Contributions are encouraged from all employees of the Smithsonian Institution. If you have an item for THE TORCH please give it to the secretary of your department or send it directly to Mrs. Fields in the Personnel Division.

CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH.
logging into the Museum in the morning burdened with large brown paper bags containing the "makings" is a familiar one to many.

Partly because of his early interest in botany, Dr. Schmitt long felt that the two disciplines of botany and zoology were of equal value and deserved equal importance in the Museum organization. Thus, even though he had for many years been a zoologist, his first efforts after becoming head curator of biology in 1943 were directed to separating zoology and botany, and giving the latter field equal standing as a department in its own right. In 1947 this goal was achieved, with the late Dr. William R. Maxon, formerly curator of botany, being appointed as head curator of the department of botany, a position held today by Dr. Jason R. Swallen.

Dr. Schmitt's bibliography consists of more than 70 titles. He is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the Association of American Museums, the American Geophysical Union, the Washington Academy of Sciences (of which he was president in 1947), and the Society of Systematic Zoology (of which he was chief founder in 1947). He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a corresponding fellow of the Zoological Society of London, and has served on the advisory boards of several scientific organizations. He received the honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Southern California in 1948.

Dr. Schmitt has reached statutory retirement age with youthful vigor and with abiding interest in the progress of the National Museum, a fact remarked upon by Dr. Carmichael at the retirement party held for him in the Smithsonian Great Hall on June 26. On that occasion Dr. Carmichael welcomed this "new boy" to the Smithsonian family, "Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt, Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution." A wrist watch and a sum of money were presented to him by his colleagues and friends. Climbing the party, Dr. R. E. Blackwelder, formerly of the U. S. National Museum, and Secretary of the Society of Systematic Zoology, explained that Dr. Schmitt had secured the four patron members of the Society, each of whom had contributed $1,000 to the Society treasury. He stated that a fund to make Dr. Schmitt himself a patron had been oversubscribed by his friends in an amount exceeding $2,000. Dr. Blackwelder commented that in announcing this tribute to the founder of the Society, the members took pride in adding a patron whom Dr. Schmitt had not secured.

Dr. Schmitt plans to continue a close association with the Museum and hopes to resume some of the scientific studies he was obliged to lay aside 15 years ago when he assumed the responsibilities of the head curatorship. His retirement party, therefore, was not a farewell but an opportunity for his many friends to felicitate him on his change of status.

**FILMSTRIP ON SMITHSONIAN**

"Let's Visit the Smithsonian" is the inviting title of a filmstrip slide lecture in full color produced by the Smithsonian Institution to tell the story of its many and varied activities.

Designed primarily as a preview of the Institution for visiting junior and senior high-school classes, the strip will also be of interest to tourists and roadside travelers. It contains pictures of such tourist attractions as homes worn by the Ladies of the White House, the original Star Spangled Banner, the Wright Brothers' airplane, giant dinosaurs, and famous paintings.

A commentary on a 12-inch long-playing record is also available with the film. It tells how the Institution was founded and gives many interesting facts about the filmstrip's 48 different views of exhibits and behind-the-scenes activities in the Institution's museums and research agencies.

The filmstrip, made possible by a grant from the Link Foundation, is being released through the Society for Visual Education, 1345 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Illinois. Inquiries concerning it may be addressed to the Society or to the Editorial and Publications Division, Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D. C.

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**NEW COLLECTION OF BUGS**

The largest and most complete personal collection of Hemiptera (lace bugs, assassin bugs, stinkbugs, etc.) in America has been presented to the Smithsonian by Prof. Carl J. Drake, retired head of Iowa State College's department of zoology. Dr. Drake, who assembled this collection of 150,000 specimens during years of active experimental entomology and taxonomic research, has recently become a Smithsonian honorary research associate. He now makes his headquarters in the National Museum, where he will continue his research.

The collection contains types, cotypes, or paratypes of more than 50 per cent of the known species of lace bugs in the world. In addition to this large economically important family of insects in which Dr. Drake specializes, the collection is remarkably complete in other groups as a result of many years of field collecting, exchange, and purchase of specimens.

Estimated in this material are such collections of Hemiptera as Hacker's, from Australia, and Pennington's from Argentina, as well as the Reed collection of Chilean Hemiptera.

In all, over 1000 species are represented by holotypes.

