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SI Receives 1966 Safety Award

The Smithsonian did more for employee safety last year than any other government operation of fewer than 10,000 people.

The Institution beat out 13 other agencies, including the Civil Service Commission, Department of Labor, and Securities and Exchange Commission, to win one of the three 1966 President's Safety Awards. Winners in the other two size classes were the Department of the Navy and the Federal Aviation Agency.

Non-disabled injuries at SI were cut from 530 in 1965 to 255 last year. In addition to this record, the panel of judges evaluated the employees' safety program in the areas of management leadership, assignment of responsibilities, maintenance of safe working conditions, training and education, accident records and medical and first aid. The Institution's presentation to the judges was prepared by Richard S. Minnich, SI safety officer.

Minnich has been invited to the White House June 13, along with Secretary Ripley, Assistant Secretary James B. Blassingame, Frank Taylor, director of the U.S. National Museum, Zoo director Theodore Reed, and Andrew Michaels, director of BMD, to receive the Smithsonian's award from President Johnson.

Despite the success record of his forecasts and their popular acceptance, meteorologists until recently did not take Dr. Abbot's method seriously. About 20 years ago, however, he points out proudly, a German scientist, Dr. Franz Bauer, published a paper based on Dr. Abbot's work and revived scientific interest in it.

He refused to forecast what the next 20 years will bring ("I don't predict anything but the weather"), but he does have a few things to say about the world situation. In 50 years, he points out, "anthropic materialistic people have gained control of half the world's population. We're fighting in Vietnam to prevent their control of all Asia and maybe the whole world," but critics of the President are interfering with the pursuit of the war.

"The world is getting filled up so fast there won't be any room to stand on," he says. I'm just as glad I don't have any descendants who'll he able to see it." (continued on page 4.)
STAMPICKERS TO SEAMSTRESSES

Volunteers Giving Services To SI Through Associates

Some 500 volunteers with skills from babysitting to engineering have offered their services to SI through the Smithsonian Associates. The bulk of them—from 200-300—are mothers helping to chaperone Associates' children's events. The others are working throughout the Institution or at home from a few hours a month to full time.

The young program was given an organizational boost by a volunteer, Mrs. M. King, who has been working full-time in the Associates office locating jobs suited to the skills of volunteers. A survey of department heads and other SI officials by Mrs. King to determine their needs resulted in a sample list of jobs accompanying a questionnaire sent to would-be workers. About 20 women responded to one curator's plea for someone to sew heads on a dress. Some 50 more indicated a willingness to polish minerals, and housewives who thought they had no needed skills learned that the Institution can use people to dust delicate objects in the collections.

Most urgently needed, Mrs. King discovered, are people with clerical skills. About 100 have been placed so far. Another 20 are supplementing the Junior League in giving 20-minute lectures on various museum exhibits.

"We're determined to use everybody," says Mrs. Lisa Suter, Associates' program director, who adds that you don't have to be an Associate to volunteer. In fact, one woman had the volunteer form reproduced in her community newspaper, and responses have been coming in from that.

Almost every day there is someone in the Associates office staffing envelopes. "We have some very distinguished stamp lickors," jokes Mrs. Suter, citing Cabinet and Congressional wives. One man who directs his own large staff as a chain store manager has been helping to prepare Cuna Indian appliques for this month's sales exhibition. Others will sell catalogs at the exhibit of Tunisian mosaics, work in the libraries, do translating, editing or research.

Volunteers with sewing ability are helping to prepare Cuna Indian appliques for this month's sales exhibition. Others will sell catalogs at the exhibit of Tunisian mosaics, work in the libraries, do translating, editing or research.

Curators with specialized needs should contact Mrs. Suter at 5157. There is a good chance that even the most esoteric skills are available.

U.S. Membership
In Rome Center To Be Sought

Legislation which would allow United States membership in the International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, better known as the Rome Center, has been drafted by the Smithsonian and will be sent to Congress soon.

