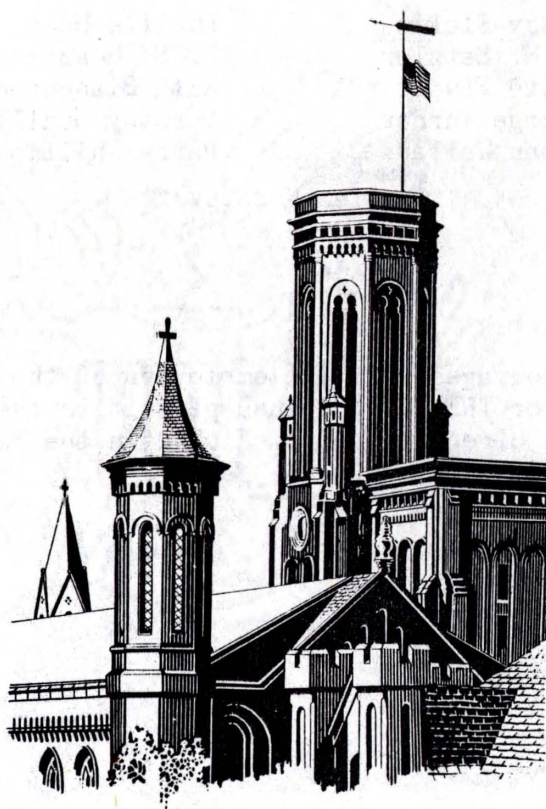




October 1959

THE SMITHSONIAN

TORCH



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CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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Charles Handley	

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.

ZEPPELIN DISHES

Few items in the collection of the National Air Museum are of particular interest to women, but the Museum recently received an exhibit item that should fall in the category of "dis-taff interest."

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bright of Washington, D.C., have donated a complete place setting from the dinner service used on the "Graf Zeppelin" during its flights between Germany and the United States in the late 1920's. The setting contains ten pieces of Bavarian china trimmed in blue with the Zeppelin crest in gold. Also included are ten pieces of sterling silver engraved with the "LZ" design.

Mrs. Bright, then Mrs. Ida Stanley, first gave two pieces of china from the set in 1933 soon after receiving them from Dr. Hugo Eckener, commander of the "Graf Zeppelin." She was born and raised in Germany, and, since there was a family relationship with the Zeppelin family, she was fortunate enough to have been a passenger on the flights of many of the Germany dirigibles. At one time she was permitted to handle the controls, probably the only woman ever to do so.

This collection will be one of the exhibits now being planned for the renovated Aircraft Building, which will re-open in the spring.

elected a director of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums. Elections took place at the association's annual convention in Philadelphia on September 23.

GREEK COSTUMES

A major loan exhibition of "Greek Costumes and Embroideries," scheduled for limited circulation to American museums during the 1959-60 season, has been announced by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service.

More than 200 of the finest examples of traditional Greek art will be included in the exhibition, which is the first comprehensive survey of the subject ever to come to this country. The American tour will be sponsored by Queen Frederika and the Greek Embassy in Washington. The invitational preview, October 13 to November 5 in New York, is to be a benefit for Queen Frederika's Fund.

Borrowed from the collections of the Benaki Museum in Athens, the exhibition consists of 22 rare and beautiful costumes complete with accessories such as jewelry, belts, scarves, hats, and shoes; embroideries from various Greek provinces and islands, elaborate bedspreads, pillow covers, towels, coats, jackets, blouses, and numerous household objects.

After its initial presentation in the galleries of French & Company, New York, the exhibition will travel to the Balti-

ZOO DIRECTOR HONORED

Dr. Theodore H. Reed, director of the National Zoological Park, has been

more Museum of Art. The Los Angeles County Museum and the De Young Museum in San Francisco, among others, will also be included in the tour.

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WORKS ON FOSSIL MAMMALS

Dr. Frank C. Whitmore, Jr., of the U.S. Geological Survey, moved into the Natural History Building on July 1 to work on fossil mammals.

