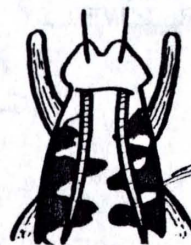
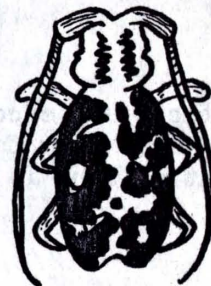
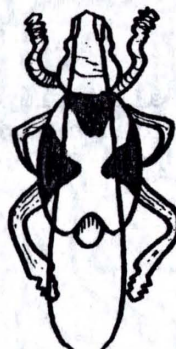
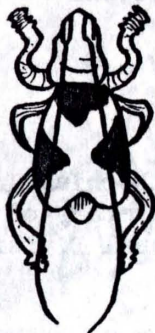
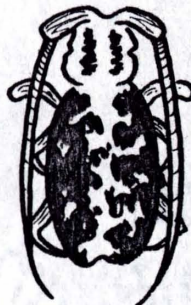
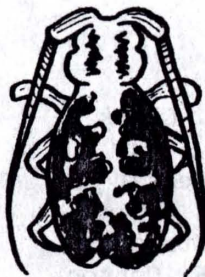




October 1957

THE SMITHSONIAN
TORCH



Chamaecrista



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • WASHINGTON, D. C.

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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.

October 1957

Number 32

BEETLES

The National Museum recently obtained a large and important collection of wood-boring beetles.

The new collection, numbering more than 100,000 specimens and representing about 16,500 species of this enormous group of insects, came from Frederick F. Tippmann, an engineer, explorer, and entomologist of Vienna, Austria. He assembled the collection over a period of 40 years by collecting personally in every country of South America and in Africa, Asia, and Europe, and also by purchasing great rarities from many remote parts of the world.

The wood-boring beetles of this family comprise one of the economically most important groups of insects of the world. In the larval stage they attack wood and stems of woody and herbaceous plants, and a few of them eat seeds. It is on record that one small outbreak of one species, affecting only 8 square miles of forest, killed 45,000 trees, aggregating nearly 1,000,000 cubic feet of timber. Fig-growing is impossible in some parts of India because of the damage caused by another species. In one area of China 90 percent of all citrus trees are infested by a wood-borer, and many young trees are killed annually in spite of preventive measures. Other species attack rafters of houses, particularly in continental Europe, furniture, rustic garden work, and telegraph poles.

However, not all species are harmful. Live-stem borers are used to control the spread of noxious plants such as lantana. Larvae of

several groups speedily break down stumps and discarded logs in coniferous plantations, greatly enriching the soil and clearing the ground. Some kinds indicate to the forester that his trees are unhealthy and are the victims of more serious foes.

These beetles range in size from minute specimens about one-sixteenths of an inch long to monsters 4 to 5 inches in body length with 8-inch antennae. Every conceivable color is represented, and many mimic the form of other beetles, wasps, flies, and so forth.

The newly acquired collection, together with others already assembled at the National Museum, will permit studies embracing the biology and distributional features of the wood-boring insects and will be available to interested students of beetles who wish to undertake studies in this group. It is only through long and careful study using a working tool such as this important collection that scientists are able to learn about both the useful and destructive forms of insects and how to distinguish between them.

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NEW HALL TO OPEN

The new "Hall of Health" in the Arts and Industries Building will be opened to the public on November 3. An account of the opening will be given in next month's TORCH.

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RECEIVE AWARDS

Secretary Carmichael presented awards for meritorious service on September 13 to Dr. Velva Rudd, plant taxonomist in the department of botany; Rose Carnevale, secretary in the division of radiation and organisms; and Norman Deaton of the exhibits staff.

Dr. Rudd received \$165 in cash and a certificate; Miss Carnevale and Mr. Deaton received \$155 and a certificate.

In making the presentations Secretary Carmichael cited the trio as follows, in part.

To Dr. Rudd: "During the absence of Dr. Lyman B. Smith from October 1956 to April 1957 you were designated Acting Curator of the Division of Phanerogams, assuming all the responsibilities of that office while continuing to fulfill the requirements of your own position. Because of your consistently effective performance for six consecutive months in a position several grades above your own, this award is being conferred."

To Miss Carnevale: "This award is based upon sustained superior performance in fulfilling the requirements of your job while at the same time assuming the additional responsibility of performing secretarial services for the other eight professional staff members. Further, you have demonstrated an enormous capacity for work by typing the large volume of scientific manuscripts originating in the Division, thus saving the agency the cost of an additional typist for the staff."

To Mr. Deaton: "This award is based upon your inventiveness, initiative, creative ability, technical competence and ingenuity in accomplishing numerous, highly diversified tasks in improving methods of mounting small mammals; restoring color to faded bird feathers; restoration of damaged specimens; design and construction of paleontological dioramas; and your skillful manufacture of a clump of lupins for the grizzly-bear group which saved the agency \$200 if it were to be made by an outside source. These are but a few of your commendable artistic accomplishments."

