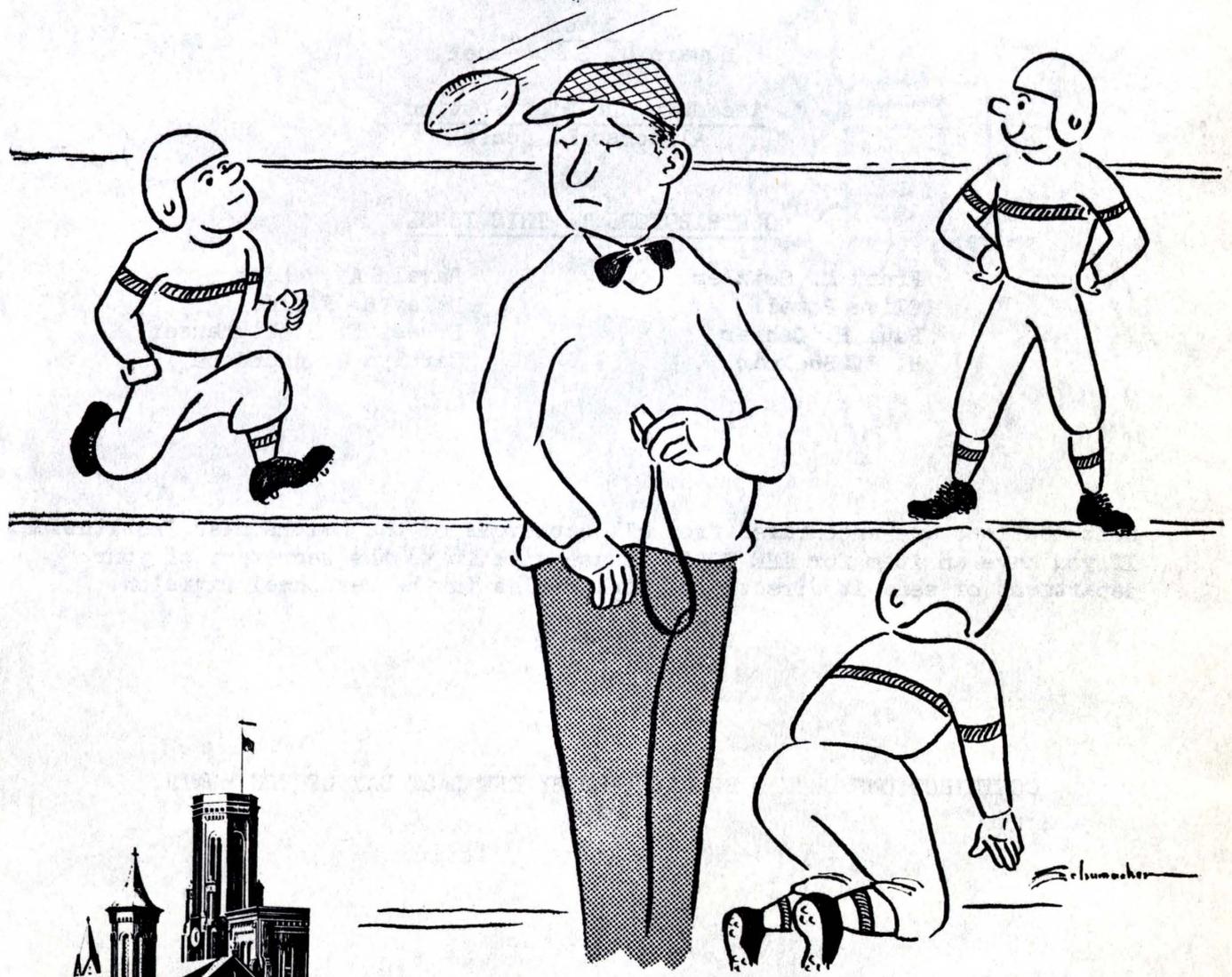


SEPTEMBER 1957

THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH



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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 directly to Mrs. Fields in the Personnel Division.

