



A school girl's view of carolers is one of the entries in a national contest to choose designs for Christmas seals. Entries are on exhibit at the National Collection of Fine Arts through January 4. This entry was by Shari Halker of Lima, Ohio.

## Science Event Network Set Up

As a service to the scientific community, the Smithsonian Institution has established a Scientific Event Alert Network to provide scientists with timely information concerning transient geophysical, astronomical, biological, and anthropological events.

Its focus will be on in-depth investigations of natural events, and will not include man-induced pollution events such as oil spills.

The network personnel will utilize telex, telephone, media wire services, and radio to receive information from selected correspondents in the field. In turn, those scientists with an immediate need to know will be alerted by telephone, telegraph, or radio, and monthly summaries of all events will be prepared for distribution.

Reflecting the interests of Smithsonian scientists, initial emphasis will be on whale and porpoise strandings, volcanic activity, and meteorite falls. It is anticipated, however, that as the network becomes established additional categories of ephemeral, but nevertheless important, events will be included and reported.

The SEAN office, located in Room 9 at the National Museum of Natural History, is directed by David Squires, formerly associated with the Smithsonian's Center for Short-Lived Phenomena in Cambridge, Mass. Assisting him are John Whitman, Shirley Maina, and Betty Grier.

## Families Needed for 'Intern '76'

Host families are needed for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education program, "Intern '76," which will bring ten talented high school seniors to Washington for seven weeks next summer to take part in

learning-service projects at the Smithsonian.

Those interested in opening their home to one of these carefully selected young people, are asked to call David Estabrook, (Ext. 5697) for details.

## New MHT Food Facilities Opening

A remodeled cafeteria at the National Museum of History and Technology is expected to be in full operation by Christmas Eve.

The new facility is centered about a giant "carousel" from which patrons will select hot foods, and which will replace the old cafeteria line. Marriott Corp. officials say the facility is a "new concept in volume feeding" in the Washington area, and will double the capacity of the cafeteria.

The smaller carousel purveying sandwiches will remain in operation in the snack bar adjacent to the main cafeteria area.

Smithsonian employees will use the same food carousel as museum visitors, but will have a separate entrance, exit and cashier.

## NASM Seeking Volunteers for Education Program

Opening day for the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum is still months away, but the staff already is preparing to handle the huge influx of visitors that are expected.

The Presentations and Education Division is seeking volunteers to assist in education programs at the Museum.

Individuals interested in participating should contact Nancy Murphy at 381-4167.



# THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

December 1975

## Major Exhibitions Opened In Busy Fall Season at SI

Museum activities at the Smithsonian this fall have centered about the preparation and opening of a number of major exhibitions, including some relating to the nation's approaching Bicentennial celebration.

They include:

- The second of the reconstructed exhibit halls planned for the National Museum of Natural History — "South America: Continent and Culture," which opened October 11.

- NMNH's Bicentennial exhibition, "Our Changing Land," which opened November 19.

- "American Presidential China," organized by the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service for circulation during the Bicentennial period, and opening at the National Museum of History and Technology December 6.

- The Freer Gallery's Bicentennial exhibition, "Arts of Asia at the Time of American Independence," opening December 15.

- "Portraits From the Americans: the Democratic Experience," based on the prize-winning book by Daniel J. Boorstin, former director and senior historian at NMHT, and now Librarian of Congress, opened November 14 on the renovated third floor of the National Portrait Gallery.

- Two art exhibitions at the National Collection of Fine Arts, featuring works by Peggy Bacon, opening December 5, and Bob Thompson, opening December 19; an exhibition of children's Christmas paintings is also at NCAFA (see photo on this page).

- An exhibition at the Hirshhorn Museum of the works of Elie Nadelman, opening December 18.

- "Artists and Models," an exhibition of photographs and documents from the collections of the Archives of American Art, on display December 10 until November 1976 in the Archives Gallery at NPG.

they walk into the plaza of a modern Andean town on market day — where they can see clothing, architecture, ceramics, tapestries, and gold and silver ornamental work that reflects a mixture of prehistoric, colonial and 20th century cultural influence.

On the Peruvian coastlands archeologists, among them the exhibition's script writer, Dr. Geoffrey Conrad, have excavated one of the largest prehistoric cities in the Americas — Chan Chan, the brilliantly planned capital of the great Chimú Empire. Fine pottery, gold bracelets, silver tweezers and pins that were undoubtedly royal possessions are among the articles from the site on view.

Nearby, the visitor sees a modern Ecuadorian coastal scene with a beached balsa-wood raft. From Valdivia, a coastal site in Ecuador, are exhibited pieces of the oldest pottery (3000-1500 B.C.) ever found in the New World. They were uncovered by Drs. Clifford Evans and Betty Meggers, the NMNH husband-and-wife archeological team.

Moving down out of the mountain valleys and coastlands into the heart of the continent, the visitor walks through a three-dimensional reconstruction of a tropical rain forest. Photographs and artifacts illustrate the life of forest Indian tribes.

From the tropical forest the visitor enters an area of grass-covered plains in southern South America. Here, in a life-sized diorama and mural, nomadic Tehuelche Indians on horseback armed with bolas are hunting fleeing rheas.

