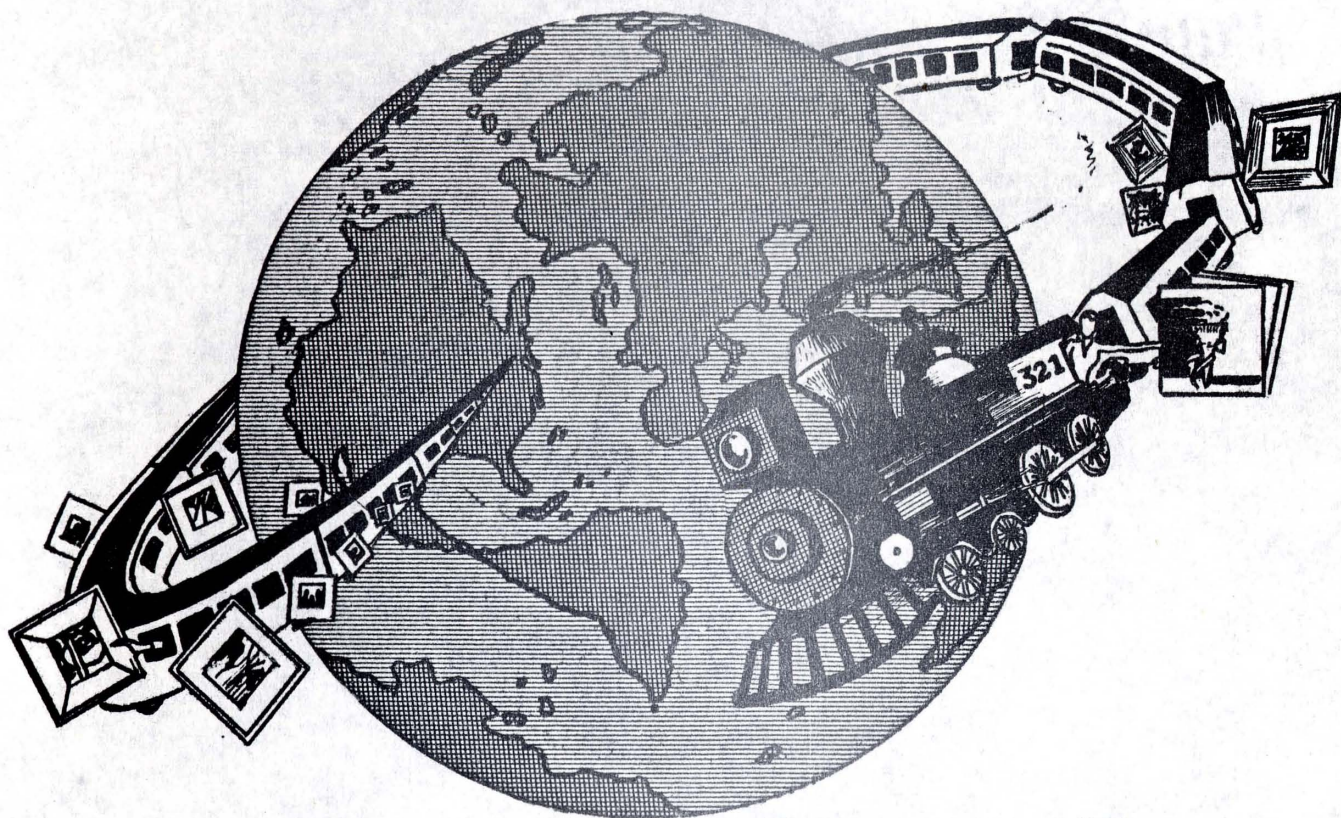




May 1936

THE SMITHSONIAN  
TORCH



S. I. TRAVELING EXHIBITION



May 1956

Number 15

## RECEIVES GERMAN AWARD

In recognition of the significant contribution she has made to the reestablishment of cultural relations between the United States and Germany, Dr. Annemarie Pope, chief of the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service, has been awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. The presentation was made by German Ambassador Heinz L. Krekeler on April 28 in the chancery of the German Embassy.

Mrs. Pope organized the Traveling Exhibition Service five years ago, and under her direction many important collections of American art have been sent abroad for exhibition and outstanding examples of the art of other countries have come to the United States to be shown in museums here.

It was on Mrs. Pope's initiative that the first exhibition to be sent abroad by the German Government since the war, a magnificent collection of German drawings from five centuries, was brought to the United States. So far, it has been seen in five of this country's most important museums. This show opened at the National Gallery of Art in October 1955, and its tour will end at New York's Metropolitan Museum in June. The United States showing of another German collection of drawings, those by the Swiss artist Carl Bodmer and owned by Prince Karl Viktor zu Wied, was organized and circulated under her direction. She has planned

other exhibitions of German art for the near future.

Mrs. Pope has also sent to Germany many important exhibitions of American art, and these have been seen in the American Houses in Germany under the auspices of the United States Information Agency.

In making the award, Ambassador Krekeler said that Mrs. Pope has "assisted preeminently in restoring the traditional friendship" between the United States and Germany and that the Traveling Exhibition Service under her "imaginative direction... has become a major medium of cultural exchange."

Mrs. Pope was born in Dortmund, Germany, and received her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Heidelberg. She came to the United States as an exchange student and did postgraduate studies at Radcliffe College. Her husband, John A. Pope, is the assistant director of the Freer Gallery of Art.

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## THREE NEW REGENTS

By a joint resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives, approved by President Eisenhower on April 6, three new members have been appointed to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. The newly named members, all distinguished scientists, are Everette Lee DeGolyer of Dallas, Tex.;



Crawford Hallock Greenewalt of Wilmington, Del.; and Caryl Parker Haskins of Washington, D. C.

