

SI Cosponsors Conference To Study Uses of Cable TV

The Smithsonian Institution, the National Education Association, and Mount Vernon College recently cosponsored a national Publi-Cable Conference which brought together more than 200 persons interested and involved in public service cable television applications.

Participants joined workshops on public access, pay cable, future uses of technology and applications of cable in health, education, museums, municipal services, churches, libraries, and minority interests.

Publi-Cable is a national consortium of educational and community organizations and individuals concerned with protecting the public interest in the growth and development of cable communications, particularly its non-commercial possibilities.

Its objective is maximum public participation and involvement in decision-making processes for cable at the local, state, and national levels.

This year's annual conference, held at Mount Vernon College in Washington, began June 9 on the campus with a reception and chance to meet the people most knowledgeable in the field. The two succeeding days were filled with discussion and panels ranging from the prospects for cable in major cities to funding cable experiments.

Chairman of the conference was Robert W. Mason, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Service. He explained that the Smithsonian holds an institutional membership in Publi-Cable because the organization serves an important educational purpose and can aid the Smithsonian in planning its future use of this medium.

In addition to Mr. Mason, Smithsonian participation included Barbara Benson who served on the planning committee for the conference; Russell Shank, Director of SI libraries, and Herbert White, Assistant Director for Programming, Resident Associates Program.

Women's Council Takes Nominations

Nominations will be accepted August 9 through 16 for persons interested in becoming voting members of the SI Women's Council.

Nominations will be by petition, which can be picked up in the Office of Equal Opportunity, Arts & Industries Building, Room 1310B, extension 5864 or 5865. Full-time or part-time permanent employees are eligible. (See stories on page 4.)

Employees Urged To Donate Blood

Smithsonian employees have been urged to donate blood on Monday, August 19, when a bloodmobile crew will be in Room G-25, at the lower level of the Hirshorn Museum (Independence Avenue and Seventh Street) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Anyone between the ages of 17 and 66 is eligible to donate, but parental permission is required of 17-year-olds. Donors between the ages of 18 and 21 also need parental permission unless the donor is married or living away from parents and self-supporting. Forms are available in the Office of Personnel Administration.

All donors must weigh at least 110 pounds.

Those wishing to donate should call Extension 5226 or 5227 to make an appointment. A four-hour leave policy is applicable to those who donate.

The Career Development Section of the Office of Personnel Administration has invited employees to see two motion pictures on the need for blood donations. They are *Three Plus You* and *Blood Is Life—Pass It On*. Showings will be continuous between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, August 16, in Room 1471 of the Arts & Industries Building. The films are 15 minutes long.

Hot Weather Attire Okayed

The Smithsonian has adopted the Federal Energy Administration's standard of setting air conditioners at 78 degrees during extended periods of high heat and humidity.

For employees' comfort and on-the-job effectiveness during extremely hot weather, heads of organization units have been urged to adopt a lenient dress policy whenever possible. General guidelines being followed are that men may wear open-necked, short-sleeved shirts instead of coats and ties, and women may wear cool and comfortable business attire.

However, groups of employees who have distinctive uniforms prescribed by their organizations will continue to wear them. For special events, meetings with the public, and business contacts men will wear coats and ties as good judgment dictates, and women will dress as called for on such occasions.



THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

July-August 1974

Forrest Pogue to Direct New Eisenhower Institute at MHT

Establishment of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute for Historical Research in the National Museum of History and Technology has been announced by Secretary Ripley and Dr. John Nicholas Brown, Chairman of the Smithsonian's National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board.

Dr. Forrest C. Pogue, Director of the George C. Marshall Library in Lexington, Va., and biographer of General Marshall, has been named Director of the Institute.

The Institute was authorized by Congress in 1961, in an act providing for expansion of the Smithsonian's facilities to display the contributions made by the military forces toward creating, developing and maintaining a free, peaceful and independent society and culture in the United States.

"I am especially pleased by the opportunity to expand our serious research efforts in significant military history that is afforded us by the establishment of the Eisenhower Institute," said Dr. Brooke Hindle, Director of the National Museum of History and Technology. "We welcome the appointment of Dr. Pogue to direct the intellectual activities of this new enterprise."



Dr. Pogue

Dr. Pogue, a native of Kentucky, was graduated from Murray State College and received his MA at the University of Kentucky and Ph.D. from Clark University. In 1937 and 1938 he was American Exchange Fellow at the University of Paris.

During World War II Dr. Pogue was combat historian and covered the operations in Europe from Omaha Beach to Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. He was recipient of the Bronze Star and Croix de Guerre. Following the war Dr. Pogue became a member of the U.S. Forces Historical Section in Paris and Frankfurt and later

a Department of Army historian in Washington, D.C.

