CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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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

GROUND BROKEN FOR MUSEUM OF HISTORY

The ground-breaking ceremony for the new Museum of History and Technology took place on August 22. The new building will be erected on the north side of The Mall between 12th and 13th Streets.

Senator Clinton P. Anderson (N. Mex.), a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution and Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee for construction of the building, employed the same spade in this ceremony that had been formerly used by Smithsonian Secretary Samuel F. Langley in breaking ground for the Museum of Natural History 54 years ago and by Acting Secretary Richard Rathbun in breaking ground for the Freer Gallery in 1916.

The new museum was authorized by Congress in June 1955 and will be of contemporary design but will retain a classical spirit so that it will harmonize with the existing monumental buildings on The Mall and on Constitution Ave. It will house extensive historic and scientific collections totaling more than a million and a half specimens, only a small fraction of which can now be displayed in existing Smithsonian buildings.

Public exhibition galleries will occupy the three main floors of the building and will be devoted to interpretation of the civil and military history of the United States and the history of science and the development of technology in America. Here will be shown the many unique specimens in these fields for which the Smithsonian Institution has long been renowned, as well as many new items not previously exhibited.

In addition, the museum's extensive reference collections will be systematically organized and will be available for study by scientists, historians, inventors, writers, collectors, and others interested in such varied subjects as the history of science and engineering, light and heavy machinery, agriculture, printing, marine architecture, antique automobiles, early American furniture, ceramics and glass, textiles, stamps, coins, costumes and uniforms, guns and ordnance, medicine and pharmacy, and many other fields.

RETIREMENT MARKED BY SON'S DEATH

The friends of A. B. Smith, laborer assigned to the Smithsonian Building who was to retire on August 31, had planned to meet in the office of the buildings manager on the afternoon of August 29 to present him with a cash gift and a "Smithsonian Retirement Card." However, Mr. Smith received word on the morning of August 29 that his son Calvin had died suddenly. The cash gift was given to him by Mr. Oliver at that time and Mr. Smith stated he would like to thank everyone for their kindness.

Sympathy is extended to Mr. Smith and his family.
The Fifteenth-and-a-half Plains conference was held at the Smithsonian Institution Warehouse at the airport in Pierre, S. Dak., on Saturday and Sunday, July 26 and 27. The sessions convened with 15 archaeologists, a physical anthropologist, a geologist, and a number of field crewn in attendance. Maximum attendance at the sessions was 39 persons.

At the Saturday morning session, discussions were centered principally around the definitions of pottery ware and pottery type. The Saturday afternoon session and Sunday morning session consisted entirely of discussions of specific pottery types and pottery wares, and how dependable they are in the terminology and meaning in which they are used by River Basin archaeologists. On Sunday afternoon, conference members were treated to a personally conducted tour through the Oake Dam area by Col. John Sibert, the area engineer who is building the dam. The conference then went to the Baily Site and several adjacent sites under excavation in the area nearby.

Visiting archaeologists attending the conference were Dr. John M. Corbett from the National Museum in Washington and Dr. John L. Champ of the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

By the end of August, all field parties working in the Oake and Big Bend Reservoir areas of South Dakota had closed camp, and most of the party chiefs had returned to the Lincoln headquarters. William N. Bass III returned to Washington on August 23. Dr. Robert L. Stephenson and William N. Irving remained in South Dakota for several days after the closing of the camps.

The season was marred by two accidents. Richard N. Baker, who was employed as the cook for the Fort Thompson Camp, was fatally injured in a diving accident in the Fort Thompson area on August 18. Funeral services were held in Fort Wayne, Indian.
ARE YOU DEPENDABLE?

A readily recognized mark of greatness of character is the quality of dependability. In any kind of job, large or small, this is the necessary foundation of confidence and trust. It is a necessary condition of any job being efficiently or even successfully concluded.

Here is a questionnaire on your dependability in three areas of common experience.