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**LECTURE ON TROPICAL ARCHEOLOGY**

Dr. Clifford Evans and Dr. Betty J. Maggers of the division of archeology recently presented an illustrated talk at the Archeological Society of Maryland, in Baltimore, on "The Problems of Tropical Forest Archeology—Lower Amazon and Its Affiliations with the Rio Napo of Eastern Ecuador."

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**CASH AWARDS**

Dr. Carmichael recently presented cash awards and certificates of merit to three Smithsonian employees.

William H. Reeder, of the guard force, received $25 and a certificate on June 25 for his suggestion for converting discarded watch clock cabinets into key cabinets. Dr. Carmichael said that this suggestion "resulted in increased security and ready accessibility of the special office and storage keys; and has further proven to be an asset in avoiding time-consuming searches for needed keys."

Mrs. Jeraldine M. Whitmore, clerk-stenographer in the division of archeology received an $165 award on July 2. This award was based upon her demonstrated efficiency, accuracy, and speed; her dignified and business-like manner in dealing with visitors and handling telephone calls; and her over-all excellent management of the office.

Raymond A. Schwartz, museum aid in the Freer Gallery of Art, received $165 and a certificate on July 2. In making this presentation, Dr. Carmichael said...
"In addition to the performance of your regularly assigned duties you were charged with the responsibility for supervising the dismantling of 19 galleries to permit the installation of air conditioning equipment; the installation of new exhibitions in four galleries; and the return of former exhibitions to the various galleries from which they were removed during the construction work. Because of the efficient manner in which this extra-curricular assignment was handled while continuing to fulfill your regular duties, this award is being conferred."

1957 BOND CAMPAIGN

The 1957 campaign to urge employees of the Smithsonian Institution to purchase United States Savings Bonds under the Payroll Savings Plan is now underway. Dr. Carmichael, in addressing the team captains appointed to conduct the campaign, pointed out that by enrolling under the Payroll Savings Plan an employee not only insures the regular and systematic saving of the amount specified on his authorization card but also helps combat inflation and thereby protects the purchasing value of the dollar.

A report of the result of the campaign will be given in the next issue of the TORCH.

Jones is to make a right estimate of one's self.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

The National Collection of Fine Arts has announced the showing of "Recent Works by Cock Van Gent," which will be exhibited in the foyer of the Natural History Building from July 11 through July 31. This exhibition, sponsored by the Sabin Foundation, will be circulated to various museums and art galleries by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

NEWS FROM THE PLAINSMEN

The division of archeology has received letters from S. R. Wedel, who is heading a River Basin field party near Pierre, S. Dak. He says the plains are the wettest he has ever seen, and as a result, he and George Metcalf, his assistant, have spent considerable time airdried in the mud or dodging the rain. The last letter received stated that Don Hartle left camp in a carryall truck on a Thursday to get supplies and come back the same day. Instead, the man had not been back in three days because of the mud.

Dr. Evans has suggested that they adopt a water buffalo, since the Plains apparently are closer to the tropics than they used to be.

Beau West, the youngest son of Lawrence and Inor C. West, is also working on a River Basin project. He writes about his first experience in the field as follows:

"We eat like kings (of paramount importance to an 18 year old), and swim in the open. From any hill you can see the country for miles around and the weather a week away. I guess you know about the bad storms in the area. We saw the bad ones go overhead and could see the lightning in the distance. The country is very nice."

"Yesterday we dug up about a ton of earth and found four nails, a handle to a cup, and two beer bottles!" Beau's parents are wondering if his furs digging will encourage him to undertake this kind of work as a career.

FOOTAGE FEES INCREASED

Notice has been received from the Post Office Department of increases effective on July 1 in fees charged for the following services: registry, return receipts, registered c.o. d. mail, special delivery, special handling, insurance, and certified mail.

The minimum registry fee for domestic mail is now 50 cents, which insures mail valued at not more than $10. The cost increases in proportion to the valuation placed on matter to be registered. The actual value of each article presented for registration must be declared.

The new special delivery fee on first class mail weighing up to two pounds is 30 cents.

TWO LEAVE FREER FOR STUDY

Emily Boone, editorial secretary in the Freer Gallery of Art, recently resigned to go to the University of Mexico to study advanced Spanish literature and history. She hopes to return to Washington upon the completion of her studies and find employment that will call for the use of her knowledge of the language.