In 1954 Dr. Pogue published *The Supreme Command*, the official account of Eisenhower's operations in Europe, 1944-45, as part of the Army's World War II History Series. The first volume of the Marshall biography was published in 1963, *Education of a General: 1880-1939*. The other two Marshall volumes are *Ordeal and Hope, 1939-1942* (1966), and *Organizer of Victory* (1973). Dr. Pogue was co-author of *The Meaning of Yalta* (1956) and has contributed to a number of other volumes, among them *Command Decisions*, (1959), *Total War and Cold War* (1962), and *D-Day: The Normandy Invasion in Retrospect* (1971).

Dr. Pogue has been president of the Oral History Association and Chairman of the American Committee on the History of the Second World War and was recently re-elected President of the American Military Institute. He is an honorary fellow of the U.S. Army Military History Research Collection, and holds honorary degrees from Murray State College and Washington and Lee University.

Under an arrangement between the Smithsonian and the George C. Marshall Research Foundation (the corporate body), Dr. Pogue will complete the final two volumes of the Marshall biography with research assistance and full access to the holdings of the Marshall Foundation.

The Institute's activities will include research, publications, lectures, and conferences. Although the Institute will maintain its own identity, it will be supervised by Dr. Brooke Hindle, in consultation with the National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board.

Folklife Festival Features Native Americans, Visitors From Abroad

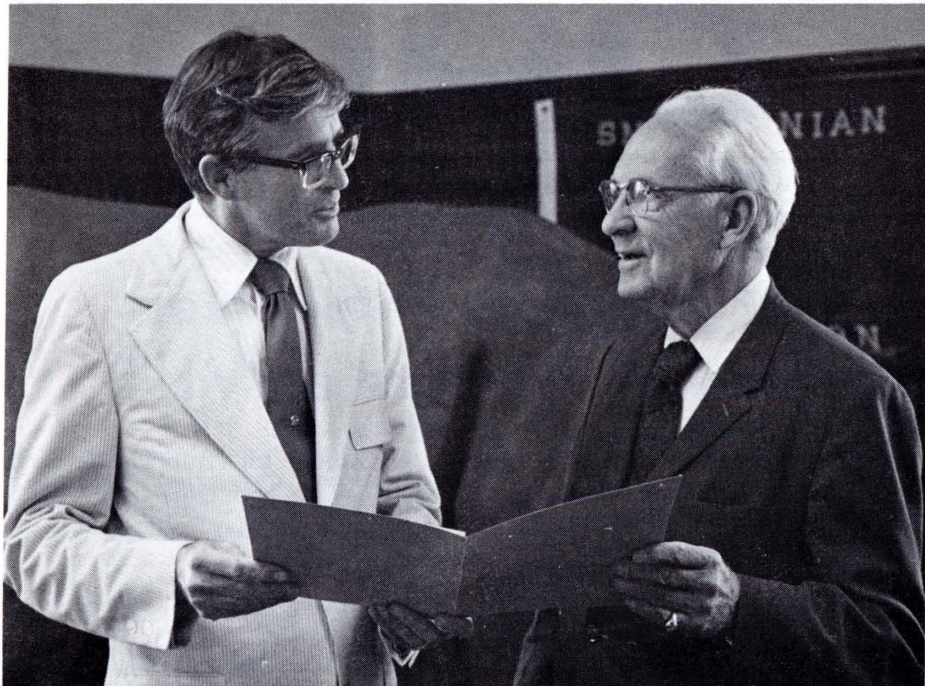


The Festival of American Folklife drew 800,000 visitors to the Mall during July 3 through 14 this year, the longest Festival yet sponsored by the Smithsonian and the National Park Service. During one portion of the Festival, the "Native Americans" section featured Eskimo Olympics. Spectators are shown participating in the Eskimo blanket toss (left). "Old Ways in the New World" featured folk artists from many countries including these Norwegian dancers



performing the halling dance or men's acrobatic dance (right). A post-Festival tour called "Old Ways in the New World: On Tour" has been designed to share with communities across the nation the ethnic experience of the Festival of American Folklife. Dancers, musicians, and story-tellers from Norway, Finland, Sweden, Tunisia, Greece, Nigeria, Trinidad, and Tobago will join in community celebrations and concerts throughout the United States.