Dr. DeGolyer is a petroleum geologist. He is a senior member of the firm DeGolyer & McNaughton. He is also chairman of the board of directors of the Saturday Review of Literature and president of the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts. He is a member of many scientific societies including the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Greenewalt is a chemical engineer. He is president of the E.I. du Pont de Nemours Co. and a trustee of a number of educational and civil organizations. He has published scientific papers not only in the field of chemistry but also in ornithology. He is a member of many scientific societies including the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

Dr. Haskins is a research biologist. He was long the head of the Haskins Laboratories, Inc., of New York and is now president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, in which office he succeeded Dr. Vannevar Bush, who until last January 1 was a member of the Board of Regents. Dr. Haskins is a member of many scientific societies, including the American Philosophical Society.

These new appointments bring to full complement this 14-member Board, which is the governing body of the Institution. During the 110 years since the Smithsonian Institution was established, many of the Nation's most eminent statesmen and scientists have served on this Board, which by law is composed of the Vice

President of the United States, Chief Justice of the United States, three members of the Senate, three members of the House of Representatives, and six citizen members. The present Chancellor is the Honorable Earl Warren, Chief Justice of the United States. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board is Mr. Robert V. Fleming, Chairman of the Board of the Riggs National Bank in Washington.

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#### DRAWINGS FOR "MAGIC FLUTE"

An exhibition of Oskar Kokoschka's original designs for the stage settings of the 1955 Salzburg Festival production of Mozart's "Magic Flute" was opened at the Dupont Theatre Gallery on May 3 by the Austrian ambassador, Dr. Karl Gruber.

The exhibition will tour United States museums and galleries for one year under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

Kokoschka, the 69-year-old expressionist painter, loaned the 32 crayon sketches for the exhibit through the cooperation of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

According to Mrs. Annemarie Pope, chief of the Traveling Exhibition Service, the artist has used his flaring yet sensitive technique to capture the essence of Mozart's last and most highly developed operatic masterpiece.

Kokoschka's stage designs were made for the Felsenreitschule in Salzburg where no changes of

stage equipment are possible during performances. Under these forbidding circumstances, which at first made the artist doubt the practicability of the undertaking, Kokoschka based his solution for changes of scenery upon lighting effects: yellow to red for the "Sarastro" scenes, symbolizing the Myth of the Sun and expressing the idea of human brotherhood; and blue and violet emphasizing the lunar Myth of the Queen of the Night.

Perspective and depth were achieved by foreshortening architecture "in the manner of the old-fashioned peepshow-stage." To create the illusion of a temple region inside a rocky cave, a rainbow-colored frame eliminated the upper part of the setting, while the enclosed colonnades were illuminated from within the darkened stage and red and blue vapor was made to emanate from all gates and the roof during the fire and water tests. In contrast to this, the triumph of light over the powers of darkness is demonstrated by gradual illumination of the Temple of the Sun with the sunrise as the Finale.

Although the application of expressionist principles of design to a musical work representing the Viennese rococo might seem a bold step, Kokoschka has achieved this combination with extraordinary success. NEWSWEEK commented, on seeing the sets: "No archduke could have objected. Somehow, without ceasing to be Kokoschka's, they seemed to add some eighteenth-century depth and gaiety to Mozart's magic."

Kokoschka's own comment was: "They still speak about perspective, light, space, and all that sort of thing. For me a design, especially for the opera, begins and ends with color.

In my 'Magic Flute' I have tried to open a window which throws a ray of light on the mythical marriage between music and color."

A catalog with introductions by Kokoschka, Furtwängler, and Bernhard Paumgartner has been published. It contains 17 illustrations of the sketches in full color.

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#### SUMMER SCHOOL

Better jobs are always available for persons with a better education. Turn your spare time into an investment for your future. Summer school catalogs are available in the rack outside the personnel office.

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#### BARRO COLORADO ISLAND (Part I)

The Panama Canal Review, in its March issue, contained an interesting article about Barro Colorado Island. The story was written by the magazine's assistant editor, Eleanor H. McIlheny, and is reprinted here by permission of the editor of the Review, J. Rufus Hardy.

The original article was titled "Canal Zone's Barro Colorado Island Is Unique Natural Wildlife Preserve." THE TORCH will reproduce the article in three installments, the first of which follows:

"If you like your monkeys tied to organ grinders, your snakes in zoos, and your orchids in corsages, and if you think that a steep hill can be climbed only by a funicular, then Barro Colorado Island is not for you.



"But, if you thrill to the sight of shadowy shapes swinging through trees, if you don't flinch at a coral snake curled up on a patch of sunlight, if you can gape and enjoy gaping at thousands of air plants on towering trees, and if you have the fortitude -- not to mention the wind -- to climb 201 steep, narrow steps straight up an almost perpendicular hillside, then, by all means, try to visit Barro Colorado.

"Technically the island is known as the Canal Zone Biological Area. It is under the jurisdiction of the Smithsonian Institution; all arrangements to visit it must be made in advance through James Zetek (whose title is Research Specialist but who is really the Baron of Barro Colorado), or through his Girl Friday, Mrs. Adela Gomez.

"The value of the island in the world of science is too well known to go into here. But even the most amateur of naturalists cannot help but soak up some of the wonders of the jungle during a visit there.

#### In Everyone's Backyard

"The Canal Zone is so small, comparatively, that Barro Colorado is practically in everyone's backyard and the physical trip to the island in the middle of Gatun Lake is simple, once arrangements have been made. Morning trains from either side of the Isthmus drop visitors at the Frijoles Station, only a few hundred feet from a landing where the launch Snook is waiting, its triangular pennant lettered C.Z.B.A whipping from its staff in the stiff morning breeze.

"Twenty minutes, and three and a half miles later, the Snook pulls into a lovely little shadowed inlet, set about with heliconia and bordered with plants which 'like their feet wet.' As the launch ties up, the surrounding water is filled with hundreds of fish, of the perch family, waiting for their breakfast of bread. They gulp down slice after slice, with more speed than manners.

