



May 1958

THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH



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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.

May 1958

Number 39

SECRETARY PRESENTS AWARDS

In ceremonies in the Regents Room on May 7, Secretary Carmichael presented awards to eight members of the staff of International Exchange Service, to seven members of the library staff, and to the assistant buildings manager.

Letters of commendation and a cash award of \$10 were presented to Jeremiah A. Collins, chief of the International Exchange Service, and to the following members of that agency: Walter Esrich, Mrs. Lena Hill, William Pumphrey, Oswald Robertson, Albert Yetter, Harold Duerden, and Carl Hellyer. Also included were Dan Williams, Bosie Mayfield, and Robert Gaskins, former employees of the IES. These awards were made for special contribution to more effective and economical management of the International Exchange Service, leading to "the use of corrugated cartons instead of wooden boxes for shipment of various types of publications." Secretary Carmichael said that "in addition to the obvious cash savings resulting from the use of this type of container a serious storage problem is also overcome, since it is possible now to store a year's supply of cartons in the space previously required for a 3-month supply of wooden boxes."

Letters of commendation were presented to Ruth E. Blanchard, head librarian, and to the following members of the library staff: Mrs. L. Frances Jones, George H. Goodwin,

Mrs. Evelyn Jackson, Coles Taylor, David Ray, and Mrs. Gloria Mauney. Also included were Mrs. Leila F. Clark and Mrs. Elisabeth Gazin, who retired last year. The letters commended the individuals for "the exceptionally fine job done in clearing and reorganizing all the publications in the west stacks of the Smithsonian Institution Building during the summer and fall of 1957."

Andrew F. Michaels, assistant buildings manager, received a certificate of award and \$100 in cash for his "unique achievement in designing such versatile panels, screens, and lighting fixtures for the 1958 Board of Regents exhibit, that this equipment may be adapted repeatedly for numerous other exhibits with a minimum of effort and cost."

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CARIBBEAN EXPEDITION

Dr. Waldo Schmitt and Dr. Jack Clarke returned on May 5 from the Caribbean where they were members of the 1958 Smithsonian-Bredin Expedition. There were two other members of the party: Mr. John Finlay, malacologist, of Varadero Beach, Cuba, and Dr. Carl N. Shuster, marine biologist from the University of Delaware. During the first week Mr. Bruce Bredin, sponsor, accompanied the expedition.

Schmitt and Clarke emplaned at Washington and flew to St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands, where they met the 86-foot schooner "Freelance," their home for the following six weeks. This is the same

ship that was used in the 1956 expedition.

The crew of this ship consists of the cook, the first mate, the engineer, and two deck hands. All are native Antiguan. The skipper, Capt. Desmond Nicholson, who also skippered the ship in 1956, is an expert diver and marine man who supplemented the expedition's personnel very effectively.

After departure from St. Thomas the expedition visited St. John, Tortola, Jost Van Dyke, Sandy Island, Virgin Gorda, Prickly Pear, Peter, Norman, Anegada, Anguilla, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts, Nevis, Redonda and Antigua (plus Green and Bird Islands off the coast of Antigua) and Barbuda.

The collections made on this trip will not bulk as large as those of 1956 but, as a result of previous experience, are more selective.

Perhaps the highlights of the trip were the visits to Dark, Bryant, and Darby Caves on Barbuda and to Bat Cave on Antigua. The caves on Barbuda, in the interior highlands, required the use of horses for two days. Dark Cave contains five freshwater pools where blind shrimp and other crustaceans live. Thousands of millipedes, of a slender species, roamed the floor of the cave.

Bryant and Darby Caves are actually "sinks" caused by the collapse of the roofs of former caverns. The bottom of the Bryant Cave contains a large pool beneath an overhang, and all the rocks and surface of the ground are slimy and forboding. There is a broad overhang at Darby Cave, too, and at one end there is a large stalagmite and a corresponding stalactite. The unique feature of this place, however, is the growth of tall palms and many lianas in contrast to the otherwise scrubby growth of the Island.

Bat Cave, on Antigua, is intensely hot and is populated by thousands of bats. We were constantly hit by hundreds of these, since we could neither avoid them nor could they avoid us. The floor of the cave, covered with bat guano, is a seething mass of beetles, larvae, and

cockroaches. An extended exploration of this cave was halted by a recent rockfall.