Edward P. Henderson Meteorite Fund Is Created



Dr. Edward P. Henderson, Curator Emeritus of the National Museum of Natural History, is shown discussing the Edward P. Henderson Meteorite Fund with Dr. Porter Kier, Director of the Museum. The Fund was created through an agreement signed by Secretary Ripley for the Smithsonian. To provide the capital for the fund, Dr. Henderson established a charitable remainder Unitrust. The assets of the trust will go to the Fund which will use the income to upgrade the Smithsonian meteorite collection. The signing ceremony was held May 21 in the Secretary's Parlor in the SI Building, at which time Dr. Henderson was presented a certificate acknowledging him as a Benefactor of the Smithsonian Associates. After the signing, Mr. Ripley noted that this is the first such trust established by a member of the Smithsonian family and expressed great pleasure at Dr. Henderson's generosity to the Institution and its work. Details of the agreement were handled by the offices of the Treasurer, the General Counsel, and Development, and by Dr. Henderson's lawyer, G. Bowdoin Creighill.

Dr. Henderson's gift is the first large money endowment specifically designated for meteorites in the history of the Smithsonian. It comes from a man who has devoted the last 44 years to building up the Institution's meteorite collection, which is now the largest in the United States, numbering more than 1,200 documented specimens.

Resourcefulness, caniness and sharp observation have helped Dr. Henderson amass meteorites. Many deals have been completed by telephone or correspondence but often he has had to get on an airplane or train and go to some remote spot where a meteorite has fallen to negotiate with the owner. Sometimes it has taken days of haggling.

"It's often hard to negotiate with the people who own them. You've got to win their confidence. They think they have something that is solid gold and they're often slow to turn it over," Dr. Henderson says.

A Henderson yarn is likely to be about a chat with a farmer in some place like Muleshoe, Tex., who when told that the conical shaped object he had found in his field had come from outer space, exclaimed, "Is that so! You know I never really believed that a star had six points."

Trades with the world's leading meteorite centers initiated by Dr. Henderson have also brought many specimens to the Institution. He even did business with the Vatican on one occasion.

"They have a meteorite collection that I visited," Dr. Henderson recalls, "and when I saw that they had a specimen we didn't I told them that we ought to make a trade. The man there said, 'We're not a horsetrading institution. You'll have to see the Holy Father for that.' They told him about my proposal and the Pope agreed to it."

Dr. Henderson remembers that when he came to work at the Smithsonian in 1929, after 10 years as a chemist at the U.S. Geological Survey, the Museum's Department of Mineral Sciences had only two men on its staff.

"I thought I was just going to be working on ores and rocks," Dr. Henderson said, "but when they took me to meet the Secretary, he said: 'Why don't you give the new man meteorites—there's not much interest in them.'"

The Museum had only a small collection of meteorites at that time, but Henderson with the help of a man named Stuart H. Perry was soon to change this.

Perry was the publisher of a newspaper in Adrian, Mich., and a vice president of the Associated Press. He had devel-

oped a passionate interest in studying and collecting meteorites. Through his resources and his newspaper connections, he usually beat the Smithsonian to the punch in the race to get the latest specimens.

"Whenever Perry heard that a meteorite had fallen," Dr. Henderson said, "he'd wire the nearest newspaper in the area where it fell for information and assistance. The editors in most towns would jump out of their skins to do something for the AP and by the time the Smithsonian got on the scene, Perry would have the meteorite. Even when we did get there as fast as he did, he could always outbid us."

This situation had made Dr. Henderson's predecessor so furious that he would hardly speak to Perry, who now and then dropped by the Museum to acquire data about a specimen in his collection. Dr. Henderson, however, was able to turn this rivalry into an alliance that was of great advantage to the Institution:

"I went to him and said, 'Look, you're a collector and the Museum is a collector, why should we be competitors? We can both help each other.' Later Perry called and said that he liked the idea. He gave me authority to buy any meteorite I could. 'You negotiate and I'll pay for it,' he said."

With Perry's support, the growth of the Smithsonian's collections accelerated greatly. When Perry died his meteorites and research records came to the Institution. Dr. Henderson remembers him today as the principal benefactor of the Museum's meteorite collection and one of the most extraordinary men he has ever met.

As World War II approached, scientific interest in meteorites increased considerably and Dr. Henderson found himself devoting all of his attention to meteorites and giving little time to ores and rocks.

Once an SI administrator called him in to question him about this matter.

"Do you know how many insects we have in our collections?" he asked Dr. Henderson.

"Millions, I guess," Dr. Henderson replied.

"Well, we only have two men to look after more than 200,000 of them. Now how can we justify having one scientist working full time on just eight or nine hundred meteorites?"

Colleagues in the Department say that on more than one occasion over the years when funds could not be had from the

Institution to buy a meteorite, Dr. Henderson bought it himself with his own money and later gave it to the Institution. One of the benefits of the fund he has set up will be to make money readily available to the Department for meteorite purchases.

