By Elizabeth McIntosh

Are there "limits to growth" for the Smithsonian?

Secretary Ripley takes a cautious look ahead in his annual statement, a part of Smithsonian year 1975. He explores a selected program of museum growth based on future limitations on natural resources, as reflected in a growing environmental consciousness.

The Secretary notes that museums are especially concerned with expansion. "After all, today's museums are the only legitimate growth industry," he observes, adding that it is the "nature of a museum to acquire objects."

At the same time, Mr. Ripley states, museum keepers know that the supply of objects, whether made by man or by nature, is finite and eventually the museum must be preserved for the future, and a museum thus becomes "both a growth industry and an instrument of conservation."

In reviewing the past ten years, Secretary Ripley points to highlights in Smithsonian progress: the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, which has provided a new dimension in art; the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, a new experiment in community relationships; the vast thrust into space marked by exhibitions at the new National Air and Space Museum; the recently created facilities at the Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies, near Annapolis, Md.

He also notes that the Smithsonian Associates program has led to a greater national awareness of the Institution, with a national membership totaling more than 15,000.

"This means that for the first time Americans in a measurement across the land have a feeling of belonging to the Smithsonian and are in the process of understanding more deeply their own heritage," Secretary Ripley comments.

What can visitors to Washington in the decade ahead expect to find in Smithsonian museums where concern for measured growth will be a prime consideration?

In the statement, Secretary Ripley has projected a series of priorities for museum development with considerable attention to: the improvement of collections now in hand, the renovation also will be continued on the securing of acquisitions, collating and computerizing, while continuing to produce improvement in all of these areas.

"In all this," he states, "we feel that our present efforts to conserve this heritage will have made no less pressing need of the Institution for further appropriate support, and for the addition of natural history activities to science. At the same time, we will be trying to do what we are already trying to do."

Each research center, museum and zoo has its "holy grail," the final observance out of there are "holes" in basic collections.

For example, the Smithsonian's National Museum of History and Technology has a fine collection on the evolution of railroadining in the United States, but it lacks a few cars. In the field of the ceramics, the Smithsonian possesses an important collection of European porcelain, but Mr. Ripley says, "but in the next decade the present small group could be augmented to make a more comprehensive historically by acquisitions of 17th and early 18th century French faience.

One new Smithsonian exhibit of some magnitude is being prepared in the Division of Physical Anthropology. Dr. Dillon describes as a "flexible area" on the National Mall, next to the new National Air and Space Museum, where some "pertainent of the future may be displayed."

There, he says, the Smithsonian would show results of known technologies for solar energy, water conservation, food resources—all that we know of life support systems.

"As we near the end of our Bicentennial it is important that we look ahead to the Triennium and in the process demonstrate to our citizens that our heritage is not something we have to conserve, it is something we can conserve in the concept of limits to growth."

He says that the next ten years hopefully will see the completion of a consolidated Museum Support Facility in suburban Suitland, Md., to house, catalogue, conserve and store the collections away from the Mall, where museum space is premium.

"We need to create a new way of looking at collections. We need to think of them as conservators as a prototype for a national conservation school," the Secretary states, observing that present efforts to correct our legacy of man-made objects are still in their infancy.

The Institution's fiscal year 1975 is summarized in the report as one of continued success despite a decrease-broadly speaking—a decrease in salaries, utilities and other operating expenses.

Federal appropriations totaling $74,511,000 provided 76.3 percent of the $97,625,000 in overall Smithsonian operating funds in fiscal year 1975. Grants and contracts, and private trust funds provided the rest.

Selected highlights from principal divisions of the report follow.

Science

David Challinor, Assistant Secretary for Science, sees basic research as perhaps the most important question in Smithsonian science. He states: "When quantum leaps are made in science and medicine, these advances have come about only through years of unspectacular basic research."

Center for the Study of Man: The Center is starting research on several Indian groups in the southern and eastern United States as part of its American Indian Program. Preliminary work shows that more Indian groups have survived than previously estimated.

Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies: An important contribution to ecological programs in the Chesapeake is the Center's research on the interaction of Maryland's Rhode River estuary with its coastal ocean, and related impact upon this system. A full year of monitoring material entering the estuary from the counties of the Chesapeake Basin was submitted to the Fort Pierre Bureau: For the next decade, scientists at this Bureau will continue their studies on the estuarine and marine environments.

