Robot "men" probably will build the first space platforms—launching sites for expeditions to the moon and planets.

Such a contrivance, the "telepuppet," is described in a report to the Office of Naval Research by Dr. Fred L. Whipple, director of the Astrophysical Observatory.

Dr. Whipple says the telepuppet will be "an instrument built to do the various necessary jobs, having television eyes and remote-controlled hands which will ape the motions of an operator, much as do the remote manipulators used in hot laboratories. The puppet fingers will have a little feedback on pressure, so that the operator can feel the object he is touching."

The only other solution, Dr. Whipple says, is to have the platforms built by actual men in some sort of space suits. At the best, he says, these would be highly uncomfortable and probably very dangerous.

"I have the feeling," he says in the report, "that these suits will be neither safe nor efficient. Sooner or later a small meteor, or more probably just the ordinary wear and tear of use, will rip the surface. If the suits are made extremely heavy they will become very awkward. I think they would always be as complicated, if not more so, than the heavy equipment used for deep-sea diving and will present much the same type of hazards. Space suits can be eliminated by use of telepuppets."

"Man is needed in space, presumably because he can exercise judgment and also because he cannot be jammed by radio countermeasures. But he does not have to be out working in a space suit."

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.
At the 77th Stated Meeting of The American Ornithologists' Union, held in Regina, Saskatchewan, August 25-30, the Brewster Award (a gold medallion and a sum of money), the highest honor of the Union, was granted to Dr. Alexander Wetmore, research associate and former Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

The citation read as follows: "For the past generation, Dr. Alexander Wetmore we hail a biologist who, during a career that has spanned more than 50 years, has been one of the chief architects of American ornithology."
a handful of her favorite sunflower seeds on the retaining wall and discreetly retired to allow her full freedom to enjoy her reward. She was a little slow to get going, but, after
further sniffing and encirclement of the tree, she started my way—but second to daddy, the bum, who came from left field for the feast and (he's so easy with the crumbs!).

There is a slight twist to the story. Two days later three furry little raccoons peered intently into a second-story window.

She had been counting!...Harry Phillips

**FWS LABORATORY CHIEF RETIRES**

Stanley P. Young, director of the bird and mammal laboratories of the Fish and Wildlife Service, in the Natural History Building, retired on October 31, after 41 years of service.

Mr. Young entered the Bureau of Biological Survey, a predecessor agency of the Fish and Wildlife Service, in 1917 as a predator hunter after serving briefly with the Forest Service. He became chief of the division of predator and rodent control in 1928, and in 1935 was selected to head a combination of three divisions, encompassing game management, wildlife refuges, and predator and rodent control. In 1939 he transferred to the branch of wildlife research in the Natural History Building.


In April 1957 the Department of the Interior presented Mr. Young with its highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award.

During the 20 years Mr. Young has been located in the Natural History Building he has worked closely with the bird and mammal divisions of the Smithsonian, and has made many friends among the staff. One of his hobbies, the growing of prize roses, has made him a well-known figure in the management of the exhibit of the Potomac Rose Society show held annually in October in the Natural History Building.

Mr. Young will continue as a collaborator with the Bureau, working on the publication "History and Philosophy of Mammal Control."

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**CHRISTMAS SEALS COMING**

The 1959 Christmas Seal campaign will be opened in the Washington area on November 12.

In reminding us that Christmas Seals are used to fight tuberculosis, the U.S. Treasurer, Mrs. Ivy Raker Priest, who is an associate chairman of the campaign, emphasizes the seriousness of the TB problem in the District. During the year, more than three new TB cases were reported every day.

The proceeds of the traditional Christmas Seal sale in the Metropolitan area support the District of Columbia, Alexandria-Arlington, Fairfax, Montgomery, and Prince Georges TB Associations.

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**LIBRARIAN TRANSFERS**

Mrs. Louise MacKenzie, library assistant in charge of binding, resigned at the end of October to accept a position in the library at the Naval Weapons Establishment.

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**ON THE RAIL**

The following squib is taken from Hot Shoppe's "Table Talk."

A letter from a salesman to the manager of his home office read as follows:

"Dear Boss: I just seen this outfit which ain't never bought a dime's worth of nothing from us and I stole them a couple hundred dollars worth of gads. I am on my way to Chicago."

Two days later a second letter arrived:

"I cum here and I stole them 40 thousand dollars worth."

