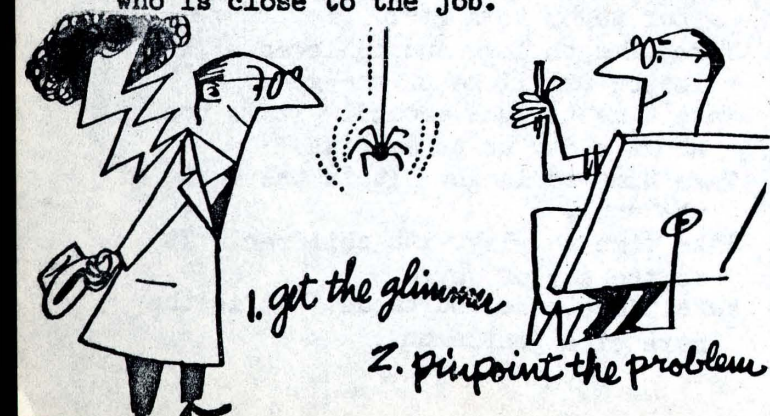
Take time to live. That is what time is for. Killing time is suicide.
Take time to work. It is the price of success.
Take time to think. It is the source of power.
Take time to play. It is the fountain of wisdom.
Take time to be friendly. It is the road to happiness.
Take time to dream. It is hitching your wagon to a star.
Take time to love and be loved. It is the privilege of the gods.
Take time to look around. It is too short a day to be selfish.
Take time to laugh. It is the music of the soul.
Take time to play with children. It is the joy of joys.
Take time to be courteous. It is the mark of a gentleman.

IDEAS PAY CASH

"Don't applaud - just send money" is the bright saying on a humorous greeting card which is popular nowadays. The probable reason for this card's success is that many people believe that good ideas or outstanding work seldom earn anything except praise - and where can you spend a pat on the back? Human nature being what it is, we would all like to get applause and money, but, if given a choice of one or the other, we would prefer the money.

Our friend, human nature, can help us get ideas - who wants to do things the hard way if we can think of an easier way? Or perhaps we want to avoid getting mixed up in an argument as to whose fault it was that something got lost so we think up a better system of controls. Or we get irritated because there are delays in receiving work-in-process and we figure out a way to eliminate the bugs in the other fellow's job so he will be able to send us the needed information or material or papers without delay.

The Smithsonian Institution is not only willing but anxious to reward those of its employees who, through suggestions, sustained superior performance, or superior accomplishments, increase the efficiency of its operations. The entire Incentive Awards Program is based on the simple fact that in most cases the person in the best position to find a better way of doing a job is the person in that job or, in some cases, that person's supervisor. In any case, everyone seems to agree that if efficiency is to be introduced or increased, the one who is most likely to bring this about is someone who is close to the job.



CAPSULE HUMAN RELATIONS COURSE

The American Society of Training Directors offers this capsule course in human relations to Government personnel officers and supervisors: Five most important words - "I am proud of you." Four most important words--"What is your opinion?" Three most important words--"If you please." Two most important words--"Thank you." Least important word--"I!" (Federal Employees' News Digest, 15 October 1956).

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PUBLISHED IN JANUARY

"The Ventral Intersegmental Thoracic Muscles of Cockroaches," by L. E. Chadwick. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, 30 pages.

"Loop Development of the Pennsylvanian Terebratuloid Cryptocanthia," by G. Arthur Cooper. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, 18 pages.

"Studies in Neotropical Mallophaga, XVI: Bird Lice of the Suborder Ischnocera," by M. A. Carricker. Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, 31 pages.

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