Secretary Ripley views environments of Florida's east coast and adjoining Gulf of Mexico. Smithsonians at the National Air and Space Museum: July 4 will mark the official opening of the newest Smithsonian museum, just on the Mall. Its 200,000 square feet of exhibit space will feature airships from the Wright Flyer to the Apollo spacecraft, "A Spacearium," a space theater and an art gallery which will exhibit all facets of man's dreams of flight and those which became realities.

National Museum of Natural History: This Museum goes back to the founding of the Smithsonian. It is one of the world's major centers for the study of plants, animals, fossils and minerals. In the next 20 years there will be a reconditioning of virtually all present halls, with at least one major opening a year. A new west court addition now under construction will provide 48,234 square feet of space for classrooms, specimen reference library and a cafeteria. New exhibits have also been garnered for the physically handicapped. Following are highlights of specific museum disciplines:

Anthropology: NNMH scientists have worked out a framework for the study of 7,000 years of Southeast Coast prehistorical. Fieldworkers, teams are assembling the concepts of the following pastoralist cultures in England and southeast Australia. Botany: Science has been caging the ocean floor in support of scientific exploration within the earth's mantle, including a search for mineral and oil deposits. Paleobiology: Through a study of 800 million years of life in the sea, Australian scientists have determined at which point in geologic time a root system can be defined as an integral part of a plant. Vertebrate Zoology: Studies in the social behavior of howler monkeys at the Smithsonian's Tropical Research Institute reveal that yellow fever has the potential to cause a devastating impact on this monkey population.

National Zoological Park: There will be more living room for residents of the National Zoo. For the first time giraffes will live in the "Spacearium," a space theater and an art gallery which will exhibit all facets of man's dreams of flight and those which became realities.

Smithsonian Scholar's Present Papers in ASW Lecture Series

The Smithsonian and the Anthropological Society of Washington, their lives intertwined since both were founded at about the same time, are collaborating again in the Bicentennial observance.

Three Smithsonian scholars recently have given papers in the Bicentennial lecture series of the A.S.W. Dr. Herman Viola, director of the National Museum of Natural History, gave an illustrated lecture on "Washington's First Museum-The Office Collection of Thomas L. McKenny." McKenny served as the first commissioner of Indian affairs, a post held later by Dr. Phillip S. Nash, current president of the A.S.W., who introduced Dr. Viola.

Dr. Wilton S. Dillon, director of Smithsonian Symposia and Seminars, and a past president of A.S.W., gave a paper on "Thomas Jefferson as Anthropologist."

Dr. John Lawrence Angel, curator of physical anthropology, spoke on "Biological Changes in the American Population Since Colonial Times." Drs. Nash and Dillon also appeared together in February at the all-day tribute to Margaret Mead in commemoration of her 50th anniversary of her first field work in Samoa and in Boston during the recent meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Dillon's paper was "Margaret Mead as World Citizen" (see story on AAAS meeting in this issue).

Dr. Harold Jefferson Coolidge, great-great-great-grandson of Thomas Jefferson, was given special permission from the Antiquarian Society of Washington, held by the Ecology Theatre of the National Museum of Natural History. He showed here (left) with Dr. Phillip Nash, president of the society, and Dr. Wilton S. Dillon, who had given a paper on "Thomas Jefferson as Anthropologist." Mr. Coolidge is founder of the Pacifie Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences, and former president of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. He was praised by historians for his approach to knowledge, including the study of humans as part of nature. In the picture, Mr. Coolidge is being toasted by Dr. Jefferson. During the same evening, the society heard a tape recording of the oral history interview with the man who served as a model for the statue of Jefferson in the Jefferson Memorial.

W. H. Costley St., Veteran, Dies

William H. Costley, 65, a veteran of 15 years' employment with the Smithsonian, died February 13.

Mr. Costley began working at the Institution in February 1941 as a laborer. In August 1961, he was assigned temporarily to the Division of Political History. Due to his outstanding work for the Division, he was placed on permanent status and promoted to a museum aide position and later to museum technician.

Mr. Costley's care and devotion to the objects in the Division were demonstrated during the move from the Arts and Industries Building to the National Museum of History and Technology. He participated in physically moving the First Ladies' gowns from the old exhibit area to the new one, and bore the brunt of moving all the collections and offices from one building to another.

Selected highlights from principal divisions of the report follow.
A crowd of enthusiastic fans surrounds Muhammad Ali at NMHT.