Punctuality

Am I habitually late for work?
Do I daily daily and put off the accomplishment of small but necessary tasks on the job?
If I promise to have a task done at a certain time, am I conscientious about meeting the deadline?
Is my lack of punctuality so pronounced that I am habitually late for appointments and meetings?
Am I easily sidetracked from definite obligations to others by chance meetings or conversations or passing interests?
Do I consider punctuality to be of little importance, or even half-consciously fail to be on time because it makes me seem a person of importance?
Can I recall that I have frequently been the cause of impatience and anger in others because I made them wait for me?

Honesty

Have I taken articles or small amounts of money from the place where I work without any justification or authority?
Have I caused loss to my employer by my careless use of equipment and machinery?
Have I given tools or other articles or even money to others in the place where I work with absolutely no authority to do so?
Have I padded my expense account in a way that my conscience told me was completely unjustified?
Have I tried conscientiously to give a full day's work for a full day's wage?
Have I lost a lot of time for which I was being paid just by standing around idly and doing nothing?
Has my work been slipshod because of the careless, half-hearted way in which I went about it?

Responsibility

Have I tried to develop a genuine sense of responsibility to my employers and to the public I serve in my job?
Does this sense of responsibility cause me to protect the legitimate interests of those who have shown trust in me by hiring me?
Have I sincerely tried to be patient and charitable towards the faults and failings and whims of employers and fellow employees, realizing that I also have faults and failings of my own?

SECRETARY PRESENTS AWARDS

Secretary Demichael presented awards for meritorious service on August 7 to Mrs. Evelyn B. Stewart, River Basin Surveys; Mrs. DeWitt E. Peterson, division of marine invertebrates; Mrs. Jeraldine M. Whitmore, division or archeology; Ulysses G. Young, division of cultural history; and Mrs. Gloria A. Bennett, division of insects.

In making the presentations the Secretary told the recipients that they were granted the awards because they had consistently exceeded the requirements of their positions and had rendered meritorious service to their particular divisions.

Where there is progress, there is always mutual help.

CREATIVE CRAFTS EXHIBIT

The National Collection of Fine Arts has announced the opening on August 27 of the Third Biennial Exhibition of Creative Crafts.

The Exhibit is sponsored by Ceramic Guild of Bethesda, Cherry Tree Designers, Clay Pigeons of Kensington, Designer-Weavers, and the Klin Club of Washington. It is being shown in the Natural History Building and will continue through September 26.

MAKING OUR CONTRIBUTIONS COUNT

It's happened to each of us. We've wanted to stretch forth our hands in comfort, hope, and help to others. We've wanted to do something and seemed unable somehow to find the way. Yet constantly we are approached by this organization or that service. We are asked to help as volunteers. We are asked to give and give generously.

Although we may feel this cause is important or that service particularly necessary, we obviously cannot give to them all. This is the dilemma that confronts us, and some of us shrug our shoulders, matter something about the total impossibility of it all and go about our business as usual.

Yet the problem is far from insoluble. A way has been found out of this distressing dilemma. It's the method by which one single appeal a year is made through united giving to health and welfare services. And that time of the year is now. Included in this effort are the fields of service and care which cover child care, family services, care for the aged, health and hospital care, youth services for leisure, recreation, community services, etc.

Sharing what we have with others by giving to the UNITED GIVERS FUND helps more people and saves more lives than can be measured. It saves campaign costs and saves valuable time. It's the ideal way to make sure our contributions count.

The annual drive for the UGF will get under way the latter part of this month, with Ed Roy of fiscal division as our chairman. All Smithsonian employees are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to help their fellow men.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Smithsonian Institution issued the following publications during July and August:


"A Review of the Copepod Genus" Raja, the Palaech (Calanoida) with Descriptions of New Species from the Dry Tortugas, Florida," by Mildred Stratton Wilson; 43 pages.

"Revision of the Milliped Genus" Hypoxylodesmus (Polydesmids: Xystodesmidae)," by Richard L. Hoffman; 36 pages.