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ANTIQUe DRUG JARS

A collection of rare antique drug jars, including a unique Persian albarello made during the 13th century, and one of the few in existence, was presented to the Smithsonian Institution by the Bristol-Myers Company on October 2.

The presentation was made by Lee H. Bristol, Sr., president of Bristol-Myers, at a luncheon held at the Pierre Hotel in New York to celebrate the company's 70th anniversary.

Accepting the collection, which went on exhibit in the division of medical sciences in the Arts and Industries Building on October 14 was George B. Griffenhagen, curator of the division of medical sciences. Also attending the presentation was Paul H. Oehser, Smithsonian public relations officer.

The oldest and most valuable piece in the Bristol-Myers collection, which includes 13 pharmacy antiques in all, is a 6-inch-high, slender-waisted drug jar of a shape known as an albarello. This exquisitely executed jar, made in Rhages, Persia, has a cobalt blue background overlaid with a floral-like pattern not unlike those found in fine Persian rugs. Over fine white and leaf gold scrollwork is a silvery iridescent glaze. The albarello is in an excellent state of preservation despite its age. Like other drug jars of the 13th century, this one has no matching lid. The pharmacists covered their jars with tightly drawn parchments or goat bladders.

A second 13th century albarello, a functional shape which women later adopted for cosmetic containers, has octagonal sides as well as a gently curved waistline. Seven inches high, this piece from Rakka, Mesopotamia, shows a greenish blue glaze almost buried beneath a golden iridescence with subtle rainbow hues. The delicacy of color in both jars and

the beauty of form make it understandable why 13th century apothecary shops even in their own time were places somewhat like museums where passersby stopped to marvel and admire.

A third albarello, a beautiful piece of Hispano-Moresque majolica--a piece of pottery probably made by the Moorish craftsmen who worked in Valencia, Aragon, and other Spanish cities in the 14th and 15th centuries--is painted in cobalt blue and shining copper lustre.

Another majolica drug pot, this of 15th century Italian origin, has a spout in the shape of a dragon's head. It is painted in strong blue, yellow, brownish orange and copper green, and has a bust portrait of a man on one side and a woman on the other. This particular jar is labeled "Oleu Masticis" or oil of Mastic, the resin from the mastic tree. According to a 17th century pharmacopoeia this served as an astringent and was a "cure" for falling sickness, the itch, and leprosy--among other diseases.

The Bristol-Myers Collection also includes four 17th and 18th century English delft examples. Two white ointment jars with blue stripes were the very earliest examples of English delft and are remarkably like those recently uncovered during the Jamestown, Virginia, restoration.

Another quartet of jars, those of white Viennese porcelain with floral decorations and botanical descriptions, and said to be extremely rare because of the Viennese porcelain makers did not make many drug containers, have a delicacy not found anywhere else in the collection. Two of them, with spouts and covers, are counterparts of the chocolate pots still used in France, England and Austria today.

To Americans, the most familiar looking piece in the collection will be an 1850 English pear-shaped show globe, not unlike the kind Americans were accustomed to see in druggists windows until the turn of this century.

In America and England the show globe (or show carboy) was to the pharmacist what the barber pole was to the barber, the sign of his profession. Filled with bright red, green or blue liquid and illuminated from the back by lanterns which frequently burned through the night, the show globe could be seen from great distances. This particular one, which is 36 inches high has a cut glass stopper.

Probably because the shops became so crowded with products and displays, this venerable symbol of the pharmacists' profession was forced into retirement. Now a group of druggists throughout the country are clamoring for its return. And the show globe deserves a comeback if only because of its long and interesting past, and its origin which remains a mystery even today.

The show globe is a common sign of pharmacies only in England and America. How it became such a symbol has given rise to many amusing and romantic speculations. One of the most imaginative is that Julius Caesar's fleet, when it invaded Ireland, was guided to a safe landing place at night by large bottles with brightly colored liquids placed strategically in an apothecary's window. To do this, the obliging apothecary placed lighted lanterns behind the bottles and Caesar's sailors saw them clearly offshore. The landing of the troops was a success and thereafter Caesar issued an edict permitting all apothecaries to use colored show globes (or carboys) to identify their establishments.

According to another authority on pharmacy history, the show globe had its origin in the Near East where the open-front shop of the drug seller was filled with glass vessels and jars of brightly hued liquids.

Still a third conjecture is that the show globe had its origin about 1550, when the "chymists," who made chemical preparations for medicinal purposes, had the need to distinguish themselves from the apothecaries and druggists, who compounded and dispensed the herbal medicines. So the "chymists" adopted their peculiarly

shaped bottles and apparatus as symbols of their trade. The apothecary retained the mortar and pestle as theirs.

Later on it became expedient for the apothecary to let the public know that he too could make chemical preparations and the show globe found its way into the pharmacy window. The Great Plague of London in 1665-66 is believed to have given added importance to the show globe as a sign of a general pharmacy.

There are still other contentions about the show globe. An English historian maintains that English apothecaries used the show globe to signify that they were adept in the art of bloodletting.