As they walk through these widely different South American environments visitors can see that it is not by accident or pure chance that the urbanized Incan and Chimú civilizations developed where they did instead of in the Amazonian tropics or the Patagonian grasslands.

Throughout, painted murals and life-sized dioramas give an atmosphere of realism to the entire exhibition. It was designed by Steven Makovenyi and Gail Singer of the Museum's Office of Exhibits (See the article in this issue naming others who worked on the new hall.)

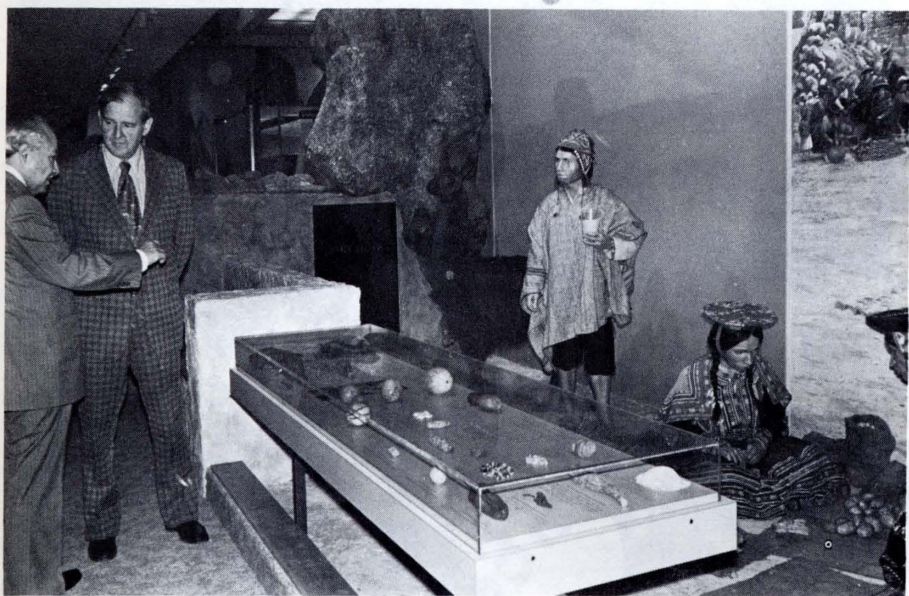
## ...South America...

"South America: Continent and Culture," a permanent new exhibit hall at the National Museum of Natural History, presents an ecological view of South America's diverse cultures.

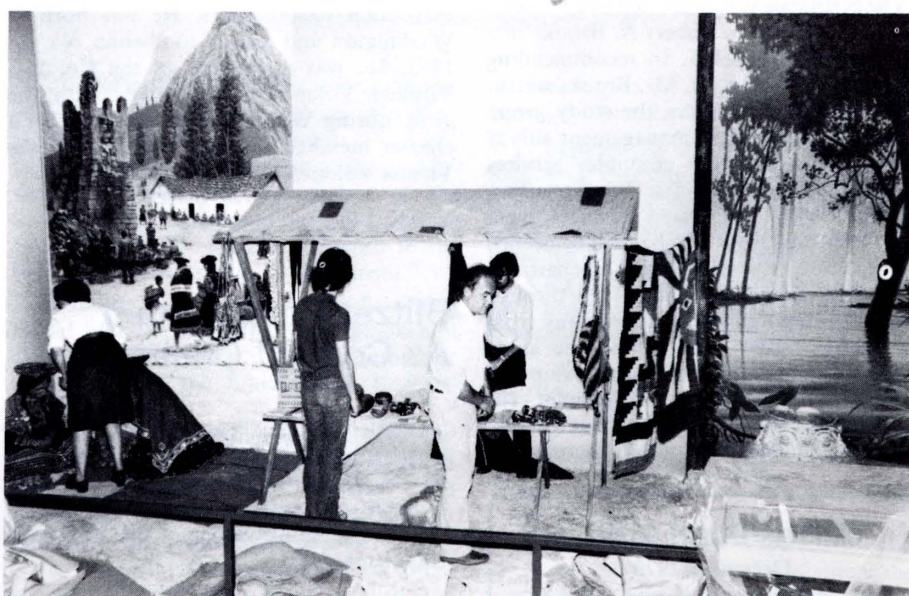
Starting high in the Andean mountains at the awesome Incan citadel of Machu Picchu, visitors can set forth on a "journey" that takes them the length of a continent and through thousands of years of time.

Along a reconstruction of an Incan road

(Continued on page 3)



Jose C. Cardenas, Ambassador of Ecuador, (left) discusses a realistic reconstruction of an Andean market scene while he tours the new South American exhibit hall at the National Museum of Natural History with Dr. Clifford Evans, NMNH curator (see story above). It was the second time Dr. Evans and his wife, Dr. Betty Meggers, have been involved in modernization of the hall.



It's hard to tell the mannequins from the NMNH staff members in this photograph showing last-minute adjustments being made before the opening of the new South American exhibit hall. The figures were made by Susan Wallace who is adjusting their costumes (left). Behind the stand at center is Dr. Geoffrey Conrad who wrote the exhibit script. Tom Thill is at left in front of the stand, and Steven Makovenyi, who developed the hall's design, is at right.