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

September 1957

Number 31

NEW ASSOCIATE CURATOR

For the first time in recent years the division of ethnology of the department of anthropology has a specialist on the Pacific Islands. Dr. Saul H. Riesenbergs, who became associate curator of ethnology in June, for the past eight years has been a faculty member of the University of Hawaii, where he devoted most of his research to Micronesian ethnology.

Dr. Riesenbergs did undergraduate work at U.C.L.A. and took his Ph.D. at the University of California. His first major field effort was at Ponape, in the eastern Caroline Islands, under the auspices of the Pacific Science Board and the Bureau of Naval Research. This work, undertaken in 1947, resulted in several publications on the ethnology of the island.

In 1948 he received a Viking Fund grant to enable him to utilize the Cross-Cultural files at Yale for a comparative study of some Micronesian culture traits. He took leave from the University of Hawaii during 1953-1954 to become anthropologist on the staff of the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; during this period he dealt with various problems in applied anthropology of importance to native economic and social welfare, including the relocation of the natives of two Marshall Island atolls who were displaced by atom bomb fallout.

He served as an adviser at the second native people's conference of the South Pacific Commission, in New Caledonia, in 1953. In the same year he was a delegate to the Eighth Pacific Science Congress at Manila.

In 1955-1956 he undertook an acculturation study in Samoa, with a grant from the Tri-Institutional Pacific Program (sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation) and at the same time served as staff anthropologist for the governor of American Samoa.

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APPEARS ON TV PROGRAM

Malcolm Davis, associate head keeper at the National Zoological Park, starred on WTOP-TV's "Ask-It-Basket" program on August 24. The program consisted of a quiz conducted by a panel of young folks on the subject of birds.

Mr. Davis exhibited a great red-chested cockatoo, a vulture, a homing pigeon, four Java ricebirds, and a great horned owl.

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GROUP HOSPITALIZATION DRIVE

The once-a-year opportunity for employees to join Group Hospitalization (Blue Cross) has arrived.

Employees not already covered by this hospitalization plan will be eligible provided we meet our quota of 40 new members.

Present subscribers will be given a chance to elect the new medical-surgical plan which, among other added benefits, increases hospitalization coverage to 180 days; pays up to \$300 for surgery; and pays \$5.00 per physician's daily visit in the hospital for a maximum of 177 days. These are but a few of the added benefits to be covered by the new program for a slight

additional monthly fee of \$.56 for single persons and \$1.74 for family contract.

To obtain these added benefits a quota of 250 members will have to subscribe to the new program. This includes present and new members.

Within the next few days you will receive a letter outlining full details of the membership drive. Part of the letter will be an application blank for your convenience

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REJOINS STAFF

Ralph Solecki rejoined the Smithsonian Institution on August 26 as associate curator in Old World archeology, department of anthropology.

Solecki, who returned from a year's field trip to Kurdistan, Iraq, on July 11, had been archeologist with the River Basin Surveys, Bureau of American Ethnology, from 1948 to 1954. During this period he took two leaves of absences to do archeological work in palaeolithic sites of the Near East. He accompanied the University of Michigan expedition to the Near East in 1951, remaining behind in the following year to excavate a cave site, Shanidar Cave, for the Iraq government. Receiving a Fulbright award in 1952 he returned to continue excavation at Shanidar Cave in 1953. It was during this season that he found the first palaeolithic skeleton to be discovered in Iraq.

On his return to the United States in 1954, after a brief assignment with River Basin Surveys, Solecki left the Smithsonian to continue his studies at Columbia University for his Ph.D. degree in anthropology.