Another expert stoutly contends that the credit for using apothecary jars for display purposes originated with a man named Stoughton who lived in a small English town in the early 18th century. The first jars used by him contained red liquid and they became known as "Stoughton bottles." Thus the old expression "dumb as a Stoughton bottle" meant the person was standing around like a display jar.

Actually, the origin of the show globe can be credited to the common sense and ingenuity of English glass manufacturers. By the middle of the 18th century, ornate porcelain drug jars began to replace the majolica jars on the Continent. England had inadequate kaolin deposits, so the glass manufacturers, to make up for this deficiency, started to make elaborate glass pharmacy jars. These unquestionably led to the development of the more decorative show carboys or show globes.

There is no doubt at all that these brightly colored show globes have always appealed to the general public. And a recent survey reports that no less than 39 states have denied the use of the show globe to nondrug outlets. The symbolism continues over the centuries, and if the show globe makes a comeback there will be many admirers of pharmacy antiques around to give it a roaring welcome.

- - -

CATALOG OF TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

A catalog of more than 50 traveling exhibitions for the 1957-58 season recently was published by the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service. The catalog was designed for distribution to museums, university and college galleries, schools, and other nonprofit organizations with particular educational needs and aspirations.

To supplement their own programs, such institutions may choose from the catalog's pages a variety of exhibitions of painting and sculpture, drawings and prints, Oriental art, architecture, design and crafts, folk art and indigenous art, photography, and children's art.

Operating entirely with private funds, the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service has arranged 1,245 different showings since it was founded in 1951. There have been 135 exhibitions in 723 private and public organizations in the United States, Hawaii, and Canada. Also, during these first six years there were 34 exhibitions assembled for circulation abroad under the auspices of the U. S. Information Agency.

Organizations wishing to receive a copy of the new catalog or copies of special announcements of new exhibits from time to time should write to the Smithsonian Institution, Washington 25, D. C.

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FRANCES COULTER

Miss Frances Coulter, clerk-stenographer in the National Herbarium, died October 16 at Washington Sanatorium. Miss Coulter passed away while undergoing surgery occasioned by injuries she received in an automobile accident early in September.

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"... actually he's chicken — joined Blue Cross."

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LECTURE ON FAR EAST CERAMICS

The Freer Gallery of Art has announced the opening of its fourth annual series of illustrated lectures on Oriental art. The first lecture of the current season was given on Tuesday, October 8th, by John A. Pope, Assistant Director of the Gallery. His subject was "Ceramic Finds in the Far East".

Mr. Pope, who has been on the Gallery staff for more than 14 years, is widely known for his researches in the field of Far Eastern ceramics. His particular interest has been in Chinese porcelain and the history of that commodity as an article of international trade in early times. His studies in this connection have taken him to Europe and the Near East and have resulted in two major publications; one dealing with a selected group of 14th century blue-and-white of the great Ottoman Collection now housed in the Topkapu Sarayi Muzesi in Istanbul, and the second, a larger publication involving an extensive study of the group of some 800

Chinese porcelains remaining from the hoard assembled by Shah Abbas I of Persia and deposited by him in the shrine at Ardebil in 1611.

Last year Mr. Pope carried on his investigations at the other end of Asia, visiting museums, collections, and kilnsites in Japan and paying particular attention to the beginnings of the manufacture of porcelain by the Japanese. During the course of the winter, he also visited most of the countries of Southeast Asia to which the Chinese had exported ceramic wares in ancient times.

The lecture, which was illustrated with color slides, covered was briefly four phases of this long journey. After some description of two of the leading ceramic centers of Japan, the speaker discussed the huge and important collection of Chinese, Japanese, Annamese, and Siamese ceramics now housed in the National Museum in Djakarta, Indonesia.

In Borneo, Mr. Pope was able to study the extensive material excavated in that country under the direction of Tom Harrison, curator of the Sarawak Museum, and to witness some of the work in progress. He described his visits to a number of the sites on the delta of the Santubong River--an area which must have sustained a heavy population of Chinese as long ago as a thousand years--and commented on the types of materials being recovered from the soil.

Mr. Pope also told about two of the kilnsites which he had the opportunity of visiting in central and northern Thailand last February. In this connection, he outlined briefly some of the principal problems in the study of Siamese pottery.

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The reason for failure in most cases is lack of perseverance.

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GEORGETOWN STORE

The interior of a Victorian confectioner's shop, for many years a landmark in the Georgetown area of Washington, D. C., will be preserved for the new Museum of History and Technology.

The elaborate woodwork was installed about the end of the 19th century by J. William Stohlman in the family store, Stohlman's Confectioners Shop, established during the 1820's. This interior became a local "period place" that contributed to the antiquarian flavor of old Georgetown. It is a survival of turn-of-the-century patronage, carefully preserved by J. William Stohlman, Jr., who terminated the business last July.

Imbued with a strong sense of the historical and cultural significance of the store, Mr. Stohlman has carefully kept virtually every fixture and furnishing. Now no longer a living part of the Georgetown community, these have been acquired by the Smithsonian Institution for continued preservation.