The expedition boasts some good fishing, too. One 7-foot marlin, five dolphins, four sharks (one an 8-footer), barracuda, and many smaller fishes were caught. Several whales and numerous porpoises were seen.

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ELECTED TO GW BOARD

Secretary Carmichael was elected to membership on the board of trustees of George Washington University at the annual meeting of the board held recently

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DR. JOHN R. SWANTON

Members of the staff of the Bureau of American Ethnology were grieved to hear of the death of the much beloved Dr. John R. Swanton at his home in Newton, Mass., on May 2d.

Dr. Swanton, 85, an ethnologist on the staff of the Bureau for more than 40 years, retired in 1944. A gentle, kind, and retiring person, he was the world's foremost authority on the Indians of the Southeast. He wrote more than 200 authoritative articles and at least a dozen monographs on the Indians of this area. Of his monographs, most of which appeared in the Bulletin series of the Bureau, perhaps the most sought-after is "The Indians of the Southeastern United States," published in 1946. It is the most comprehensive single work on the Southeastern Indians.

While his specialty included the Creeks, the Caddo, the Ofo, Natchez, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Timucua, Tunica, Catawaba, and others in the Southeast, he also made important studies of the Tlingit, Haida, and Chinook of the Northwest Coast, and of the language of the Dakota (Sioux) of the Plains.

One of his best-known studies was made as chairman of the U. S. De Soto Expedition Commission, which attempted to trace in detail the route of De Soto's 1539-1541 explorations in the southern states. He had a strong interest in history, and was one of the founders of ethno-history, a branch of ethnology. Besides a vast amount of work with documentary sources on the southern Indians, he conducted many field investigations of surviving Southeastern Indian groups, and made especially important contributions in the field study of their languages. His early theoretical work on social organization was important in the development of anthropology.

An old-timer tells that in the days when Dr. Swanton's office was across the hall from that of the Smithsonian's Secretary, the line of visitors waiting to see Dr. Swanton often exceeded in length that waiting outside the door of the Secretary's office.

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Humility is the solid foundation of all the virtues.

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ATTENDS CONFERENCE IN DENMARK

Dr. Henry B. Collins of the Bureau of American Ethnology will leave for Copenhagen on May 18 to attend an International Conference on Arctic Anthropology to be held at the Danish National Museum May 19-22. He and three other American anthropologists have been invited to participate in the Conference, along with one from Canada, four each from Denmark and the U.S.S.R., and two each from Norway, Sweden, and Finland.

Conference members will discuss plans for international cooperation in Arctic anthropology, and one of the anticipated results will be arrangements whereby American and West European anthropologists will be permitted to conduct field work in the U.S.S.R., including Siberia. American anthropologists, in particular, have long looked forward to the time when they would be allowed to travel and conduct field investigations in Siberia, for this is the area in which the ultimate solution to the most important problem--the origin of the American Indians and Eskimos--is to be sought.

Expenses of the American and Canadian participants will be paid through a grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

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A REMINDER

The Federal Safety Council lists the following hazards to safety in office work:

1. Typewriter not secured to desk.
2. Broken casters on chairs.
3. Open desk drawers (tripping hazard).
4. Files not secured.
5. Heavy materials stored in top drawer or on top of files.

6. Open file drawers (tripping hazard).
7. Obstructions placed or left in aisles or passageways.
8. Telephone cord not secured or enclosed.
9. Adding machine cord adrift.
10. Desk light cord frayed and adrift. (Don't make your own repairs on any electrical fixtures.)
11. Razor blade in pin or clip bowl.
12. Closing desk drawers with fingers overlapping inside.
13. Pencils and pens in holder which permits points to protrude (puncture wounds).
14. Glass top desks with cracked or chipped edges.
15. Ashtrays near wastebaskets or papers on desk.
16. Wastepaper baskets in aisle or walking area around desk.
17. Poor securing of steno chair back.
18. Sharp file fasteners.
19. Scissors in or on desk without protective cover of points.
20. Splintered or rough edges on wooden furniture.
21. Throwing paper clips or shooting rubber bands. (Horseplay)
22. Sharp edges on filing cabinet drawers or accessories.
23. Loose fixtures such as shelves, lights, fans, etc.
24. Carelessness during paper-cutting or stapling actions.
25. Office machines or other heavy items too near edge of desk.
26. Bookcases not secured and unstable.
27. Broken office equipment.
28. Unauthorized and/or improper use of hot plates, coffee makers, and other individual heating units. (Fire hazard)
29. Unauthorized or improper adjustments to air conditioning units. (Fire hazard)
30. YOU.