"From the head of the dock, the hill on top of which sit the laboratory's buildings seems to go straight heavenward. The pampered baggage and supplies ride up aboard the single car of the Dock and Skyline Limited -- a cableway-- but the people walk -- up, and up, and up. Novices take it fast, at first. Barro Colorado veterans lag behind so they can stop to puff and blow. By the time everyone has reached the top of the steps, no one has enough breath to talk.

"At the main building, overlooking the Canal channel and mile on mile of the Gatun Lake shoreline, there are rooms where visitors may change to slacks and sneakers before they set out along the island's trails. Then, single file like a group of Indians, led by Fausto Bocanegra, who has been guiding parties around Barro Colorado for three years, they move into the jungle.

"'Boca' carries a machete, but not for any defensive purposes. He uses it to slash down the lianas and branches which have sprung across the trail since the last party went through a few days before. And although his function is that of guide, the trails -- each of which bears the name of scientists who helped Barro Colorado into being -- are so well marked that a visitor has little chance of being lost should he stray away from his group.

#### Jungle Hothouse

"The smell of the jungle, like thousands of hothouses rolled into one, is everywhere. Every once in a while the hikers walk through patches of heavy, heady perfume. Here and there the trail is snowy with tiny white petals, like those from a spiraea back home in Ohio or Kentucky; the tree from which they came is so tall and so grown about with brush that one cannot see its blossoms without glasses.

"Occasionally the visitors have to step aside to avoid crushing a single file of bustling, leaf-cutting ants, each with its bright green parasol over its back. The line winds on for hundreds of feet, ending in an underground nest where the leaves are stored away to become breeding beds for ant baby food.

"A one-day visitor to the island, noisy on the trails, tramping on twigs, slithering through muddy spots, will probably see very few animals, although there will be thousands of unseen wild eyes watching him. An occasional bird will fly over head, or a flock of parrots will set up a clatter at having their privacy disturbed. Almost invariably, though, a visitor will hear a racket like a cageful of lions at feeding time. Those will be the howler monkeys. Someone, quick with his field glasses, may spot a few howlers in a tree well off the trail but before the others can get their binoculars into focus there is nothing to be seen but the swing of the branches where the monkeys are moving. A few minutes later, someone else may see a white-face monkey, but again the

others have to take his word for it.

"On Gigante Peak, 537 feet above sea level the island's highest spot, a little clearing provides a welcome stopping place for the duffers. The more athletic in the party can climb a 30-foot steel tower -- at their own risk -- to see what a jungle looks like from above.

"Not far from the clearing the Paul Bunyan part of the jungle begins. Here, ants an inch long roam the jungle floor. Just off the trail huge old bolga trees with buttressed roots deep enough to conceal a grown man stretch almost a hundred feet into the air before they send out their first branches, covered with air plants. A coral snake, coiled on a patch of suntouched leaves, looks out of scale in his monstrous surroundings.

"Much of the jungle is dark and photography, especially with color film, is difficult. But there is sun around the big trees most of the year; some of the party obligingly slip into the pockets between the bolga roots so they can be photographed before the camera fans start 'panning' up and up the trees.

"Hot showers at the main building -- to wash off the omnipresent ticks and redbugs -- and a hot lunch, to provide energy for another few hours on the trails, are a welcome break for the sticky hikers. But lunch is interrupted by a pair of peccaries and a gang of gato solos which have also answered the lunch bell.

"The peccaries are sedate and not particularly friendly, but the gato solos -- coati mundis, if you prefer -- are clowns and will do anything, even to walking a clothesline to get a piece of bread. Some visitors even accuse them of 'mugging' when the cameras appear, as they invariably do.



"After lunch and a brief rest; the island visitors start out again, this time on the opposite side of the island, and by the time they board the Snook to catch the evening trains back home most of the tenderfeet are just exactly that."

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#### ARGENTINE PAINTING

A special loan exhibition entitled "A Century and a Half of Argentine Painting" was opened at the National Gallery on April 17. This exhibition was made possible through the cooperation of the National Gallery of Fine Arts of Buenos Aires, the Museum of History of Argentina, and many private collectors. It comes to this country under the auspices of the Argentine ambassador, Dr. Adolfo Vicchi, as a gesture of friendship and good-will on the part of his government.

The show's 113 paintings will be on view at the National Gallery through May 16. Mrs. Annemarie Pope, chief of the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service, has reported that after that date the exhibition will be seen in Louisville, San Francisco, and Chicago.

This exhibition will give the visitor an opportunity to survey the evolution of Argentine painting over the last 150 years. The earliest works are predominantly portraits of outstanding personalities of the time, and scenes depicting the life and landscape of Argentina's early settlers. They date from 1810, when Argentina gained its independence from Spain, and are

the work of both primitive painters and those well-versed in contemporary European tradition.

David Finley, director of the National Gallery, says in his introduction to the exhibits catalog: "The Collection has come to this country at an opportune time when there is increasing interest in the history and culture of Argentina. There also is a feeling of greater solidarity than ever before between the peoples of our two countries. These works of art will contribute to a better understanding, on the part of the American people, of the history, the life and aspirations of the people of Argentina."

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#### UNEARTHING OLD TOWN

Two Smithsonian staff members are busy in a remote section of Stafford County, Va., unearthing the remains of 265-year-old Marlborough Town.

Curator Frank Setzler of the department of anthropology, is directing the excavating; Malcolm Watkins, associate curator of cultural history, is analyzing the pottery, glass, and metal pieces that are turning up. The third member of the scientific team is Prof. Oscar H. Darter, head of the history department at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va.

Probably the most interesting find has been the discovery of brick walls that could have been part of a mansion believed to have been built about 1726.

The original town of Marlborough was founded in 1691, but

so far the scientists haven't found anything that positively can be identified as belonging to the first settlement.

Mr. Setzler and Dr. Darter found an outcropping of sandstone in the area last summer so they applied for a grant from the American Philosophical Society, and this spring they got \$1,500 to start the excavating. Given more time, and money, Mr. Setzler and his co-workers hope to do more exploratory digging that may reveal structures and artifacts that belonged to the original settlement.