Dr. Porter M. Kier, NMNH Director (right) was honored October 29 when he received a career service award from the National Civil Service League. His wife, Mrs. Mary Kier (holding plaque) and daughter Beth were on hand. Under Secretary Robert A. Brooks (left) introduced Dr. Kier at the ceremony.

## Dr. Kier Receives Civil Service Award

Dr. Porter M. Kier, Director of the National Museum of Natural History, received a career service award from the National Civil Service League in a ceremony October 29.

The award was granted Dr. Kier for his work in modernizing and expanding the exhibits and educational program. Under Secretary Robert A. Brooks presented Dr. Kier to receive the award at the ceremony.

"Dr. Kier has been 20 years in the Civil Service at the Smithsonian Institution as a distinguished scientist, a systematic biologist specializing in the palaeobiology of invertebrate organisms," Mr. Brooks said. "This is a vast field of study, going back in time close to the origins of life on our planet. He is the world's leading expert on fossil echinoids. The distinction of his work has been recognized by national and international awards and honors, including a doctorate of science from Cambridge University in England.

"In the middle of this remarkable scientific career, Dr. Kier was asked three years ago to take on a new challenge, the directorship of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. It is fortunate for the Institution that he accepted. The Museum is the largest single museum in the world in terms of the scope of its activities, collections, staff and budget. In an age of desperate concern with our natural environment, of increasing demands upon the Museum collections which are the only material

record of our human and natural past, and of mounting public need for knowledge and enlightenment on these subjects, the Museum faces opportunities and problems commensurate with its outstanding position. Dr. Kier's leadership in this new career has more than met our expectations and confirmed the versatility of a superior public servant. He has undertaken a complete overhaul of the exhibits program of the Museum, involving a 20-year plan for renovation of all public exhibition halls in line with advanced concepts of scientific presentation. Already two new halls are completed and in place. He is in process of developing more public space and improving public services, such as education, rendered by the Museum. With all this, he is vitally concerned with preserving and promoting the work of the Museum scientists, and the scientific basis for that work — the great collections of natural and anthropological specimens which the Museum holds in trust for current and future generations. To this end he has taken a leading role in planning the Smithsonian's new Museum Support Facility designed for the preservation and study of the national collections.

"To accomplish all this in a brief span, one must be more than a talented hermit in a research lab, and more even than a competent administrator. Dr. Kier brings to the public service a measure of imagination and of joy which illuminates us all, and which is admirably recognized by this award."

## Dr. Mello, of MNH, Receives Superior Performance Award

Dr. James F. Mello, Assistant Director of the National Museum of Natural History, has been awarded a superior performance award and certificate for his work as chairman of the computer services study group at the Smithsonian.

The certificate was presented to Dr. Mello by Under Secretary Robert A. Brooks in a ceremony November 5. In recommending Dr. Mello for the award, Mr. Brooks stated:

"Under his supervision the study group produced an excellent management survey which documents how computer services have evolved over the last 10 years, how current services are viewed by users, what our capabilities are, and what will be needed in the future. His special role as chairman during the period November 1974 through July 1975 required many hours away from his regular duties. Throughout the study process he provided quality leadership and performed in an outstanding manner. His contributions were substantial, and deserve special recognition."

### SMITHSONIAN TORCH December 1975

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

## B. A. Phillips, SI Blacksmith, Dies

Birtwell A. Phillips, 89, a retired blacksmith for the Smithsonian, died November 3 at Richmond Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Phillips retired from the Smithsonian in 1956 after serving as a blacksmith at the Institution for 41 years. He was born in Washington and moved to Vienna, Va., in 1903. He was a member of the Colonial Virginia Volunteers and served with the army during World War I. He was also a charter member and past president of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

## Blitzer Reappointed As Council Chairman

Charles Blitzer, Assistant Secretary for History and Art, has been appointed to a second three-year term as chairman of the Council on International Exchange of Scholars, administrators of the Fulbright-Hays program.

The Council is one of several organizations cooperating with the Smithsonian in planning the 1976 Bicentennial conference "The United States in the World," scheduled for the Smithsonian September 27-October 1.

## Chinese Group Tours Center For Astrophysics

An eight-member delegation of the Scientific and Technical Association of the People's Republic of China visited the Smithsonian-Harvard Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass. October 6 for a series of discussions on current developments in modern astronomy and astrophysics.

The visit to the Center was part of a 30-day tour of United States scientific installations sponsored jointly by the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Social Science Research Council as part of the joint U.S.-Chinese program of cultural and scientific exchanges that began in 1973.

The Chinese scientists, led by Professor Chou Pei-yuan of the Peking University, toured the Cambridge facility and held individual discussions with members of the High-Energy Astrophysics, Solar and Stellar Physics, and Radio Astronomy Divisions.

The tour included laboratories where instrumentation is being developed for space flight experiments to detect celestial X-ray emissions and for ground-based radio searches for interstellar molecules. The scientists also viewed solar ultraviolet and X-ray data returned by the experiments aboard the Skylab satellite and received a briefing on the design of the Multiple-Mirror Telescope now under construction by the Smithsonian and the University of Arizona.