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AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE EXHIBIT

An exhibit including a "Falcon" missile, the first successful air-to-air guided missile, was presented to the National Air Museum on April 15.

The presentation was made for the Hughes Aircraft Company, manufacturer of the missile, by Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona in whose state the missile was manufactured.

Secretary Carmichael received the exhibit for the Smithsonian.

Accompanying the exhibit, and presented at the ceremonies the same day, was a framed letter to Secretary Carmichael from General Thomas D. White, Chief of Staff of the Air Force. The letter, presented by Brigadier General Emmett F. Yost, Commanding General of the 85th Air Division, Air Defense Command, reads:

"The Falcon GAR-1 guided missile featured in this display represents a milestone in the rapid technological advances of this age. Developed and manufactured for the United States Air Force by Hughes Aircraft Company, it was the first operational air-to-air guided missile. Since its introduction in 1955, this potent armament of the all-weather interceptor has provided the Air Defense Command with an effective deterrent to enemy air attack.

"Accomplishments in military technology achieved by the combined efforts of American industry and the military services will offer equal application to peaceful purposes as well as to provide a strong force in maintaining world peace."

In accepting the gift, Secretary Carmichael stated: "On behalf of the National Air Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, I accept this gift of the Falcon GAR-1 guided missile. It will be a valued item in our Collections denoting the historic development of air power in America."



"He has everything — good job
— sports car — Blue Cross!"

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FUNNY, ISN'T IT?

When the other fellow takes a long time to do something; he's slow. But when I take a long time to do something, I'm thorough.

When the other fellow doesn't do it; he's too lazy. But when I don't do it, I'm too busy.

When the other fellow goes ahead and does something without being told, he's overstepping his bounds. But when I go ahead and do something without being told that's initiative.

When the other fellow states his side of a question strongly, he's bull-headed.

But when I state my side of a question strongly, I'm being firm.

When the other fellow does something that pleases the boss, he's polishing the brass.

But when I do something that pleases the boss, that's cooperation.

When the other fellow overlooks a few of the rules of etiquette he's rude. But when I skip a few of the rules, I'm original.

When the other fellow gets ahead, he sure had the lucky breaks. But when I manage to get ahead, Man! Hard work did that!

Funny, isn't it---or is it?

--The Revere Patriot

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NEW APPOINTMENTS

Museum Curators:

William J. McGrath, Jr. (S&T)
Eugene S. Fergusson (Mechanical & Civil Engineering)

Field Representative:

Walter A. Munn (APO)

Observers:

Robert A. James (APO)
Claude F. Knuckles (APO)

Computer:

Reilly Atkinson (APO)

Mail and File Supervisor:

John F. Jameson, II (Office of Secretary)

Clerk:

Mary M. Ingraham (E&P)

Communication and Teletype Operator:

Terrence P. Currier (APO)

Junior Clerk:

Marjorie H. Mitchell (BSIE)

Clerk-Stenographers:

Mary E. P. Wright (Medical Sciences)
Mary M. Sone (S&T)
Emily M. Ross (Political History)

Clerk-Typists:

Sara J. S. Feves (USNM-Office of Director)
Mary-grace J. Kelleher (APO)
Lenora E. Posey (Library)
Dorothy E. Davenport (Library)

Guards:

Ernest B. Bell
Edward J. Cauthers, Jr.
Joseph W. Estep

Elevator Operator:

Una M. Reid

Laborers:

Everett Parker
Godfrey A. Atlee
Joseph S. Branson
Fausto Bocanegra (CZBA)
Heriberto Ruiz (CZBA)

SEPARATIONS:

John Wesley Brown
Willie Evans
Shirley S. Dols
Marion S. Drummond
Jane E. Henderson
Emmett A. Holton
Walter Shropshire, Jr.
Robert M. Claggett
Harry Escott
Riley Middleton
Irvin C. Thompson
Richard E. Jensen
Eddie Gerald
Antonio M. Herazo
Alice E. Till

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CONVERTED TO CAREER APPOINTMENTS

The following employees have completed the required three years in career-conditional status and are now full-fledged employees:

William P. Casper (BMS)
Nancy H. Miller (NZP)

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Ability is a poor man's wealth.