Her coworkers at the Freer gave her a warm send-off (temperature 95° plus) and, knowing that she is interested in acquiring some of the justly famous south-of-the-border jewelry, a monetary gift to help out in that direction.

Another departure from the Freer was that of George Kuwajima, who has been studying under a Louise Wallace Mackney Scholarship for the past year. He is on his way to Formosa for another period of study under an Inter-University Fellowship administered by Cornell University.

SUMMER INTERNS JOIN STAFF

In accordance with our summer intern program the following people have joined the staff:

Department of Zoology:
  Theodore J. Legg (Fishes)
  Don Ray Davis (Insects)
  Carol Clarke (Marine Invert.)
  Jerry Hardy (Reptiles)
  Clarence Simpson (Birds)

Department of Geology:
  Richard Banbach (Mineralogy)
  Robert Fink (Invert. Paleon. & Paleoh.)
  Karl E. Kriscoff (Invert. Paleon. & Paleoh.)

Department of Botany:
  Ann Waterman (Cryptogams)

Department of Anthropology:
  Peter Stone (Ethnology)
  Jonathan David (Ethnology)
  Elliott Liebow (Phys. Anthropology)

Department of Engineering & Industries:
  Thomas B. Settle (Electricity)
  Jean Bottoms (Agriculture)
  Augusta Greenfield (Medical Sciences)
  John Minton (Graphic Arts)

Department of History:
  John Shortridge (Musical Inst.)
CARELESS DRINKERS

Do you enjoy the use of the coke vending machines in our buildings? Please show your appreciation by returning all empty bottles to the machine nearest your office. The company is anxious for the return of all bottles, and the maintenance and operations division would like your cooperation. It seems that empty bottles have appeared in many places far away from the machines.

Success depends largely on persistence.

ASSISTANT CURATOR RETIRES

James Russell Sirlois, roving ambassador of good-will of the department of history, retired June 30 with no less a personage than Red Skelton as a special, unexpected guest.

At the time of his retirement, Russ was assistant curator in the division of military history. He had been with the Smithsonian 42 years beginning as a messenger at the age of 16. Later he was appointed Assistant, and his promotion to assistant curator took place in 1948.

A farewell party was held in his honor on June 29 in the Ball of Wood Technology, now being modernized. Red Skelton, popular stage and TV comedian, who was visiting the Arts and Industries building with his wife and daughter, was invited to drop in on the party.

Dr. Leonard Carchenkl praised Russ’ friendliness and cooperative spirit, and presented him with a check as a farewell gift from his fellow workers. Among those present were Dr. Alexander Wetmore, former Secretary; John E. Graf, Assistant Secretary; Dr. John L. Keddy, Assistant Secretary, and Frank A. Taylor, Assistant Director.

Mendal L. Hecox, head curator of the department of armed forces, headed the party arrangements with Anne W. Murray and Margaret C. Archer of the department of history acting as hostesses.

A special card, illustrated by Ben Lawless, read:

To Russ, who started work at the Smithsonian at a very tender age.

And somehow after the building across the way was completed.

And who, through the years has worked with such specimens as "Rienzi," a horse that clocked the run to Winchester in 3:02.

And who has lovingly assisted in getting together all those stamps.

And patiently watched the gun collection grow, cannonball by cannonball.

And fought those moths within an inch of their lives.

And worked on exhibitions above and beneath the sea.

A little bit after certain experiments, to be sure.

We, who tread slowly along behind, bid you fond farewell:

The Smithsonian Institution.

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RECEIVES HONORARY LL.D.

Dr. Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., Director of the River Basin Surveys and Associate Director of the Bureau of American Ethnology, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of New Mexico at the commencement exercises held at Albuquerque on the evening of June 5.

The following citation was read:

One of the foremost archeologists of this century. A pioneer in the study of Early Man in North America and in the archeology of the Southwest who has probably contributed more to the knowledge of the prehistory of this region than any other person. For the past thirty years affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution’s Bureau of American Ethnology and presently its associate director. He has also been instrumental, through the River Basin Surveys which he directs, in providing for the salvage of scientific materials and the recording of cultural data in those parts of the vast Missouri Basin to be inundated as a result of flood control and irrigation projects. Quiet and unassuming; a meticulous scientist and scholar, yet skilled in administration; a man gifted in analysis and lucid in style, whose published research has been a model for others in his field to follow.