The store consisted of ornate woodwork with turned decoration and inset mirrors and shelves placed against the walls. On the shelves stood globular glass candy jars filled with colorful sweets. In front of the shelves were heavy plate-glass and oak display counters, interspersed with low wrapping counters. A cashier's office used to stand in a corner.

In the rear of the store and separated from the front by a "Turkish screen" of turned wooden spindles was the ice-cream parlor.

For special occasions fancy ice creams were shaped in elaborate molds, and their various designs were displayed in the form of painted plaster casts. Molds and casts have been kept, as well as pressed-glass candy display dishes, cast-iron balance scales, and many other accessories.

It is tentatively planned to re-erect one side and the end portion of the store at a later time at the Smithsonian to illustrate a typical phase of town life in turn of the century America.

SECRETARY'S MESSENGER RETIRES

James W. Garner came to the Smithsonian Institution in October 1927 as a member of the guard force. He performed his guard duties faithfully and well for 11 years.

Then, one day in 1939 Mr. Harry Dorsey of the Secretary's Office asked Garner if he would act as messenger temporarily for Secretary Walcott. Garner accepted with pleasure. He must have been an excellent substitute messenger because instead of having the job for a day or so he was given a permanent appointment (on Feb. 1, 1939) as the Secretary's personal messenger. He held that appointment until he retired last October 3.

On that day his many friends gave him a farewell party in the Regents Room and Secretary Carmichael presented him with a billfold containing \$100.

Everyone who has had the pleasure of working with Garner feels regret at his leaving. His is a rare and cheery personality. It never was too much trouble for Garner "to go the extra mile" no matter what the weather or the hour.

Garner insists: "Time has caught up with me." However, his well wishers do not think so, and hope he will have many years left for his "plans" that are far from nebulous. Salve! to a real American.

BRITISH SCIENTIST VISITS

Dr. Olive S. Tattersall of the British Museum (Natural History), one of the leading authorities on mysids (opossum shrimps), recently spent nearly two weeks in the

Division of Marine Invertebrates studying the collection of deep-sea mysids belonging to the genus Lophogaster.

For many years Dr. Tattersall assisted her husband, the late Professor Walter M. Tattersall, with his studies of mysids, and her attractive and accurate drawings added much to the value of his publications. After his death in 1943 she continued to work on the mysids, and has published a number of important contributions, including the Ray Society Monograph, "The British Mysidacea," and the "Discovery" report on the Mysidacea.

TAKES SABBATICAL

Lucile Hoyme, anthropological aid in the division of physical anthropology, sailed for England on September 27 to begin work at Oxford University toward her Ph.D. degree. In recognition of her long and meritorious work with the Smithsonian she was given educational leave for one year.

Miss Hoyme expects to study the effect of environment on human physique as revealed by skeletal material from past times. Much of the material she will be working on is in the British Museum in London.

It is a noteworthy fact that Miss Hoyme came to the division of physical anthropology directly from high school and that she has reached professional status through hard work and perseverance in and out of office hours. A record such as this is rare. All her associates wish her well on this new venture.

WE DON'T KNOW

On a highway in Michigan there's a sign that reads:

"Is he crazy?
Or is he blind?
The man who drives
So close behind."

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ZOO GETS BABY COBRAS

Four baby king cobras (Naja-hannah) have been presented the Washington Zoo by the New York Zoological Society (Bronx Zoo) where they were hatched approximately 2 months ago. This is the second hatching of king cobras at the Bronx Zoo; the first did not survive.

Unlike their 12-foot parents who are dull olive green in color, the 12-inch babies are very colorful, as most juvenile snakes are. They are blue-black with yellow bands across the body from head to tail, and they have black eyes with pupils ringed in yellow.

Although they are babies, they already have their deadly poison, and upon being disturbed raise up and spread their hoods. Their motions are still rather jerky as they crawl around exploring their new surroundings.

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CAR POOL

There's a car pool forming for rides to and from the vicinity of the firehouse on Carroll Ave. in Takoma Park, Maryland. If you are interested please contact Theodore Ruhoff, Ext. 422.

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RIVER BASIN NEWS

During September four of the South Dakota field parties broke camp. The chiefs of these four crews--Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, Dr. Warren W. Caldwell, Mr. Charles H. McNutt, and Mr. Harold A. Huscher--have returned to the Lincoln office.

Dr. Stephenson and Mr. McNutt headed parties in the Oahe Reservoir area, while Dr. Caldwell headed a party in the Big Bend Reservoir area. Mr. Huscher spent the greater part of his field season mapping and testing sites in the Big Bend Reservoir area, but devoted the last two weeks of his season to survey work in the Oahe Reservoir area.

Two parties remain in the area. They are headed by Robert W. Neuman and William N. Irving.

Mrs. Nadine Nelson resigned her position as clerk-typist and moved to Sioux City, Iowa, on September 27.

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DIABETES DRIVE

The Tenth Annual Diabetes Detection Drive is to be conducted this year during the week of November 17 to 23, inclusive. In this purely volunteer effort, the Diabetes Association of the District of Columbia is seeking to identify the estimated 10,000 persons in the Washington area who have diabetes but are unaware of it.

