Contributions

If you have an item to contribute, 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.

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.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY RETIRES

John E. Graf, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution since 1945, retired on December 31 after 26 years with the Smithsonian.

Mr. Graf was given a farewell party on November 29 in the Great Hall of the Smithsonian Building that was attended by hundreds of his Smithsonian friends.

After a trip to Florida, where he said he "---near gone to death," Mr. Graf dropped by the Smithsonian on January 6 for a short visit.

TWO RECEIVE AWARDS

Secretary Carmichael presented awards for meritorious service on December 12 to John C. Ewers, museum specialist in the office of exhibits, and Mrs. Mona M. Graham, administrative clerk in the office of the Assistant Secretary.

When making the presentations, Secretary Carmichael cited the two recipients as follows:

To Mr. Ewers: "This award is based upon the exceptionally fine work you did on your own limited time in preparing an ethnological report for the Department of Justice while continuing to fulfill your enormous responsibilities as Planning Officer of the Museum of History and Technology."

"Particularly commendable is the fact that during the same period you furnished considerable assistance to the Division of Ethnology in the renovation of Hall 9; and added to your many duties the planning functions for the new wings for the Natural History Building."

To Mrs. Graham: "This award is based upon your exceptional diligence, ability, and initiative involving complex and sensitive problems requiring the exercise of considerable diplomacy and tact."

BAE DIRECTOR RETIRES

Dr. Matthew W. Stirling, Director of the Bureau of American Ethnology, retired on December 31. He was with the Smithsonian Institution for over 30 years.

On the date of his retirement Dr. Stirling was made Chief of the Bureau in 1928, the title being changed to Director 20 years later.

Dr. Frank R. H. Roberts, Jr., Associate Director of BAE and Director of River Basin Surveys, was appointed as Director of the Bureau effective January 1 this year. He will continue to direct the River Basin program in addition to his other duties.

ANCIENT GLASS

"Glass from the Ancient World"--a special exhibition of the Ray Winfield Smith collection--opened in the foyer of the National History Building on December 25, continuing through January 16. Specimens of high artistic, technical, and historical significance were on view, organized on a basis permitting the visitor to observe progressively the contents of about 100 display cases containing man's accomplishment during the first 27 centuries of production in one of the most versatile of all materials.

The preeminence of the Ray Winfield Smith collection has been internationally recognized. Portions of it have been exhibited in the galleries of many museums, including the United States the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Corning Museum of Glass, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Fogg Museum of Art ( Harvard University), Dumbarton Oaks, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. European museums which have exhibited objects from this collection include the Musée du Louvre, Paris, the Château de Mariemont, Belgium, the Dahlem Museum in Berlin, and the Kröpfel­ sches Museum in Heidelberg.

The objects from this exhibition were on display in the special summer show at the Corning Museum of Glass this year.

The Smith collection is particularly rich in vessels and other objects connected with the earliest centuries of the Christian religion and in Islamic cut glass. The Ephraim vase, found in southern Russia, was for some years in the possession of J. Pierpont Morgan. The "Judgment of Paris" bowl is a clear plate painted with this mythological scene in an important technique involving dark contours and the use of numerous colors.

Also of particular interest are the earliest specimens of glass vessels of the type found in royal tombs of Egyptian kings of the Eighteenth Dynasty. Possibly the earliest glass drinking vessel known was on display. Rare types of glass from the Elamite ziggurat at Takhsa-Zakbil in southwestern Iran are also included. The various types of luxury ware from the Roman centuries, such as milifiori, cameo-cut, goldband, etc., are well represented. The earliest known dated object in glass, an Arabic glass vessel stumped made in the year 100 of the Hijrah, is of special interest.

The owner of this collection has been prominent in many years in connection with ancient glass. He is chairman of the International Committee on Ancient Glass, as well as the chairman of the Committee organized by the Archaeological Institute of America in this field.

Mr. Smith, who has written and lectured extensively on ancient glass, is a Fellow of the German Archaeological Institute and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

ALL ABOARD!