Under the sponsorship of the Smithsonian Institution and financed by several other American foundations, plus assistance from two oil companies in the Near East, Solecki organized and directed a third expedition to Kurdistan, Iraq. There, during the 1956-57 season, Solecki and his associates discovered two Early Man skeletons, which look like the "conservative"

neanderthal type. These skeletons were found in Shanidar Cave, as well as an early Neolithic village site nearby which is linked to the beginnings of civilization in Mesopotamia. The skeletons have been designated by the Iraq government as national treasures, and therefore must remain in Iraq. However, the Smithsonian collections in Old World archeology have been made richer by an equal division of the archeological material that he recovered.

Solecki brings with him to the Institution not only a background of Mesopotamian archeology, but knowledge acquired through visiting the leading museums and institutions of learning in Europe and the Near East, where he conferred with colleagues and examined collections. Accompanied by his wife, Dr. Rose Solecki, he worked several weeks in the archeology of Southern France during the fall of 1956.

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RIVER BASIN NEWS

During the period of July 17 through July 24, Dr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., director of the River Basin Surveys; Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, chief of the Missouri Basin Project; Dr. John M. Corbett, staff archeologist with the National Park Service; and Paul L. Beaubien, archeologist with the National Park Service made an inspection tour of the nine archeological field camps of the Missouri Basin Project and the camps of the various institutions that are making archeological investigations in the Missouri Basin with the cooperation of the National Park Service.

Three of the Missouri Basin Project field parties have completed their season's work. G. Hubert Smith and party of ten completed their

investigations at a historic site in the Big Bend Reservoir area on August 9. Dr. Waldo R. Wedel and party of eleven completed their work in the Oahe Reservoir area on August 16. Donald D. Hartle and party of seven completed their work, also in the Oahe Reservoir area, on August 23. Parties still in the field include those headed by Dr. Stephenson, Charles H. McNutt, Dr. Warren W. Caldwell, Robert W. Neumann, William N. Irving, and Harold A. Huscher. It is expected that these six parties will have completed their work by mid-September.

Conrad Wirth, Director of the National Park Service, visited some of the excavation units in the Oahe and Big Bend areas of South Dakota the latter part of August.

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OLD STOMACHS AVAILABLE

If biologists want any old bird or mammal stomachs, they may be obtained from the Department of the Interior.

The following announcement has been received from the Department: "Studies of wildlife food habits by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service were eliminated by Congress 15 years ago and since then there have been no funds for this work. Many thousands of stomachs remain unexamined. They represent most species of American birds and various species of mammals. They are from practically all parts of America north of Mexico.

"This material occupies space now urgently needed for other purposes. Stomachs of any species or group will be sent to biologists wishing to study them. Shipping costs are to be paid by the recipient. If you desire any of this material, please write immediately

to 'The Director, Patuxent Research Refuge, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Laurel, Maryland,' stating the species or group in which you are interested. Material that is not requested will have to be discarded in the very near future."

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HELP WANTED

STENOGRAPHERS: S. I. needs Clerk-Stenographers, GS-4, \$3415 per annum. Requirements: Must pass Civil Service shorthand test at 80 w.p.m. or have Civil Service status. Contact Mr. Gilbard, Ext. 385. Growth and expansion of the Institution offers many opportunities for competent stenographers.

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VISITING EUROPE

A. G. Wenley, Director of the Freer Gallery of Art, left for Europe on August 26th to attend the International Congress of Orientalists in Munich.

Upon completion of the meetings there, he will travel through a number of countries: first to Sweden, where, among other outstanding collections of early Chinese art, he will see that of King Gustaf V; thence to Glasgow, which has the only collection of Whistleriana that can compare with that in the Freer; to London; and then to the Continent, where he will visit in Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, and Italy.

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LIBRARIAN RETIRES

Mrs. Leila Clark, Librarian of the Smithsonian Institution, retired at the end of August.

A farewell party in the Regents Room on August 30 was attended by a large number of Mrs. Clark's friends. Secretary Carmichael spoke about her life and work at the Smithsonian and read a poem written in her honor by Paul Oehser, chief of the editorial and publications division.