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ON PROGRAM AT AAM MEETING

Secretary Carmichael and several members of the Smithsonian staff gave lectures at the 53d Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums at Charleston, S. C., May 1-3. The theme of the meeting was Higher Standards for a New Museum Public.

The re-election of Secretary Carmichael as a member for three years of the Council of the AAM was announced at the meeting.

The Secretary gave an address on the importance of considering the anatomical and physiological makeup and the psychological characteristics of museum visitors in planning modern, educational, museum displays. He also emphasized the fact that in seeking for variety and pleasing effects in exhibits the rules of esthetics in regard to color, form, texture, movement, and sound must be considered.

So-called "museum fatigue," the Secretary pointed out, is often quite as much a matter of change in the visitor's motivation and interest as he walks from case to case as it is of a basic alteration in his muscle cells.

The Secretary explained that at the Smithsonian Institution combined teams of administrators, curators, exhibit planners, artists, and skilled workers labor hand in hand in the difficult creative task of constructing each new exhibit. Colored slides picturing some new Smithsonian exhibits were shown.

Rutherford J. Gettens, associate in technical research at the Freer Gallery of Art, presented a paper entitled "Examining Table for Objects of Art."

Mr. Gettens pointed out the need in museums and in conservators' studies for a special table for the examination of works of art. He described two tables at the Freer that were designed

especially for the examination of objects such as bronzes, ceramics, and small sculpture. He also discussed the problem of examining tables for paintings and the accessories needed, and he outlined a procedure for the systematic examination of objects.

A paper entitled "Cross-Sections of Layered Structures in Polyester Resin" was read by Elisabeth H. West, assistant in technical research at the Freer.

She stated that the technique of cross-sectioning of layered structures in polyester resin has been applied chiefly to samples from oil paintings but that it can also be applied to wall painting on plaster and to such diverse materials as false and natural bronze patina and ceramic glazes. Miss West pointed out that a convenient permanent mounting method has been developed, simplifying the polishing procedure, labeling, storage, and use under the microscope. She described the method of preparation and the materials and apparatus used, discussed the photography of cross sections in black-and-white and color, and showed photographs of cross-sections of a variety of materials.

Mrs. Bertha M. Usilton, librarian at the Freer spoke to the librarians section on "What's New in Museum Libraries." She described the library as a research and reference collection and compared the services expected of the librarian today with those of the librarian of yesterday, who was primarily a custodian of the books.

Following a well annotated description of modern museum library "tools," Mrs. Usilton closes her talk with these words.

"The ivory tower concept that has dogged bookmen and scholars from the early ages will pass and the fictional treatment of librarians

will be modernized with our giving of service. The uninitiated visitor may be confused at first by the whirl of activity in the reading rooms and library offices, but not as confused as he will be by the type of people revealed there.

"Not all readers are bald, bearded, and bespectacled eggheads. Not all she-librarians wear their hair in buns but have given way to feathercuts and chignons. Not all he-librarians look like bookworms who have spent their evenings in the stacks underground.

"The public may raise their eyebrows to find these stereotyped bookworms emerging from work to head for the golf course, the swimming pools, the bowling alley, and other centers of activity not associated with librarians; but he ought not to be surprised. In Fountains, Not Reservoirs,' Arthur Parsons debunks the stereotyped image of librarians with the reminder that one of them may be the 'glamor girl' down the street or the young man on the next block who is a sports-car enthusiast. Who would have guessed that librarians are recruited from neighborhood human beings?"

Mendel L. Peterson, curator of history, spoke on the subject "Re-Appraisal for History Museums."

John Walker, Director of the National Gallery of Art, evaluated the audio system used there and discussed whether it attains its educational objectives.