Both letters were posted on the bulletin board with this note from the president: "We been spendin too much time bear tryin to spell, instead of sell. Let's watch those sails. I want everybody should read these letters from 0 . . . who is on the rode doin a great job and you should go out and do like he done."

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**INCENTIVE AWARDS, 1959**

The Civil Service Commission recently reported the following results of Government-wide incentive awards programs.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1959, employees submitted a record number of 367,000 ideas for ways to improve Government work practices. Of that number, some 97,800—about one out of four—were adopted. Measurable benefits represented by the adopted suggestions totaled nearly $68,300,000, for which employees received over $2,807,000 in cash. The highest number of suggestions previously recorded was in fiscal year 1958 when nearly 333,000 were received.

Excellent performance and outstanding achievement beyond job requirements resulted in nearly 63,400 awards to employes in the 12 months ending last June 30. These accomplishments represented over $57,128,000 in measurable benefits to taxpayers and more than $9,825,000 in cash awards to employees.

In fiscal year 1958, 52,600 employees were recognized for superior performance on the job. Ten awards, with $1,320 in cash, were granted for superior performance. Outstanding achievements resulted in awards totaling $2,435 to eight employees.

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**SPOT**

The Kathryn Callan Norris award to winners of the Code Name Contest for the Smithsonian Satellite Tracking Program were presented on October 15 at the Astrophysical Observatory. The contest had been organized last summer by Fred McCallum, statistic coordinator, at the request of Observatory Director Fred L. Whipple.

Dr. Whipple, Dr. Donald H. Menzel, Director of the Harvard College Observatory, and Mr. Charles A. Federer, Jr., editor of Sky and Telescope, comprised the jury that chose SPOT (Smithsonian Precision Optical Tracking) from 77 entries.

Mrs. Eileen C. Cavanough, formerly of the Registrar's Office, received $100 for the name SPOT. Miss Mary C. Roven, Harvard College Observatory, also submitted the name STAR (Satellite Tracking Astronautics Reconnaissance), received the second prize of $30. Mrs. Edward H. Shenton, wife of the Chief of Tracking Stations, won third prize for her entry OUTPOST.

Mention that there might be prizes had been made but no one had expected that through the munificence of Mrs.
Kathryn Callan Norris these would be of monetary value. The winners were pleasantly surprised.

Award certificates were designed especially for the occasion by the Astrophysical Observatory's talented draftsman Edward F. De Matteo.

THE EXHIBITS LABORATORY

A little apart from the main body but an important part of the Smithsonian Institution is the exhibits laboratory at 1222 24th Street, N.W. A personally conducted view of the maze of work areas was my privilege recently. The laboratory is housed in a large building with space in which to plan, build, finish, and print the 8-by-10-foot panels that eventually will be installed in the exhibits halls of the Smithsonian buildings.

The entire atmosphere of the laboratory is charged with a spirit of cooperative accomplishment, and one cannot fail to note the happy, friendly faces of the production crews.

There are approximately 70 employees, some of whom are working at drafting boards in the designing section and in the plastics division on the second floor.

The production force is deployed in groups of two to eight in various areas of the large, open first floor. An almost total lack of partitions make it possible to move large panels and pieces of equipment from original assembly to completion points with the least difficulty. There is a large wood-working shop, a paint-spray "booth" of roomy proportions, a large area in which the panels are sanded to smooth-as-glass surfaces and finally printed, and an entire corner presently filled with rare horsedrawn farming equipment and the shop where models are made.

Fashioned in the shop are models ranging from tiny hand-machined metal and wooden parts to the lifelike sculptured horses that pull or push the scale-model reapers, mowers, etc.

Those I saw were tiny working models of farming machinery dating back to Roman days. Some ancient machines had surprisingly modern appearing cutting devices similar to electric razors; another of ancient origin had a chain-driven grain carrier and regulators fixed on the wheels to compensate for uneven land contours.

Each of these models is a little jewel of perfection and representative of the fine craftsmen at work in the exhibits laboratory.

The full-size farm machinery is being completely reconditioned for display, and in some cases this involves extensive research and rebuilding.

In the opposite end of the building, behind closed doors, is the "Make Ready" room. In this room is employed the wet carbon tissue method of silk screen production, a photographic process requiring the utmost care, precision timing, and extreme cleanliness. The results are the fine, delicately detailed silk screens used in printing the panels that are making an enviable reputation for the Smithsonian Institution.

