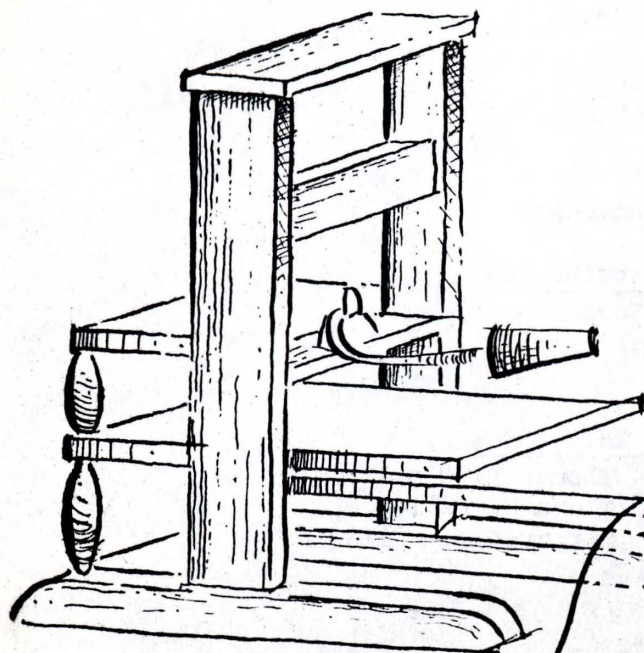


Mr. Lindsay

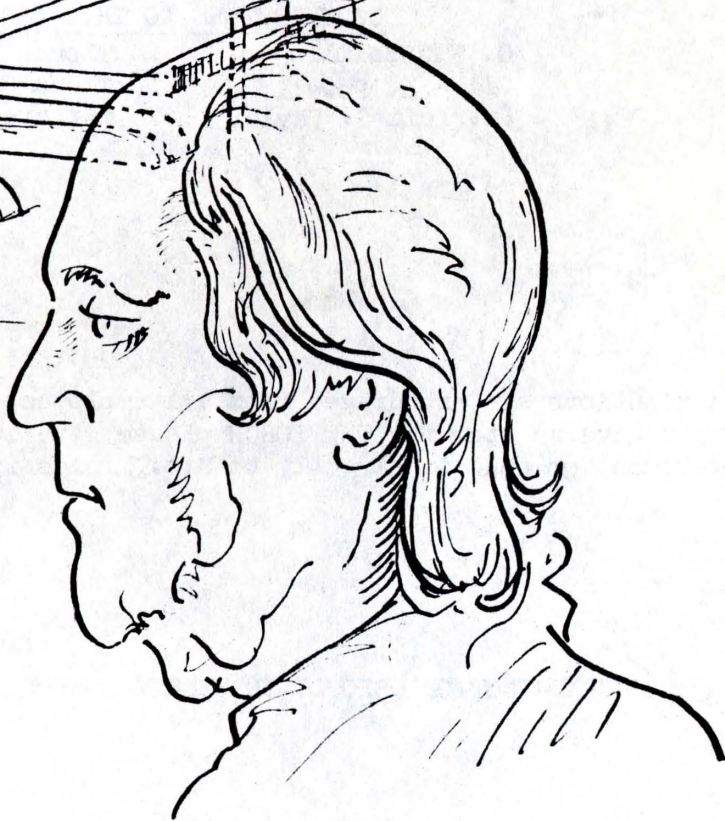


July 1958

THE SMITHSONIAN
TORCH



chemistry



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION • WASHINGTON, D. C.

Editorial Board

Paul H. Oehser
Thomas F. Clark
Jack B. Newman

Managing Editor

Daisy B. Fields

Copy Editing By

Ernest E. Biebighauser

Cover

Edward G. Schumacher

Assembly and Distribution

Alphonso L. Jones
Joseph E. Freeman

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

G. F. Schilling	Thomas F. Clark
Olive D. Powell	Frank A. Taylor
Patricia I. Payler	Margaret M. Pflieger

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.

(Published monthly for the employees of the Smithsonian Institution)

July 1958

Number 41

GRAPHIC ARTS HALL OPENED

The Smithsonian Institution's new Graphic Arts Hall was formally opened on July 10.

Emphasis in this hall, which is located in the Smithsonian Building, is on the hand processes used to produce etchings, wood engravings, lithographs, and silk-screen prints. The exhibits deal with the history, materials, and methods of these processes.

Among the many fine and rare prints on display which show the use of these processes are original works by Rembrandt, Durer, Whistler, Delacroix, Picasso, and Matisse.