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ASTROPHYSICIST HAS BUSY SCHEDULE

Dr. John Rinehart, of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, recently spent two weeks in Sweden and Germany where he lectured on meteorites and related matters. In Stockholm he was a guest of the Swedish Government, and in Freiburg, Germany, he was a guest of the Advisory Group for

Aeronautical Research and Development, NATO. While at Freiburg Dr. Rinehart presented a paper on "Meteorites and Ballistics" at a conference commemorating the 100th year of birth of Prof. Granz, the famous German ballistician.

On April 28 Dr. Rinehart delivered the Orton Memorial Lecture before the annual meeting of the American Ceramic Society in Pittsburgh, Pa. The title of his lecture was "Meteorites, Satellites, and Ceramics."

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BRAZILIAN ARCHEOLOGIST VISITS

Peter Paul Hilbert, anthropologist of Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia, Museu Paraense "Emilio Goeldi," in Pará, Brazil, is now conducting research in cooperation with Dr. Clifford Evans and Dr. Betty J. Meggers of the division of archeology as a result of a National Science Foundation Grant for the study of migration routes in northern South America.

Mr. Hilbert has worked in museums in Belém and Macapá, Brazil, since 1948, totally revising the exhibits in both museums. In addition he has conducted archeological excavations on the Rios Tapajos, Trombetas, Cumina-Erepecurú between Parintins and Santarém, Rio Negro, Manacapurú on the Solimões, and on the Amazon between the mouth of the Tapajos and the Xingú.

The present study is of extreme significance because of the unusual materials used in tempering the aboriginal pottery. These include a siliceous bark of a tree called "cariapé," and sponge spicules from a tree sponge growing along the rivers called "cauixi." The use of these materials is so distinctive culturally that it is possible to relate pottery in the middle Amazon to that from the eastern side of Peru and Ecuador

as well as adjoining areas by relationships in temper.

Mr. Hilbert was educated in Germany and the University of Zurich. He will remain at the Smithsonian until July, when he will return to Brazil by way of Costa Rica to attend the International Congress of Americanists.

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RIVER BASIN NEWS

Four papers were read by members of the staff of the Missouri Basin Project at the 68th annual meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences held at the University of Nebraska, in Lincoln, on April 18.

Dr. Robert L. Stephenson, chief, discussed the newly inaugurated Missouri Basin Chronology Program.

The other papers included "The Chronology of Early Remains at the Medicine Crow Site, 39BF2, South Dakota," by William N. Irving; "La Roche Ware and Relative Chronology" by Charles H. McNutt; and "A Bibliography of the Indian Archeology of the Central and Northern Plains" by Richard P. Wheeler.

Dr. Warren W. Caldwell, staff archeologist who is currently directing salvage operations in the Dardanelle Reservoir area, west-central Arkansas, was elected chairman of the anthropology section of the Academy for 1959.

A bibliography of primary sources for radiocarbon dates, prepared by Charles H. McNutt and Richard P. Wheeler in connection with the Missouri Basin Chronology Program, has been submitted to an American archeological journal for publication. This compilation of 33 titles, arranged in chronological order of publication, embraces all of the known date-lists. It should be helpful to archeologists, geologists,

and others in tracking down the dates now available.

The Anthropology class of Dr. Linwood L. Hodgdon of Kansas State College, Manhattan, visited the Missouri Basin Project laboratory on April 24. Dr. Stephenson conducted a guided tour through the offices and laboratory for Dr. Hodgdon and the group of 13 students.

Dr. Warren W. Caldwell reports that heavy rains have hampered the work of the salvage crew in the Dardanelle Reservoir during the past few weeks.

Mrs. Daphne Beghtol, clerk-typist, died on April 29. She had been hospitalized since April 19. Funeral services were held on May 2 in Westminster Presbyterian Chapel.

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BIG SPECS

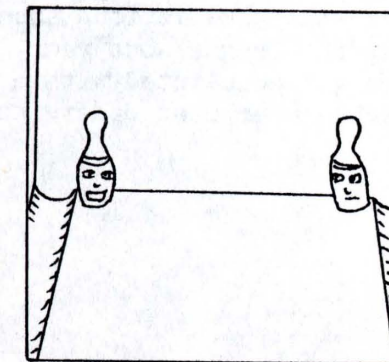
Shuffling quickly through a sheaf of requisitions, a staff member read one as "Eye glasses for an African elephant!" A retake disclosed it to be "Eyes, glass, 36 mm, 2 pair (for African elephant)."