Ben Lawless, Bels Bory, and all who are employed in the exhibits laboratory may well be proud of their accomplishments there. We are all anticipating a wonderful experience in viewing the completed exhibits...Lorraine I. Thomas

ADRESSES DAR

John C. Ewers, Assistant Director, Museum of History and Technology, presented a talk, with excellent pictures, on "American Indians," at the October 19 meeting of the Exhibits Division of the District of Columbia DAR. Mrs. Mary E. Oldfather, who arranged the program, has reported the talk created an enthusiastic response.

NEW STENO, TYPIST STANDARDS

According to the Civil Service Commission, new qualification and classification standards covering approximately 117,000 stenographer and typist positions in Government recognize the increasing diversity of skills required of modern office workers.

The new standards reflect the fact that some of the routine and repetitive work has disappeared from stenographer and typist jobs as a result of technological advances and new procedures introduced in recent years. Extensive use of photocopy equipment, tabulating equipment, computers, etc., has eliminated much of the routine copy work, while the use of machine dictation, form letters, and standard paragraphs has replaced much of the routine dictation work formerly given to stenographers.

Meanwhile, more diversified and responsible work has been gradually finding its way into these jobs. Clerk-typist positions thereafter will range from GS-2 through GS-4 and clerk-stenographer from GS-3 through GS-5.

With the issuance of the new classification standards, agencies will be required to review all positions where typing and stenographic duties are required and reclassify them to their proper grades.

New qualification requirements have also been established for these jobs. In the main, however, they will not affect people already on the job. For persons entering the Government, they will mean that a person who demonstrates superior skill in the examination will be eligible for appointment at a higher grade than other applicants. Related experience will also be evaluated by the Commission in determining the grade for which an applicant is eligible.

AFO DIRECTOR FORECAST

LUNAR HIT DATE

Six years ago, Geraux de la Ree, reporter on the Bergen (N. J.) Evening Record, polled a group of men interested in space flight. One of the questions he asked was "In what year do you think the first unmanned missile will be successfully landed on the moon?"

On last September 11, right after the Russians hit the moon with a space rocket, the same reporter had a story in the Evening Record that read, in part, as follows:

"While 71.4 per cent of the men contributing to that 1953 space-flight poll predicted the unmanned missile before 1975, only 11.3 per cent mentioned the U.S.S.R. as the possible sponsor of such an effort. Few could see any nation but the United States accomplishing such a major scientific break-through."

"Only two of the 65 contributors actually picked 1959 as the year of the first successful moon trip. One was Dr. Fred Whipple... (who) circled the word 'successful' and added the prophetic comment: 'I mean bang! Dr. Whipple predicted the first manned flight in 1960.'"

AUSTRALIAN JOINS AFO STAFF

John J. Grady recently arrived from the satellite tracking station in Woomera, Australia, to join the technical staff of the Astrophysical Observatory in the capacity of photographic and tracking specialist. He will be primarily concerned with an evaluation of present tracking techniques and operations.

JOHN R. RUSSELL
ODE TO EVERYONE

The following poem by Seymour Taylor titled "If Everyone . . ." is reprinted, with permission, from the June 1959 issue of The C. and P. Call:

If every one who drives a car
Could tie a month in bed,
With broken bones and stitched-up wounds,
Or fractures of the head,
And there endure the agonies
That many people do.
They'd never need preach safety
Any more to me or you.

If every one could stand beside
The bed of some close friend
And hear the Doctor say "No Hope"
Before that fatal end,
And see him there unconscious
Where Daddy used to shined,
And watch behind the screen
The wife and children left
Behind the sudden advance.

If every one could meet
The wife and children left behind
And step into the darkened home
Where once the sunlight shined,
And knock upon "the Vacant Chair,"
Where Daddy used to sit,
I'm sure each reckless driver
Would be forced to think a bit.

If every one who takes the wheel
Would say a little prayer,
And keep in mind those in the car
Depending on his care,
And make a vow and pledge himself
To never take a chance
The Great Crusade for Safety
Would suddenly advance.

NEW BOWLING YEAR

The Smithsonian Bowling League started its 13th season on September 9 with the full complement of 10 teams. A number of new members filled vacancies on the teams and several new ones are on the "Sub" list, ready to jump at the first sign of a vacancy.