By Geraldine Sanderson

March 17 will be remembered as Ali Presents Gloves, Robert for Bicentennial ‘Nation of Nations’ Exhibit

Byline:

The Regional Program of the Smithsonian National Associates will focus on Tuscon this weekend, April 22-25, when Southern Arizona members will have the opportunity to tour the Mt. Hopkins Observatory and hear first-hand about the Institution’s science programs.

The more than 4,000 Smithsonian National Associates, living in the Tuscon area, will be invited to attend one of two special tours of the Mt. Hopkins Observatory, one during the day on April 24, and Sunday, April 25.

They will tour observing facilities at the 40-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain reflector, and the 8-inch Cassegrain reflecting telescope atop the Grand Canyon. The Observatory is located on the site of the Multiple Mirror Telescope. The Associates will tour the facility with a tour guide from the University of Arizona, Associate Director by David Challignon, Smithsonian Associates Assistant for Science, on Friday night, April 23.

The National Board of Smithsonian Associates, an advisory group drawn from the ranks of the Institution’s National Associates, will also hold its annual meeting in Tuscon at the same time as the Tours will participate in the general program.

The weekend is one of several regional programs this year for National Associates to take Smithsonian projects and people from the Mall to other cities around the country.

The crowd included film crews from ABC, West Germany, the local television stations, and people from the Mall to other cities around the country.

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have enough space to kick up their heels; elephants, as well as giraffes, pronghorns, and monkey house will accommodate all types from the small species to the largest.

In addition, some 3,100 acres at the Conservation and Research Center at Front Royal, Va., have been utilized for care of such endangered species as Felids, deer, bovines, bears, wolves, raccoons, snakes, scimitar horn oys and Pere David deer.今天's additions are the two elephants that have been lodged in a natural amphitheater. This is all part of major construction work now being carried out.

Rockefeller in western Pennsylvania. The Smithsonian Institution has also installed ultraviolet measuring instruments at various locations. Administrative officers and Smithsonian Associates will be invited to attend one of the two "open days" in Tuscon.

Their role is to exchange a few words and have their picture taken. Ellen Hughes of the MHT phoned on March 16 to make arrangements for the gloves to be mailed to the Museum for the gloves to be mailed to the Museum in person? Was the Museum interested? A serious Ali autographed each glove, the robe, and good naturedly answered reporter questions. A Washington Times reporter followed the following scene: Samples of the glove providing evidence of the presence of lead, zinc, and copper, as well as checking of the glove for visible wear for six months while he trained for the fight in Denver.

When the gloves were assembled in the reception suite, in- cluding film crews from ABC, West Germany, the local television stations, and people from the Mall to other cities around the country.

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Grover Loening, Recipient of Langley Medal, Dies

Grover Loening, 87, a pioneer in aviation invention and recent recipient of the Smithsonian's Langley Gold Medal for Aeronautics, died February 29 after a long illness.

Mr. Loening and Leonard Carmichael, former Smithsonian Secretary, were instrumental in obtaining congressional approval for the National Air and Space Museum. Mr. Loening served as a member of the NAM advisory board for about 20 years.

In addition to the Langley Medal, Mr. Loening was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His most extensive work he completed for the American aviation medals including the Eggleston, Air Force and Guggenheim Awards.

A graduate of Columbia University, he was the first person to receive an M.A. in aeronautics from a non-university setting. His pioneering efforts in aviation added significant contributions such as the first American steel frame airplane, a small airplane to launch from destroyers and the MIT two-seat pursuit monoplane using rigid strut bracing. He produced the Flying Yacht, a five-seat monoplane which established worldwide records and opened the market for private aircraft following World War I. He also developed the Loening Amphibian with the first practical retractable undercarriage and research in the design of the earliest American American Building rooftop heliport in New York City. Mr. Loening was one of the first directors of Pan American Airways who wrote several books and many articles on aviation.

F. J. Berek, a 70-year-old aeronautics specialist in the Division of Postal History at the National Museum of History and Technology, died February 6.

Mr. Berek began his 33-year career at the Smithsonian in 1959 as an elevator conductor and joined the guard force in the next year. In 1942 he transferred to the U.S. Department of Commerce, but he returned to the mail room in 1945. He then served as a guard in several different buildings.