Frank A. Taylor, director of the U.S. National Museum, Peter G. Powers, general counsel, and William W. Warner, director of the Office of International Activities, have worked with the Department of State in arranging for the membership. The proposed legislation would amend the National Museum Act to permit an American delegation.

Mr. Taylor and Mr. Powers visited Rome in April to observe the Center's General Assembly meeting and report to the Center on progress in the arrangements for U.S. membership.

Although memberships in the Center are held by nations and not individual institutions, SI would help to organize the U.S. delegation and would almost certainly be represented on it. The annual dues which each member country pays toward the support of the Center would probably be appropriated to the Smithsonian.

The 42-nation organization acts as a clearing house for exchange of documents and publications. It sends out consultants on the invitation of members to advise on specific restoration or preservation projects and sponsors training programs in conservation.

A conference on proposed U.S. membership in the Center was held at the Smithsonian in January, with representatives of other governments organizations and private institutions participating. The Board of Regents authorized the Secretary to continue efforts to secure membership at its January 25 meeting.

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ABOUT SI PEOPLE-

High Honors to Ripley, Stefaneli & Moynihan

Secretary S. Dillon Ripley will receive the honorary degree of law degree from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Penna., at its 194th annual commencement on June 4. The SI's second chief executive, Spencer F. Baird, was a Dickinson grad. Class of 1840 ... Mayor John V. Lindsay will award Vladimir Chal Concrete, MHT's curator of numismatics, an honorary New York City citizenship at ceremonies scheduled for June 5 at the Hotel Plaza. The occasion marks the 75th anniversary of Ellis Island as an immigration depot. Dr. Stefaneli, born in Austria, will be cited along with 10 distinguished U.S. citizens who "have achieved outstanding success in various walks of life since coming to America". Also on June 5, Dr. Martin Moynihan, director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, will be awarded the Palmer Prize from the Boston Museum of Science. Dr. Moynihan, who will receive $5,000, is being cited in recognition of "his meritorious published scientific investigation and discovery."

ECOLOGICAL SURVEY IN KOREA

Dr. Edwin Tyson of MNH is leading a research team in carrying out an ecological survey of the demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea. "The infrequency of human intrusions upon this strip of land over the last 13 years," writes columnist Charles Bartlett, "apparently has caused a reappearance of some species of plants which the experts had believed to be extinct." The survey was set up under the direction of Helmuth K. Walker, head of SI's Office of Ecology. MNH staffers Raymond Forosberg and Lee Talbot also have made study trips to the DMZ. Thus far, the Tyson-led team, consisting mostly of South Koreans, has managed to avoid interference from communist guerillas.

INSTANT EDITORIAL

Near the loading dock of the A & J Building rests what, on first look, appears to be a piece of junk ready for pickup. Closer examination, however, reveals an electric locomotive, 1889 vintage. This experimental six-wheeler, which was 5 feet long and 4 feet high, once was operated on a two-mile Maryland track, achieving a speed of more than 110 miles an hour. The "exhibit's" label is barely visible, impaired by rust and corrosion and several years of neglect. The artifact, itself, is a sore sight for any eyes. It should be cleaned up and displayed where visitors can see it—or, shipped to Silver Hill where they won't see it in its present condition.

PLANNED WORLD PRIMATE CENTER

Dr. Sidney R. Galles, SI's Assistant Secretary for Science, has announced the appointment of Dr. John Napier of the University of London, to examine the feasibility of establishing an international center for the study of primates in the United States. One of the world's leading authorities on primatology, Dr. Napier will work with MNH's Charles O. Handley and other Smithsonian scientists in developing plans for a broad-based program combining the best resources of the U.S. and Great Britain for the training of primatologists and primate studies.