Last call for the European tour! To date 46 people have expressed a desire for the bargain-rate 21-day round-trip to Europe which will be via one of the internationally known airlines. Unless at least 75 persons (which may include wives and husbands) sign up by February 1, the trip is off. See December TORCH for details or call Mrs. Kidwell or Mrs. Fields, Ext. 277.
the design in general and the National Capital Planning Commission had approved the location of the twin extensions on the site within existing building lines. The Fine Arts Commission pointed out that the accepted design successfully solved the problem of joining the mass of the wings with the mass of the original building, keeping the total mass of the extended structure in scale with nearby buildings.

The twin extensions have been designed to harmonize with the existing building, which was completed in 1911. Each extension will have a basement, ground, and six upper floors. In matching the existing main structure the architects have designed a facade in which existing cornice lines are continued across the extensions.

Each extension will lengthen the Natural History Building by approximately 200 feet on Constitution Avenue. The extensions, which will be approximately 150 feet in depth along both 9th and 12th Streets, will provide a total of 223,292 square feet of gross floor area.

Blessed is he who has nothing to say, and can’t be persuaded to say it.

BRITISH CONSULTANT DESIGNS NEW HALL

Dr. Derek Price, adviser on scientific instruments to the British Museum, National Maritime Museum (Greenwich), and Whipple Museum (Cambridge, England), has been with the USNM this year in the capacity of consultant in the exhibitions of physical science.

Under Dr. Price’s guidance plans have been drawn for an exhibit hall in physics, mathematics, and astronomy. Some of the features of this hall will be a full-sized reproduction of an Alexandrian observatory, such as that used in the observational work of Ptolemy; a full-sized reproduction of the shop front of the American instrument-maker and dealer Benjamin Pike, with physical instruments displayed therein; the original shop of the pioneer American telescope-maker Henry Fitz (about 1840); and typical mid-19th century astronomical instruments displayed under the original dome of the Dartmouth College Observatory.

In a series of visits to colleges and universities Dr. Price has collected a number of pieces for these displays, as well as others which will make this hall an outstanding exhibition in the field of physical science.

Dr. Price and family returned to England in January.

BUILDING DESIGNS APPROVED

Acceptance of the design of twin additions to the Natural History Building was announced recently by General Service Administration.

At the same time GSA released for publication in behalf of the Smithsonian the facade which has been accepted for the Constitution Avenue frontage of the extended building. The acceptance was announced after the Commission of Fine Arts had approved

RECEIVES RESEARCH GRANT

Secretary Carmichael recently received the first grant for research associated with the Smithsonian Institution by the Creole Foundation. Gordon Hough, United States representative for the Foundation, presented the check on December 13.

The ceremony, which took place in the division of archeology, was attended by Dr. Clifford Evans, associate curator, Dr. Betty J. Meggers, research associate, and Dr. Waldo R. Wedel, curator, all of the division of archeology, and Frank L. Getzler, head curator, in the department of anthropology, and other members of the Smithsonian staff.

The $2,250 grant is for dating by radioactive carbon-14 a large series of charcoal samples obtained from stratigraphic excavations in aboriginal village sites on the Upper Orinoco River and one of its major tributaries, the Rio Ventuari, in Venezuela.

The Creole Foundation, incorporated in 1956 by the Creole Petroleum Corporation of Caracas, Venezuela, has been established as a non-profit organization for "the support and encouragement of educational, cultural, and scientific activities." The objectives of the Foundation are similar to other such organizations in programs in the educational, cultural, and scientific fields in the United States and Venezuela. The Creole Petroleum Corporation is a United States company operating in Venezuela.

The charcoal samples were obtained in February and March when Drs. Evans and Meggers accompanied Dr. José M. Cruxent, director of the Museo de Ciencias Naturales and professor in the Universidad Central de Venezuela, on an archeological expedition into the Territory of Amazonas, Venezuela. Although other parts of Venezuela, especially the coast, have been studied, the tropical forest regions of the interior of Venezuela have not received much attention by trained archeologists.

This research project by Drs. Evans, Meggers, and Cruxent was the first intensive and extensive archeological field project in the Territory of Amazonas, covering 40 aboriginal sites with stratigraphic excavations in the majority of the sites with the collection of over 1-1/2 tons of potshards. These specimens are now being washed, catalogued, and classified.