When becoming a lieutenant, Mr. Berek joined the Division of Postal History in 1961 and served there until last February. In Postal History he devoted special attention to U.S. postal and stamp proofs, specialties in which he collaborated with philatelic scholars in many parts of this country.

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and require extensive restoration. For this work, NCPA has added a “conserved of paper” label to its collection in order to maintain this and to properly care for the objects which are not in the best condition. There has also been a notable increase in the number of paintings which have already opened. These are: “Seated Figure by the Window” by Henry Ossawa Tanner, an early painting in clothing in America over a 200 year span; “We The People”, a reflective look at American and their contributions; “Nations”, a story of America’s immigrants. The museum will have yet another exhibit this fall, an exhibit of NMHT’s microscop ical recreation of the Philadelphia Centennial Trade Fair.

A new feature of the NMHT Educational Program has been the Spirit of 1776 Discovery Corner where visitors are encouraged to touch and handle artifacts relating to the common soldier in the American Revolution. A total of 3,395 persons visited this particular exhibit during the first six weeks it was open. Other “Discovery corners” are planned to bring visitors into contact with the museum’s wide ranging collections which touch on virtually every aspect of American life.

Among notable acquisitions of the NMHT this year are: an 1892 cable car that ran in an early 19th-century section of Philadelphia by Cortous of Paris; nearly 20,000 objects related to political campaigning; a Chinese export porcelain bowl from a set purchased by General Washington; a silver platter inscribed to Burch in Rashi in 1798 for his services in Philadelphia during the yellow fever epidemic; two extremely rare pieces of early 18th century porcelain; a pair of Hepplewhite style side chairs of a Philadelphia type prevailing 1800 a large collection of medical forceps representing the earliest known ceramics in the Western Hemisphere (3100 B.C.). The objects, depicting the life of the peoples in early settlements along the Ecuadorian coast.

Hamarnneh Elected To Pharmacy Post

Dr. Sami K. Hamarnneh, Historian of Pharmacy, at the National Museum of History and Technology, has been elected Chairman of the Committee on American Institute of the History of Pharmacy for 1975-77.


OFF EXHIBIT — An eejag vesse depicting an eagle carved from a single block of the objects on display in the exhibition "American Icons, Art, Technology, and Creativity, 3000-300 B.C."

The National Museum of History and Technology, with origins at the Field Museum in Chicago, features an international selection of the earliest known ceramics in the Western Hemisphere (3100 B.C.). The objects, depicting the life of the peoples in early settlements along the Ecuadorian coast.

Sargent Exhibit

Presented by AAA

“Sargent on Sargent”, an exhibition of letters from the collection of the Archives of American Art, written by John Singer Sargent’s father to his family in Philadelphia, a proud father’s description of the American Institute of the History of Medicine in New York. The show has been organized by Frank Gettings, Assistant Curator of Prints and Drawings. It includes loans from many private and public collections and will remain on view through June 6.
AAM Meet to Be Held in Washington

The annual meeting of the American Association of Museums will be held in Washington, coinciding with June 3 with the theme "Threshold to the Third Century." Some of the topics to be covered included museum master plans, curatorial practices, policies; museums in broadcasting; in-fighting; educational programs; membership programs, and a women's caucus.

Further information and registration materials, interested Smithsonian personnel may write to National Museum of American History, 104 3rd Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.

Held on May 28 is the 288-page volume containing postage and handling fee.

Other Smithsonian institutions not mentioned in the article include:

- The National Museum of Natural History
- The National Museum of American History
- The Smithsonian Institution Press
- The National Museum of African American History and Culture
- The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service

MHT Exhibit Shows 'America's Forests'

What do a child's ring-toss toy, a ducumel and rocket fuel have in common? They all have in common the Smithsonian's National Museum of History and Technology, answers that riddle by industrial affair. The rocket or wood products.

An exhibit uses artifacts from the museum's collections to point out that, from cradle to grave, people's lives are encrusted by the Smithsonian's artifacts and objects. The 200-page, wood wagons later helped to open the West. Today, people buy toys are not only used in space, but also have a readership of more than 100,000. Edward K. Thompson, former managing editor of Life, is the editor.

Smithsonian Magazine: Smithsonian began publication in 1970 and at the same time was the principal benefit of the Smithsonian National Association of the Arts. Today the museum has not only stimulated national and international interest in the Institution but is one of the fastest growing monthlies in the country with a readership of more than 900,000. Edward Thompson, former managing editor of Life, is the editor.

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