The honoree was presented with a handsome black calf handbag and a hundred-dollar bill. Also, she received a beautifully illustrated booklet containing the names of the many friends who joined in this gesture of their esteem. The art work on the booklet was done by Mrs. Patricia Isham of the department of zoology and it included drawings of books and butterflies.

Leila Gay Forbes came to the Smithsonian in November 1929 as assistant librarian in charge of reference, on transfer from the Department of Agriculture. Four years later she married the late Dr. Austin H. Clark, former curator of echinoderms in the National Museum. She was named librarian in February 1942.

Prior to entering government service she was librarian at Randolph-Macon Woman's College for 14 years. At the party for Mrs. Clark, Secretary Carmichael read a congratulatory telegram from President Quillian of this college.

Mrs. Clark is a graduate of St. Lawrence University, as were her father and mother. Her mother was a niece of the first president of the university and her father was the dean of the theological school there. She is the author of "Resources of the Smithsonian Institution," published in 1943, and, with her late husband, is co-author of "The Butterflies of Virginia," published in 1951 as No. 7 of volume 116 of the Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections.

Leila Clark accompanied Dr. Clark on many field trips to collect the butterflies described in their book. In "Henrietta," a venerable Ford, they visited every county in Virginia, often camping out wherever night found them.

Following is the poem written by Mr. Oehser for the occasion of Mrs. Clark's retirement:

Let's now open a bottle of Cutty Sark*
 And drink to the health of Leila F. Clark,
 Who, as you know, from time well-nigh Devonian
 Has been Librarian at the Smithsonian.
 Nee Forbes, she searched but scorned the common grist
 And married that well-known scientist Sir Austin, respected, magnanimous, and wise,
 Engrossed in echinoids and butterflies;
 While she, guarding the volumes on the S. I. shelves,
 Found joy in helping those who help themselves.
 With dignity, sureness, modesty, and style,
 She's done her stint for a long, long, long, long while;
 With motives always kind and purpose pure,
 The Muse of Scientific Literature.
 As gold is to brass, as silver is to pewter,
 She stands--so let us all salute her...
 Librarian superb, par excellence,
 We'll miss her from these ancient ivied haunts.
 Lift up the glass, sans further circumlocution,
 To the best-loved lady in the Institution!
 We love her for her gracious guileless ways,
 And envy now the freedom of her days...
 A sad commentary indeed upon the human race
 That there's really nobody who can take her place!

* Champagne would be better, but it doesn't rhyme. We'll use champagne another time.

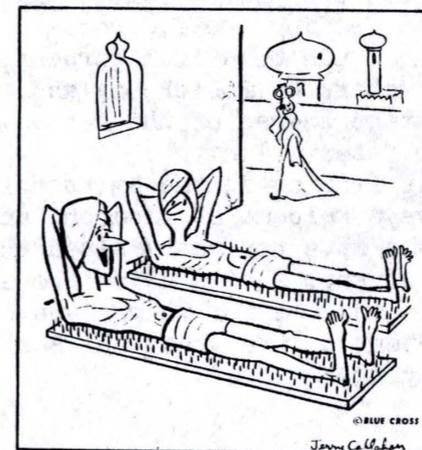
In his talk at the retirement party Secretary Carmichael spoke highly of Mrs. Clark, saying she "is highly intellectual and cultured, gracious and possessing a quiet humor. She has a wide knowledge of people, events and things, and also of the sources of information about them. She has a great fund of knowledge about the Smithsonian Institution and its growth."

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UNESCO DELEGATES

Two Freer staff members, R. J. Gettens, associate in technical research, and J. F. Cahill, assistant in Chinese art, have been appointed delegates to the conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural organization to be held in San Francisco late in the fall.

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"Frankly, I've joined Blue Cross just in case."

RECEIVES AWARD

The Smithsonian recently granted a certificate of meritorious service and a cash award of \$330 to Mrs. Madeline Fincannon, chief of the classification section of the personnel division.