A special testing set (called Dreyapak) will be available free of charge in most drug stores. The set is designed for easy mailing. Smithsonian employees are urged to take advantage of this detection drive.

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FIRST BAKER-NUNN CAMERA TELESCOPE

The first of 12 camera telescopes that will photograph the United States' earth satellite has been completed and is under test in South Pasadena, Calif. When the tiny 20-inch metallic sphere is launched into its orbit around the earth, the Smithsonian's Baker-Nunn cameras will take the first pictures of the "baby moon."

Dr. Fred L. Whipple, Director of the Astrophysical Observatory; Dr. J. A. Hynek, Associate Director and in charge of the Optical Tracking Program; Dr. Karl G. Henize, in charge of the 12 tracking stations all over the world; and other members of the APO staff tested the instrument for the first time on September 24.

The first pictures of the South Pasadena skies showed the instrument to be satisfactory for the purpose intended. Further tests and adjustments have produced successively more satisfactory star photographs. Within a few days Dr. Whipple will formally accept the instrument from the manufacturers.

The telescope's optics (a 30-inch lens system) were manufactured by the Perkin-Elmer Corporation, Norwalk, Conn., and the mechanical elements of the instrument were made by Boller and Chivens, Inc., of South Pasadena. Dr. James G. Baker of Harvard College Observatory designed the optical system, which is so designed that the camera can photograph a tennis ball at a distance of several hundred miles. Joseph Nunn of South Pasadena designed the mounting and other mechanical details.

Before the end of this year the second Baker-Nunn camera will be completed; thereafter, about every two weeks the Astrophysical Observatory will receive an additional camera until 12 are on hand.

The first camera will be set up within a few weeks at the Organ Mountain Station near White Sands, New Mex.

Other camera tracking stations will be in Jupiter, Fla.; Curacao, Netherlands Antilles; Arequipa, Peru; Villa Dolores, Argentina; Elephantsfontein, Union of South Africa; Cardiz, Spain; Shiraz, Iran; Nainital, India; Woomera, Australia; Tokyo, Japan; and Haleakala Maui, Hawaii.

Baker-Nunn cameras are unique in astronomy. They will be able to track the satellite in any direction as it swirls through space around the world every 100 minutes, at a speed of about 18,000 miles an hour.

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NEW APPOINTMENTS:

Museum Curators:

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Elizabeth Dolina (Library)

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Sarah W. Alexander (Freer)

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Charles G. Dentry (Off. of Assistant Director)

Exhibits Workers:

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William B. Eddy (Off. of Exh.)
Francis M. Greenwell (Off. of Exh.)

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Agnes M. Flood (Off. of Ass't. Director)
Lillian B. Braxton (Graphic Arts)
Janet B. Clarke (APO)
Jeanne B. Zimmerman (APO)

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Georgina F. Lodder (Library)
Rita M. Smith (Off. of Dir.)

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Jr. Clerks:

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Joan Ganci (BSIE)
Jerohan D. Patterson (Library)
John A. Spiece (Library)
William K. Vaughn (Library)
Joseph R. Walker (Library)
Carl E. Brooks (Library)

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Lucretia G. C. Pearse (NAM)

Animal Keepers:

Wallace J. Armstrong (NZP)
Caldwell Graham (NZP)

Operating Engineer:

Albert R. Thum

Guards:

Maxino Saberon
Robert M. Anderson
William M. Bailey
Edward M. Brown
Levi D. Graham

Cabinetmaker:

Santi DiBlasi (Freer)

Laborers:

Anginette Franklin
Louise McCoy
Matthew L. Jackson

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Dennis M. Ring
Ian A. C. Rule
Betty A. Neumann

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NOTES FROM ZOO

Dr. James F. Wright recently was appointed to fill the position of veterinarian at the National Zoological Park. Dr. Wright graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1951 with the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. His first years out of school were devoted to private practice in Princeton, N. J., and then he went to the Plum Island Animal Diseases Laboratory, a branch of the Department of Agriculture in Long Island, N. Y., where he worked for 3-1/2 years. He has a small hospital in the Park, and is coping with the many problems that arise in connection with keeping more than 3,000 animals well and happy.

Recent accessions at the Zoo include a pair of trumpeter swans, on loan from the Fish and Wildlife Service. These rare and beautiful birds came from the Red Rock Lakes National Waterfowl Refuge in western Montana.

At the request of the Curator of Archaeology at the Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, the Zoo has been saving feathers dropped by the birds and sending them to the Museum for distribution to the Indians. Many tribal ceremonies were dying out because the Indians were no longer able to bring in birds or feathers from Mexico. A recent letter of appreciation from the Museum said: "Thanks to the last ones you sent, the Pueblos, who hadn't made it rain for 10 years, produced a near cloudburst while performing their August 15th ceremony. Our Indians sincerely appreciate your help in

making these feathers possible. They have asked me to thank you..... We've all been grateful for the wonderful rains in the Southwest this past summer; your part in making these deluges materialize is deeply appreciated."