Dr. Whitmore graduated from Amherst College and sneaked up on vertebrate paleontology via a master's degree in micropaleontology at Penn State, where he worked on Ostracoda. Seeing the light, he then went to Harvard, where he received the Ph.D. for his study of endocranial morphology of early Tertiary Artiodactyla.

For two years after leaving Harvard he was with the geology department at Rhode Island State College. During World War II he was on the staff of the Military Geology Branch of the Survey, and in 1946 was named chief of that branch, a position he held until last July. For his work in military geology he received the Medal of Freedom from the U.S. Army.

As a result of his work in the Far East, where he supervised a program of geologic mapping in the islands of the Western Pacific, Dr. Whitmore has become interested in island faunas. One of his current research projects is a fossil mammalian assemblage from Ishigaki, Ryukyu Islands, which may yield interesting information on migration of land faunas in Tertiary time between the mainland and Taiwan, the Ryukyu arc, and Japan.

Dr. Whitmore lives in Silver Spring, Md. His wife, a Smith graduate, minored in geology. The Whitmores have twin sons in college, and two daughters, aged 14 and 11.

NEW PALEONTOLOGIST

Nicholas Hotton, 3d, new associate curator of fossil reptiles and amphibians, claims to have wanted to be a vertebrate paleontologist since he was that high.

He hails originally from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., which is not the most ideal part of the world in which to collect fossil bones, either as an amateur or as a professional. The frustration occasioned by this fact may account for his going to the University of Chicago to study geology and vertebrate paleontology.

After a three-year interruption for military service in World War II, he resumed his studies at Chicago, receiving his Ph.D. there in 1950 under the sponsorship of Dr. E. C. Olson.

Prior to coming to the National Museum, Dr. Hotton spent eight years teaching anatomy in the medical school at the University of Kansas. His research activities center in the fields of paleontology of Permian reptiles and amphibians and in functional anatomy and evolution of tetrapods.

Mrs. Hotton is the former Ruth Carol Olmstead of Chicago. There are three Hotton-tots -- Albert, Nicky, and Carol, aged 12, 10, and 6, respectively. Consensus of the family is that Washington is a fine place to live. They spend weekends in touring the city and its environs, and visits to Manassas, Antietam, and Gettysburg have made confirmed Civil War fans of the boys.

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Some people grow under responsibility, others merely swell.

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LINGUIST JOINS UNIVERSITY STAFF

David Ray, cataloger in the Smithsonian library since November 1952, resigned on October 16 to accept a position on the staff of the library of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill.

In his new position Mr. Ray will have the academic rank of lecturer on the library staff and expects to participate in establishing two new institutes at the university, the Latin American Institute and the Institute of Asian Studies.

For eight years, 1938 to 1946, Mr. Ray was a foreign service officer with the Department of State, serving in Mexico, Japan, Pakistan, Ceylon, and Nicaragua.

As librarian and linguist, he has held positions at Yale University, National War College, and Library of Congress. He has taught Persian at the Middle East Institute, in Washington, and Urdu, when he was in Pakistan.

He holds bachelor degrees from the University of California at Los Angeles and from Catholic University of America.

Mr. Ray recently was given an award by the Smithsonian because of the proficiency in Russian translation gained by a group of curators under his tutelage.

Mr. Ray's abilities in translating Spanish, French, German, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, Latin, Greek, Persian, and Urdu will be sorely missed by the Smithsonian. Accordingly, if you have a knowledge of any foreign language and would assist occasionally in translating letters, please let the library know about it. Call Mrs. Lettie Bevis, ext. 246.

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DON'T JUST SIT THERE SPILL IT!

The sedate (and occasionally withered) columns of The Torch want to perk up. But to the point man!

Have you given any blood lately? Have you any new blood for The Torch?

What have you done, seen, or heard about lately that would be the antithesis of your neighbor's mundane routine? If you've been "out of this world," or still are, why not tell others about it?