One member of the delegation, Dr. Chang Ho-chi of the Tzu-chin-shan (Purple Mountain) Observatory, presented a special afternoon colloquium on "Polarographic Observations and Study of the Inner Corona and a Condensation Region in the Solar Corona," describing solar research in China for Center staff members.

Dr. George Field, Center director, served as host for the one-day meeting, which came as a response to an invitation extended by former Harvard College Observatory director, Donald Menzel, during his visit to the Chinese People's Republic a year ago.



**ZOO GETS FROG** — A bronze sculptured frog weighing 200 pounds has been donated to Washington and the nation as a Bicentennial gift of the Twentieth Century Club. The frog, designed by William M. McVey of Cleveland, was dedicated October 7 in ceremonies in front of the Reptile House.

## Hamarneh Compiles Arabic Works

Dr. Sami K. Hamarneh, historian of pharmacy at the National Museum of History and Technology, has published a book entitled *Catalogue of Arabic Manuscripts on Medicine and Pharmacy at the British Library*, through a grant from the Smithsonian Research Foundation.

It is described as the first independent catalogue of its kind devoted to medico-pharmaceutical documents with a chronological study of authors and their contributions, and with a critical evaluation of their works. The 324-page work includes over 300 manuscripts, many never before studied or known.

## SI Grid Team Takes Second Place

The Smithsonian's football team finished its 1975 season with a respectable 4-2-1 record, good enough for second place in the strong Government Division of the D.C. Recreation Department's Adult Football League.

But it wasn't good enough for co-coach and defensive lineman Bobby Garrison. "We're very disappointed at this finish," he said, noting it was the third straight year that the Smithsonians had finished as "bridesmaids" in second place. Only division winners enter the playoffs in the D.C. league. "We had hoped to win the division title this year," Garrison added. "We certainly had the material. We just didn't have the breaks."

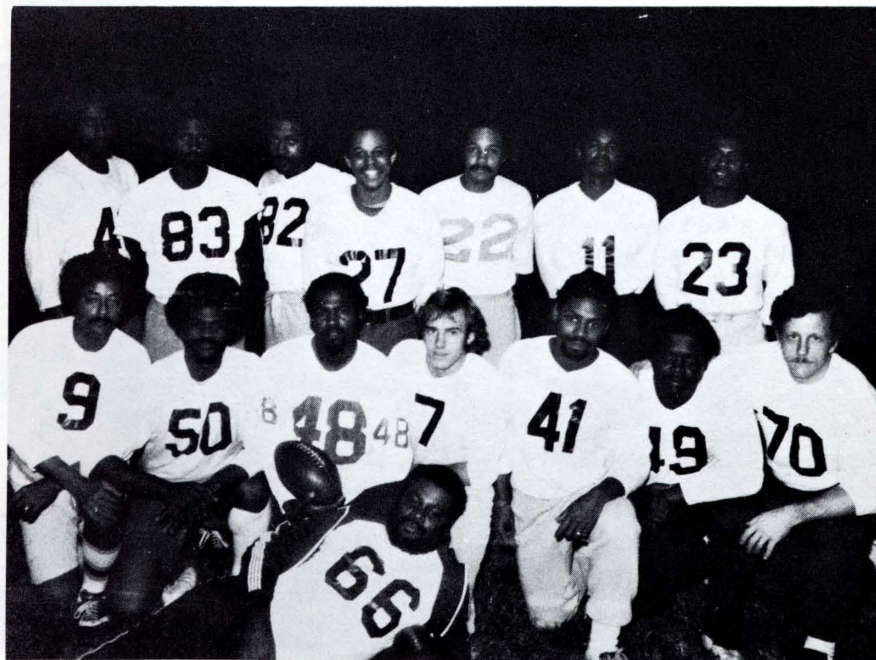
The cruncher came against Navy, Gar-

risson noted, which Smithsonian lost 19-6. The defeat gave Navy the edge it needed to enter the playoffs. Smithsonian's only other loss was its opener to last year's division champs, Labor, 19-6.

After dueling HUD to a scoreless tie, the "Fossils" went on to record the following victories: NIH, 13-6; EPA, 20-6; Marines, 13-6, and Agriculture, 13-12.

Cornerback Chuck Mangene and center Tony Gooden tied for team scoring honors with 18 points each, while split-end Les Johns was second with 14 points.

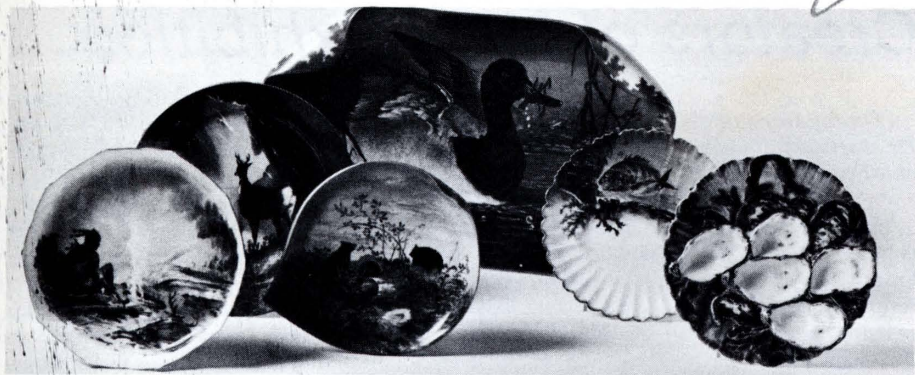
Garrison said the team will start gearing up for the 1976 season in August, and that anyone interested in playing, regardless of any previous experience, should call him on Ext. 6455.