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HOME STRETCH

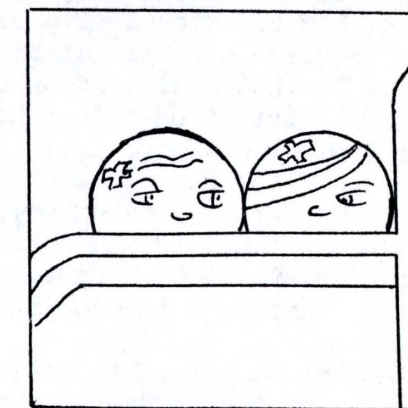
The S. I. Bowling League is on the last quarter of its season to pick a winner, runner-up, and so on down the line. By the end of April the MARKS (Marquardt, Fabrizio, Almario, L. Shaw, and Lagundo), in second place as of last month, had

battled their way to a 4-game lead over their closest competitor, the NAMS. At this time of year it might be enough to bring them home in front. Their success is all the more outstanding when one considers that the team was "thrown together." Only one member had an established average and had bowled in the league before; four were newcomers with no averages.



Watch Vera lose her temper!

Individually, honors have remained somewhat stationary the past month. Elmo Miller (NAMS) leads in all categories but one for the men--the exception being Ed Roy's (NATS) bid for more strikes than anyone else for the year. Carl Hellyer (K-B's) possibly put himself in line for high game by rolling 141 recently, since no one can get more than one prize. Jessie Shaw continues to lead in the average and high spares columns, while Esther Miller has high set and Mildred Keddy has high game so far.



You're right! One Miller is like another!

In the recent election of officers for the coming year Harvey Drack (MECHS) turned the presidency over to Curt Sabrosky (COGS); Simmie Forinas (NAMS) replaced Bill Boyle (K-B's) as vice president; and Maria Hoemann (FINS) turned over the secretary's office to Clara Swallen.

It is hoped other Smithsonian employees will give serious thought to joining the league next year. It's fun; and you get acquainted with co-workers you might never meet otherwise.

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SUMMER SCHOOL

Catalogs and leaflets on summer school opportunities are now being received in the personnel division. Come in and explore the opportunities available to you that may lead to career advancement.

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CURATOR RECEIVES AWARD

Dr. Gustav Arthur Cooper, head curator of the department of geology, recently received the Mary Clark Thompson Medal of the National Academy of Sciences "for his contribution to our knowledge of the biology and stratigraphic significance of the fossil brachiopods."

Dr. Cooper was one of seven distinguished scientists who were presented with medals at the 95th Annual Meeting of the Academy held in Washington on April 28.

Another member of the award-winning group was Dr. George Van Biesbroeck, emeritus professor of astronomy at Yerkes Observatory, Wisconsin, and consultant

on the Smithsonian's Satellite Tracking Program. Dr. Van Biesbroeck received the Academy's James Craig Watson Medal "for his noteworthy contributions to astronomy."

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SOME EDUCATION COSTS ARE DEDUCTIBLE

The Internal Revenue Service has recently issued new regulations to permit certain educational expenses of Federal employees to be treated as deductible items on their Federal income-tax returns. The new regulations are retroactively effective to 1954. Claims for refund for the tax years 1955 to 1957 must be filed within three years after the returns were due for the particular tax year involved.

The regulations require some direct relationship between the educational expenses claimed as a deduction and the occupational requirements of the employee.

If you believe you are eligible for such deductions you should check the details with Internal Revenue Service. In the meantime, two pertinent extracts are listed below for your guidance.

Expenditures made by a tax payer for his education are deductible if they are for education (including research activities) undertaken primarily for the purpose of: (1) maintaining or improving skills required by the tax payer in his employment or other trade or business; and (2) meeting the express requirements of a tax payer's employer, or the requirements of applicable law or regulations, imposed as a condition to the retention by a tax payer of his salary, status or employment.

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