Why, if you'd have just looked around, or listened, you'd know that one of your associates . . . recently purchased some dehydrated fireflies' tails (Bill Klein, R&O) . . . rode a horse through the Black Hills (Conrad Morton, MNH-B) . . . got so far away from his supply lines in the jungles of Panama that he had to eat monkeys and rats, but lost no weight (Charles Handley, MNH-Z) . . . had to take rabies shots for a bite from a dead animal (Frank Greenwell, OE) . . . put a new leg on William Pitt (Gordon Dentry, OE).

Those little items are just to let you know what you're missing, and, inversely, of what your associates here at the Smithsonian are missing because you have no rapport. So "rapport" now.

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PITTSBURGH VENTURE

Roger Kaufman, of the 24th Street exhibits shop, leaves for Pittsburgh this month to enrich the lives of college students there. Roger and a partner will open an "espresso" coffee shop comfortably located between the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Tech. It will be a place where the tired and thirsty can meet to expound their views, reveal their artistic efforts, smoke a long, thin cigarette, or just relax with a cup of the steaming brew. Also, there will be pastries to eat and assorted publications to read.

Since this will be the first of such a venture in Pittsburgh, his colleagues here

are sure that Roger will meet an enthusiastic response.

Be sure to look up the Bastille Coffee Shop next time you're in Pittsburgh.

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LECTURE ON JAPANESE PRINTS

The Freer Gallery of Art's seventh annual series of illustrated lectures on Oriental art opened on October 20 with a lecture by Mr. Robert Treat Paine, Jr., associate curator in the department of Asiatic art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. His subject was "Japanese Prints of Beauties of the Three Cities."

The lecture, illustrated with color slides, covered some important urushie prints.

Mr. Paine, who has been with the Museum of Fine Arts for more than 25 years, has studied in China and Japan, and his publications include important articles in many fields of Far Eastern art. He has written on Japanese folk art, Chinese and Japanese ceramics of various periods, and the art of wood-block printing in China and Japan.

His most important studies, however, have been in the field of Japanese screen painting. He prepared the catalogs for two great exhibitions held in the Museum of Fine Arts: of birds, flower, and animal screens in 1935, and of landscape and figure screens in 1938.

His volume "Ten Japanese Paintings in the Museum of Fine Arts," appeared in 1939.

Other lectures in the series for the coming season are "Buddhist Art of Gandhara, Native and Foreign Influences," by Prof. Harald Ingholt of Yale University, November 10; and "Vasanta Vilasa, an Illustrated Spring Poem in Old Gujarati," by Prof. W. Norman Brown of the University of Pennsylvania, January 12, 1960.

ACQUISITION

Mrs. Percy Mauney (Gloria), who works at the library's circulation desk, is on leave for several months. Reason: Mr. and Mrs. Percy Mauney are the proud parents of a baby daughter, born in August.

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MORE ACQUISITIONS

The library has announced acquisition of the following books of general interest:

"Blockade, The Civil War at Sea," by Robert Carse. (973.C24 MHT.)

"A Picture History of U.S. Transportation," by Roderick Craib. (621.73.C 43 MHT.)

"Dawn of Modern Geography," by Charles Beazley, 3 vols. (910.9.B38 MHT.)

"The World of Science," by Sherwood Taylor. (500.T74 Sci-Tech.)

"Science and Religion in Seventeenth Century England," by Richard S. Westfall. (215.W52 MHT.)

"Once Round the Sun, Story of the International Geophysical Year," by Ronald Fraser. (551.F84 SI.)

"Illustrated English Social History," by George Trevelyan, 4 vols. (942.T81 MHT.)

Numbers in parentheses are the library call numbers. Please include them in your requests.

New reference works recently acquired by the library include Encyclopaedia Britannica and its World Atlas, both 1959, and Encyclopedia Americana, 1959.

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Silence is not always a sign of wisdom, but babbling is ever a folly.

NEW INSURANCE

AMENDMENT EXPLAINED

The following paragraphs explain in general terms how a recent amendment affects your insurance under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Act of 1954. These changes do not affect employees retired or deceased before September 23, 1959.