In making the presentation, Assistant Secretary J. E. Graf stated the award was based on Mrs. Fincannon's achievements from November 1955 to June 1957, during which time she personally audited, edited, and allocated 248 positions; conducted a survey of the police force at the National Zoological Park; and developed the Administrative Trainee Agreement between the Smithsonian Institution and the U. S. Civil Service Commission.

"In addition," Mr. Graf said, "this award is conferred on the basis of your methods of operation and demonstrated initiative and judgment in preparing and allocating position descriptions in a thorough and comprehensive manner."

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ORIENTAL ART LECTURES

The Freer Gallery of Art recently announced a series of illustrated lectures on Oriental art to be held in the Freer auditorium during the fall and winter.

On October 8 Dr. John A. Pope, assistant director of the Freer Gallery, will tell about "Ceramic Finds in the Far East."

"Adventures in Collecting" will be described by Dr. John D. Cooney, curator of Egyptology at the Brooklyn Museum. This lecture will be presented on November 5.

Harold P. Stern, assistant in Japanese art at the Freer Gallery, will discuss "The Korean Imperial Treasures" on January 7.

All the lectures will begin at 8:30 p.m.

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ASIAN FLU

Recommendations with Respect to Vaccinations of Civilian Federal Employees Against Asian Influenza:

Widespread epidemics of Asian influenza probably will develop in this country during the fall or winter. This disease is caused by a new strain of influenza virus, which already has spread generally across the country. Because this is a new strain, little or no natural immunity has been built up against it among the population. Thus the risk of developing influenza is virtually equal among all the various age and occupational groups.

The illness has been relatively mild and so far the death rate has been very low. The disease so far has been characterized by fever of 102 to 104 degrees, headache, sore throat, cough, and severe muscle aches. The duration of illness has been 4 to 5 days, followed by several days of considerable weakness.

The only known preventive is vaccination. When the disease first broke out in the Far East, vaccine manufacturers in this country were supplied with the new virus strains so they could produce a vaccine to combat it. On the basis of past experience with vaccine against other strains of influenza virus, the new vaccine is expected to be approximately 70% effective.

Although vaccine production plans so far have progressed well, it will not be possible, of course, to produce and distribute sufficient quantities of vaccine for the entire population, or probably even a majority of the population, before the onset of the influenza season. The Public Health Service has recommended civilian use of the vaccine as rapidly as supplies become available, with vaccinations being given first to those whose work is necessary to maintain essential community services; for example, medical care, police and fire protection, water and power supplies, etc.

As supplies become available for general use, all Federal employees should arrange with their private physicians for vaccination for themselves and their families.

FORMER CURATOR FEATURED

Last month in the Sunday edition of the Washington Post and Times Herald appeared an illustrated article by Marie Smith describing the idyllic life that Dr. Paul Bartsch, former curator of mollusks, has been leading since his retirement 11 years ago.

On the banks of the Potomac only a short distance south of Washington, "a winding road lined with tall cedars leads to his beloved Lebanon, 458 acres of wildlife beauty overlooking the calm waters of Pohick Bay on Mason's Neck in the heart of Virginia history land. There in a 225-year old brick Colonial house (built four years before Mount Vernon), Dr. Bartsch and his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Parker, a practicing physician who still commutes to her office in Washington, live the life they love."

The article points out that Dr. Bartsch takes a great deal of pleasure in showing his wildlife sanctuary to all visitors who come to see him. He is especially proud of Fern Valley, a little paradise for lovers of nature, and of his study where he can sit at his desk in front of a large picture window that looks out past a constantly occupied feeding shelf, over a portion of the beautiful gardens, to the waters of Pohick Bay and the distant shores of the Fort Belvoir reservation.

His friends at the Smithsonian are always welcome at Lebanon, and those who have not yet visited this wonderful spot should drive the easy 22 miles and see for themselves the contented life that Paul Bartsch is enjoying.