The teams were reorganized according to averages, ranging from h53 to h56, but it did not take long for some sleepers to come to the fore and start the battle royal for the top.

Officers this year are Helena Weiss, president; Carl Hellyer, vice-president; Phyllis Prescott, secretary-treasurer; and O. Robertson, statistician. Team captains, listed according to standings October 11, are Ned Gable, Cardinals; Orlice; Linda Shaw, Canns; Lourida Gillum, Larks; T. Gillum, Brats; Jessie Shaw, No. 10; Anna Babcock, Aces; Vera Gabbert, Jokers; Florence Hite, Spuders; Ed Kendall, Kiwis; and O. Robertson, Imps.

Anyone interested in getting on the "Sub" list should call one of the league officers.

TELLS PEN WOMEN
ABOUT SMITHSONIAN

Paul H. Osbber, chief of the editorial and publications division, gave an interesting talk on the "History and Present Activities of the Smithsonian Institution" at the annual banquet of the Washington branch of the National League of American Pen Women at the Carleton Hotel on October 10. About 125 members and guests attended.

RETIRES AFTER 52 YEARS WITH SMITHSONIAN

Thomas P. Clark, who began his service with the Smithsonian as a messenger and mailman in 1907, retired at the end of September as Treasurer of the Smithsonian Institution.

At a party in the Great Hall on September 29, hundreds of friends congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Clark and wished them a long and happy period of well-deserved retirement.

Secretary Carmichael opened the ceremonies by reading a letter to Mr. Clark:

"At this time I want to write you a personal letter to express to you my deep feeling of appreciation for all that you have done for the Smithsonian during your long years of service to this old and distinguished Institution.

There are few people in the entire Federal Government who have had a longer or a more significant service than you. It is amazing to think that you first came to the Smithsonian in 1907, and that since that time you have served this Institution with diligence and high ability until the present day which marks your retirement. During the seven years that I have been Secretary of the Smithsonian I have enjoyed and profited by my association with you in every way. I have never turned to you for advice concerning any complicated financial matter of the Institution without receiving clear, positive and effective help.

"The Smithsonian Institution performs a great service for all of America and indeed for all of the world. This service is made possible by the dedicated staff of the Institution. For more than half a century you have thus played a significant and important role in our great function of the "increase and diffusion of knowledge" which is the inspiring mission of the Smithsonian.

"Personally and on behalf of all my associates I wish to you and Mrs. Clark many years of the most pleasant and deeply satisfying activity in your well deserved retirement.

The Secretary then spoke briefly on some of the highlights of Mr. Clark's career with the Smithsonian Institution.

Tom Clark was 61 years old when he joined the Smithsonian on August 6, 1907, as a messenger and mailman. In March 1912 he was appointed stenographer in the Bureau of American Ethnology. Between 1912 and April 1921 he served as stenographer in a number of different offices, absorbing a tremendous fund of knowledge of the over-all functions of the Smithsonian.

He transferred to the fiscal division on April 1, 1921, and shortly thereafter was appointed deputy disbursing agent. He was made assistant chief of the division in February 1934 and became chief in June 1945.

On January 1, 1955, he was appointed Treasurer of the Smithsonian Institution, a position he held at the time of his retirement.

The Secretary noted that Mr. Clark was instrumental in the establishment of the Federal Credit Union in 1935 and has served as its treasurer ever since.

The Secretary expressed the hope that Mr. Clark would continue to serve in this capacity.

Secretary Carmichael then introduced the two living former Secretaries under whom Tom Clark had served — Dr. Charles O. Abbot and Dr. Alexander Wetmore — and both of them related anecdotes of the old days, in which they had served with the honored guest.

Secretary Carmichael then presented Mr. Clark with a gift from his Smithsonian Friends. These friends were so numerous that Tom Clark's letter of thanks, which was received a day or so after the party, is printed here rather than circulated.
individually. An attempt was made to circulate this letter, but it was soon found that it would take months for it to make the rounds. The letter reads as follows:

"My Dear Smithonian Friends: I wish to thank all who contributed in any way to the Retirement Party tendered me. It had often stood by at such parties but never realized how it was to have your friends gather round you on your last day at work to wish you Godspeed.

It was a very happy occasion. I shall never forget it.

"Sincerely, Tom Clark."