The Smithsonian's 1975 grid squad included, (kneeling from left) Robert Thornton, Tony Gooden, Alan Dobbins, Chuck Mangene, Tommy Powell (with football), Kenny Samuels, Bobby Garrison and Joe Bradley. Standing (from left) are Joe Young, Al Blunt, Buddy Connally, Lyn Henley, Joe Blunt, Ted Mavaurite and Oran Young.



## Major Exhibitions Open (From Page 1)



State service designed for the Hayes administration, from 'American Presidential China,' the SITES exhibition on display at NMHT.

### ...Presidents' China...

"American Presidential China," is an exhibition of 115 ceramic objects which served the tables of the nation's first families, both at home and in the presidential mansion.

The exhibition will be at NMHT from December 6 until January 11, when it will begin a tour of museums in five other cities. Each of the 38 Presidents is represented by at least one article of tableware. The six living First Ladies have lent examples from personal services.

The White House, the Smithsonian, descendants of the Presidents, many presidential birthplaces and private collectors have participated in gathering a revealing assemblage of china which has never before been viewed collectively.

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service organized the exhibition for circulation during the Bicentennial period. It was conceived to illustrate the evolution of tastes and styles in one aspect of American cultural history.

Among the objects of exceptional aesthetic and historic interest are a plate and bowl from the "Cincinnati" service which belonged to George Washington. Another rare plate is from the monogrammed "States" service which was presented to "Lady Washington" in 1796 by a Dutch trader. Both of these porcelain services were decorated in China to American specifications.

One plate represents the short-lived Confederate presidency of Jefferson Davis. Another unusual object in the exhibition is a plate painted by First Lady Caroline Scott Harrison in 1891.

Many other examples represent services imported by Presidents over the years until 1918, when Lenox proved capable of producing china of sufficient quality to grace the presidential table. White House china has been manufactured in the U.S. since. Examples from each of the official services of the 20th century are included.

A 96-page catalog with 20 color and 56 black-and-white illustrations accompanies the exhibition. It was written by Susan Gray Detweiler, with a grant from the Barra Foundation, Inc. Support for the exhibition also has been provided by the Smithsonian's Bicentennial Program; Haviland and Co., Inc., and Lenox, Inc. Anne R. Gossett coordinated the project for SITES.

### ...Arts of Asia...

An unusual Bicentennial exhibition, composed of Oriental art works from the period of the American Revolution, will open December 15 at the Freer Gallery.

The exhibition includes approximately 90 objects from the Freer collection that give ample evidence of the high state of the arts in the Orient at that time — the period of the Chinese Emperor Ch'ien-lung, the Japanese Edo period, the Mughal period in India, and the Iranian Safavid and Turkish Ottoman periods in the Near East.

Objects in the exhibit from the Near East include pages from illuminated manuscripts, ceramic pieces, and works in metal. Paintings from India include a view of the famous architectural masterpiece, the Taj Mahal, as well as portraits, and scenes from Hindu mythology.

Works from Japan include lacquerware, paintings on silk and paper, and *netsuke* — decorated appendages on purse-strings that were part of Japanese costumes at that time.

Some of the most distinctive and well-

known arts of Japan were produced in the Edo period (1615-1868). Artists of the Rimpa school revived the classical traditions of Japanese art, while scenes of daily life were expressed in paintings and prints of the *ukiyo-e* "floating world" tradition.

In China, Emperor Ch'ien-lung was an avid antiquarian and passionate collector of art works. He was largely responsible for the quality and scope of the imperial collection as it exists today. He not only had objects marked by imperial seals, but he often composed inscriptions to be added. Three examples of this practice in the exhibition are a nephrite pebble with a description of its presentation to the imperial collection, a stoneware pillow with a poem by the emperor, and an ancient bowl on which Ch'ien-lung recorded his opinion as to its origin (since confirmed by modern scholars).

Other works from China in the exhibition include silk throne cushions and silk chair covers; a carved rhinoceros horn; a gold and turquoise scepter; bowls and vases in porcelain, lacquer and glass; a jade bowl, and paintings on silk and paper.

"The variety of objects, materials, and modes of expression from these cultures form an important contrast to expressions in the New World and give visitors an opportunity to consider a different background from their own," commented James Robinson, a member of the Freer Gallery staff who coordinated the exhibition.

### ...Changing Land...

"Our Changing Land," is the permanent ecology exhibit hall at NMNH. Its opening November 20 coincided with the completion of an escalator between the ground and first floors of the building.

"For the Bicentennial, the Museum wished to show how the face of North America had changed since the arrival of man, and particularly since the nation's founding," commented Dr. Porter Kier, NMNH Director. "Our country is too large to show the changes everywhere, so a site was selected on the banks of the Potomac where Washington now stands. We believe that the changes that have taken place there reflect the experience of many areas of the U.S.A."