The hall also traces the history of printing from the invention of the alphabet to the era of the printed book. Specimens showing the typographer's art include an original woodcut for a page of an ancient Chinese block book, a reproduction of some early Korean movable type, a page from the original Gutenberg Bible of about 1454, and a book from the press of Aldus Manutius, dated 1505.

The hall was prepared under the supervision of Curator of Graphic Arts Jacob Kainen and Exhibits Specialist Benjamin Lawless. Hall designer was Bright Springman, and the individual exhibits were designed by Mrs. Judith Borgogni.

FIRST ELECTRIC WATCH

In ceremonies on June 20 at Lancaster, Pa., a new exhibit featuring developmental and production models of the world's first electric watch was presented to the Smithsonian Institution by the Hamilton Watch Co. The presentation was made by Arthur B. Sinkler, Hamilton president, to Edwin A. Battison, associate curator of the division of engineering, and Paul H. Oehser, chief of the editorial and publications division.

In addition to the first production model of the electric watch, the new museum exhibit features three laboratory models of the watch, representing developmental steps of the new timepiece as it went through various stages of experimentation during 10 years of research. Another part of the display is a working plastic model eight times actual size which demonstrates the operation of the electric watch.

The electric watch embodies the first use of a new power source in portable timekeeping since the application of the mainspring to portable timekeepers in the 15th century.

The electric watch eliminates the conventional mainspring. Power is furnished from a tiny battery the size of a shirt button. Energy from this battery is converted into electrical power as it releases a stream of electrons through a coil of fine wire fixed on a balance wheel.

The electrical energy, through interaction with permanent magnetic fields, causes the balance wheel to oscillate. This oscillation is the mechanical energy which runs the watch.

Among those present at the presentation were Dr. J. A. VanHorn, P. E. Biemiller, and James H. Reese, co-inventors of the world's first electric watch.

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NAVAL ART EXHIBIT

A special exhibition of rare Naval paintings by the late Evelyn Foster Olds is being presented jointly by the U. S. National Museum and the U. S. Marine Corps Museum. The exhibit, located in the rotunda of the A & I Building, will continue through September 26.

Included in the show are paintings of early Naval engagements on Tole trays and other relics of late 18th-century and early 19th-century marine history. All the paintings are executed in oil in the style of the period.

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SATELLITES AND MORE SATELLITES

The shooting stars that you may see in the sunset sky during your summer vacation are not what you think they are. With the latest Sputnik launching, the total number of man-made satellites has reached the rather staggering figure of 13. This includes satellites proper, carrier rockets, nose cones, and other pieces of left-over rocket gear, termed "celestial junk" by the experts.

No wonder that the members of our Optical Satellite Tracking Program at the Astrophysical Observatory and at stations

all around the world are having a hard time keeping their "Who's Who in Space" up-to-date.

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RIDE WANTED

To and from vicinity of East Riverdale, Maryland. Please contact Bill Melson, ext. 271.

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LECTURES AT FREER GALLERY

Dr. Harold J. Plenderleith, keeper of the research laboratory of the British Museum, London, gave an illustrated lecture on "The Preservation of Antiquities" in the auditorium of the Freer Gallery of Art on the evening of July 8.

Dr. Plenderleith, who is trained as a chemist, has won world recognition for his researches on the care and treatment of works of art. His recent book, "The Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art," has been widely received and has become the standard reference work on the subject.

Dr. and Mrs. Plenderleith are staying in this country for some weeks as guests of the Henry Francis Du Pont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del. At Winterthur, this month, he will lead discussion at a conference of art museum technical specialists on preservation and conservation problems.

Dr. Plenderleith has been invited by UNESCO to establish a study center in Rome for the coordination of research on the conservation of valuable objects. He expects to take up his new position in Italy early next year.

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RIVER BASIN NEWS

During June seven field parties left Lincoln for South Dakota to begin their season's work.

Mr. William N. Irving with a crew of 11, and Mr. James J. F. Deetz with a crew of nine; left on June 10. These two parties will work in the Big Bend area, and share a camp near Fort Thompson with Mr. Robert W. Neuman and his crew of 10, who have been in the field since May 19.

Dr. Warren W. Caldwell with a crew of 12 and Mr. Bernard Golden with a crew of seven left for South Dakota on the same day. These two parties will share a camp near Chamberlain, South Dakota, and will also conduct their work in the Big Bend area.

On June 17, Mr. Charles H. McNutt and a party of 10 left Lincoln for the Pierre, South Dakota, area, where they will conduct excavations at the Sully Site.