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#### JR. SCIENCE EXHIBIT

Sam Jones, a shiny mechanical man 45 inches tall, was among those present at the opening on May 2, of a special exhibition of teenage scientists' work sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Washington Junior Academy of Sciences. Sam, whose voice resembles that of his maker, Robert Reed, 15, 4014 Beechwood Road, University Park, is one of 24 award-winning science projects selected from nearly 1,800 entries in last month's Washington Area science fairs. Also present was "The Mighty MOUSE" -- made by Barry Sauer, 17, of Glendale, Md. -- not the cartoon hero, but a sleek silver rocket soon to be launched.

Projects included in this exhibition cover almost every aspect of science, from experiments with anesthetics on microscopic animals by 15-year-old Dorcas Glasgow of Hyattsville

to a machine which thinks in Boolean algebra, constructed by Edward Ganz, 14, of Washington.

This exhibition of work by teenagers from Washington, Arlington, and nearby Maryland can be seen in the Rotunda of the Arts and Industries Building through the month of May.

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Good management consists of showing average people how to do the work of superior people. ...John D. Rockefeller, Sr.

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#### SYNTHETIC DIAMOND

The General Electric Company has presented its first synthetic diamond to the Smithsonian Institution. The presentation was made on May 3. The stone measures about 1/16 of an inch in its longest dimension.

The development of synthetic diamonds is of great importance because it will eventually lead to making industrial diamonds on a commercial scale. Heavy industry in the United States now uses millions of carats of industrial diamonds annually. These diamonds come from Africa, and if our African supply were cut off it would devastate mass production. Hence, General Electric's accomplishment has tremendous economic and military significance.

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## PURE PROGRESS

The Smithsonian Institution and the Food and Drug Administration have announced the opening of a new exhibit commemorating the 50th anniversary of the passage of the original Federal Food and Drugs Act. This legislation was signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt on June 30, 1906.

The exhibit, located in the Smithsonian's gallery of medical history was opened on May 4 at special ceremonies at the Institution by Dr. Carmichael, Assistant Secretary Bradshaw Mintner of the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and Commissioner George P. Larrick of the Food and Drug Administration.

The exhibit highlights the story of the 23-year battle carried on by Dr. Harvey W. Wiley to secure a Federal law which would curb the sale of contaminated foods and harmful drugs. Dr. Wiley came from Purdue University in 1883 to be Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. One of his first official acts was to assign several chemists to study food adulteration. Their work was reported in the Bureau's famous "Bulletin 13," a 1,400 page document which was issued in 10 parts, covering 15 years of research. This scientific indictment was the basis of Wiley's case for a Federal pure-food law.

This period was the heyday of the "patent medicines." Typical products, shown in the Smithsonian exhibit, carried

extravagant claims of effectiveness for every disease known to man. Labels gave no hint of the presence of dangerous or habit-forming ingredients; warnings against excessive use or misuse were unheard of, and ineffective products were labeled as sure cures for the most serious conditions.

In 1903 Dr. Wiley opened what became the world's most famous "boarding house." Officially it was known as the "hygienic table," but popularly it was described as the "Poison Squad." A group of young men volunteered to eat all their meals at a dining room in the Bureau's Washington headquarters where they were served food containing measured amounts of the chemical preservatives then in use. Medical records were kept of the reactions and symptoms of the "human guinea pigs."

These records, with pictures of the "Squad," and Wiley's original balance (used to weigh the chemicals), are included in the Smithsonian exhibit, along with cartoons and magazine articles by crusading journalists who joined in his campaign.

A second section of the exhibit, titled "50 Years of Progress in Food and Drug Protection," includes displays showing improvements brought about by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of 1938 (the present law). Under this law official standards were established for food products; safety of new drugs must be proved before they are put on sale; medical devices and cosmetics are required to be safe and to bear truthful labels. Packages illustrating these requirements are included in the Smithsonian exhibit.

## PAINTINGS OF SEAL HERDS

Twenty-eight watercolors by Henry Wood Elliott (1846 - 1930), naturalist, painter, and secretary to Joseph Henry, the first Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, went on view in the Foyer Gallery of the Natural History Building on April 29.

After its showing here, which concludes on May 17, the exhibition will be circulated among United States and Canadian museums by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

Lent by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, these works constitute the first pictorial record ever made of the seal herds that populated the Pribilof Islands in the 1870's. At the age of 26, Elliott was sent to these islands, part of America's purchase of Alaska in 1867, to secure as much information as possible about the fur seals. His powers of observation were tremendous.

The naturalist wrote freely and in great detail, and his extraordinary talent with the brush enabled him to illustrate his reports with sketches and paintings. Though not formally educated in the natural sciences, his diligence and alertness quickly gave him high rank among field observers.

Elliott devoted the rest of his life to the preservation of the fur seal, which he feared was becoming extinct, and it is in part due to his devotion that the only important fur-seal herd in the world is now preserved and that the American Government today harvests more than two million

A third section of the Smithsonian display describes how the Food and Drug Administration protects the consumer today. It features special tools used by food and drug inspectors for sampling various products, including equipment for detecting filth-contaminated foods by ultraviolet light and portable scales used to check the net weight of packaged products.

In the event of atomic attack the Food and Drug Administration is responsible for determining the safety of foods and drugs exposed to dangerous radiation. Packages in the exhibit show how containers are affected by atomic blast and heat. Examples of flood-damaged foods and drugs are also shown. Food and Drug Administration inspectors routinely follow up in disaster areas to prevent salvage of goods which may be dangerous to health.

The new exhibit was prepared under the direction of George Griffenhagen, acting curator of the Smithsonian's division of medicine, and Wallace F. Janssen, assistant to the Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration. It is located in the A & I Building and will be open to the public for the remainder of the year.

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Next to understanding yourself, endeavor to understand those around you.

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dollars worth of pelts from these islands annually.