In view of the drought experienced in Washington and nearby areas this summer, the Zoo is now considering the advisability of keeping a few feathers on hand and training some of the keepers to do the rain dance.

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TELL IT NOW

If with pleasure you are viewing
Any work a man is doing,
If you like him or you love him,
Tell it NOW;

Don't withhold your approbation,
"Till the parson makes oration,
And he lies with snowy lilies
O'er his brow.

For no matter how you shout it,
He won't care about it,
He won't know how many teardrops
You have shed;

If you think some praise is due him.
Now's the time to slip it to him,
For he cannot read his tombstone
When he's dead;

More than fame and more than money
Is the comment kind and sunny,
And the hearty, warm approval
Of a friend.

For it gives to life a savor,
And it makes you stronger,
braver,
And it gives you heart and spirit
To the end;

If he earns you praise bestow it,
If you like him let him know it

Let the words of true encouragement
Be said;

Do not wait 'till life is over,
And he's underneath the clover,
For he cannot read his tombstone
When he's dead.

---Triangle,

FCDA Publication.

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OH, FOR A DAY AT THE SMITHSONIAN!

Andrew Tully in his column in the Washington Daily News of October 17 obtained several exclusive quotes by Queen Elizabeth from a member of the official party. Riding in the Presidential limousine she stated "You know, I have never been to your Smithsonian Institution and I understand it is truly magnificent. It would be so pleasant to spend a day there." At one point in her tour of the Jamestown Festival Mr. Tully states "...she seemed very much the excited tourist--a girl who apparently would trade two state dinners for a day at the Smithsonian."

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FOUR SONS

A. F. Michaels, assistant superintendent, is the proud father of another son, born on September 12. In long-range planning, the superintendent's office should be well staffed as Mr. Michaels now has four sons "in training."

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OUR VOLUNTEER DOCENTS

On October 15 the Junior League Docents of Washington start their third year of conducting elementary school children through four of our modernized exhibit halls. In addition to "The American Indian Hall" and the "The First Ladies Hall," in which they have conducted tours for two years, "Everyday Life in Early America" and "The Power Hall" are being initiated this year.

On October 1 the newest docents and "alumnae" met in Room 43 to get acquainted with the Smithsonian staff members responsible for the installation and preparation of scripts of the various halls. They were greeted by Secretary Carmichael and Museum Director Kellogg, who both expressed their deep appreciation and that of the entire Institution for the splendid work the Junior League Docents are accomplishing in the education of school children from the entire Metropolitan Area. Dr. Kellogg especially commended the "brave" ladies who are going to describe "The Power Hall!"

Staff members responsible for training the docents are F. M. Setzler, director of the docent service, C. Malcolm Watkins (Early America), John C. Ewers (Indians), Mrs. Margaret B. Klapthor (First Ladies), and Robert M. Vogel (Power).

Mrs. Peter Macdonald and Mrs. George Wyeth are the new Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Junior League Docents. Most of their summer was spent in recruiting new docents and planning their program for the year. If the spirit and enthusiasm as shown at this inaugural meeting is maintained, we can expect a banner year in the number of elementary classes escorted through the above exhibit halls.

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T.E.S. SHOW IN VIENNA

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition entitled "San Francisco Bay Region Architecture" was shown at the International Trade Fair last month in Vienna, Austria, under the auspices of the U. S. Embassy. This showing was organized by the Office of International Trade Fairs, U. S. Department of Commerce.

The exhibition consists of free-standing photographic panels demonstrating originality of design, suitability to climate, and skillful and economical use of native materials, notably redwood. The following architects are represented: Anshen and Allen, John S. Boles, Mario Ciampi, Mario Corbett, Henry Hill, Ernest Kump, Donald Powers Smith, Ward Thomas, Wurster, Bernardi and Emmons, among others.

The exhibition was designed by Robert W. Washbush. The selection of buildings--residences, schools, churches, institutional and commercial buildings--was made by a special committee of the Northern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in cooperation with the California Redwood Association.

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GIFT TO FORMER GUARD

Friends of Fred Davis, former guard, recently gathered in the superintendent's office to present a gift to him upon his retirement. Superintendent Oliver, in presenting the monetary gift, expressed the wishes of all of Mr. Davis' friends, that his health might improve with his retirement. Mr. Davis first came to the Smithsonian as a guard in March 1937, and has served in that capacity for almost 15 years.

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FACTS ABOUT FEDERAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Explanatory Note: This is the first of a series of fact sheets on the subject of health insurance which the Civil Service Commission plans to issue in connection with its current recommendation for the enactment of health insurance legislation for Federal employees and their dependents.

The Commission's proposal is embodied in S. 2339 and H.R. 8299 of the 85th Congress.

Questions and answers on the Commission's proposal for health insurance legislation for Federal employees:

Principal Features

Q. What does the proposal provide?

A. It provides for basic health insurance and major medical insurance for employees and their qualified dependents.

Q. Will I have to enroll for both basic health and major medical insurance?

A. Yes, unless you are 65 or over in which case you may, if you wish, enroll for major medical only.

Q. How will I pay for this insurance?

A. Your share of the cost will be deducted from your salary.

Q. Will the Government contribute part of the cost?

A. Yes, approximately one-third.

Basic Health Insurance

Q. What is meant by basic health insurance?

A. Basic health insurance, which most employees already have, gives protection against the normal costs of hospitalization and, usually, of surgical operations.