Dr. Robert L. Stephenson with a party of 23 went to the field on June 20 to begin the final season of work on the Sully site, and on the same day Mr. Richard P. Wheeler and a party of seven left for the Fort Bennett site.

Mr. and Mrs. Kwang-chick Chang, exchange students from Formosa, visited the laboratory on June 16 and later in the week visited briefly at one of the South Dakota camps.

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GEORGE KLINGER

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. George Klinger, guard, who died suddenly on June 27. Mr. Klinger came to the Smithsonian as a guard in 1942.

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SECRETARY PRESENTS AWARDS

In ceremonies in the Regents' Room on June 26, Secretary Carmichael presented awards to Dr. G. Arthur Cooper, head curator of the department of geology; Mrs. Joyce E. Jameson, clerk-typist in the office of the registrar; Charles E. DeAtley, mail and file supervisor in the office of the Secretary; and Mrs. Muriel K. Kidwell, clerk-stenographer in the personnel division.

Dr. Cooper was presented with a certificate for meritorious service and a cash award in recognition of achievements in paleontological research that contributes to the scientific prestige of the Smithsonian Institution.

Similar awards were presented to the three other recipients: Mrs. Jameson for "sustained superior performance" of her job requirements; Mr. DeAtley for successful reorganization of archival material and the compilation of an alphabetical list of pertinent biographies of all the Smithsonian Institution Regents from the establishment of the Smithsonian to date; and Mrs. Kidwell for sustained superior performance in her job.

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ENJOY YOUR VACATION MORE

Do you remember when you were on the pending list to obtain a parking permit?

You will enjoy your vacation more if you give one of your fellow employees a chance to use your parking privilege when you are away on vacation. Also, if an employee is on extended sick leave, his parking permit may be temporarily assigned for the period he is unable to work.

Call the buildings management office, ext. 387, when you make plans to use your leave.

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SAVINGS BOND CAMPAIGN

The campaign to increase employee participation in the purchase of Savings Bonds through the pay roll savings plan was very successful. During the campaign 120 employees joined the plan and 17 employees increased their allotments. This makes 54 percent of our employees now purchasing bonds under the plan.

The Smithsonian Institution was second among agencies with less than 1,000 employees in the percentage of increased subscribers.

At a meeting in the auditorium of the Natural History Building on July 1, a framed certificate signed by Robert B. Anderson, Secretary of the Treasury, and James F. Stiles, jr., National Director (the latter being the cousin of our captain of the guard) was awarded to the Smithsonian Institution in recognition of the good showing made.

Dr. Carmichael awarded prizes to five team captains who did outstanding work during the campaign. The prize in each case was a bound copy of "Small Arms and Ammunition in the United States Services," by Berkeley R. Lewis. Secretary Carmichael inscribed the following on the fly-leaf of each book:

"This book is awarded to ---- as a prize in honor of his distinguished service in the United States Savings Bond Drive of the Smithsonian Institution, 1958."

The following employees were recipients of the prizes: James M. Derrow; Eugene F. Green; Ralph B. Norris; James I. Simpson, and William B. Stiles.

Mr. Martin Miller, who represented the Treasury Department at the meeting, awarded the U. S. Treasury Minute Men Certificates to Secretary Carmichael and to Tom Clark, chairman of the campaign. Minute Men certificates also were awarded to the following team captains who enrolled 25 percent or more of the nonparticipating employees on their lists: Thomas E. Beggs, J. A. Collins, James M. Derrow, Eugene F. Green, George B. Griffenhagen, Ralph B. Norris, Phyllis W. Prescott, E. L. Roy, James I. Simpson, William B. Stiles, William N. Watkins, Helena M. Weiss, and A. G. Wenley.

TEMPOS COMING DOWN FOR MHT

Last month workmen begin wrecking and salvaging temporary buildings on the site of the Museum of History and Technology. The Ace Wrecking Co. of Washington will pay the government \$2,000 for the job, which will be completed early in August.

Excavation and the driving of piles for the foundations of the new building will start almost immediately after the demolition is accomplished.

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RED CROSS BLOOD PROGRAM

Because you are an employee of the Smithsonian Institution, you and the immediate members of your family are eligible for Red Cross blood services. This means that blood will be supplied to you in participating hospitals in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States.

Each agency is assigned a yearly quota of blood donations in order to continue membership in the Red Cross program. We are asked to provide 112 pints of blood during this calendar year. Our contributions through June totaled 54 pints.

For information or an appointment please call the personnel division, ext. 385 or 449.

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Only a mediocre person is always at his best.

---Somerset Maugham

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NEW CURATOR APPOINTED

The appointment of George T. Turner, of Jackson Heights, Long Island, N. Y., as acting curator of the division of philately and postal history was recently announced by Secretary Carmichael.