Through the years, Elliott became a familiar figure in the halls of Congress, where he appeared at session after session to seek legislation that would protect the fur seals. The battle was long and hard, and Elliott returned to the Bering Sea Islands on several occasions to verify his opinions. Each time, upon his return, he was subject to criticism and inquiry by those who sought to discredit him.

William T. Hornaday, one of America's foremost conservationists, sought to help Elliott, and did all in his power to reveal to the public the true nature of the sealing question. In 1896, after years of wrangling, Secretary of State John Hay finally joined the fight and helped draft the Hay-Elliott Treaty. Hay died in 1906, and it was not until 1911 that final passage of the treaty took place. At that time a 5-year stoppage of all sealing was ordered, and the herds began to build up from an all-time low of 130,000. Elliott estimated that when he first saw the Pribilofs an estimated three million seals populated the Islands. By 1948, under strict governmental regulations of the harvest provided by his bill, the number of seals reached an all-time high of almost four million.

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A man cannot be called great unless he has both a soaring ambition and the capacity to satisfy it.

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#### ANTHROPOLOGIST WRITES FROM PERU

The following are extracts from a letter sent by Dr. Marshall T. Newman on April 8 from Hacienda Vicos in Peru:

"My boat shipments arrived in Lima on March 15, but the aduana is still monkeying around. I brought all I needed with me, except that I have only one change of field clothes. I dare say I'll get the shipment sometime.

"In Lima I made arrangements for a nutritional team of 4 people and an X-ray technician to come to Vicos for a forced draft 3-week study of the school children. This study should start about the first of May. At that time Dr. Collazos will examine the kids and I will measure them. At present there are only about 50 pupils at school (with a registration of 250!), but this week the principal is invoking the compulsory school attendance law, with fines, so by May 1 we will have plenty to work on.

"My first week here (April 24-30) I was out on a horse with the Blanchards every day going over much of the hacienda. But this second week, after Armas returned from vacation, I have been measuring full days. Frankly, I'm glad to give my tail a rest from that horse.

"I have had a fairly rough time with soroche, which didn't really hit for about a week. Mostly manifested in shortness of breath, which made me feel I was suffocating when I tried to go to sleep. Probably the worst was four almost sleepless nights in a row. Blanchard thought that maybe I ought to go down to lower altitude for a while, but I couldn't see that. But I'm doing better now, and I can get my work done. The elevation here is 10,000' - 11,000'.

"There are so many intriguing things about this population, that most will have to wait for my return. Most are small, and one 20-year old I measured this morning was 132 cm. in stature. The women are tiny and doll-like, and I suspect are quite slim. Can't tell really because of the many skirts. The men's chests are, of course, tremendous and the lower back muscles terrifically developed. While the men are really tough, they are pretty pared down. My skin fold measurements attest to that."

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#### FINNISH ART EXHIBIT

A new exhibition of work by Tapio Wirkkala and his wife, Rut Bryk, two of Finland's finest and best-known craftsmen, was opened on April 29 by the Finnish Ambassador John A. Nykopp in the Foyer Gallery of the Natural History Building. The exhibition is under the auspices of the National Collection of Fine Arts.

Included are approximately 130 works. Among them are sculpture, wood carvings, metal, glass, and silver designs by Mr. Wirkkala and ceramics by Rut Bryk, all shown in a handsome 8-case installation designed by Mr. Wirkkala. The art pieces were lent by several Finnish manufacturers and were brought to this country through the cooperation of the Finnish-American Society in Helsinki and the Finnish Embassy in Washington.

The exhibition will continue here through May 17, when it begins a nationwide tour under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

Tapio Wirkkala is the most eminent representative of Finnish applied art today. Originally a sculptor and graphic artist, he has, over the past ten years, attained world renown as a designer of glass, silver, and plywood sculpture. In addition, he has worked with great success as an exhibition architect. Both in 1951 and 1954 he received Grand Prix at Milan's Triennale Exhibitions for the organization of the Finnish section and for his glassware and plywood sculpture.

Whatever the material used, Tapio Wirkkala's starting point is always a natural form -- a leaf, a flower, a shell, a fish-- and it is still discernible in the finished piece. Sculptural purity of form, sense of material, and elegant contours do not cloak the vital dynamic force that lies behind every form. Tapio Wirkkala is a modern designer, practical if need be, but a great poet at the same time, living in vivid contact with the nature around him.

Rut Bryk is, in the literal sense, neither a ceramic artist, potter, nor molder, but rather a painter who uses the ceramic medium to express her fantasies. Her work is distinguished by a highly personal touch, a sensitive quality which gives deeper significance to what could be a purely decorative art. She uses glazes mixed with pigments for her painting -- a method she evolved a few years ago. This procedure enables the use of those deep and glowing colors that were called "the most beautiful glazes in the world" by the Italians at the Milan Triennale, where she received a Grand Prix in 1951 and a Diplome d'Honneur in 1954. Since 1942, Rut Bryk has been working in the ceramic department of the Arabia porcelain factory and has produced works that vary from small trays to large wall plaques consisting of



several tiles. Imagination and a masterly way with color characterize them all.

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#### PREY AND PREDATOR

Dr. Gunnar Thorson of the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Relationship between Prey and Predator on the Sea Bottom" in the auditorium of the Natural History Building on May 10.

Dr. Thorson has been investigating the life of the sea bottom for many years and has been able to study the marine animals of such diverse parts of the world as Denmark, Greenland, Iran, and Florida.

In his lecture at the Smithsonian Dr. Thorson discussed the general similarity of animal communities inhabiting the level sea bottom areas throughout the world, their adaptation to varying temperatures, and especially the balance between predatory animals and those organisms on which they feed.

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#### NOTES FROM DIVISION OF MEDICINE

Maj. Gen. Howard McCrum Snyder, USA (MC), personal physician to President Eisenhower, and Mrs. Snyder honored the division of medicine and public health recently with a visit to view an exhibit of portraits of physicians to our Presidents.