NEW APPOINTMENTS:

Archeologists:

Robert W. Neuman (RBS)
Ralph S. Solecki (Anthro.)

Communication Specialist:

Charles M. Peterson (APO)

Chemist:

Paul E. Desautels (Geology)

Photographer:

George T. Bleakley (Freer)

Resident Naturalist:

Martin H. Moynihan (CZBA)

Publications Writer:

Joseph G. Weiner (Off. of Asst. Director)

Veterinarian:

James F. Wright (NZP)

Physical Science Aid:

Lynne B. Farrell (APO)

Mathematician:

Nancy S. McCumber (APO)

Museum Aid:

Lloyd E. Langford (Freer)

Exhibits Worker:

William N. Clarke (Off. of Exh.)

Administrative Officer:

Kenneth Drummond (APO)

Administrative Clerk:

James E. Bailey (BSIE)

Clerks:

Frank J. Wargo (APO)
Rosemary F. Ruess (CZBA)

Jr. Clerk:

June G. White (BSIE)

Clerk-Typists:

Gloria A. Bennett (Off. of Dir.)
Carole A. Fentress (Library)

Clerk-Dictating Machine Transcriber:

Setsuko Nakashima (APO)

Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic:

Laverne B. Hodapp

Cabinetmaker:

William H. Wright

Guard:

Harry Escott

Laborers:

James Griffin
Michael J. Estep

SEPARATIONS:

William T. Darnell
Betty A. Neumann
Carolyn E. Amundson
William M. Bass, III
Leila F. Clark
John Dixon
James H. Benn
John P. Cox
Herman Dean
Elmer D. Jackson
Irwin L. Makel
Alan S. Meltzer
Helen A. Sahagian
Robert M. Wilson
Jean M. Bottoms
Fred Davis
Pei-Tsing Liu
Vieno V. Parta
Francis Conti
H. Elliott Hawkins, Jr.
Ida R. Robinson
Raymond M. Moore

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UGF CO-CHAIRMEN APPOINTED

Three high-ranking officials have been appointed co-chairmen of the Government's largest campaign for funds for volunteer health and welfare agencies, Interior Secretary Fred A. Seaton, chairman of the Government Unit of the United Givers Fund of the National Capital Area, has announced.

Co-chairmen of the Government's campaign for UGF funds are: Assistant Secretary of Defense Floyd S. Bryant, Chairman of the U. S. Civil Service Commission Harris Ellsworth, and Under Secretary of Commerce Walter Williams.

The goal of the Government employee campaign is \$3,220,000. The total UGF goal is \$7,000,000, which will be divided among the 140 local and national health and welfare agencies throughout the National Capital Areas who depend on UGF for support.

Government workers have long been on record as favoring one campaign for health

and welfare agencies. This year eight more campaigns are consolidated in the 140 services who choose to receive support from the givers' organization, via one annual appeal.

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SUCCESSFUL CANCER CRUSADE

The generous response of the people of Washington to the 1957 Cancer Crusade will make it possible for the District of Columbia Division of the American Cancer Society to accelerate programs of education and direct service to cancer patients during the coming year, R. Kelvin Shivers, Crusade Chairman, has announced.

During the past year, \$318,812.56 was contributed to the local Society. This is the largest amount the Society has received in any year since it was organized here in 1946. The total exceeded by \$3,537.38 the \$315,276.18 contributed in 1955-56.

A major portion of the budget for the year beginning September 1 will be devoted to direct service to cancer patients with a total of \$85,709 designated. This is an increase of \$7,000 over the amount expended this year for service.

Included in this amount is \$75,443.56 to be granted to District hospitals and institutions to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

The Homemaker Service, started experimentally this year to provide assistance in the home to cancer patients and their families, will be expanded during the coming year. Provision also is made for continuing financial aid to needy patients for chemotherapy in the treatment of cancer.

Other services to cancer patients include free dressings and sick room equipment. Counseling service also is available to anyone with a cancer problem. Direct financial aid to certain eligible patients also is provided.