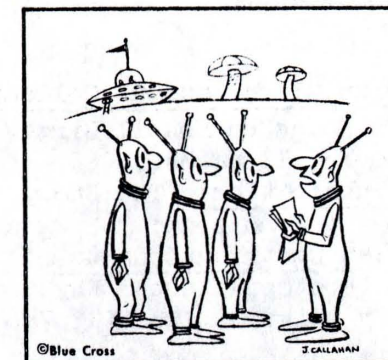
Mr. Turner, who holds the largest private library of philatelic publications in this country, is well known in the philatelic world as a collector and as an officer in numerous philatelic organizations. He is president of The American Philatelic Society, a director of the Postal History Society of the Americas, president of the Philatelic Literature Association, and a member of various other philatelic groups.

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PLANNING FOR SPACE AGE

Drs. F. L. Whipple, J. A. Hynek, and G. F. Schilling, of the Astrophysical Observatory, have been active in recent meetings of various working groups of the NACA Special Committee on Space Technology. From what we hear of the progress being made in planning space exploration, we judge that a number of Smithsonian departments may want to consider adding extraterrestrial divisions in the near future.

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"Because it's a dangerous planet, the first thing we do upon landing on earth, is join Blue Cross."

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CARPENTER RETIRES

The friends of Mr. Ira B. Wheeler gathered in the office of the buildings manager on the afternoon of June 30 to wish him many happy years of retirement from the duties of senior mechanic. Mr. Wheeler first came to the Smithsonian in October 1936. He has been assigned to the cabinet shop since 1937.

Mr. Lawrence Oliver, buildings manager, in presenting to Mr. Wheeler a gift of cash from his Smithsonian friends, expressed the wish that his health would greatly improve during his retirement. Mr. Wheeler was accompanied by his daughter.

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PUBLISHED IN JUNE

Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections:

"Miscellaneous Notes on Fossil Birds," by Alexander Wetmore; 11 pages.

Popular Publication: "The Story of Transportation," by E. John Long; 36 pages.

Smithsonian Contributions to Astrophysics:
"On Two Parameters Used in the Physical Theory of Meteors," by Luigi G. Jacchia; 7 pages.

Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum: Title page, table contents, and index to volume 105; 37 pages.

"A New North American Bird-Flea," by F. G. A. M. Smit; 7 pages.

"A Redefinition of the Butterfly Genera Tatochila, Phulia, Piercolias, and Baltia, with Descriptions of Some New and Closely Related Genera and Subgenera (Lepidoptera: Pieridae)," by William D. Field; 29 pages.

"The Systematic Position of the Bird Genus Apalopteron bonaparte (Aves)," by Herbert G. Deignan; 4 pages.

**BURSTING WITH
IDEAS?**



*It's wise to
turn 'em in!*

TO: Incentive Awards Committee

EMPLOYEE INDEBTEDNESS

Section 417 of the Smithsonian Institution Manual has been revised and is quoted below for the guidance of all employees:

"Policy

"The Smithsonian Institution requires its employees to conduct themselves in a manner which will reflect favorably on the Institution and the Federal Government. Employees must therefore pay their just and acknowledged debts promptly. The Personnel Division has been charged with the responsibility of enforcing the following procedures.

"Procedures

"When the Smithsonian Institution receives the first written notice from a creditor that an Institution employee has become delinquent in paying his debts, the Personnel Division will issue a written notice, SIFL-7, to the employee advising him to give the matter immediate attention to avoid disciplinary action outlined below. Counsel and guidance will be offered if need is indicated or such service is desired.

"An employee delinquent in paying his debts will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

- "a. Suspension for 1 day without pay if not more than 10 notices of delinquency have been received during the 90 days from date of SIFL-7; 2 days suspension if delinquency notices total 10 to 15; and 3 days suspension if such notices exceed 15.
- "b. A second suspension of 3 to 5 days if it is determined that any additional notices received during the 90 days following the first suspension are a valid indication that he is still neglecting to pay just debts.
- "c. Removal for the good of the service if any notices indicating continued negligence in paying just and acknowledged debts are received during the six months following the second suspension.

"Each notice prepared to provide for any of the foregoing disciplinary actions will bear the statement 'willful refusal or negligent failure to pay just and acknowledged debts without sufficient excuse or reason.'

"The total reckoning period shall not exceed one year from receipt of the first written notice."

If the Personnel Division has informed you that your indebtedness has been brought to their attention, you are urged to use your retroactive pay to settle your debts and clear your record.