

SI Site of Group of 10 Money Accord



Facing probably as many microphones as have ever been gathered on one Smithsonian podium, President Nixon announces the agreement reached by the Group of Ten in a press briefing in the Arts and Industries Building.

Cracking Linked To Metro Work, Gallery Closed

By Benjamin Ruhe

Despite a reported \$7.6 million in precautionary underpinning and other work by subway builders, cracking of the masonry—apparently minor—has forced the NCFA to close for the time being its Lincoln Gallery for repair of damage resulting from Metro preparation adjacent to the building.

The NCFA will take advantage of the situation to create a new installation and a new system of lighting, tasks previously planned, in the historic gallery, scene of Lincoln's Second Inaugural Ball. Meanwhile, the displaced works of art have been placed on exhibition elsewhere in the museum or put into temporary storage. None of the paintings or sculptures was damaged.

"There seems to be no damage to the fabric of the building," said Dr. Joshua C. Taylor, Director of the NCFA.

The problem—a crack across the floor and up both side walls just where the north and east wings meet in the Lincoln Gallery and the collapse there of two cornices, plus secondary cracking elsewhere—was not completely unexpected.

As George O. Kline, chief consulting engineer for DeLeuw, Cather Co., the general engineering consultant for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority which is building the subway, put it in an interview:

"We expect movement. And in this type of building—a pure masonry building without a frame of any sort—it causes cracking. We try to minimize it."

A 55-foot deep Metro trench abuts the NCFA.

Metro, according to Mr. Kline, spent \$7.6 million and one year underpinning the building. "It's a hellish building to work around—any sort of movement will show up . . . whereas it wouldn't in a modern building."

Noting that the pre-Civil War struc-

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\$30,000 Is Donated In Charity Drive

During the recently completed Combined Federal Campaign for 1972, 1,033 Smithsonian employees contributed or pledged a total of \$30,023 to area charitable and service agencies. This represents an average gift of approximately \$29.

Secretary Ripley, as Campaign Chairman for the Smithsonian, has expressed his gratitude to all those who participated in the campaign, particularly those "volunteers" who served as unit coordinators. He noted that 77 percent of the Buildings Management Department employees contributed and the Department achieved 80 percent of its self-imposed goal of \$5,000.



THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

December 1971

'The Vital Spur'

More Private Aid Asked For Innovative Projects

By Carl W. Larsen

An intensive effort to obtain broader private support for the Smithsonian has been developed under the direction of Secretary Ripley.

Twenty-two trust officers from leading financial institutions in the Washington Metropolitan Area attended a three-hour meeting in the Presidential Suite of the Museum of History and Technology on November 30.

Discussion at the meeting stressed deferred gift opportunities for men and women in support of the Smithsonian. Peter Powers, SI's General Counsel; Ames Wheeler, Treasurer; and members of the SI Office of Development staff headed by Lynford Kautz took part in the briefing.

"Though Federal funds finance our buildings and our upkeep for collections, over the years innovations in research and public education derive from private endowment and grants," Mr. Ripley told the group.

He added that the SI's priorities for the 1970's for private support require new studies of:

1. Public Education. "A major dilemma of our time is the continuing failure of public education to arouse interest in young and adults alike. Open education as practiced in the museum experience contains seeds for solving part of this elusive problem. The Smithsonian plans to experiment in interest-arousal through

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* SEASON'S GREETINGS * TORCH 1971 * CORNELL

By James Cornell, SAO

"The most significant monetary agreement in the history of the world" was reached at the Smithsonian December 18.

President Nixon, speaking in the Arts and Industries Building, used that sweeping phrase to describe the action taken by the finance ministers of the 10 leading industrial countries of the world to formulate a new set of exchange rates.

Itself the product of an international monetary transaction—a bequest from English scientist James Smithson—the Smithsonian was an appropriate locale for the "Group of Ten" negotiations. At the request of John B. Connally, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary Ripley granted the use of the SI Building and A&I December 17 and 18 for the meeting that resulted in what history may call "the Smithsonian Agreement."

Mr. Connally personally inspected the facilities and decided they were suitable for the historic gathering of representatives of Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. Switzerland acted as an observer.

The gavel used to open the conference was presented by Mr. Connally to the Smithsonian for its political history collections.

The meeting was held in the Commons room, which was converted to an assembly hall for the occasion. Translators' booths occupied the south end of the room—two for English, one for French and one for Japanese.

As part of the preparations, additional shields displaying crests of prominent English families were hung on the walls of the room.

The lounge, or West Range, leading to the Commons was converted into a secondary meeting room, while the Great Hall served as a dining hall and lounge for the delegates.