Charcoal samples of charred wood and charred palm nuts came from various layers in the excavations. Dating these samples by the radioactive carbon-14 method will establish dates for a number of sites, making it possible to pinpoint the cultures in time. These dates will have significance beyond the reconstruction of local prehistory of the Territory of Amazonas, Venezuela. This area occupies a strategic position near the junction of the Amazon and Orinoco drainages and thus holds a key to understanding the aboriginal development of man in the northern part of South America.

A&I EAST ENTRANCE TO BE CLOSED

The buildings management service is planning to remodel the east entrance of the Arts and Industries building beginning about the middle of January. Completion of this work is expected about the end of March. During the time this work is being done it will be necessary to close the entrance to all personnel, and delivery of material of any kind will not be permitted. Cooperation of the staff will be appreciated while the renovation of this entrance is in progress.
THANKS YOU

Charles C. Sinclair, assistant building manager, would like to thank his many friends for their kind thoughtfulness during the long illness of Mrs. Sinclair. He states she is now home and is making satisfactory improvement.

RETIRES

Friends of Thomas N. McCabe, mason in the maintenance division, gathered in the Regents' Room on Friday afternoon, December 20 to wish him many happy years of retirement. Mr. Oliver, buildings manager, presented Mr. McCabe with a monitory gift together with one of the prized Smithsonian retirement cards made by Carl Hellyer.

Mr. McCabe came to the Smithsonian in August 1929 and, with a period of military service during the First World War, has served the Government for 30 years. When presenting the gift Mr. Oliver mentioned several of the "memories" Mr. McCabe has left, such as the building in the east court of the Natural History Building and the portion of the cement roadway back of the Smithsonian Building.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Corporal John N. Swope of the guard force who married recently.

ANTHROPOLOGISTS MEET IN CHICAGO

Four members of the National Museum's department of anthropology participated in the 56th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association held in Chicago at the Palmer House from December 27 through December 30. This was the largest meeting in the history of the Association, with over 950 registered delegates and with as many as 8 to 10 simultaneous sessions.

Public reaction to the mobs crowding the corridors, jamming the elevators, and overflowing the 3d and 4th floor meeting rooms, was demonstrated by the following incident. Delegates wearing their blue label-label identification tags and jammed into the back of the elevator descending from the 23rd floors of the Palmer House were eyed by a smartly dressed woman and her escort with black bonnet and expensive overcoat. One asked: "What group is having the convention?" Cliff Evans answered "The American Anthropological Association." The American Anthropological Association." As the elevator stopped at the 4th floor and about half a dozen anthropologists squeezed out, they heard the remark, "Ask a foolish question and you'll get a foolish answer!"

One well-attended session was a symposium entitled "Migrations in New World Cultural History." In this symposium Dr. Betty J. Meggers, research associate, delivered a paper written jointly with Dr. Clifford Evans, associate curator of the division of archaeology, entitled "Archaeological Evidence of a Prehistoric Migration from the Rio Napo, Ecuador, to the Mouth of the Amazon." In the same symposium a paper prepared by Dr. Marshall T. Newman, associate curator of the division of physicalanthropology, read a paper entitled "A Trial Formulation Presenting Evidences from Physical Anthropology for Migrations from Mexico to South America.

LOST

The library would like to recover a lost book: "The Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art," by Harold James Plenderleith. If you find this book please notify the librarian, Ext. 382 or 203.

DIAMOND JUBILEES

The Civil Service Commission this year is celebrating 75 years of service to the citizens of the United States. On January 16, 1853, the Civil Service Act was signed into law and established the framework for a personnel system under which today over two million employees work for the American people.

To the citizen who applies for a Federal job and for the one who is a Federal career worker, the merit system established by the Civil Service Act is a guarantee that he may qualify for a job on the basis of ability to do the work, without discrimination with regard to race, religion, national origin, or politics. It entitles him to consideration for promotion on a merit basis, and it provides protection from arbitrary dismissal and from being obliged to render any political service or tribute.

To the citizen who is not a Federal employee and who does not seek such employment, the merit system guarantees selection of the best qualified people available for the public service. It requires of public servants high standards of conduct and competence in their employment.

