PIPPING IN SPRING. The U.S. Air Force Bagpipe Band returns to the Mall for one of the nine band performances scheduled for the April 1 Pageant of Transportation, theme of this year's Rite of Spring. Transportation demonstrations and exhibitions, balloon ascensions, puppet show and omnibus rides were also planned for the full day of activity.

Castle, Intruder on Mall

Was Expected to Disappear

The SI "castle", which has been for millions of tourists through more than a century, this last seventh month, "was expected to disappear, either by the hand of man or that of time," William Washburn reveals in the latest edition of the AIA Journal.

Hugh L. Latham, director of the Smithsonian's new center, told the TORCH that the first meeting is scheduled for a National Academy of Sciences group on April 25. The Rouse Company Institutional meeting is set for two days later.

The 27-room manor house was built in 1738 by Caleb Dorsey, an Annapolis innkeeper, and is situated on 339 acres of rolling Howard County countryside on the outskirts of Baltimore.

With its associated outbuildings, gardens and general air of rural seclusion, Belmont presents wide possibilities as a center for study, conference and research by scientists and scholars.

For the next seven overnight conferences have already been scheduled. On April 27 the American Academy of Arts and Science will convene for a two-day meeting. This will be followed by the American Historical Association from May 4-7. The United Planning Organization Educational Services will occupy Belmont from June 26 through July 1.

A standing offense to the planners' sense of order.

With the subject of the Smithsonian Building was brought up at the hearings, the assurance was given that it would be moved back of the line necessary to create the desired vista," the article says.

Kiting experts came to town from across the country, and Mr. Garber for the special display.

Enthusiasts Compete In NASM-Associates Kite Event

Hundreds of enthusiastic youngsters broke the law last week at the Monument Grounds with police, NASM, and the Smithsonian Associates as co-hosts. With the blessings of the D.C. govern- ment and the guidance of Paul Garber, the children ignored an 1891 ordinance and flew kites.

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Enthusiasts Compete In NASM-Associates Kite Event

About 30 officials from the Air Museum, Goddard Space Flight Center, the Federal Aviation Agency, D.C. Recreation Department, NASA, and other interested groups supervised and judged the contest. Divided into age categories, the participants were judged on construction, decoration, craftsmanship and flight characteristics of their kites.

First, second and third place ribbons were awarded in each class, and all contestants received certificates. An engraved plaque for the best over-all point total in the competition went to William R. Bigge in the 21-and-older category.

Garber recorded the activities from above with a kite-borne camera he rigged himself. The shutter was triggered by a kitchen timer he "appropriated" from his wife.

The kite-covered grounds were made even more colorful by the balloon booms the Associates used to mark competition areas and the SI flag floating over the proceedings. Garber made a double kite which was a hit of the carnival—Charlie Brown, in the air, flying a kite safe from the interference of Lucy and Snoopy.

We were absolutely delighted with the public response to both the lectures and the concert," said Linda Suter, project director for the Associates. "We had originally planned to hold only one session of each lecture, but we had to repeat them to accommodate everyone who wanted to attend. We definitely hope to make this an annual Associates event."

Some of the oldest and most up-to-date causes of concern are on the Mall and in the city, and demonstrated in indoor and outdoor exhibitions. The most ancient is the yellow-fever, represented by a live llama from the Zoo. Pepsi's relatives are still a vital means of transportation in the Andes.

Don Piccard, famous balloon designer of the Porter Family Puppeters, will delighted a large gala with ascensions of hot-air-craft. He has returned with the "Golden Bear," newest design and first prize winner in the 1967 St. Paul Winter Carnival Race. He will make hourly ascensions beginning at 10:30 a.m.

A horse-drawn omnibus from the MHT vehicle hall will carry tourists around the Mall from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A trip on the 1880 bus will cost 25 cents.

The Hydroskimmer, an air cushion vehicle able to operate above water on a variety of surfaces, will perform above the Mall and be parked for public inspection. Antique cars will also be stationed for a closer look following their parade at noon.

The Adventures of Astronaut Puppets, feted by the Porter Family Puppeters, will provide special entertainment for children. There will be shows every half-hour from 10 to 5:30 p.m. Youngsters will probably also enjoy the kite flying and the Mall packed for your inspection. Antique cars will also be stationed for a closer look following their parade at noon.

The U.S. First Army Band takes over the landing steps of MNH at 2. After the Marine Fife and Drum Corps marches on the Mall at 2:45 p.m., the music will move inside. The Coast Artillery Band, with their gleaming gun carriage, will start things off at 9:45 on the Mall Terrace. The Washington Saxhorn Quintet will perform on the north tower of SI at 1:15 p.m., and at 4:15 the kited Air Force Band will parade.