The portraits ranged from one of James Craik, physician to George Washington, up to and including the portrait of General Snyder. This fine collection of portraits were on loan from the art section of the Armed Forces Medical Library. Miss Helen Campbell, chief of that section, collaborated with George Griffenhagen, acting curator of the division of medicine and public health, in arranging the exhibit.

The above exhibit has now been replaced by an exhibit on "The Evolution of the Hospital," which consists of 12 original prints also on loan from the Armed Forces Medical Library, Art Section. These prints show interior and exterior views of hospitals from the early 15th century one in Siena to a modern one.

As a bit of personal news from the division of medicine, Mr. Griffenhagen was elected a council member of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy and Secretary of the American Pharmaceutical Association's Section on Historical Pharmacy at a meeting of these groups in Detroit from April 11-13. Mr. Griffenhagen attended the meeting.

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#### U. S. SAVINGS BONDS

A joint meeting of all team captains for the payroll savings campaign was held on April 26 in the auditorium in the Natural History Building. Dr. Carmichael presided and Martin Miller represented the Treasury Department.

Preliminary reports from the campaign indicate a good response of new participants in the Payroll Savings Plan. Final results

will be reported in the next issue of THE TORCH.

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#### CREDIT UNION NOTES

The new merchandise discount list and membership cards issued by the District of Columbia Credit Union League are now available.

Members of the Credit Union may obtain the discount list by applying at the fiscal division or by calling Mrs. Allen on Ext. 309.

Please destroy all previous lists as they are no longer in effect.

Members report that they have made substantial savings by using the discount list when making purchases of electrical equipment, plumbing supplies, furniture, jewelry, photographic supplies, hardware, automobile supplies, and other merchandise.

The Credit Union does not guarantee any of the merchants or products listed. You must be the judge of suitability of products and prices when buying.

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#### ANTHROPOLOGISTS SPEAK IN CHICAGO

Three members of the staff of the division of physical anthropology, Dr. T. D. Stewart, Miss Lucile E. Hoyme, and Dr. Thomas W. McKern, read papers on the determination of sex and age from the pelvis at the 25th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists in Chicago on April 8.

Dr. McKern, who is a collaborator in the division, presented some of the results of his study of the data obtained by Dr. Stewart in Japan on the skeletons of American soldiers killed in Korea.

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#### PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Twelve frames of exceptional material selected from the national postage stamp collection in the A&I Building were shown in New York April 28 to May 6 at the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition. This was one of three major shows opening the new \$36-million Coliseum in New York.

The display (authorized by National Museum Director Remington Kellogg,) emphasized the Smithsonian Institution - past, present, and future - insofar as the stamp collection was concerned.

Four frames emphasized the transfer of United States material from the Post Office Department in 1911-13. Two others stressed the loan of original sketches for stamps by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the original "Farley" sheets, lent by former Postmaster General James A. Farley.

Yet another frame was devoted to U. S. Internal Revenue issues, including the world's most valuable block of four - four \$50,000 revenues.

Four other frames stressed material received as bequests and gifts. Two double-tier cases also featured memorabilia, such as "Owney," postal mascot; a mail sorting rack, circa 1802; old mail bags and sacks, dead-letter records of 1776, and other objects on display.



Franklin R. Bruns, Jr., associate curator of the division of history, was one of two Washington-area men selected to serve on the board of international judges in conjunction with this show. Accompanying Mr. Bruns to New York was Francis J. McCall, museum aid.

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#### NATIVE GOLD

An exceptionally beautiful specimen of crystallized native gold in quartz from Nevada County, Calif. has recently been acquired for the gold case in the mineral hall.

The piece was purchased through the Canfield Fund for the national collections. It displays octahedral crystals ranging from well-formed individuals 5 millimeters in size to distorted flattened crystals, showing structural growth lines, 2-1/2 centimeters across.

The largest crystal exceeds in size some observed in Vienna by Dr. Foshag several years ago. The specimen will be placed on public display in the near future.

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#### AFRICAN BIRDS

A scientific collection of nearly 700 birds from the little-known grasslands of Northern Rhodesia has just been sent to the Smithsonian by Maj. E. L. Haydock, who worked for several years supervising local collectors for the Institution.

The specimens were collected by native collectors, mostly in the general neighborhood of Luanshya, Major Haydock's headquarters.

The collection contains species hitherto lacking in the U. S. National Museum collections, says Dr. Friedmann, curator of birds, and is a good general representation of an ornithologically little-known part of the world.

Prominent in the collection are numerous species of the African weaverbirds, of which Dr. Friedmann has made special studies. These birds are among the foremost nest builders of the avian world, their name being derived from this outstanding ability.

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#### NEW APPOINTMENTS:

##### Clerk-Typist:

Dorothy C. Blanton  
Evelyn L. Jackson

##### Administrative Clerk:

Frances C. Crudup

##### Guard:

Earl C. Day  
Leon Goldstein

##### Laborer:

Charles F. Dorman  
Roy Ferguson  
Annie W. Grant  
Lonnie P. Long  
Maude Solomon

##### Animal Keeper:

James P. Edwards

##### Clerk:

Joseph E. Freeman

##### Clerk-Stenographer:

Vieno V. Parta

#### SEPARATIONS:

Minor J. Click  
George S. Stuart  
Richard L. Lewis  
Nina B. Lafoon

Barbara Herrnstein  
Frances M. Fee  
Elsie A. Leverich

- - -

#### FOR "AFTER DARK" WEAR

A special temporary exhibit on "New Safety for After Dark Pedestrian Wear" was recently installed in the A&I Building. The specimens for this exhibit were furnished by William Skinner & Sons of New York City.

The principle of this newly developed textile is shown by having the visitor look down a 90-foot corridor. Here he sees two figures wearing raincoats that appear to be identical in styling, color, and fabric under the dim light that simulates after-dark visibility.