CASE OF THE POPPED SCULPTURE

Several weeks ago, A BMD team installed on the Mall terrace of MNH an interesting piece of kinetic sculpture, which, according to several types, resembles a railroad depot "stop-and-go" sign. The delicate and graceful work was executed by George Rickey. A few days after it went up, The sculpture was shown to Washington wind. The Big Blow won. One of the Sculpture's three blades (see cut) was tipped out of its orbit. Popped out, indeed. However, Dr. David W. Scott of NCFA, told the TORCH that Mr. Rickey is now repairing the wounded blade, and it should be just a matter of time before the Kinetic moves in union once again.

ONE-LINERS

Jim Condole (54804) reports that the Credit Union is now offering SI employees the Traveler's Checks from the First National Bank of New York. "I've tried many different kinds of seaweed and it's all good to eat," Dr. Clyde Roper of MNH told a Virginia school group. His point: the ocean as a source of food will be relied upon increasingly as the population continues to explode and doubles by the year 2000 ... BMD's John Clark (sx5613) is looking for interested employees who would like to build their own boat for one-third the cost. Mr. Clark heads the D.C. chapter of the International Amateur Boat Building Society ... The recent Radiation Biology Laboratory's photobiology seminar was a big success, averaging 160 participants per session. Walter Stroube, acting director of RBII, would like SI to sponsor similar programs with the area Consortium of Universities ... John S. White, Sr. of MNH's department of mineral sciences and Lisa Suter of the Smithsonian Associates each have vineyards and make their own wine.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

From the Harrisburg, (Penna.) Evening News: "If the Smithsonian takes its planned slum exhibit too literally, the next urban renewal project in Washington could go right through the Institution."
Reluctant Rhinos Prove Challenge to Movers

A gentle nudge moves the rhino toward its truck. Veterinarian Clinton Gray coaxes the beast off the truck into its new home.

Insects, Ferns Lure Staff Away

Elephants, insects and ferns are among the attractions drawing SI people away from Washington this month. The Zoo's John F. Eisenberg will be back from Ceylon June 7 after supervising a project on the behavior and ecology of elephants. . . Oliver S. Flint of entomology will be in Mexico and Central America all summer, studying aquatic insects of the New World tropics while the star-at-homes use bug repellant on their patios. . . Textiles have drawn away two of the meteorites staff. Brian H. Mason and Edward P. Henderson are both engaging in field work collecting meteorites and tektites and studying collections in Australia and New Zealand. Henderson will go on to Singapore, India, Pakistan, Thailand, Malaysia, Lebanon, Greece, Switzerland, Germany and England to arrange for meteorite exchanges and loans. . . Botany's Conrad V. Morton will spend his summer studying fern collections in the museums of Western Europe, and two of his colleagues, Edward S. Ayensu and Dieter C. Wasmann, are collecting botanical specimens in Dominica. . . Yet another botanist, Thomas R. Soderstrom, is attending the Association of Tropical Botany, Inc. meetings in Caracas.

When the inevitable headaches that come with establishing a new gallery strike NCFAs director David Scott, he can call on a staff member who has been through it all before.

Harry Lowe, NCFAs exhibits curator, was the first director of the Tennessee Fine Arts Center at Cheekwood, an elegant southern mansion. On a smaller scale his was the same challenge. NCFAs has been facing, adapting a fine old building to show contemporary art without sacrificing the best qualities of either. "I think the labor pains are the same whether its a mouse or an elephant giving birth," says Lowe, "but my position is different now. I'm sort of midwife for Dr. Scott." He adds that his experience establishing Cheekwood was probably one of the reasons Dr. Scott brought him to SI.

"Public response was fantastic" to the Tennessee center, where he developed education and exhibit programs. But response to NCFAs programs in Washington, a so-called cultural poverty pocket, has been as enthusiastic as that of Nashville, "the Athens of the South." "Clearly Washington wants the art," Lowe asserts, pointing to swelling attendance in spite of a proliferation of art museums around the city.