FRONTIER PAINTING EXHIBITION

An exhibition of the art of Seth Eastman, painter of the American Indian and Western frontier, will open at the Birmingham Museum of Art on November 15. This exhibition of 12 oils, 60 watercolors, 12 pencil sketches, and 4 engravings is being circulated throughout the country by the Smithonian Traveling Exhibition Service.

In contrast to the Romantic approach of many of the other painters of the American Indian, Seth Eastman was a faithful and accurate recorder of Indian customs and daily life. He provided the illustrations for several books on the American Indian, and, late in his life when he had retired from active duty, he executed paintings for the Committee on Indian and Military Affairs in Washington, D. C.

This is the third exhibition of paintings of the American Indian circulated by the Traveling Exhibition Service. Its predecessors were the popular show "Carl Bodmer Paints the Indian Frontier" and "Paintings by George Catlin."

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

Lord Brabazon of Tara, London, England, was the guest of Philip S. Hopkins, Director of the National Air Museum, on October 23.

Lord Brabazon is one of England's outstanding men in aviation, having first flown in 1908. He is the holder of the Royal Aero Club flying certificate No. 1 and the winner, in 1909, of the $5,000 prize given by the London Daily Mail for the first circular mile flight in an all-English plane.

After World War II he was chairman of the Brabazon Committee set up to establish plans for British aircraft production in the post war era.

PROFESSIONALISM

The following article is reprinted, with permission, from The Supervisor's Memory Jogger for November 1955.

"The professional gets true satisfaction from his daily work; the job holder watches the clock, and the calendar on which the paydays are well circled. The professional lives while on the job; the job holder lives only off the job. The professional insists on material rewards worthy of his training, but he knows his greatest reward stems from his job.

"Those in supervision who have reached a professional standard feel at ease. Ease with one's self comes from knowing what to accept and what to reject. Here are four suggestions that may help you reach professional ease with yourself and your colleagues.

"Accept your company's policies. As long as you stay in your present job you have an obligation to work with and not against the basic objectives of your company. You may not agree with everything. But you will earn your freedom to disagree only after you have proved your ability to conform.

"Accept your responsibilities. This may be hard to do, but there is no such thing as ideal responsibilities. And don't be too anxious about getting your just dues. Be patient, keep your disposition sweet, forget self, and you will be respected and rewarded.

"Reject the urge to criticize. There are channels for the right kinds of criticism. Violations of duties should be taken to your superior; serious mistakes on the part of a subordinate should be discussed with him in private. Careless camping should be abandoned altogether. The person who criticizes discredits himself more than the one he criticizes."

"Reject the luxury of the clique. Supervisors, like other individuals, have a tendency to group themselves sometimes in terms of age, sometimes in terms of their opinions or prejudices. Such groups are probably inevitable, and sometimes desirable. The danger, however, is when each group solidifies, cuts off communication with others. The wise supervisor is slow to wear the label of any single group. He maintains a friendly touch with others of all points of view, all ages, all interests."
SECRETARY AWARDS

Secretary Carmichael presented certificates and cash awards to three employees on November 10 at a ceremony in the Regent's Room of the Smithsonian Building.

Receiving the honors were Howard I. Chapelle, curator of transportation, Museum of History and Technology; Oliver Grant, International Exchange Service; and Henry T. Sloan, department of science and technology, Museum of History and Technology.

The Secretary said that Mr. Chapelle recently received an outstanding performance rating because of his management of the division of transportation, and that the present award was in recognition of his sustained superior performance in the division; his meticulous care and increase of the collections; and his distinguished research.

Mr. Grant's award came in recognition of his sustained superior performance as messenger in the Office of the Assistant Secretary. The Secretary spoke as follows: "This award is granted because of the cheerful and efficient manner in which you performed a variety of assigned tasks which have nearly tripled in volume in the 20 months you occupied the position. The many offices you served have been unanimous in expressing commendation for your energetic and efficient performance."

In presenting an award for sustained superior performance to Mr. Sloan, the Secretary said that it was granted "because of the exceptional interest and energy you have demonstrated in carrying out a variety of assignments involving the care, cleaning and preservation of many valuable specimens in the divisions within the Department of Science and Technology."

LUNIKS AND THEIR ORBITS

George H. Conant, of the Astrophysical Observatory's computations division, discussed "Lunik and Their Orbits" at a colloquium held October 15, in the Phillips Library of Harvard College Observatory.