The U.S. Army First Band takes over the landing steps of MNH at 2. After the Marine Fife and Drum Corps marches on the Mall at 2:45 p.m., the music will move inside. The Coast Artillery Band, with their gleaming gun carriage, will perform on the north tower of SI at 1:15 p.m., and at 4:15 the kited Air Force Band will parade.

The Air Force Band, at 7 in the Flag Hall; the Marine Band, MNH rotunda, 8:15, and the Army Field Band, in the Flag Hall, round out the day.

Among the vehicles on display will be:

**A collection of helicopters.

**1928 Fairchild FC-2, used by the Pan American Grace Company for the first air passage across the Andes.

**Model of the experimental auto train that will carry individuals in their own cars from Alexandria, Va., to Jacksonville, Fla., beginning next year.

**19-fret model of the Boeing Aircraft Corporation's "Turbo-Train," which is scheduled to go into regular service by the end of the year.

**A horse-drawn omnibus from the MHT vehicle hall will carry tourists on short rides around the Mall from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A trip on the 1880 bus will cost 25 cents.

**Scale reproduction of a Langley Aerodrome.

**A 1901 seaplane of the Boeing Company's Superonic Transport (SST), being developed to fly at a speed of 1,500 mph.

Steinberg Interview

Saul Steinberg, SI's much-dis­

Lauded artist in residence, granted extensive interview to the TORCH. The story is on page 3.
TIRED OF WAITING. The Libyan Sibyl reflects boredom as William R. Johnstone of the NCFI registrar's office checks status into the newly-renovated Patent Office Building. Offices and collections of both NCFI and the Portrait Gallery were finally moved into the new building last month. Tourists will follow in about a year.

Letter to Editor
Re: Cornerstone
Sir: Re that Missing Corner Stone, could it be that it disappeared in the great fire? Or during the 12 years of rebuilding? Or did it go with the SI Library to the Library of Congress? Digging around the Smithsonian deposits might uncover a mantle old cracker box with all sorts of goodies; you might even find the MCS or a free lunch outfit!

George Sieh
SAO's Geodetic Station, Greece

Torchlighters Learn to Talk
Not content with hearing their voices being listened to 25 SI staffers gather regularly on lunch hours and in the evening to listen to each other talk.

The Smithsonian Torchlighters, local chapter of the Toastmasters Clubs, meet every other Tuesday for lunch and every other Tuesday for an evening speech contest. They would like to maintain an active enrollment of 30.

Fisher Turns Friend's Junk Into Sculpture
Don't invite Jim Fisher to dinner. You might lose your furnace!

That, of course, is more than a slight exaggeration, but what was once the furnace of Harvey Walsh, museum technician in the Mechanical and Civil Engineering Department, turned up in an art show recently as a piece of sculpture by his co-worker, James Fisher. Equipment from the farm of Keith Muncurator of the Political History Division, was the basis of two other works in the show.

Fisher is a fine arts student at The George Washington University in the evenings. For the last two years his primary interest has been sculpture, and most of it has been made "from pretty wild stuff." He has learned that it can be a pretty expensive hobby otherwise.

Spending $20 to $30 a week is easy to do if you buy new equipment, Fisher discovered, so his last work contains the spare tire rim from his own car. "Last summer," he relates, "I went up to Jack Goodwin's house and tore out all the old plumbing." Goodwin is MITH branch librarian.

Would you believe a guy baker?

Dedication to art seems to know no bounds. Fisher even had to buy a truck to haul his materials. He was doing his creating in part of a shop rented from a racing driver, but when the landed recently decided he needed more space. Fisher was evicted along with 50 tons of scrap metal. Part of it is now in his apartment and part at school.

Anyone having trouble with trash collections might do well to call Fisher. If the sanitation department doesn't want your junk, perhaps he can turn it into a contemporary masterpiece.