"NCFAs has found such acceleration with Dr. Scott," he says, "other museums are staggered by what we're doing." Lowe's job as exhibits curator—a position he says doesn't exist at most museums—is the staging of this "stag­gering" program. If the content of a show stands out from a background that enhances the art inobtrusively, he has succeeded, and the consensus seems to be that Harry Lowe is a tremendous success at his job.

The backgrounds in the Art Hall are changed for each show, and Lowe was particularly happy with the burgundy walls for the Glackens exhibit. "But the last thing we want to do is prostitute the art for theatrical effect," he tries to keep his planning flexible, and if a color chosen after lengthy and careful deliberation seems wrong for the art after it goes on the walls, the walls will be repainted. Paper for labels and wires for hanging are painted at the same time as the walls, typifying Lowe's concern that the smallest detail be properly attended to. "I can't just make a plan and leave it, I have to sweat through details to the end. We're fussbudgets about everything."

To aid in his flexible planning policy, he keeps a model of the Art Hall in his office and tries out different arrangements of moveable walls and furniture in it. For the Venice Biennale exhibition, he even made models of the paintings.

Lowe passes the credit for his successes on to others. He has "perfect rapport" with his staff, who know his tastes so well that "I'm the most superficial person around here." He adds that exhibits chief John Anglim "saves my life every time I turn around.

The Venice Biennale has been one of his biggest challenges to date. Working under an impossibly tight schedule, he had to cope with such problems as having paintings packed to withstand travel by air, van and barge, foreseeing in the U.S. the hardware needs that would come up in Italy and preparing a kit to meet them, coping with a strike that held up delivery of catalogs, giving orders to assistants whose English was limited, and being thought mad for wanting the hanging wires painted, something the Italians had never heard of. Despite countless similar headaches, a show whose content was not determined finally until April 8 in the U.S. opened in a worthy setting in Italy June 14.

The Lowe attention to detail will be just as evident in the new gallery. He is seeing to it that the changing exhibition areas are made flexible, keeping in mind that the Smithsonian does more with memorabilia in connection with shows than other places and has to plan for a very varied public.

Making the old Patent Office Building's rooms suitable backgrounds for contemporary art is another challenge, which paneling will help meet. The new halls will make extensive use of lighting tracks, and NCFAs is having some light fixtures especially designed.

Whatever show Dr. Scott has selected to open the new gallery in June of next year, it is bound to be attractively staged.
"TO SEE OURSELVES
AS OTHERS SEE US"
By Al Robinson

"Ask what most impressed and most disappointed them during their visit to MHT, most tourists who talked to the TORCH seemed worried about insulting someone. They were reluctant to respond specifically to either part of the question, taking an "Everything's just wonderful" stand. Following are selected comments."

Seventh grader J. B. Tawner III of Chester­
town, Md., likes "things about machinery" and found the train exhibits "pretty realistic," but he "didn't like the glass and china. That stuff's for girls."

C. Webster of Bridgeport, N. J., agrees. He enjoyed the Foucault Pendulum, but not the china and ladies gowns. The whole building seems more for the ladies."

As if to bear them out, Mrs. Cynthia Bruce, accompanying a group of elementary school stu­
dents, said that her girls were "particularly thrilled with the doll house and first ladies' gowns." From the point of view of bringing children, she said the museum has no shortcomings, "The halls are wide enough and you can see far enough ahead to maintain control."

A. Owens Jr. of Danville, Va., thinks the Flag Hall needs plants. "It's a little cold looking. You need just a little life somewhere." Particularly interested in furniture, he thinks the period rooms are "very well presented." He was also "impressed by the what do you call that out front?" (The de Rivera sculpture.)

Most impressed by the First Ladies' gowns ("Those beautiful old dresses are nothing like today's shifts."). Mrs. George Bowles of North Tarrytown, N.Y., was "amazed at the size of the building and how they can get large things like the trains inside." She thinks MHT is well planned for children and compares favorably with New York museums.

"A man of few words, little Anthony Hall liked the trains best. Son of Museum Service's Cornelius Hall, the youngster kept Daddy's job in mind and wouldn't criticize anything."