Mr. Conant pointed out that certain restrictions on trajectory which a satellite can follow were explained by a concept introduced by the astronomer G. W. Hill in the late 19th century. Hill used the analogy of the situation of a ball rolling on a bowl-shaped surface, never able to roll higher than a certain point. Hill's concept was introduced specifically in reference to the problem of allowable orbits between, and around, the earth and the moon, for an extra satellite with given kinetic energy (i.e., given velocity). Hence the method of Hill has special pertinence to the current problem of lunar风采tes - small bodies, brought by rocket power up to speeds which will carry them as far as the moon, and then allowed to coast free under the combined effects of solar and lunar gravitational forces.

Mr. Conant's discussion, illustrated with slides, concluded with a review of our knowledge of the trajectory of Lunik III.

CUBAN TRAINEE HONOURED

On November 4, the Regent's Room of the Smithsonian Institution was the scene of a distinguished gathering of Latin American diplomatic officials, representatives of the Organization of American States, Secretary Carmichael, many Smithsonian Institution personnel, and Mr. N. Trinidad Pino Triana of the Museo Ignacio Agramonte of Camaguey, Cuba. The occasion was the awarding to Mr. Pino of a Certificate of Achievement for the completion of six months training in the exhibits laboratory in the Natural History Building under the tutelage of Mr. Rolland Howr and Mr. Watson Perry.

Since Mr. Pino was the first Latin American to complete a training program at the Smithsonian Institution as a recipient of an Organization of American States Fellowship, Dr. Carmichael had invited various officials of the Cuban Embassy and the Organization of American States to be present at the ceremony. These officials were Ambassador Jose A. Mora, secretary general of the OAS; Dr. Angel Palermo, executive officer of the OAS; Dr. Javier Melendez, director of the OAS fellowship program; Dr. Ernesto Dihigo, Cuban ambassador, Dr. Perez Cisneros, Cuban ambassador to the OAS, and Dr. Aurelio Giroud, in charge of cultural affairs of the Cuban Embassy.

Dr. Clifford Evans described how he had met Mr. Pino when he had visited Camaguey in 1957, and how he had recommended that the Smithsonian Institution offer its cooperation with the OAS fellowship program in opening the facilities of the exhibits laboratory to train Mr. Pino in up-to-date exhibit techniques and taxidermy. Each of the Ambassadors made a few comments stressing the importance of better understanding between countries and peoples by the type of cooperation exemplified by the Smithsonian offering its facilities to support the fellowship program of the Organization of American States.

As an expression of appreciation of the type of cooperation that the Smithsonian Institution has just completed with Mr. Pino, Ambassador Dihigo gave a luncheon at the Cuban Embassy on November 10, with Dr. Leonard Carmichael as the honored guest. Among from the Smithsonian included Dr. Carmichael, Dr. A. C. Smith, Dr. Evans, Mr. Pino and Mr. Perry, who had worked closest with the visitor during his training program. From the OAS there were Ambassadors Mora and Cisneros; from the Cuban Embassy, Ambassador Dihigo, Dr. Giroud and Dr. Pardo.

CULLINAN DIAMOND REPLICA PRESENTED

W. C. du Plessis, Ambassador of the Union of South Africa, recently presented to the Smithsonian a replica of the Cullinan Diamond. The gift included a copy of the rough stone and the three largest stones cut from it. The Cullinan, the world's largest diamond, was found at the Premier mine, South Africa, on January 25, 1905. In the rough this stone measured 110.5 long, 79.5 wide, 33.5 high, and was a cleavage fragment of a still larger stone. It weighed 3,106 metric carats in the rough. The Transvaal Government purchased the stone for 150,000 pounds and presented it to King Edward VII on his birthday, November 9, 1907.

Cutting of the rough stone was intrusted to the Amsterdam firm of Asscher and Co. After being cleaved to remove a flaw, 105 gem stones were cut from the cleavage pieces. The largest of these, known as the Cullinan I, and now called the Star of Africa, is a drop-shaped stone of 530.2 carats. The Cullinan II is a
square-cut brilliant of 317.4 carats.

Secretary Carmichael received the report from the Ambassador to the
Gem Room of the Museum of Natural History on November 6.

MORE ANSWERS ON

HEALTH BENEFITS

The Civil Service Commission has prepared a list of answers to many
questions regarding the new law providing health benefits to Federal
employees.