With the dawn of the space age in the late 1950s, skepticism about the importance of meteorites vanished. Dr. Henderson recalls that through the 1930s and 1940s the Department had hardly any equipment—"we were lucky to get a typewriter or a ruler." In 1957 he got his first metallographic microscope, a basic instrument for meteorite studies, and shortly after that grant money from NASA started coming to the Department, giving it much more freedom of operation.

In 1964 a large grant of several hundred thousand dollars came to the Smithsonian to support meteorite research. The Department now has 11 scientists and is one of the world centers of meteorite, tektite and lunar research.

"Ed's early meteorite work provided the background for the thrust that has put our operation where it is today," says Roy Clarke Jr., the present curator of the meteorite collection.

In 1960-66 Dr. Henderson was able to get away from his desk to go on five expeditions to Australia to search for meteorites and tektites with his colleague Dr. Brian Mason. They brought back hundreds of tektites and with a lot of walking in the "Outback" and a dash of luck also rounded up several meteorites. Their expeditions have stimulated a considerable amount of meteorite and tektite research in Australia.

On one occasion they tracked down an old rancher who remembered fossing a heavy rock at a sheep 15 or 20 years before. He drew an uncannily detailed map on the ground which they could follow and they went to the spot and found the rock. As they had hoped, it turned out to be a meteorite.

Over the years, Dr. Henderson's wife Rebecca has seen and heard so much about meteorites that she has developed a keen eye for them too. In 1960 while the Hendersons were traveling through Thailand she noticed a couple of unidentified stones in a curio case in the national museum there that looked suspiciously familiar. She ran to get Dr. Henderson and he confirmed that she had made a find—the curios were meteorite fragments. He immediately began negotiations with Thai officials to get a study sample for the Smithsonian.

Dr. Henderson retired in 1966 but he still comes to his office every day to work with meteorites. As for hobbies, he says he only has one—meteorites, explaining:

"Each meteorite has its own fascinating mystery and science. You get to travel and practice business and finance to buy, barter, or sell them. It's got everything!"

Falk Joins CBCES Staff

Dr. John H. Falk has joined the Smithsonian as Education Coordinator for the Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies.

Dr. Falk's appointment coincides with the Center's plans to cooperate with the Science Task Force, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, to implement its "Unified Science Approach, K-12" in county schools. He will design projects which illustrate concepts the students are to master and train teachers to lead in-field experiences at the Center.

A native of Los Angeles, Dr. Falk holds BA and MA degrees in zoology from the University of California at Berkeley. He received his doctorate in biology and education from that institution this year.

Before coming to the Chesapeake Bay Center, Dr. Falk was biologist for the NSF-funded Outdoor Biology Instruction Strategies Project.

R. J. Gettens, Freer Curator, Dies at Age 74

Rutherford John Gettens, Curator Emeritus at the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery of Art, died June 17 at Mooers, N.Y.

Mr. Gettens was a specialist in the identification and preservation of pigments and metals used in ancient art objects. For many years he was on the staff of the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University and later the Freer Gallery.

Mr. Gettens was born January 17, 1900, at Mooers. He held degrees from Middlebury College and Harvard University. He was an instructor in chemistry at Colby College from 1923 to 1927, and at Middlebury College during summer sessions from 1927 to 1929. He was a lecturer in fine arts at Harvard from 1948 to 1951.

His museum experience began with work as a chemist in the conservation department at the Fogg from 1928 to 1951. He was chief of museum technical research there from 1949 to 1951. In 1951 he came to the Freer Gallery where he was an associate in technical research from 1951 to 1961 and head curator of the technical laboratory from 1961 to 1968. After retiring from that position he had continued working at the Freer as a research consultant.

Mr. Gettens was a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Association of Museums, the Archaeological Institute of America, the Cosmos Club (where he served as chairman of the art committee), the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (he served



Mr. Gettens

as its president from 1968 to 1971), the Washington Region Conservation Guild, and the International Council of Museums (for which he served as coordinator of two working groups).

He was associate editor of *Technical Studies in the Field of the Fine Arts*, from 1935 to 1942; editor of *IIC Abstracts*, from 1958 to 1962; section editor of *Chemical Abstracts*, from 1962 to 1968, and series editor of *Studies in Conservation* (series on the "Identification of Painting Materials") beginning in 1967.

Mr. Gettens also served as a consultant to the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration in Boston from 1937 to 1941. He was a staff member on the Manhattan District project at Los Alamos, N.M., in 1944 and 1945. He was a special fellow of the Belgian-American Educational Foundation for study in Belgium in 1948; was a member of the Board of Consulting Fellows, Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, from 1960 to 1970, a member of the science advisory committee of the Dupont Winterthur Museum, Wilmington, Del., and a Fulbright lecturer to Greece in 1971 to advise on establishment of a national conservation laboratory for art and archaeology in Greece.