Murals and life-size dioramas recreate the site at four stages in time: 10,000 years ago, 1608 A.D., 1776 and 1976, and show the change from virgin land to farm land and ultimately to an urban center. Ecological processes that maintain the balance of nature are interpreted in the context of these changes.

Entering the hall from the Museum's Constitution Avenue side, a visitor walks into a dense forest of huge life-like hemlocks resembling those that grew on the banks of the Potomac 10,000 years ago during the Ice Age. Glaciers were far enough south to make the seasons much like southern Canada today. Man is not seen.

The visitor sees a totally different forest environment in 1608. The glaciers have retreated, the climate has warmed up, and the cold weather hemlocks have been replaced by a sycamore-and-maple hardwood forest with lush undergrowth. The Indians still hunted and fished but they now inhabited permanent villages. Their farming methods were not permanently destructive to the environment. One of their fields has been recreated in a diorama, and artifacts show the role of corn in their lives.

A mural shows a ship off Georgetown in 1776. Plantations had replaced the Indian cornfields after the European settlement. However, by 1776 the continued planting of tobacco had impoverished the fields. A diorama recreates an empty farmhouse and

infertile field. Its owners had found it more profitable to move west. A display of plows helps illustrate how technological improvements and a better understanding of soil management eventually made possible the rescue of Potomac Valley farmland.

As population grew, many plants and animals disappeared. On display is an array of large animals that once roamed the area but are now locally extinct. In a case is the national bird, the Bald Eagle, whose numbers continue to decline.

The 1976 exhibit shows the urban environment that now dominates a large area of the Potomac Valley. A mural shows the highways, bridges and parkland that now surround the Washington waterfront. A diorama recreates a park site where a cat is foraging in garbage under a picnic table. On display is a selection of flowers, birds, insects, and animals now in the region.

This final section of the exhibition shows the importance of energy resources to modern life, exemplified by a large oil pump on display. Some of the problems looming for urban areas as populations continue to increase are also discussed.

(Names of those working on the hall will be carried in a future issue of the *Torch*.)

### ...NCFA Exhibits...

"Peggy Bacon: Personalities and Places," showing at NCFA from December 5 through next February 8, is the most comprehensive exhibition of this artist's works ever held.

Included are 131 pastels, prints, drawings, paintings and embroideries. Her pastel satirical portraits, the hallmark of her work, provide a witty and revealing record of society of the 20s and 30s. In his foreword to the exhibition catalog, Dr. Joshua Taylor, NCFA Director, writes:

"The faces of people who did things of note were not yet mechanically repeated to

the point of visual absurdity in the public media, and a face was still believable as a sign of character and accomplishment. It was, possibly, the last great moment for caricature. . . ."

Roberta Tarbell wrote a detailed essay for the catalog, and, in addition to the listing of exhibition works, Janet Flint, NCFA Curator of Prints and Drawings, compiled an illustrated checklist of all of Peggy Bacon's known prints.

"Bob Thompson: 1937-1966" is an exhibition which will be at NCFA from December 19 through next February 22.

Thompson was a black artist who spent some of his creative years in Europe. Despite his brilliance, he achieved limited recognition during his short lifetime. Thompson attended both the Boston University School of Fine Arts and the University of Louisville. Studying the works of old masters, he was particularly influenced by Piero della Francesca, Poussin and Breugel. He used their compositions, but translated them into visions which were totally his.

This exhibition of 22 oils and five works on paper was organized by Mrs. Adelyn Breeskin, Consultant in 20th Century Paintings and Sculpture.

### ...The Americans...

The National Portrait Gallery's exhibition based on Dr. Boorstin's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Americans: The Democratic Experience*, presents the forward-thinking men and women who, through their inventions and innovations, revolutionized America in the decades following the Civil War.

Their portraits, together with items related to their ideas, visualize what Dr. Boorstin has described as the persistent democratizing of American life. The exhibition opened

(Continued on page 4)

## Dr. Carr Receives Browning Award



Secretary Ripley and Dr. Archie F. Carr.

A biologist who is famous among conservationists and television viewers as well as fellow scientists, Dr. Archie F. Carr, Graduate Research Professor at the University of Florida and a member of the Smithsonian Council, has been awarded the 1975 Edward W. Browning Award in the field of "Conserving the Environment."

Secretary Ripley presented the Browning medal and the accompanying tax-exempt award of \$5,000 to Dr. Carr in a ceremony October 16 in the Smithsonian Regents' Room.

An international authority on turtles, Dr. Carr found that his early studies of turtle migration, reproduction, feeding, and ecology led him to a special concern for preserving the green turtle species. A sympathetic account of the green turtle's plight in his book *The Windward Road*, published in 1957, stimulated formation of the Caribbean Conservation Corporation. The organization is a non-profit institution dedicated to restoration of the green turtle as a vital

protein source for peoples of the tropics, especially the Caribbean.

In announcing the award, the Smithsonian said that Dr. Carr's major research contribution has been to demonstrate the global migration of marine turtles, making them the peers of classic migratory species. Dr. Carr has shown the turtle to be one of the most promising of all animals for rewarding experimentation in navigation problems.

Dr. Carr is author of more than 75 scientific papers and two other major books on turtles. His field work has been the subject of major television programs filmed at his research camp in Costa Rica.