To all citizens it means a stable Government service capable of preserving the continuity of essential government programs required by the American people. It means freedom from the upheavals of an old spoils system which, with each change of administration, saw such mass removals of Government workers that the Government machinery was frequently brought to a complete standstill.

All Federal employees are encouraged to participate in community activities commemorating the 75th anniversary of the merit system.
BOOK AND PENCIL TIPS

Time once more to turn leisure time to profit. Registration begins at local universities and the Department of Agriculture graduate school the first week in February. The variety of courses offered at these institutions provides many opportunities for self-improvement which can lead to greater employment opportunities.

Catalogs and information are available in the Personnel Division. Come in and help yourself. A member of the staff will be glad to help you plan your educational program.

Speech is the dress of thought. Remember this every time you talk for your mind will be on parade.

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LILIAN C. WARFIELD

Miss Lilian C. Warfield, nurse at the National Gallery of Art, died on December 31. Miss Warfield was the Gallery's representative on the Board of Directors and was a member of the Credit Committee of the Smithsonian Institution Employee's Federal Credit Union. She was the Credit Union's collector at the National Gallery since 1944.
EXHIBIT AT BRUSSELS FAIR

The Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service has been invited by Howard S. Cullman, U. S. Commissioner-general for the Brussels World Fair of 1958, to organize an exhibition of "American Folk Art" to be shown in the United States Pavilion.

Mrs. John A. Pope, chief of the Traveling Exhibition Service, and Leslie Cheek, Jr., Director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Art in Richmond, are in charge of the exhibition, which will emphasize America's rich heritage in the popular arts with approximately 75 carefully selected paintings and sculptures.

Included will be characteristic paintings, many by anonymous artists, showing life in America in the 18th and 19th centuries. Large-scale nearly American wood sculpture--ships' figureheads, cigar-store Indians, circus horses, and weathervanes--will be shown in the modern building designed by architect Edward Stone.

DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE

Dr. John A. Pope, Assistant Director of the Freer Gallery, appeared on the recent opening TV program of the University "What in the World" over WCAU in Philadelphia. Perhaps some will remember this interesting program when it was a network broadcast.

Postcards to our local stations might aid "What in the World" in obtaining a network outlet in Washington. This program has a great deal to offer in the way of education and is presented in a delightful and interesting manner.

RECIPE

John W. Macy, Jr., former executive director of the Civil Service Commission, gives this prescription for public service, as he borrowed it from an official of the Canadian Government: "Mix equal parts of knowledge, imagination and judgment, add a large pinch of patience, sufficient moral courage and, if you can find it, a good sense of humor. Stir in a bit of enthusiasm and, if the prescription is still hard to take, add a good deal of gratitude for the privilege of being able to work in and for a country that gives you so many blessings to enjoy."

LETTURES ON ORIENTAL ART

Dr. Jane G. Mahler of Columbia University will present an illustrated lecture on "The museum of Medieval Burma" in the auditorium of the Freer Gallery of Art at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11.

This is the second of the Freer Gallery's 1958 series of illustrated lectures on Oriental art.

On January 7 a lecture on "The Korean Imperial Treasures" was presented by Harold F. Stern, assistant in Japanese art at the Freer.

ENGAGED

Wedding bells will ring this year for Joyce Lee Hurley, Freer Gallery of Art, who is now wearing a beautiful engagement ring.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1957

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<th>Liabilities</th>
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<td>Prepaid Exp.</td>
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STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

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<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<td>Misc. expenses</td>
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<td>Net profit</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>1956</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income</td>
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STATISTICAL REPORT

| Loans made in 1956 | $1,061,023.79 |
| Loans made in 1957 | $1,075,695.34 |
| Loans outstanding December 31, 1957 | 7,290 | 7,290 |
| Loans outstanding December 31, 1956 | 7,290 | 7,290 |
| Bad loans written off since organization | 50 | 421.45 |
| Total paid on shares since organization | 319,609.35 |
| Number of members December 31, 1957 | 729 |
| Number of members December 31, 1956 | 716 |
| Dividends paid since organization | 21 | 1,270.42 |
| U.S. Savings Bonds sold since organization | 7,365 | 58,653.50 |

THOMAS F. CLARK, Treasurer
EXCAVATES INDIAN MOUND

A famous West Virginia Indian mound recently excavated under the direction of Frank M. Setzler, head curator of anthropology, has yielded important information on the life and customs of the 400-year-old Adena people of the Ohio Valley.