Mr. Gettens was the author of numerous articles in technical journals dealing with the identification of materials in ancient paintings, bronzes, and other works, and their conservation.

Funeral services were held in Mooers. A memorial service will be scheduled in Washington.

Secretary Ripley Receives Degree From Cambridge

Secretary Ripley was presented an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Cambridge (England) on June 6.

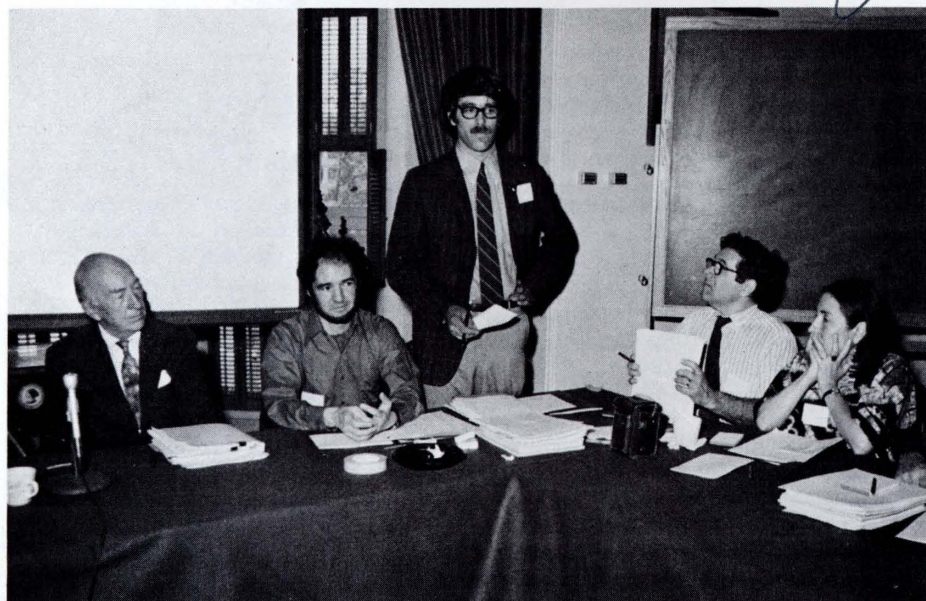
In presenting Mr. Ripley to the Chancellor of Cambridge, the University Orator made the following introduction:

"The Smithsonian Institution at Washington is to Americans somewhat as the Museum at Alexandria was to the Greek world in antiquity. But how much finer and vaster! For whatever natural objects found in earth or sea or sky can interest the human mind or eye, of these it provides specimens or images on public display for visitors or as research material in its laboratories. It also exhibits documents of human history and works of art of various kinds. Of all these great buildings, where more than 3,000 people are engaged on different tasks, the man we are honoring today is in charge. In his 10 years of office, so we have heard, he has brought it about that everyone has become more conscious of an aim to which his labors are directed and therefore keener in applying himself to them. For he has brought the whole concern he governs out of the shade into the light in such a way that the public perceives that learning is a pleasure and scholars that it pays to keep in contact with the public.

"The leader himself is worthy of the distinguished group of scholars he has attracted thither. For he has long been eminent among ornithologists, and has recently written excellently on Indian birds. In particular, if there is anything in nature that is dwindling so that there are fears that it will soon vanish from the earth, he does all he can to concentrate on it the studies of as many people as possible so that the last chance of investigating it may not be lost. It quite often happens that these studies, by revealing the causes of the decline, prove helpful to those protecting what should be conserved. Hence his name is held in honor by all those who are anxious either to preserve species of living things or to rescue regions that are threatened by natural changes of human agency. He has collaborated with our Royal Society especially with regard to the conservation of marine resources and the islands of the Indian Ocean. If you ask what charm he has that can persuade people to carry out his policies so willingly, I would suggest that you look into his book entitled *Trail of the Money Bird*."

SMITHSONIAN TORCH July-August 1974

Published for Smithsonian Institution personnel by the Smithsonian Office of Public Affairs, William O. Craig, Editor; Kathryn Lindeman, Assistant.



CONFERENCE AT SI—Taking part here in a conference on the application of modern procedures, concepts and theoretical developments in population biology and biogeography to the anthropological and archeological study of human populations, were (left to right) Secretary Ripley, Dr. Jared M. Diamond of the University of California, and Dr. William Fitzhugh of NMNH's Department of Anthropology. Dr. Fitzhugh and Dr. John Terrell of the Field Museum organized the May conference which coincided with Society for American Archeology meetings held here in Washington. On the right are Dr. Richard Levins and R. Morales of the University of Chicago. Among the 20 top scientists that took part in the discussions were NMNH's Dr. Betty Meggers, John Yellen, and Dr. Richard Benson.