Continuing to look through a make-believe windshield, the visitor sees the auto headlights beam brightly. The coat on the right is lost to the viewer, while the one on the left, made of a reflectorized fabric, appears to glow. Incorporated in the weave is a yarn that utilizes the same principle as reflecting traffic signs--tiny pieces of glass reflect the lights of the car and warn the driver. This safety fabric was developed commercially after four years of cooperative research.

The exhibit is in the South Hall of the A&I Building and will be shown through September.

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Two heads are better than one, unless they are on the same person....Lea.

- - -

#### PERSONNEL DIVISION GETS NEW HOME

Ever wondered what's behind the fenced yard in back of the SI Building? Many people think it's only APO's offices and R&O's experimental garden. Well, that's only partly true now. The headquarters offices of the APO are now located in Cambridge, Mass., and after May 18 the rafters will ring inside the old building with the clicking typewriters, the buzzing telephones, and the bustling about of people performing the innumerable tasks of personnel administration for the rapidly expanding Smithsonian Institution.

The welcome mat, as always, will be out for all the oldtimers and all the newcomers. A staff of qualified personnel technicians is available to help supervisors and employees in any personnel administration problem.

Got an employee relations or a personal problem? Bring it to Mr. Newman or Mrs. Fields. Mr. Newman and Mrs. Fields should, of course, be consulted on all the more serious personnel problems, including security and discipline.

Need help in a job classification matter? Call Mrs. Fincannon. If it's a Wage Board job, call Mrs. Baird.

Have a question about incentive awards or recruitment? Call Mrs. Fields.

Need information on retirement? Call Mrs. Baird.

Are you being bothered by calls regarding employees' debts? There are proper procedures for handling them. See the SI Manual and refer the matter to Mrs. Fincannon or Mr. Hawkins.

Are you concerned about a matter involving the processing of a personnel action such as appointment, separation, transfer, disciplinary, advanced sick leave, or leave without pay? Call Mr. Hawkins.



Any question about performance rating? Call Mrs. Baird.

Since Jack Newman and Daisy Fields, chief and assistant chief, respectively, personnel division, are concerned with the over-all management of the personnel office and spend a great deal of time coordinating and planning for over-all agency needs, some "specialization" has become necessary. The people named above may be consulted directly on any matter within their province.

Drop in to visit us in our new quarters; you're always welcome.

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#### NEW CUT STONES

A pale yellow amblygonite weighing 6.08 carats, from Minas Gerais, Brazil, and a clear barite of 60.68 carats, from Westmoreland, England, have recently been placed on exhibition in the case of unusual cut stones in the mineral and gem hall of the Natural History Building.

The amblygonite, lithium-aluminum phosphate, is the first gemmy cut stone of this mineral to be added to the national collections. And the barite, barium sulphate, is unique as a cut stone due to the difficulty encountered in faceting and polishing the material.

The stones were received in exchange from Capt. John Sinkankas of the U. S. Navy, who fashioned them from the rough material.

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#### 5-YEAR CLUB AT BSIE

The Bio-Sciences Information Exchange, which will celebrate its sixth birthday on July 1, announces the formation of its "Five-Year Club." The club holds no meetings and collects no dues. The only qualification for membership is five or more years service on the staff of the BSIE. Present membership consists of Dr. Stella Leche Deignan, Nolasco Icarangal, Edward Long, Mrs. Olympiah Merritt, Miss Esther Miller, Mrs. Evelyn M. Roll, Mrs. Mary Rumreich, and Miss Margaret Shotton.

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#### STUDYING IN EUROPE

Dr. Ernest A. Lachner, associate curator of the division of fishes, is in Europe visiting various institutions to study the types and other specimens of tropical marine fishes and some North American freshwater fishes. He left on March 12 and is expected to return the latter part of July.

Dr. Lachner is carrying on his European study as a result of a grant awarded to him by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

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#### VISITS FORMER CURATOR

Mrs. Hope Simmons of the library reports that on a recent trip to Florida she stopped in Winter Park to call on Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Lewton.

Dr. Lewton, former curator of textiles who retired several years ago, now has the position of archivist at Rollins College. The Lewtons have a charming home with a lovely garden and Mrs. Simmons came home laden with citrus fruits from their garden, and also a great many plants which are now flourishing in her own garden.

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#### CANCER VICTIM

Lucy H. Rowland, former clerk-stenographer in the division of archeology who retired last August, died of cancer on April 27 at the National Institutes of Health. In lieu of flowers her Smithsonian friends made a contribution in her name to the Cancer Fund.

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#### VISITORS TO MOLLUSK DIVISION

Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Burch of Los Angeles spent several days in the division of mollusks in April. Mr. Burch is an ardent conchologist and is well-known throughout the world as a dealer in fine shells and in natural history books. The Burches' son and daughter-in-law are both physicians attached to the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.

Jay A. Weber of Miami spent about 10 days in the division identifying some minute marine shells from his

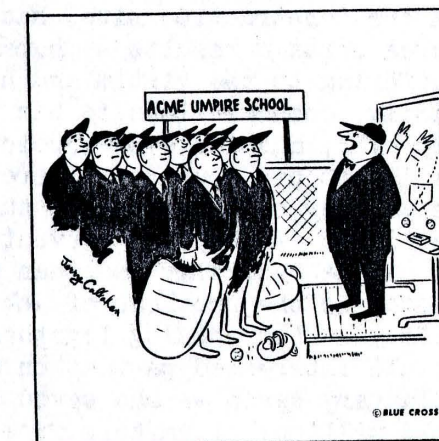
collection that he brought with him. Several years ago Mr. Weber donated to the National Museum his fine collection of about 10,000 bird skins from North America.

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#### GETTING WELL FAST

Friends of Bertha M. Usilton, librarian at the Freer Gallery, will be happy to know that she is making an excellent recovery from her recent surgery. She says their visits, phone calls, and messages have cheered her up and that she hopes to be back soon.

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"Now, men, the first step we take in becoming umpires is we all go right down and join Blue Cross."