Frank Harold Hanna Roberts, Jr., upon recommendation of the Faculty of the University and by vote of the Regents, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

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COMPUTER FOR SATELLITE DATA

Arrangements have been made whereby the IBM 704 computer donated to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by International Business Machines, Inc., will devote part of its time to calculating the orbit of artificial earth satellites.

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REPORTS FROM FAR EAST

Freer traveller H. P. Stern reports from the Far East that he has completed the cataloging of the Korean art collection that is being sent to this country for showing in a number of outstanding galleries.

He also reports the following:

I got myself a camera and am slowly learning how to operate the confiscated machine. I sheepishly take the shots in for developing, fully realizing that probably 75 per cent of the batch will be sub­ rank amateur. Perhaps by the time I need it to photograph objects, I’ll have mastered the technique of pushing down the shutter trigger.

Mr. Stern is now back in Japan after his Korean sojourn, where he will work and study until November, when he takes off for a shorter period of study in Formosa.

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A job is an opportunity to create something.

---

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And worked on exhibitions above and beneath the sea.

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The United States will launch an artificial moon into space as a part of the International Geophysical Year, July 1, 1957, to December 31, 1958.

Data necessary for computation of the orbit will be provided by visual observing stations in all parts of the world. These stations are being organized by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, Cambridge, Mass., which has been assigned the Satellite Optical Tracking Program by the National Academy of Sciences through the National Science Foundation.

The visual observers are organized into groups called NOLOGEN teams, and their task is to find the satellite as it orbits the earth and to note its position and the time it occupied that position.

These data will be quickly transmitted to the Observatory in Cambridge where they will be made ready for use in the IBM 704 computer along with previously prepared data. In punch-card form, the information will be fed into the IBM 704, and it will take but a few seconds for the computer to produce an orbit. It has been estimated that it would require at least eight hours for a man with a desk calculator to perform the same task.

The orbit then will be communicated to Smithsonian Observatory's 12 camera tracking stations around the world. Using this orbit, which may be termed a celestial time table, the operators will know where and when to aim the cameras so as to photograph the satellite. These photos, in turn, will allow for precise measuring of the satellite's position. In addition, the photographs will reveal information about the earth and its upper atmosphere.

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory will make public its predictions of the satellite's position over the earth so that nonprofessional observers may know when and where to look for it with binoculars or small telescopes. The satellite will move 300 miles per minute.
ARTS BULLETINS NEEDED

Mrs. Bertha Usilton, the Freer
Gallery of Art librarian, states that
the library is in need of the following
numbers of the Bulletin of the Metro­
politan Museum of Art: Nos. 1, 5, and 8
of volume 1, 1905 and 1906; nos. 3 and
11 of volume 2, 1907; and no. 2 of
volume 3, 1908. It would be appreciated very much if anyone possessing these magazines would contribute them to the Freer Library.

RIVER BASIN NEWS

Dr. James H. Howard and his three­
man crew completed their archeological
investigations in the Toronto Reservoir
area of Kansas at the end of June. Dr.
Howard will become a member of the facul­
ty at the University of North Dakota
this fall.

Dr. Valdo R. Wedel, assisted by
George Metcalf, both of the U. S. National
Museum, and a party of nine are excavat­
ing the Black Widow Site and testing other
nearby sites in the Oahe Reservoir of
South Dakota.

In the same reservoir, Dr. Robert L.
Stephenson, chief of the Missouri Basin
Project, assisted by Lee G. Madison and
a crew of 21 are excavating the Sully
Site and will test other sites in the
immediate vicinity.

Donald D. Hartle and a crew of six
are mapping and testing sites in the area
between the mouth of the Cheyenne River
and a point opposite Fort Sully, also in
the Oahe Reservoir area. Mr. Hartle
joined the staff of the Missouri Basin
Project on June 6.

The fourth party in the Oahe Reser­
voir area is under the direction of
Charles H. McHutt. Mr. McHutt joined the
permanent staff of the Missouri Basin
Project on June 10, and with his party of
seven will map and test sites in the
vicinity of Old Fort Sully on the
east bank.