1. At all times during employment, you have the full amount of group life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance applicable to your annual salary. Formerly insurance was reduced after an individual reached age 65.

2. For employees who are age 65 or over, payroll withholdings are now required at the same rates applicable to employees under that age. They start with the first pay period beginning after September 23, 1959. During employment there is no provision to continue insurance without cost in a reduced amount.

3. If you retire on immediate annuity, either for disability or after at least 12 years of creditable service of which at least five years are civilian service, your life insurance will be continued without cost to you. Each month, beginning on the first day of the second calendar month following the date of your retirement or 65th birthday, whichever is later, your life insurance will be reduced by 2% of the amount in force before the first such reduction. Your insurance cannot be reduced below 25% of the amount in force before any reduction.

If you desire further information, please call the personnel office.

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INFORMATION ON

HEALTH BENEFITS

The Civil Service Commission has prepared a list of answers to many questions regarding the new law providing health benefits for Federal employees.

These questions and answers pertain to eligibility, types of plans available, benefits, cost, and so forth. In the next several issues, the Torch will print the questions and answers falling within these categories.

The first series, on eligibility, follows:

Q. Who is eligible for health benefits?

A. Generally speaking, all employees who are eligible for Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance.

Q. I do not have group life insurance because I signed a waiver of coverage. Can I get the health benefits?

A. Yes. The two are not related.

Q. Will the health benefits program be compulsory?

A. No.

Q. Will health benefits coverage be automatic?

A. No. Each employee who wishes to be covered will have to apply.

Q. Should I apply for the health benefits now?

A. No. The health benefits will not begin until the first pay period after June 30, 1960. Before that date, you will be given full information by your employing office and you will have plenty of time to apply.

Q. If I drop the health benefits coverage I now have, would my eligibility to join the Government-sponsored program next July be affected?

A. No. However, to have continuous protection you continue your present health benefits plan until you come under the Government-sponsored program.

Q. Will the health benefits be only for myself or can my family be covered also?

A. You will be able to enroll for your family as well as for yourself.

Q. What members of a family may be included?

A. Your wife (or husband) and any unmarried children under the age of 19, including adopted children, and step-children if they live with you. An

unmarried child may be covered regardless of age if he is incapable of self support because of a disability which began before he reached age 19. Parents or other relatives cannot be covered even though they live with you.

Q. Will I or any member of my family have to pass a physical examination to enroll for health benefits?

A. Not if you enroll at the first opportunity. If you enroll later, you may have to furnish evidence of good health.

Q. Can I (or a member of my family) be excluded from joining a plan because I have a hazardous job?

A. No.

Q. Can I be excluded from joining a plan because of my age?

A. Not if you enroll at the first opportunity. Employees and family members will be originally enrolled without regard to age.

Q. I am a Government employee and so is my husband. How do we enroll?

A. You may each enroll individually or as a family. If you have children and one of you enrolls for the family, your children would also be covered. If you each enroll individually, your children would not be covered.

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RIVER BASIN NEWS

William N. Irving has terminated his employment with the Missouri Basin Project to enter the University of Wisconsin, as a graduate student. He will be a graduate assistant instructor in anthropology.

The first regular bi-weekly meeting of local anthropologists for the fall season was held in Burnett Hall at the University of Nebraska on September 25. The following members of the Missouri Basin Project staff attended: Dr. Stephenson, Hubert Smith, Dr. Caldwell, Charles McNutt, and Robert Neuman. Discussed at the

meeting were plans for carbon-14 dating and plans for the 17th Plains Conference to be held in Lincoln at Thanksgiving time.

The most recent addition to the data for the Missouri Basin Chronology Program is a set of 250 punch cards for carbon-14 dates, purchased through Frederick Johnson.

In connection with preparation of a report on his recent work in the Chat-tahoochee region of the Southeast, Harold A. Huscher went to Vermillion, South Dakota, on September 21 to consult with Dr. Wesley R. Hurt of the University of South Dakota.

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NEW MEMBERS OF LIBRARY STAFF

The library has two new staff members.