Last month the Torch printed the questions and answers pertaining to
eligibility. The following deal with
the types of health benefit plans
available:

Q. What is the Government-wide
indemnity benefit plan?
A. This is the other Government-
wide plan which any employee may join.
It is the type of plan usually provided
by commercial insurance companies.

It works on the principle of
paying cash benefits directly to you,
although arrangements can be made for
the plan to pay the hospital or doctor
directly.

Q. What is an employee-organisation
plan?
A. Several national employee
organisations, such as the American
Federation of Government Employees
and the National Association of Letter
Carriers, sponsor health benefits plans
for their members. The Civil Service
Commission may approve such plans and
any employee who is a member of an
organisation that sponsors a plan
approved by the Civil Service Commision
may enroll in the approved plan
and get a Government contribution
toward its cost.

Q. What is a group-practice
prepayment plan?
A. A limited number of such
plans operate only in certain areas;
for example, the Group Health Associa-
tion in Washington, D. C., the Health
Insurance Plan in New York, and the
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan in
California. These plans have their
own medical centers or centers and
their own doctors who practice as a
group. If you live in an area where
there is a group-practice prepayment plan
and if it is approved by the
Civil Service Commission, you may
choose to join it instead of one of the
other plans.

Q. What is the Government-wide
service benefit plan?
A. This is one of the two Govern-
ment-wide plans which any employee
may join. It is a plan provided
through Blue Cross-Blue Shield or-
ganisations and is similar to the kind
of plan furnished by Group Hospitali-
sation, Inc., and Medical Service of
the District of Columbia. It is called a
"service benefit plan" because it
works on the principle of paying bene-
directly to the doctor or the
hospital which supplies the service.

Q. What is the Government-wide
indemnity benefit plan?
A. This is the other Government-
wide plan which any employee may join.
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own medical centers or centers and
their own doctors who practice as a
group. If you live in an area where
there is a group-practice prepayment plan
and if it is approved by the
Civil Service Commission, you may
choose to join it instead of one of the
other plans.

FROM 21ST STREET

The 24th Street Exhibits Shop
has several new works: The Frank A.
Gambinos were married September 4
(she used to be Dee Lofgren); Alice
Wickenheiser became Mrs. Glacomo
Martinelli on October 2; and James
O'Rourke and his bride Bobbie are
now honeymooning in New York City.

Next on the list is Walter Lewis,
who just discovered in his mail an
invitation to his own wedding on
Thanksgiving Day -- just so he won't
forget.

Jenna Danieli, born on October 29,
is being exhibited proudly by her
parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Mayo.

Another due soon: Pat Duvall is
starting her maternity leave Novem-
ber 5, hoping for a girl.

Talented Virginia Knietel has one
of her paintings, an abstract, on view
in the Artists' Mart in Georgetown.

Cabinetmaker Buster Leatherland
has received the good news that his
new house will be ready for occupancy
this month, an event eagerly antici-
pated by his family for some time.

The new address is Convair Drive,
Alexandria.

Like pussy cats? Hank Hemriks
and Gene Bahan have three pure-bred
Siamese kittens for sale. One is a
female Seal Point, one a female Blue
Point, and one a male Blue Point. All
three have received their shots and are
ready for new homes. If you want a
real cool cat, call Gene on Ex. 471.

PARKING

The buildings management service
has announced that it appreciates the
cooperation of those having parking
privileges who have been inconvenienced
during the renovation of the lot south
of the Smithsonian Building. Smithson-
ian employees may continue to park in
the lot at 7th and E Streets, Sw., as
long as there are spaces available
there. It is not necessary to have a
Smithsonian parking sticker to park in
that lot. There are also a number of
commercial lots available in the area.

PUBLISHED IN OCTOBER

Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collec-
tions.--"A Revision of the Silurian
Bryozoan Genus Trematopora," by
Richard S. Boardman; 11 pages.
Proceedings of the U. S. National
Museum.--"A Revision of the Aplon
subgenus Trichapion Wagner in the New
World (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)," by
David O. Kisten; 113 pages.

A Description and Classification
of the Final Instar Larvae of the
Ichneumonidae (Insecta: Hymenoptera)," by
J. R. T. Short; 122 pages.

PERCY PRATTLE

"There is always too
much month left over at
the end of the money."