SMITHSONIAN TORCH

Reingold Gets NSF Grant; Folk Festival Set for Mall

The National Science Foundation this week awarded a $60,000 grant to the SI in support of producing a comprehensive edition of the unpublished manuscripts of Joseph Henry, first Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. The project — 20 volumes are contemplated — will be under the direction of eminent historian NATHAN REINGOLD. Dr. Reingold will concentrate his efforts in Albany, N.Y., Princeton, N.J., and Washington, D.C., three cities which played the biggest role in Professor Henry's life... JAMES MORRIS, the SI's impresario, has planned for this summer what should be the biggest public event held on the Mall in decades: a "Festival of American Folk Life." Scheduled for the July 4th weekend, the Festival will demonstrate traditional techniques in material folk culture during the day, including pottery-making, basket-weaving, carving, quilting, and glass-blowing. In the evening there will be programs of folk tales, ensemble music making and dancing, including the music of Cajun bands, Basque Pipe Players, Bohemian Hammered Dulcimer Band, and Chinese opera. Fisher, if that isn't enough, Morris plans to hold a three-day conference on the cultural importance of this country's multi-faceted grassroots heritage...

SMITHSONIAN TORCH

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Saul Steinberg, the Smithsonian’s first artist in residence, for The Smithso­nian Torch magazine.

The problem with late Steinberg is that he was in possession of a great idea, but might not be in possession of the idea itself. His drawings are both inconceivable and entirely appropriate that those airy, insubstantial Steinberg creations should have their beginnings in this.

Nothing is ever created in Washing­ton, everything is merely said several times over. Sometimes Steinberg says, "Three weeks ago I designed some stage sets for a Stravinsky opera, which were painted in New York." So my residency has that effect—in the short time I’ve been in Washington something has been created here.

A common reaction to a Steinberg drawing is a self-confident idiotic smile: "I don’t get it." But the artist works on the assumption that his viewers can think at his level. "It is a kind of vision, thinking when they understand."

Wouldn’t it be possible for avant-garde artists, or those with a style like his that demands interpretation, to trick the pub­lic into thinking when they understand?

The Smithso­nian’s first artist in residence will all­ow Steinberg to inspire the culture of the Smithsonian about whom the only assumption is that his viewers can think at his level. "I don’t like to walk on Constitution Avenue."

The Capital has no real artistic or cultural scene, he states, and little hope of public service, always, which makes it a wonderful thing for the artist to work on.

The telephone room is on the fourth floor of the Museum of History and Technology. Here the two-position write anywhere, but an artist must be patient, good judgment and reason­able approach to life which maturity gives. As they handle on an average of 450 to 500 calls per day during the peak tourist season, you will realize that these are intrinsic attitudes for a PBX operator at the Smithsonian.

Christmas Day is the only day in the year on which there is a closed switch­board. On all other days, you will be welcomed by a pleasant voice from whom you will receive answers to your ques­tions and/or guidance to the correct source to meet your needs.

Discreet silence greeted the question of "Pet Peeves of PBX." But Mrs. Beck, office manager, gaily recounted two of the many "mysteries" she and her girls have been asked, over the years, to help unravel. And, unravel, they do!

"One such incident was a request to trace down a young man newly come to the Smithsonian about whom the only information given was that he had a German accent and had just married a girl from Texas. He was finally located. The ‘Voice of the Smithsonian’ is one of the reasons all those connected with SI are happy and at ease in saying, ‘Call me at the Smithsonian.’"

Mrs. Beck worked for the Smithsonian for three years as a young girl, before World War II. Later, having raised her family, she returned in 1959.

No matter how able or experienced, it takes a few months’ indoctrination and experience with the various facilities of the Smithsonian and museum depart­ments before an operator can rise to all the occasions with which she is con­fronted.

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Only 8 in World Can Fill Sugirua's Job

The Oriental atmosphere of the Fraser goes to the collective image of Eastern art on display. A little bit of Japan has been transferred to a studio on the ground floor, where Takashi Sugirua is employed in a job only seven other men in the world are qualified to fill.

According to the SI phone book, Mr. Sugirua holds the position of "Keeper of Japanese Art," a position that has been held by only seven other men in the world. This is considered a unique position, as there are only a few people who are qualified to fill it.

Sugirua is considered an expert in the field of Japanese art, and his work has been recognized by many others in the field. He is also known for his expertise in the use of various materials, such as ink and paper, to create works of art that are both beautiful and meaningful.

In addition to his work at the SI, Sugirua is also involved in other projects related to Japanese art. He has worked on projects for the Japanese government, and he has also been involved in various exhibitions and events that celebrate Japanese culture.

Sugirua is considered a master of his craft, and his work is widely admired by others in the field. He is often invited to give lectures and demonstrations, and his work has been featured in many publications and exhibits.

Sugirua is also known for his generosity in sharing his knowledge and skills with others. He has taught many students over the years, and he continues to pass on his expertise to new generations of artists.

In conclusion, Sugirua's unique position and expertise in the field of Japanese art make him a valuable asset to the Smithsonian Institution, and his contributions to the field have been widely recognized and appreciated.