G. Robert Smith and a party of
nine are excavating the historic
site of Fort Defiance-Bouis, and they
will sample the Fort George site and the
"Mystery Site" in the Big Bend
Reservoir of South Dakota.

Dr. Warren W. Caldwell and a
party of seven are excavating a mound
site and a three-component site, also
in the Big Bend Reservoir.

Robert W. Neuman became a full­
time member of the permanent staff of
the Missouri Basin Project on June 10.
Mr. Neuman and his party of nine are
excavating three sites in the vicinity
of Fort Thompson in the Big Bend Reser­
voir area. In this same reservoir,
William M. Irving and a party of eight
are mapping and testing several sites
in the Fort Thompson area. Mr. Irving
joined the Missouri Basin Project for
the field season on June 10.

The ninth field party in South
Dakota this summer is that of Harold
A. Buscher and two crewmen. Mr.
Buscher joined the Missouri Basin
Project at the end of June. He and
his party will do mapping, surface
surveying, and brief testing in the
Big Bend Oahe reservoir areas,
working as a mobile unit.

Dr. Theodore E. White completed
his assignment in the Missouri Basin
Project laboratory on June 7 and re­
turned to his regular assignment with
the National Park Service at Dinosaur
National Monument, Jensen, Utah.

"Don't neglect an opportunity to extend
your congratulations when the other
fellow has made some achievement, or
to encourage him when he is trying."—B. W. Eleon

CREDIT UNION NOTES

Dr. Theodore H. Reed, acting
director of the National Zoological
Park, has been elected to the Board
of Directors of the Smithsonian In­
itiation Employees Federal Credit
Union. He replaces Mrs. Margaret
Brown Klapthor who resigned because
of pressure of official duties.

OLD BISON DELIVER MESSAGE

Dismantling old exhibits has
become something of a treasure hunt
in the division of mammals since
Curator Henry Setzer's "Tint" in the
base of the old bison exhibit.

With Charles Sinclair and
Lester Gates of M & O division,
Setzer was supervising removal of the
bison exhibit in preparation for work on the new "World of
Mammals" hall. The bison had been
taken out of the case and the work­
men were removing "groups" on
which the animals had stood.

Beneath the lath and plaster
was found a metal specimen box,
rusted and battered. The contents:
two numbers of the Cosmopolitan
Museum for 1887 that contained
an article by William T. Hornaday
entitled "The Passing of the
Buffalo."

Atop the first page of
the article, in Hornaday's handwriting,
were these words, addressed to "My
Illustrious Successor."

"Dear Sir:-Enclosed please
find a brief and truthful account
of the capture of the specimens
which compose this group. The Old
Bull, the young cow and the yearling
calf were killed by yours truly.
When I am dust and ashes I beg you
to protect these specimens from
deterioration and destruction. Of
course they are crude productions in
comparison with what you produce, but
you must remember that at this time
(A. D. 1887, March 7) the American
School of Taxidermy has only just been
recognized. Therefore give the devil
his dues, and revile not
W. T. Hornaday."

Hornaday, who in the 1880's was
chief taxidermist for the National
Museum, became director of the New
York Zoological Park in 1876, a post
he held until 1926. Famous as head
of one of the Nation's great zoos, he
was equally noted as a naturalist and
for his activity in promoting laws
for the protection of wild life.

His article in Cosmopolitan in
1887, begins with these words: "At
least the game butchers of the great
West have stopped killing buffalo.
The buffalo are all dead!" Today, thanks
to his efforts, and those of other great
conservationists, the American bison
thrives on protected ranges in our Western
States.

Hornaday's bison, on the other hand,
stand bidden in the now emptied hall,
awaiting assignment to "fresh woods and
pastures new."

PUBLISHED IN JUNE

"Automobiles and Motorcycles in the
U. S. National Museum," by Smith Hempstone
Oliver. U. S. National Museum Bulletin
213, 157 pages. (This is a revision and
expansion of Bulletin 1917.)

Title page, table of contents, and
index to volume 104 of the Proceedings

"Phytophysics, usus, A New Echidna
Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum,
4 pages.

"Chromosperic Spicules," by Sarah
Lee Lippincott. Smithsonian Contributions
to Astrophysics, 9 pages.


SEND YOUR IDEAS TO THE INCENTIVE AWARDS COMMITTEE -