Miss Janet Dixon, formerly with Pennsylvania State University, recently joined the staff as chief of the catalog section.

Miss June Benken, a recent graduate of Ohio State University, began duty at the circulation desk in September.

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BINDING, ANYONE?

If you have any publications on your office shelves that need binding, or re-binding, now is the time to have it done. Just call the library. Staff members of the Museum of History and Technology should call ext. 268 to arrange for binding; all other personnel should call the catalog section, ext. 246.

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IF YOU NEED BLOOD

Recent developments in the Blood Program are of vital interest to all of us. One recent change is that Providence Hospital is no longer a participating hospital, and, as a result, Red Cross blood will not be available to patients there.

There are 55 participating hospitals in the area, of which 11 are veteran, Federal, and military. Of the 44 civilian hospitals, 36 depend upon the Red Cross for their total blood supply.

The Washington Regional Blood Center will take care of the blood requirements of eligible patients in any of the participating hospitals in the District of Columbia and suburban Maryland and Virginia.

If you or a member of your immediate family is in need of a blood donation, the following procedure should be followed: Call the personnel division (Mrs. Fields, ext. 277) and give the name, home address, and relationship of the person needing blood; name of the hospital; and, if known, the type of blood required. All required amounts of blood will be furnished at no expense to you.

This program is made possible only as a result of our continuing donations to the Blood Bank. Have you volunteered this month? If not, call Mrs. Fields and tell her you would like to do so. Do it now, lest you forget!

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HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

Section 475 of the Smithsonian Institution Manual requires that all employees keep the personnel division informed of any changes in telephone number or home address.

If you have moved within the last 12 months, please send a memo to the personnel division giving your name, office in which employed, new address and telephone number, and the effective date of the change.

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NEW GEOLOGIST

Dr. Richard Cifelli, who recently joined the staff of the division of invertebrate paleontology and paleobotany, is a specialist in Foraminifera. Previously, he was a research geologist for the Phillips Petroleum Co. from 1951 to 1955, engaged in biostratigraphic studies of the Tertiary of the Pacific Northwest. From 1957 until joining the National Museum, Dr. Cifelli was an assistant professor in geology at Brown University. He received his doctorate in geology from Harvard last spring.

Dr. Cifelli is now engaged in a study of the zoology and distribution of planktonic Foraminifera of the Atlantic Ocean in conjunction with the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He is also working on a taxonomic study of the Jurassic Foraminifera of western North America.

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PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER

Proceedings of the National Museum.-- "Marine Mollusca of Point Barrow, Alaska," by Nettie MacGinitie; 150 pages.

"A Revision of the American Bats of the Genera Euderma and Plecotus," by Charles O. Handley, Jr.; 152 pages.

Smithsonian Contributions to Astrophysics.-- "Meteor Trains," by Robert F. Hughes; 16 pages.

SALUTE TO ZOO

A two-day "Salute to the National Zoo" was sponsored by The Friends of the National Zoo on September 26 and 27. Visitors, estimated at 53,000 over the weekend, saw the cages decorated with flags indicating the country of origin of the inhabitants.

Embassies and state societies donated the flags and supplied photographs and literature, which were exhibited in the auditorium of the Cleveland Park Branch of the Public Library.

The climax of the celebration came on Sunday afternoon when a new flagpole was dedicated "as an expression of warm affection for Dr. William M. Mann, the former director." The presentation was made by Dr. Max Kampelman, president of the Friends of the National Zoo, and accepted by Dr. Remington Kellogg, representing the Smithsonian Institution.

Zoo Park Police Officers Trautman, Ellerbe, and Moore formed a color guard as the new 50-star flag was raised to the top of the flagpole at the Connecticut Ave. entrance to the Zoo.

Recent acquisitions at the Zoological Park include a tiger cub, gift from Ralph Scott of Rockville, Md.; a pair of sloth bears, gifts from George Munro of Calcutta, India; two young cassowaries, given by James Kennedy, an official of the International Co-Operation Administration stationed in Jakarta, Indonesia; and 3 jackals, 2 ring-tailed civets, 2 pottos, and 2 bush babies purchased from a dealer in Kenya Colony.