Mulcahy Selected For NZP Position

Robert Mulcahy of Chicago has been selected by the National Zoological Park as its new Chief of the Office of Graphics and Exhibits.

Mr. Mulcahy is a graduate of the Institute of Design, where he subsequently taught. He gained initial experience working at the Center for Advanced Research in Design of the Container Corporation of America.

At the Zoo, Mr. Mulcahy will direct his own design and production team and work closely with the Office of Exhibits Central, which assists the Zoo in its exhibits program.

Cummings Selected Editor of Journal

Paul Cummings has been selected editor of the *Journal of the Archives of American Art*.

Mr. Cummings has been oral historian for the Archives and was founder of the *Print Collectors' Newsletter*. His book *American Drawings of the Twentieth Century* will be published by Viking Press in 1975. He is editor of *Dictionary of Contemporary American Artists* and edited the Praeger series of *Documentary Monographs in Modern Art* and Bowker's *Fine Arts Market Place*.

Mr. Cummings' plans encompass expanding the quarterly *Journal* to 32 pages, commissioning writers who are experts in American studies, and stimulating further use of the Archives by providing space to publish articles researched in the Archives collection.

CBCES Sponsors Ecology Program

The Smithsonian's Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies is sponsoring a Summer Ecology Program for children who have completed grades five through eight.

The 2,600-acre center located near Edgewater, Md. provides a natural setting for children to explore and study plant and animal communities.

Classes for elementary grades meet from 9 a.m. to noon and for junior high from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The weekly sessions are free of charge. For further information call 798-4424.



'SHOO-BIRD' SUCCESS—Secretary Ripley is shown with a "Shoo Bird", sold by the Museum Shops in a package with complete instructions for application. The "Shoo Bird", developed and donated to the Shops by Mr. Ripley, has met with such success that the Shops have reordered an additional supply of the silhouettes of a falcon diving toward its prey. The "Shoo Bird" is designed to frighten migrating birds from glass windows or walls, thereby reducing the number of birds killed by flying into windows. Local birds coming to a feeder, however, will soon get used to the silhouette.

Three From SI Get Taste of Sea Life

On Sunday, June 23, the "Gazela Primeiro," a three-masted, wooden barkentine, formerly a Portuguese Grand Banks fishing vessel, sailed from Norfolk bound for Philadelphia with three employees of the Smithsonian as crew members. Melvin Jackson, curator of the Department of Water Transportation at the National Museum of History and Technology, was captain of the vessel; Jack Goodwin of the Smithsonian Library Department was cook, and Peter Copeland of the National Air and Space Museum was boatswain.

They reported that it was a voyage of hard labor, under sail and engine power for four and a half days. The length of the journey was due to Northeast squalls, high winds and seas off the Atlantic coast between the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. The crew was given a good taste of what the life of a 19th century square-rig sailor must have been like since there were none of the comforts found aboard a modern vessel.

Built in Portugal in 1876, the "Gazela Primeiro," now owned by the Philadelphia Maritime Museum, had been overhauled and refitted at the Norfolk shipyard and was being returned to her berth at Pier 14 North in the Delaware River.

New Lighting Design Saves Energy at SI

Among the new policies and practices initiated by the Smithsonian to lower energy consumption is a relighting project undertaken by the Lighting Design Branch of the Office of Exhibits Central.

With the active cooperation of design staffs and building managers at the National Museum of History and Technology and National Museum of Natural History, the branch has instituted or completed several significant new designs in lighting.

The exhibit displaying the First Ladies Gowns has been improved with lighting as bright or slightly brighter but with a net savings of 7,000 watts. Not only had lighting there been reduced from 8,000 watts to 1,000 watts, but fixture maintenance will also be greatly simplified.

In the NMNH rotunda, 12,000 watts of difficult-to-maintain lighting in the dome will be replaced by 1,300 watts of highly efficient new lighting with a great increase in the dome's brightness. As well as saving energy, the safety hazard of requiring relamping from a ledge of 120 feet above the floor will be eliminated.

The Railroad Hall at the NMHT will have approximately 9,500 watts of new high intensity discharge lighting replacing over 22,000 watts of existing lighting. This will increase the illumination by more than 50 percent and maintenance will drop from 150 lamps every six months to 44 lamps every two years.

Carroll B. Lusk, museum lighting consultant in the Office of Exhibits Central said, "We are keeping our eyes open for saving energy in all of our buildings that we come in contact with and are trying to promote conservation of energy in any way we can."

El-Baz Lectures In Mideast Nations

Dr. Farouk El-Baz of the National Air and Space Museum made a good will lecture tour in the Arabian Peninsula at the invitation and sponsorship of the United States Information Agency during the three-week period of May 16-June 6.