The Browning Achievement Awards, administered by the New York Community Trust, are made annually for distinguished international achievement in four areas in addition to environmental conservation: prevention of disease; alleviation of addiction; spreading the Christian gospel, and improvement of food sources.





**WOMEN'S COUNCIL** — Recently-elected members of the Smithsonian Institution Women's Council are (front row, from left) Penny Packard, Andrea Brown (Secretary-Treasurer), Mary Quinn (Chairperson), Edith Martin (Assistant Secretary-Treasurer), Dianne Walker, Ann Perper, Karen Hill; (back row, from left) Lisa May, Barbara Newfield, Brenda Coley, Rosemary DeRosa, Claretta Jackson, Sheila Alexander, Teresa Grana, and Catherine Harris (Vice-Chairperson). Members not shown are Susan Cox, Catherine Creek, Brenda Hall, Edith Mayo, and Joanna Scherer (Historian).

### NEW EXHIBITS

(Continued From Page 3)

November 14 and runs through next May 30.

In his foreword to the exhibition catalogue, Marvin Sadik, Director of the Gallery, writes:

"During these early years of its existence, the National Portrait Gallery has focused its attention mainly on political, military, artistic, and scientific personalities, and the historic episodes in which they played a part. This exhibition . . . offered an irresistible opportunity to introduce, through the medium of the brilliant orchestrated format (of Dr. Boorstin's book) a new cast of characters."

That cast of characters includes the famous as well as the little known talents that helped mold the way America works, relaxes, studies, eats and lives — in short, what has become known as The American Way of Life.

The exhibition is mounted on the newly reopened third floor of the Gallery. What was once the largest room in America (1,062 feet long, 62 feet wide) has been restored to its exuberant Victorian Renaissance splendor — a colorful combination of patterned stone, marble, marbled plaster, tile, colored glass decorations and relief panels. After its restoration following a disastrous fire in 1877 the third floor was closed to the public. Now for the first time in nearly 100 years this space is open as an exhibition area.

### ...Nadelman...

An exhibition of the sculpture and drawings of Elie Nadelman, once recognized as a major artist, but forgotten in recent years opens December 18 at the Hirshhorn Museum.

Nadelman's works are being presented in a comprehensive exhibition for the first time since they were the subject of a show in 1948 at The Museum of Modern Art in New York.

The exhibition, organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art with the cooperation of the Hirshhorn, consists of 102 sculptures and 41 drawings. It includes Nadelman's neo-classical works, portraits, decorative pieces, and a representative group entitled *Ideal Heads*, encompassing a variety of media including wood, bronze, marble and ceramic. Also in the exhibition are 15 sculptures from the Hirshhorn, which houses one of the most important collections of Nadelman's work.

"This is not only the most comprehensive presentation of Nadelman's work to date, showing all facets of his artistry, but one which supports the reevaluation of Nadelman as one of the brightest spirits in 20th century sculpture and one of its most personal and elegant stylists; an adventure in rediscovery as well as an aesthetic feast," said Abram Lerner, Hirshhorn Director.

Before coming to the Hirshhorn, the exhibition was shown at the Whitney Museum in New York and was highly praised.

The exhibition will be shown through February 15, 1976, in the Hirshhorn Museum's special exhibition gallery on the building's lower level. The installation was designed by Joe Shannon. Illustrated

catalogs of the exhibition, priced at \$6, will be sold in the nearby museum shop.

### ...Artists, Models

"Artists and Models" an exhibition of photographs and documents from the collections of the Archives of American Art, opens December 10 at the Archives Gallery on the first floor of the National Portrait Gallery, and will remain on view until November 1976.

The exhibition centers on the 19th and 20th centuries and includes a manuscript by Rembrandt Peale concerning incidents when George Washington sat for portraits by members of the Peale family and for Gilbert Stuart.

Garnett McCoy, archivist who selected the exhibition, describes the period from the 1870s through the first half of the 20th century as "the heyday of professional modeling in America."

In a preface to the catalog (36 pages, fully illustrated, available at Smithsonian bookshops for \$3) Mr. McCoy writes of the 19th century: "Morality advanced at the expense of art. The study of the human figure, which required life classes and observation of the nude model, was widely regarded as licentious and a throwback to Greek and Roman paganism. . . We catch a glimpse of the opinion held even among painters, that the professional model lacked respectability."

## SI, Scholastic Issue Portfolio 'Museum' Series

Publication of "The American Experience," a pictorial history of America in 20 portfolios designed to serve as a portable museum for individuals, schools, libraries and other institutions throughout the country, has been announced by the Smithsonian and Scholastic Magazines, Inc.

The portfolios, one of 23 Smithsonian Bicentennial programs, bring together for the first time photographs, documents, paintings, historical publications, maps and other Americana organized around 20 broad periods and themes in American history.

Each portfolio contains some 50 11-by-14-inch reproductions, plus textual material which describes the development and growth of major facets of American life. Altogether, the portfolios include more than 1,000 images. Among the themes addressed are education, transportation, government, the family, and industrialization.

The materials were selected by the Smithsonian from its own collections, as well as those of the National Archives, the Library of Congress and museums and libraries across the country.