The other major portion of the budget will be devoted to professional and community education. A total of \$71,634.52, an increase of \$3,500 over the amount expended this year, has been allotted to this phase of the Society's activities.

In addition to these services of the local Society, 50 per cent of the money received here is sent to the national office where much of it is used for research.

The services of the local Society are available to all persons in the District of Columbia. Persons who wish further information or assistance are urged to call the Society at Executive 3-3690.

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DO YOU KNOW

That because you are an employee of the Smithsonian Institution you are eligible to receive blood from the American Red Cross free of charge if you should ever need it?

That the members of your immediate family are also eligible for this valuable medicine.

That you are protected anywhere in the United States as long as you are in a participating hospital? (If you are in a nonparticipating hospital, Smithsonian can still arrange to meet part or all of your needs.)

That if you had to pay for blood it would cost you from \$25 to \$40 a pint?

That you have these benefits because many of your co-workers care enough to give their blood for your protection?

It is your direct responsibility to keep the BLOOD DONOR program going. The Smithsonian must meet a quota every year in order to remain under the program. Don't depend on others to do your share. Call the personnel division now to find out when you

can donate blood. You'll be happy that you have helped to fill a vital need.

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DECORATING SCHOOL

The 'inside story' of interior decoration will be unfolded soon to homemakers everywhere through a series of one-night schools that will be conducted throughout the nation, according to plans announced by the National Housing Center's board of trustees.

The pilot "School of Interior Design and Furnishings," co-sponsored locally by the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Washington, will be held at the Housing Center on the nights of September 30 through October 3, Hughes announced. Local affiliated associations of the National Association of Home Builders have been invited to operate similar schools.

The School has been developed by the National Housing Center and the National Association of Home Builders in cooperation with the American Institute of Decorators. Gladys Miller-lecturer, author, and interior decorator--has been retained by the Housing Center as a consultant on the courses.

Admission will be free, and tickets may be obtained by visiting a model home in the Washington area during National Home Week, September 21-29.

The curriculum of the school will consist of five parts: "Philosophy of Interior Design"; "Lighting for Living"; "Creative Color Planning"; "Common Sense Arrangements of Furniture and Window Treatments"; and "Accent on Accessories."

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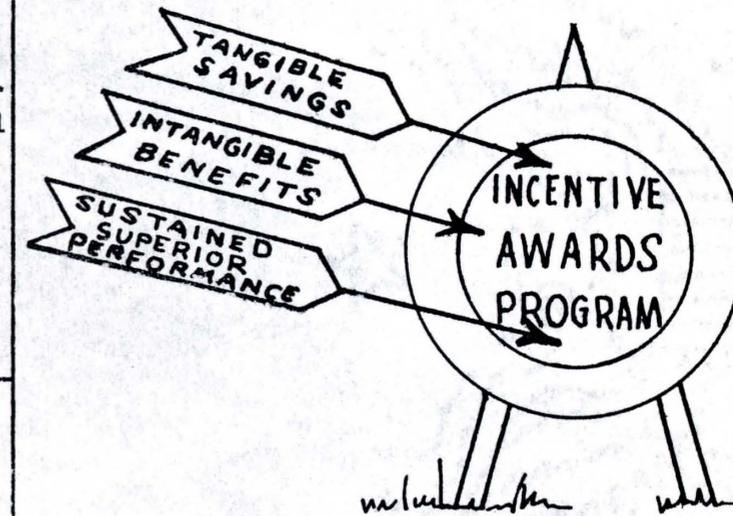
PUBLISHED IN AUGUST

"History of Entomology in World War II," by Emory C. Cushing. Special publication, 117 pages.

"Music of Acoma, Isleta, Cochiti, and Zuni Pueblos," by Frances Densmore. Bulletin of the Bureau of American Ethnology, 125 pages, including 82 song scores.

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REMINDER: EVERYONE IS ELIGIBLE



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