The mound was located 16 miles south of one of the largest Indian mounds in the United States—the Grave Creek mound at Mountsville, W. Va. Measuring 20 feet high and 110 feet in diameter, and situated on the third terrace above the Ohio River, the mound was doomed to imminent annihilation because of the tremendous expansion program in this rapidly growing industrial area between Wheeling and Huntington.

Comment Mr. Setzler: "A bulldozer could have leveled the 100,000 cubic feet of earth in a couple of days. However, the Columbia-Southern Chemical Corp., a subsidiary of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., recognized the scientific possibilities and saw the chance to record and preserve whatever archeological materials the mound might contain. The director of the Natrum plant, C. E. Wolf, thereupon sought the assistance of the Smithsonian Institution and indicated that his corporation would supply the labor, equipment, laboratory facilities, and an engineer if the Institution would send an archeologist to direct the excavation."

This unique offer of collaboration was accepted, and Mr. Setzler spent the period from October 7 to November 22 at the site, working with a crew of about half a dozen men using shovels and mattocks. The spoil dirt and the eroded sides were moved by a bulldozer.

"One of the most remarkable specimens uncovered," says Mr. Setzler, "was a carved effigy tubular pipe. The normal pipe of these Adena people was a straight tube. In this case the prehistoric sculptor carved the head and neck of a shoveler duck with an expanding bill, eyes, and slit for nostril. But the most diagnostic speciimen was a series of fine incised lines on the underside of the bill to represent the lamellae so characteristic of shoveler ducks. This pipe represents the only bird effigy recorded from an Adena mound and is the third carved tubular pipe from this cultural horizon. It is made from Ohio limestone, a type of material relatively soft and easy to carve when freshly dug from the ground. After exposure to the air the stone becomes the indelible brittke.

"Three adult human skeletons had been buried in the mound. The bodies were lying on and covered with several layers of what appeared to be oak bark. The acidity developed by these bark coverings rapidly decomposed all perishable objects buried with the dead. Even the bones of the skeletons were hardly more than imprints in the earth. A large canine tooth, possibly of a wolf, was found in the mouth cavity of the male skeleton. This could indicate that he was buried wearing a shaman or tribal leader costume such as a wolf mask. A mask of this type has been found in one of the Ohio Adena mounds. In one sense these central burials were unique in the absence of non-perishable objects such as stone, bone, or shell associated with the dead."

The artifacts and skeletal materials recovered from the mound will be subjected to detailed study at the U. S. National Museum before a full report on the site can be made and the finds finally evaluated."

PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER

"Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution for the Year Ended June 30, 1956" 500 pages, including Appendix of 18 articles on Science and Technology.

Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections:
- "Medical and Veterinary Importance of Cockroaches," by Louis M. Roth and Edwin R. Willis; 147 pages.
- "Morphology and Taxonomy of the Foraminiferal Genus Pararotalia Le Calves," by Alfred R. Loeblich, Jr., and Helen Tappan; 24 pages.

"Mineralogical Studies on Guatemalan Jade," by William F. Foxbag; 60 pages.
- "Revised Interpretation of the External Reproductive Organs of Male Insects," by R. E. Snodgrass; 60 pages.
by Matthew W. Stirling; 28 pages.
No. 54, "Valladolid Maya Enumeration," by John P. Harrington; 38 pages.
No. 55, "Letters to Jack Wilson, the Paiute Prophet, Written Between 1908 and 1911," edited and with an introduction by Grace M. Dangsberg; 18 pages.
No. 56, "Factionalism at Taos Pueblo, New Mexico," by William N. Fenton; 48 pages.

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CORRECTION

The annual meeting of the Credit Union will be held in Room 43 of the Natural History Building on January 21 at 3 p.m. In last month's issue of the Torch the date of the meeting was given as January 2; this was an error. All employees are urged to attend this important meeting, at which the dividend will be declared and committee members for the ensuing year elected.

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