The portable museum format was developed to enable groups and individuals to use the portfolios in a variety of ways, ranging from individual studies in homes, libraries or classrooms, to group research projects and displays in classrooms or other institutional settings.

## Kier Gives Recognition to Creators of MNH Exhibition

(The following statement was presented by Dr. Kier at the opening October 11 of the new NMNH exhibition on South America.)

"South America: Continent and Culture" is the second exhibit to open as part of our long-range plan for the reconstruction and refurbishing of virtually all the present halls in the Museum. The many people who made this handsome and exciting hall possible deserve special notice on the occasion of its opening.

Dr. Geoffrey Conrad wrote the script and selected the specimens under the guidance of curator Dr. Clifford Evans and assisted by volunteer Beth Chambers. Drs. Douglas Ubelaker, Betty Meggers, Joseph Rosewater, Cleofe Calderon, George Watson, and Richard Ahlborn all gave advice on the scientific content. Dr. Leo Hickey, chairman of the Exhibits Committee, and Committee members, reviewed the script and models and design plans and made many comments that helped enrich the hall's message.

The specimens were prepared for exhibit by the Anthropology Conservation Lab headed by Bethune Gibson. The lab's Edith Dietze, Jane Norman, Toby Raphael, Janet Linzer, Tescia Yonkers, and Carolyn Rose all worked on the project. Specimen handling and recording was cared for by George Phebus' Processing Laboratory and especially Barbara Stuckenrath.

The Exhibits Office staff, under the direction of Harry Hart, was responsible for "getting it all together." Steven Makovenyi developed the hall's physical plan and design, Gail Singer specified type styles, colors and other exhibit fine points, and Gene Behlen was responsible for the overall development of the hall. The Office of Exhibits' cabinetmakers, under the direction of Karl Jurack, and the Production Lab under Carl Alexander, collaborated in creating most of the diorama-like areas. Tom Haney and Anita Demchick made the giant relief maps which act as symbols of the hall as well as its thematic introduction. Pattie Powell and Max Chance created the beach which is crowned by the beautiful balsa raft.

The raft was acquired by Dr. Douglas Ubelaker (Anthropologist and the present Exhibit Committee Chairman) while on his field work in Ecuador. The painted wall murals throughout are by Jerome and Elma Connolly. Robert Lewis, Anthropology illustrator, made many special drawings throughout the hall. Printing services were produced for us by Max Janoff and photo work was done by Vic Krantz and Roy (Chip) Clark, Jr.

The Highlands and Coastal areas are set

off by a stone wall typical of the Andes but which in reality was Mr. John De Bergh's stone wall in the Washington, Va. mountains. Our production people tore it down and Thomas Thill worked out a system to rebuild the walls in our hall using papier-mache mortar. Most of the specimen brackets were made by Tom Thill, Toussaint Wallace, Pattie Powell, Anita Demchick, and Algie Porter, who also produced the graphics. Dr. Thomas Simkin advised upon the geological aspects throughout the hall.

Intricate cabinet work was accomplished by Paul Gallagher, Derek Fiedler, Tom Haney, and John Ryanarzewski. The paint finish was applied by Alfred Pearson. Maurice Anderson and Michael Kelton pushed and grunted to get everything in place on time while David Carlin drove all over town and called all over this country acquiring the stuff that exhibits are made of. Help in acquiring specimens was proffered by John Miles, Phillip Angle, and Robert Kanazawa.

Carroll Lusk and Edward Robinson worked out the lighting of the hall with designer Steve Makovenyi.

The rain forest is based upon information and observations gathered during several trips to South America and Panama by Staff Curators Drs. Cowan, Soderstrom, Duckworth and Exhibit modelmakers. John Widener and John Babyak led the Exhibits team, and William Donnelly, Michael Friello, Walter Hock, Bruce Hough, Rachel Lewis, Emanuel Morgan, Reginald Sayre, Sylvan Sean, Walter Sorrell, and James Reuter actually constructed the forest here in Washington. The market place mannequins are the work of Susan Wallace. James Mahoney's Exhibits Central model shop made many of the small and detailed replicas. Nancy Lewis, Christina Mills, and Rima Mitchell, volunteering their talents, painted model vegetables and worked on the Church replica.

Ken Clevinger of Exhibits Central made the ultra-violet-filtered Plexiglas cases which protect the objects from fingers as well as harmful light rays.

Vernon Rickman sculpted the Tehuelche Indian who rides endlessly on a horse taxidermied for us by Joseph Hurt, chasing a stuffed and worried-looking Rhea.

We especially thank Dr. Richard Ahlborn of the National Museum of History and Technology for his assistance and loan of specimens.

(For Dr. Evans, it was the second time he has been involved in the hall's modernization. He and his wife, Dr. Betty Meggers, stimulated a general revamping in 1952-54. In the 20 years since, the hall had become physically deteriorated.)



**RALPH E. BECKER HONORED** — The silver James Smithson medal was presented to Washington attorney Ralph E. Becker (right) by Secretary Ripley in a ceremony November 3 at the National Museum of History and Technology. The presentation was in recognition of Mr. Becker's donation to the Institution of his valuable collection of political campaign materials, as well as other services to the Smithsonian. Mr. Becker has donated more than 30,000 items of political memorabilia which have been used in many major exhibitions over the past 15 years.