He lectured in five Arab countries on scientific aspects of the U.S. space program and results of Apollo lunar exploration. The five nations were Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait.

Multhauf to Head Science Delegation

Dr. Robert P. Multhauf, senior scientific scholar in the Department of Science and Technology at the National Museum of History and Technology, has been elected by the National Academy of Sciences to chair the American delegation to the Fourteenth International Congress of the History of Science in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan, August 19-27.

Dr. Multhauf was director of the museum from 1966 to 1969. He edits *Isis*, the journal of the History of Science Society. His best-known publication is *The Origins of Chemistry*, published in 1967.

Meetings of the International Congress of the History of Science, held under the auspices of UNESCO and the national scientific academies of the participating countries, are held every three years. At the 1971 congress in Moscow, Dr. Multhauf presented a paper on the history of borax.

Women's Council Reports Progress

by Francine C. Berkowitz

The first Smithsonian Women's Council, which was inaugurated in 1972, established basic priorities for investigation in the interests of women and minority groups which the Women's Council represents.

The second Council, now operating, reaffirmed these priorities and through its committees has acted as an advisory group to the Office of Equal Opportunity and the Smithsonian administration.

The Recruitment and Promotion committee, chaired by Sherrill Berger, has conducted a study of the SI merit promotion system with special attention given to the Secretarial Skills File. The report, including specific recommendations such as abolishment of the Secretarial Skills File and open recruitment for secretarial and clerical positions, has been presented to the Office of Personnel Administration. OPA will report back to the Council on the recommendations.

The Upward Mobility Committee, chaired by Vernetta Williams, has familiarized itself with the SI upward mobility programs now in operation. The committee has filed recommendations with OPA and OEO, including recommendations for extension of the program through grade 9 and endorsement of an upward mobility office under OEO.

The Career Development committee, chaired by Diane Della-Loggia, has examined the career development services available at the Smithsonian and has made recommendations on training opportunities, orientation of new employees, employee evaluations, and career counseling. The committee has requested that career workshops be offered to employees

again this year during Women's Week. In March this committee sponsored a lecture by Alex Methven, a noted career counselor, which was enthusiastically received by nearly 200 SI employees and visitors.

The Child Care Committee, chaired by Marie Maloro, has the most concrete results to report. On the basis of its proposal through the Women's Council, a child care coordinator position has been established under the Assistant Secretary for Public Service. This coordinator will establish a child care referral service; study the child care needs of SI employees, and will plan a summer day care program, for which funds have been committed.

In an effort to meet with a wide range of Smithsonian employees, the Council has scheduled monthly meetings at various SI buildings. Attendance has been good and employees are invited to meet with the Council when it visits their building.

The Council encourages employee participation in all its activities. Interested persons should call the various chairpersons for further information.

Council Sponsors SI Women's Week

The Smithsonian Women's Council, under the auspices of the Office of Equal Opportunity, is sponsoring its second annual "Women's Week at the Smithsonian Institution" August 26-30.

An outstanding speaker will deliver a keynote address.

Activities include a two-part career development program which will be conducted by the SI Training Office, as well as a supervisor's training program concerned with raising awareness of the status of women at SI. Films will be shown in each building (location and times to be announced). Special guests will be speaking on such subjects as "The Dual Role of the Black Woman," "Equal Rights Amendment," and "Reproductive Freedom." The week will close with a reception in the SI Commons.

All supervisors will be asked to adjust schedules so that interested employees may participate. For further information, please contact Ms. Edith Mayo, MHT, Extension 5689 or Ms. Ellen Myette, Renwick, Extension 5811.

Barton Chosen Supply Director

Harry P. Barton has been appointed Director, Office of Supply Services, Office of Support Activities.

Mr. Barton came to the Smithsonian as a Supply Management Officer in December 1972 and has served as Assistant Chief, Supply Division.

Prior to joining the SI staff, he served as Chief, Contractual Services Branch at the General Services Administration. Mr. Barton, who is from Lowell, Mass., attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Museum Shop Employees Honored



Thirteen Museum Shop employees were honored for their outstanding performances during the past year in an awards ceremony held May 16 in the Regents' Room.

T. Ames Wheeler, Treasurer of the Smithsonian, presented letters of commendation from Secretary Ripley as well as other awards to the employees.

During the ceremony, Richard Griesel, SI Business Manager, outlined the Museum Shops' progress this year and predicted that with the outstanding performance shown by Museum Shops employees, the shops would soon rank among the best in the world.