YOU ARE THERE

Have you ever thought that when you give to your United Givers Fund, your pledge (and payment) answers many questions and solves many problems for thousands of people? Have you ever stopped to realize that your gift provides well over 500 services to hundreds of thou-

sands of people in the National Capital Area? Including you?

When troublesome and complex problems of a broken family need mending; when a mentally ill young mother desperately needs special and understanding care...You are there.

You are there when medical, technical, or educational services are provided to combat retardation, blindness, or arthritis. Your hand is extended and you are there when multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, or cystic fibrosis strike, gripping the foundation of a well-knit family.

And when disaster strikes mother, father, and children, you are there, supplying much needed shelter, food and blood...you are there when a neglected child is left homeless or a forgotten youngster, because of adult carelessness, becomes a delinquent, and to survive demands specialized care with understanding.

You are there when a little boy in a crowded neighborhood weeps silently to go to camp . . . when an aging parent is forgotten and lonely.

Yes, you are there in a million ways, with hundreds of services you can never know, because your generous gift to UGF added with the gifts of others is changing someone's desolation, sorrow, and human tragedy into wholesome strength and revived health all year long.

MOBY YOU'LL SEE ONE

The Director's office, USNM, recently received the following memo from Dr. Charles O. Handley, Jr., associate curator, division of mammals:

"At noon on 7 Sept., Labor Day, I had a phone call from Fred Ulmer in Philadelphia advising of the stranding of a small whale at Fenwick Island, Delaware. Soon after, I put in a call to Fenwick Island for details. The whale had come ashore alive the night of the

NEW ETHNOLOGIST

Dr. Eugene I. Knez has joined the staff of the department of anthropology, division of ethnology, as an associate curator. He will be in charge of the Asian ethnological collections.

Dr. Knez came to the Smithsonian from the department of anthropology and sociology at Hunter College, New York City. He has been a cultural affairs officer and a regional public affairs officer with the American Embassies in Korea and Japan, and several years before that was in charge of the cultural program of the American Military Government in Korea. Most of his field work has been accomplished in Korea and Japan.

He studied with Professors Ralph Linton and Douglas G. Haring, and received his doctoral degree from the University of Syracuse earlier this year.

NEW PHILATELIST

Carl H. Scheele recently was appointed assistant curator of philately and postal history. Before coming to the Smithsonian Mr. Scheele was a teacher in Cleveland, Ohio. He has collected stamps for 12 years, specializing in those of the United States, Japan, and Germany.

He is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Art, the University of Illinois (BFA), and Western Reserve University (MA, history).

5th at the Fenwick Motel. Subsequently it attracted large crowds of people, but because of its rising odor, it did not help the business of the motel. Consequently, the manager of the motel contracted a bulldozer to bury the whale at low tide, 4 p.m., on the 7th.

"The description of the whale indicated a rare species, so the motel manager agreed to hold up the burial until 5 p.m. to give me an opportunity to reach the scene. I arrived at Fenwick Island at 4:50 p.m. There were several hundred onlookers. The bulldozer had already dug out a hole six or eight feet deep, had rolled the whale in, and was poised ready to cover it with sand.

"The whale was indeed a rare species, Ziphius cavirostris, so I hastily took measurements and removed the head. The burial was then completed. I brought the head back to the museum in my car, which as a result may never smell the same again (at least that is my wife's conclusion).

"The return trip was by way of Ocean City, Md., where I examined a large whale bone that had been recently dredged out of the ocean in a fisherman's net. It proved to be the mandible of a fin whale."

Dr. Handley is a member of the Committee on Marine Mammals of the American Society of Mammalogists. This committee is attempting to record all strandings of whales, porpoises, dolphins, seals, etc., on the coasts of North America. Anyone who sees or hears of a stranding of one of these animals is urged to get in touch with Dr. Handley as soon as possible ("tides and decomposition wait for no man").