If James Smithson had not left his fortune to the United States of America, would there ever have been a Smithsonian Medical Institution, a Smithsonian Baths, or even a Smithsonian Truss Company? Probably not, as these illustrious institu­
tions were borrowing the name of Smithson's legatee, the Smithsonian Ins­
titution. Every Secretary of the Smith­
sonian has been bothered by the misuse of the Institution's name, usually when it is referred to as the "Smithsonian Insti­tute." But taking the "tool" out of the Smithsonian has been only part of the problem.

Numerous instances of people using the name Smithsonian for their busi­
nesses, to add a bit of scientific luster or to defraud the public, could be cited. None of these erstwhile sister institutions have caused the Smithsonian any trouble, but they have often annoyed the administra­tion and many of the Smithsonian's friends. Most of the name borrowers have been in the pseudo-medical business, and, just as often, have been named Smith (or so they say). "Dr. B. J. Smith, M.D., Prof. Phre­
onology," had a three ring circus going at 635 California Street in San Francisco in 1876. The San Francisco Directory carried separate ads for the "Smithsonian Medical Institute," the "Smithsonian Baths, Electro, Russian, Turkish, Medi­
cal, and Toilet," and for "Hygienic Boarding at the Smithsonian Medical In­
itute." The use of the name "Smith­
sonian" by persons offering some sort of medicinal benefit has continued up to relatively recent times.

In 1940, Mrs. Bertella Blackburn wrote the Smithsonian asking for a jar of "Smithsonian Slim Cream." The Smith­
sonian replied that "the Smithsonian In­
situte has no connection with any alleged remedy known as 'slim cream' or any other whose purpose is to make fat persons thin." Since the Smithsonian has never had anything medical connected with it, the use of the name in this con­
text must have been an attempt to trade on its national recognition and its scien­
tific reputations.

One further example, which shows a change in the Smithsonian Institution's attitude toward people using its name, is that of the "Smithsonian Truss." This truss, a device barely deserving the title of a medical instrument, was sold by the "Smithsonian Truss Company," of Topeka, Kansas. The advertisements for the truss were first brought to the attention of Secretary Langley in 1904. When his aides urged that something be done to stop this com­
pany from using the name, he replied "that the advertisement is a tribute to the public confidence in the Smithsonian name, and that nothing to be done." When an ad appeared in the Washing­
ton Herald ten years later for the "Smith­
sonian Truss" ("it holds in any position") the officers of the Smithsonian received it with stoney silence. But, in the 1930's, when the Smithsonian began to receive orders for the truss, Secretary Abbott re­
piled with a standard "I beg to say that this Institution is not engaged in the business of surgical appliances," and concluded with a statement that this firm had no right to use the name "Smith­
sonian."

In 1954, the rediscovey of the Smith­
sonian Truss Company brought forth a formal complaint to the Bureau of Anti­
deceptive Practices of the Federal Trade Commission. What was done about the "Smithsonian Truss" remains a mystery, but the Smithsonian has not received any further orders.

This change in the Smithsonian's atti­
tude toward the misuse of its name may reflect a growing concern over its image. But with the Smithsonian recently ex­
panding into new areas and activities, it may also reflect a concern that any future misuse of the name may go unnoticed.

COMING ATTRACTIONS — Three important halls open this month in MHT, including the eagerly anticipated sections two and three of the Growth of the United States halls. Now referred to as the Growth Hall, it may soon be called the duck hall — two of the Muscovy ducks living next to the 18th century grill mill are sitting on eggs due to hatch any day. The Growth halls open June 6. A diorama illustrating underwater drilling is one of the features of the Petroleum Hall opening June 28. Visitors will see the steps in petroleum production from the geology of oil-bearing land to the commercial gas pump. Divers in all sorts of gear will highlight the under­
water exploration section of Armed Forces History. It goes on view to the public June 26.