Participants in the ceremony, from left

in photo were: Florence R. Lloyd, Book Buyer; Mr. Griesel; Robert M. Dills, Supervisor of Shop Design; Barbara A. Brand, Administrative Assistant; Margaret W. Drysdale, Shop Manager of A&I; William Rowan, Director of Museum Shops; Lillian R. Cutler, Operations Supervisor; Roy L. Stewart, Warehouse Supervisor; Sandra B. Nickens, Accounting and Records Supervisor; Kathleen G. Salvas, Shop Manager of NMNH; Byron P. Truex, Film Department Manager; Alice G. Senti, Shop Manager of NMHT; Mr. Wheeler; Irene V. Jeffers, Shop Manager of Art Museums; Raymond E. Wright, Controller, and Josephine L. Fingeret, Buyer.



This display case with Smithson memorabilia was added during the renovation of the tomb chamber in the SI Building.

Renovation Work Completed On Tomb of James Smithson

For the first time the room containing James Smithson's tomb in the original Smithsonian Institution Building has been opened to the public.

Previously the tomb could be viewed only through gates. Renovation and opening of the crypt area are part of a major plan begun in 1968 for improving the entire building. Renovation of the room was initiated last year by James M. Goode, Curator of the building.

The crypt room, which is the east room next to the main north entrance, now includes a display case containing various items relating to Smithson. These include his original will of 1826 which led to the founding of the Institution; an oil portrait of him while he was a student of Oxford in 1786; a piece of smithsonite, a variety of zinc ore identified by Smithson in 1802 and later named for him; a pamphlet on minerals written by him; some books from his library and his calling card. Also on display is the Smithsonian mace made in 1965 and used for ceremonial purposes.

There have been other changes made in the process of renovating the room. Four brass wall sconces from the 1900 period have been installed to take the place of spotlights. A false ceiling with fluorescent light fixtures was removed. Red paint was removed from the floor to show the original floor of granite. The marble relief portrait of James Smithson, originally erected at his tomb by the Board of Regents in 1896 was moved from the south to the north wall.

When he died in 1829 James Smithson was buried in an English cemetery in Genoa, Italy. In 1904 when the burial ground was to be displaced by enlargement of a quarry, the Board of Regents voted to bring his tomb and remains here. Alexander Graham Bell, a Regent, was delegated to go to Italy as an official escort. After ceremonies appropriate for a dignitary, Smithson's remains were reinterred in the crypt room which was prepared at that time. Gates across the door were made from the fence around his original resting place. Those gates have now been removed to storage, properly catalogued, thus permitting visitors to enter the room.

During the renovation, Smithson's coffin was removed from the tomb and opened in the presence of Institution officials. A scientific study was made of Smithson's skeleton by Dr. J. Lawrence Angel, Curator of Physical Anthropology in the National Museum of Natural History. Among other things, Dr. Angel determined that Smithson was 5 feet 6 inches tall; that he died a natural death; that he had an extra vertebra; that he smoked a pipe, and that he was probably an avid fencer because of the development of his shoulders. After a 48-hour period, the remains were resealed in the coffin, and it was replaced in the tomb. A report of the examination was placed inside the coffin and in the Smithsonian Archives.

SI Press Announces Book Discount Plan

Gordon Hubel, Director of the Smithsonian Institution Press, and Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director of the American Library Association, announced at a meeting in New York City July 8 an agreement under which libraries will be guaranteed a minimum discount of 30 percent on the purchase of all SI Press privately funded books.

They explained that the agreement is the result of several months of intensive study and negotiation.

The ALA-Smithsonian program will be launched in August on a test basis. Both the Smithsonian (through its free distribution of federally funded publications) and the ALA are regularly in touch with thousands of libraries throughout the United States and other parts of the world. Under the agreement, announcement of SI Press books will be included in the ALA communications with libraries. The SI Press will pay a small commission on sales to the association to offset any increase the ALA incurs in handling charges.

Burton Elected Archives President

Dr. Irving F. Burton was elected president of the Archives of American Art at the spring meeting of the Archives Board of Trustees at its national center in New York.

Dr. Burton, a leading Detroit pediatrician, was a vice president of the Archives and president of its Detroit Committee for many years. He is a trustee and major benefactor of the Detroit Institute of Arts and president of the Anti-Quaries at the Institute.

Other officers elected at the meeting were: Mrs. Otto L. Spaeth, chairman of the board; Mrs. Alfred Negley and Mrs. E. Bliss Parkinson, vice presidents; Joel S. Ehrenkranz, treasurer; Henry de Forest Baldwin, secretary, and Gilbert Kinney, Stephen Shalom, and George H. Waterman III, members of the board.

The Archives of American Art, founded in Detroit in 1954, became a bureau of the Smithsonian in 1970. It preserves and protects documents for use by scholars, graduate students and writers.