Q. What basic health plan can I join?

A. There are several basic health plans available in nearly every community. You will be able to choose from those group plans which are available in your locality and which meet certain minimum standards.

Q. Who sponsors these basic health plans?

A. They are privately operated. They may be of the community nonprofit type (such as Blue Cross - Blue Shield), or of the group practice prepayment type, or they may be sponsored by an employee organization, or they may be offered by a commercial insurance company.

- Q. If I now belong to such a plan will I have to drop out?
- A. If you belong to a group plan you will probably be able to continue in the same plan.

Major Medical Insurance

- Q. What is meant by major medical insurance?
- A. Major medical insurance gives supplementary hospital and surgical protection in the case of unusually severe or prolonged illness. Even more importantly, it gives protection against expenses which basic insurance usually covers partially or not at all. Examples of such expenses are doctors' home and office visits, as well as visits in the hospital; special nursing care; costs of drugs and medicines; rental of costly appliances; and many other expenses incident to illness or injury.
- Q. What major medical plan can I join?
- A. The major medical insurance will be a uniform national plan purchased by the Government. Regardless of what basic plan you join, your major medical will be under the uniform plan.
- Q. Do many people carry major medical insurance?
- A. In this country, about 10 million people. (This represents an increase from 1.2 million at the end of 1953.) It has been available only for the last few years but has had a phenomenal growth in that period. Even now it can be bought at a reasonable price only on a group basis, and the Government would be making this protection available at low cost to its employees.

Participation

- Q. Who will be eligible for insurance?
- A. With few exceptions, all employees of the Federal and District of Columbia Governments and their dependents will be eligible. Generally speaking, if you are eligible for Group Life Insurance you will also be eligible for health insurance, though it is not necessary to have one in order to have the other.
- Q. Will employees in hazardous jobs be excluded?
- A. No.
- Q. Will I be able to get this insurance if I am over a certain age?
- A. Yes. No one will be excluded on account of age.
- Q. Will I be able to get this insurance if one of my family or I have diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, or any other chronic condition?
- A. Yes.

- Q. What happens to my health insurance if I quit the Government?
- A. You may continue your basic health insurance but you will lose your major medical insurance.
- Q. If I later return to the Government can I again become insured?
- A. Yes.
- Q. If I enroll, will I be able later on to cancel my insurance?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Will I be able to change my basic health insurance from one plan to another?
- A. Yes, within certain reasonable limits.

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POWER HALL GETS EARLY ENGINE

One of the world's oldest internal-combustion engines, built by its inventor, Nikolaus August Otto, was donated to the Smithsonian on September 17. Officials of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany participated in the ceremony.

The engine, a gift of Kloeckner-Humboldt-Deutz A. G., of Cologne, Germany, was placed in the new Hall of Power Machinery in the Arts and Industries Building. It is in complete working condition, developing one-half horsepower at 80 rpm.

This so-called "atmospheric engine" is one of a group of about 5,000 that Otto manufactured between 1866 and 1876. The design of the engine was the result of experimental work conducted by Otto in Cologne, beginning in 1861. It was during this period that he first experimented with compression of the gas charge in an engine cylinder prior to its ignition, which greatly increased efficiency, and was the basis of his

invention of the four-stroke cycle engine in 1876. The four-stroke engine eventually became standard for automobiles.

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Every man hopes for happiness, and believes that others possess it.

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MONEY! MONEY!

Money-saving suggestions and superior performance of Federal employees stretched the tax dollar by \$169,883,140 in tangible benefits to the Government during fiscal year 1957, Harris Ellsworth, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, announced recently.

Employees themselves benefited by \$9,112,063 in awards during the year. These latest figures bring the benefits to the Government during the first 31 months of the program's operation--

November 30, 1954 to July 1, 1957--to more than \$312 million. During the same period employees received more than \$16 million in cash awards.

In announcing the latest results, Chairman Ellsworth emphasized that the purpose of the program is to benefit the Government by encouraging the ingenuity of Federal employees in seeking better ways of doing their work and stimulating them to top performance in their jobs. "This program," he said, "is paying off in increasing measure in higher production, lower costs, improved service, less hazardous working conditions, and better manpower utilization."

He pointed out that while in fiscal year 1956 only one cash award of \$5,000 was made to an employee, in 1957 five awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000 were paid to employees whose achievements resulted in a combined dollar value benefit to the Government of approximately \$82 million.

Measurable dollar benefits to the Government in fiscal year 1957 jumped about 65 percent over those of fiscal year 1956. Awards to employees jumped about 55 percent.

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CHURCHILL PAINTINGS TO TOUR U.S.

A collection of 30 paintings by Sir Winston Churchill, often described as the world's most famous amateur artist, will be shown to American viewers for the first time in a tour of U.S. art museums next year. The collection has been made available to museums through the Traveling Exhibition Service of the Smithsonian Institution.