Carmichael observed that he had learned, in meetings with philatelists, that stamps were of great value -- teaching the history behind the designs.

Col. Robert K. Leiding of the Army's public relations division accompanied Gen. Gailey, as did Col. Norman King. Col. King presented several cacheted first-day covers of Ryukuyan issues as a personal donation.

Gen. Gailey, during the presentation ceremonies, noted that he had not been a visitor to the Smithsonian Institution since 1912, but that his grandchildren had visited at least the A&I Building as a "must."

Also representing the Smithsonian Institution at the ceremonies were John E. Graf, Dr. J. L. Keddy, Frank Taylor, and other members of the Smithsonian staff.

The new material is of particular importance in that no Ryukyu specimens are received through the Universal Postal Union and the Post Office Department.

Chief Executive Shuhei Higa, in his letter of transmittal, noted that subsequent issues would be forwarded to the Smithsonian Institution.

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#### YOUR JOB AND CONGRESS

When the National Federation of Federal Employees was organized in 1917 there was no retirement system, no classification system, there had been no salary increase for fifty years, leave and working hours were not standardized, and there was no worthy system of personnel administration.

Today, the N.F.F.E. must still protect retirement and extend and

protect the merit system. It strives to broaden and further improve the classification system and to raise the whole standard of personnel throughout the Federal service.

On April 11 the subcommittee on retirement, headed by Sen. W. Kerr Scott, favorably reported an amended retirement bill (S.2875) to the Post Office and Civil Service Committee. At the same time, the subcommittee, by a vote of 4 to 1, defeated the Case bill (S.3562), which would have coordinated Civil Service Retirement and Social Security.

The N.F.F.E. rejoices, as should all federal employees, that the Case bill was defeated. However, the Johnson retirement bill (S.2875) has the full support of the N.F.F.E., especially since it has no tie-up with Social Security. The Johnson bill contains most of the recommendations made at the N.F.F.E. convention at Dallas last year. The full text of S.2875, which would raise the annuities of present federal employees by about 25 percent, is given in the March issue of the Federal Employee, the official monthly publication of the N.F.F.E.

Members and nonmembers are asked to familiarize themselves with the contents of this bill and its benefits to them as Federal employees and to write their senators asking them to support S.2875 when it comes before the Senate.

Smithsonian N.F.F.E. members are urged to attend the monthly meetings held in room 43, Natural History Building. The next meeting will be held at noon on Thursday, May 17. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. /Printed at request of N.F.F.E. officers./

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#### EXAMINES ART IN IKE MUSEUM

John A. Pope, assistant director of the Freer Gallery, received an accolade last month for his knowledge of Far Eastern art objects. He was flown by Presidential plane to Abilene, Kans., where he examined approximately 100 such objects that have been presented to the Eisenhower Museum.

He did not return empty-handed, but brought with him 12 sacks of rich Kansas soil for the Freer Court and a plant that was slipped by Mamie's mother. He donated the plant to the Freer office, but the workers there are not sure just what they have and would like an assist from Botany.

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#### JOB SAFETY WEEK

Following is a message from President Eisenhower:

"An occupational accident, in the factory, on the farm, or on the construction site, has three certain results -- human suffering to the victim and his family, economic loss to his employer, and waste of precious skills to his country. There is another certainty about such accidents -- they are preventable.

"The typically American approach to the problems of job safety -- the joining together of all interested parties on a voluntary basis -- has saved untold millions of workers from disability and the agonies of injury. We must all make it a business of primary importance to devise methods for preventing the needless accidents that still happen.

"In order to direct the attention of all our citizens to this vital work, I have designated May 13-19 as Job Safety Week. Outstanding businessmen, farm and labor leaders, State and Federal officials, and representatives from insurance, education and safety organizations will convene in Washington for the President's Conference on Occupational Safety. Their purpose will be to design voluntary programs to reduce preventable work injuries.

"This is a work in which all of us must share. An injury anywhere is a loss to the Nation as a whole. Safety must become a daily habit in all our workplaces if we are to reach our full potential of strength.

"I urge Governors and Mayors to use their good offices in their own States and communities so that every employer and worker is aware of the need for safety.

"I call upon all my fellow citizens to join with me in making Job Safety Week a success."

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#### RYUKYU ISLANDS STAMPS

On Wednesday, April 25, an impressive presentation was held in the office of Dr. Carmichael when Maj. Gen. Charles K. Gailey, Chief, Office of Civil Affairs and Military Government of the Ryukyu Islands, presented a complete collection of Ryukyu stamps to the Smithsonian Institution. The presentation was made in the name of Shuhei Higa, Chief Executive, Government of the Ryukyu Islands.

The stamps were in mint condition and carefully mounted in a presentation album. In accepting this gift to the national postage stamp collection, Dr.



## LECTURES IN WISCONSIN

Jack Clarke was scheduled to leave on May 10 to deliver three lectures at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

The subjects of his lectures are: "Entomology in the Islands of the Pacific," "Museums - their collections, purposes, and functions," and "Host specificity on certain microlepidoptera."

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## QUERY

Herbert Friedmann wants to know who first defined a taxidermist as a man who knows his stuff.

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## SEITZ DIES

The many friends of Mr. John A. Seitz, former guard at the Smithsonian, were saddened to hear of the news of his death, which occurred suddenly at Bethesda Naval Hospital on Sunday morning, May 6. He retired on March 31st of this year, as he had reached the age of 70.

Mr. Seitz had been assigned to the post at the east door of the Smithsonian Building for many years and was able to give special service to many of those contacting the various offices in this building.

Services were held at St. Anthony's Church, 14th and Monroe Sts. N.E. and burial was at Arlington Cemetery on May 9.

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Contributions are encouraged from all employees of the Smithsonian Institution. If you have an item for THE TORCH please type it double spaced, sign it, and give it to the secretary of your department or send it direct to Mrs. Fields in the personnel office.

CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE 25TH OF THE MONTH