The tour will mark the first time Mr. Churchill has permitted his work to be exhibited publicly in the United States and also the first "one-man" show ever staged of the great statesman's major pastime.

After its first exhibition at The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art

in Kansas City in February, the collection will be shown at the Smithsonian Institution. It will then proceed to art museums in major cities in the United States and Canada.

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SPECIAL EXHIBIT

The National Collection of Fine Arts has announced the exhibition of the 20th Metropolitan State Art Contest. This special exhibit, under the auspices of the D. C. Chapter, American Artists Professional League, will open on October 20 in the foyer of the Natural History Building and will continue to November 11.

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GEOLOGIST RETIRES

James H. Benn retired recently after 33 years of service with the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Benn began his long career with the U. S. National Museum in 1924 as a scientific helper in the department of geology, and worked his way through the ranks to the position of museum geologist.

Mr. Benn's chief responsibilities were with the mineral and gem collections. He was especially gifted in working with young people, and had a large following of boys and girls who brought their rocks to him for identification. He gave frequent lectures to civic groups on rocks, minerals, and gems, and appeared on many radio and television programs dealing with these subjects.

Mr. Benn is a past president of the Mineralogical Society of the

District of Columbia and the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies.

Mr. Benn was forced to retire because of ill health; however, he is recuperating rapidly, and his friends at the Smithsonian wish him many years of happiness at his beloved Edisto Island, where he expects to go as soon as his health will permit.

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DON'T BURN UP S. I.

This month Fire Prevention Week is observed throughout the country. We are all aware of the tremendous disaster a carelessly flicked match or cigarette can cause.

A fire, no matter how small, at the Smithsonian Institution would be a national calamity, for while in most cases damage caused by fire can be repaired from receipts from fire insurance, no amount of money could pay for the loss of the precious mementos of the Nation's history entrusted to our care.

Back in 1865 a fire almost destroyed the Smithsonian building. The fire broke out in the second floor and destroyed the upper portions of the edifice. Many collections were entirely destroyed or injured beyond repair, among which were Smithson's personal effects and cabinet of minerals, a large series of portraits of Indians painted and owned by J. M. Stanley, and the collection of physical instruments including Hare's experimental apparatus and the lens used by Priestley for the evolution of oxygen from the oxide of mercury, and by means of which the first distinct recognition of this elementary substance was effected.

Be careful! Our friend Smokey out at the Zoo says: "Only you can prevent a fire at the Smithsonian Institution!"

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WATCH YOUR W-4 FORMS

Every payday the Fiscal Division uses your Withholding Exemption Certificate (Form W-4) to determine how much Federal income tax to deduct from your pay, so it is important that this certificate be accurate and up to date at all times.

If your present certificate is in error--either because your exemptions have changed, or for other reasons--get a new certificate (Form W-4) from the fiscal division and fill it out. If the change affects this year's tax, return the certificate to the fiscal division immediately. If the change affects next year's tax, return the certificate by December 1 and state that it is to be used next year.

Usually your exemptions change when you get married or divorced, when a dependent is born or dies, or when you begin or stop supporting a dependent.

Be careful to avoid claiming any exemption that the law does not allow. Any taxpayer who claims an exemption that he knows he is not entitled to makes himself subject to prosecution. However, if you wish to reduce or omit exemption claims for the purpose of increasing your withholding to an amount nearer your correct income tax, you may do so.

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NEW CURATOR

Howard I. Chapelle recently was appointed curator of transportation, U. S. National Museum. He is a marine architect and naval historian who has written many popular books on sailing vessels.

Mr. Chapelle recently returned from a year's stay in Turkey, where he "undertook a backbreaking work load." He says he is not retiring as a naval architect, but that part of his work will be de-emphasized at the Smithsonian while he works harder on research into naval history.

Mr. and Mrs. Chapelle are living at Hunting Towers in Alexandria, Va., but they plan to spend weekends and holidays at their home in Dorchester County, Md.

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BOX TURTLES WANTED

Dr. Sturtevant of the Bureau of American Ethnology spent ten days last month studying the technique of mask carving with the Seneca Indians in western New York State. He took several box turtles as gifts for his Seneca friends and reports that they were much appreciated. This sort of turtle does not occur in western New York, yet the Seneca Indians need their shells for making rattles for one of their ceremonies. Dr. Sturtevant will visit the Seneca again this winter and would like to take more turtles. He will gladly accept any live box turtles up to about five inches long which may be offered.

The Seneca also need horsetails for the hair on their masks, but if any reader has a dead horse this winter, never mind. (Warning: It is unsafe to pluck hairs from live horses.)

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Nothing is more disgraceful than insincerity.

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PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER

"Anatomy and Taxonomy of the Genus Plathemis (Odonata: Libellulidae)," by Harvey R. Levine. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, 28 pages.

"A New Species of Calanopia (Copepoda: Calanoida) from the Caribbean Sea," by Thomas E. Bowman. Proceedings of the National Museum, 7 pages.

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