A special exhibit of historical items of interest to the delegates, selected from the Smithsonian's political history collection, was mounted in a case in the Great Hall, in addition to those placed in observance of the 125th anniversary celebration. The items included a writing case of George Washington's, a key to the original United States Treasury, a silver peace pipe presented to the Delaware Indians in 1814, souvenirs of the Treaty of Paris in 1789 and the Treaty of Paris in 1899, and a copy of President Kennedy's inaugural address.

Preparations for the meeting were coordinated by the Office of Special Events headed by Meredith Johnson, whose staff worked with representatives of the Dept. of Treasury and other divisions of the Institution to complete the complex arrangements with little more than a week's advance notice. Special assistance was provided by James Goode, curator of the Smithsonian Building.

The meeting resulted in a holiday December 17 for most personnel working in the SI Building. Executive offices in the SI Building were occupied by official delegates and their staffs. Secretary of the Treasury John Connally occupied Secretary Ripley's office.

The SI Building was closed to the public December 15 through 19, and the A&I Building was closed to the public December 17 through 19. A press room with telephones, teletype machines and typewriters was set up in the Hall of Space Art of the A&I Building to accommodate the 300 newsmen from many nations who covered the meeting. It was there that President Nixon provided the dramatic ending to the negotiations by making a surprise appearance to announce the agreement.

'Please, Mr. Hower...'

Roland Hower, freeze dry specialist at NMNH, has received a protest from two young animal lovers. Reproduced as they wrote it:

Mr. Rolland Hoover
Smithsonian Institute
Washington, D. C.

Mr. R. Hower,

Our 5th grade was Reading the weekly Reader. We do not like your freeze-drying animals. We think it is very cruel to Nature. If they had to die let them rest in peace.

Dont freeze-dry animals' youve already done it to coffee isn't that enough? Your distroying Nature!



Photograph by H. Barnett Neufeld

A ROYAL AFTERNOON—The Women's Committee of the Smithsonian Associates found the successful formula for a benefit last month—an afternoon with royalty. The Chogyal and Gyalmo of Sikkim greeted guests at a sell-out show of Sikkimese fashions in the Great Hall, planned to draw U.S. attention to the culture of their nation. Above, Mrs. Henry P. Smith III, chairman of the Women's Committee, introduces Mrs. Adelyn Breeskin, curator of contemporary painting and sculpture at the NCFA, to the king and queen in the receiving line.

SI 'Excess' Currency Program Backs U.S. Research Overseas

Since its inception in 1965, SI's Foreign Currency Program has made grants to some 100 museums, colleges and universities across the nation for overseas research efforts.

At present, its level of funding for such research in "excess currency" countries totals more than \$3,000,000 a year. As a result, the program is the largest single source of support available to SI for field research. Since the program's beginning, SI scientists have received nearly \$5 million in foreign currency support.

Kennedy B. Schmertz, acting director of SI's Office of International Activities which oversees the program, notes that scholars are taking part in a wide-range of archeological, biological, astrophysical and museum-related programs as a result of the grants.

Item: A Stanford University team helped save priceless relics dating back to the early Roman occupation of Yugoslavia.

Item: An Italian conservator went to Ceylon to restore 1500-year old frescoes that were severely damaged by vandals.

Item: A Yale University expedition to Egypt has discovered the fossil skull of what is believed to be the oldest member of man's "family tree."

All three of these projects have one element in common—they were financed by SI's Foreign Currency Program.

Recently, the Smithsonian offered museums and universities throughout the U.S. a supplementary source of funds to support overseas endeavors under SI's Special Foreign Currency Program.

Schmertz advised museums across the nations that his office would welcome proposals to allocate funds from its "excess currency" list for overseas research by staff members of academic institutions.

Such funds are presently available for institutional research use in Burma, Guinea, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Tunisia, Egypt, and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Schmertz noted that the "principal requirement is that the funds be employed to strengthen United States program." Joint undertakings bringing together American museums, which would be the recipients of foreign currency grants, and foreign institutions are encouraged, he said.

At present, Mr. Schmertz's office is processing proposals for 28 archeological research projects in various foreign currency program countries during the next year. These proposals will be reviewed by an advisory council of distinguished archeologists from institutions across the nation. In addition, another

advisory council is reviewing proposals for 15 research projects in the biological sciences. Three astrophysical and earth sciences proposals are also under review.

It is expected that about \$3,500,000 in foreign currency grants will be approved by the advisory councils and authorized by the SI in the next few months. These grants are possible because the United States owns "excess" foreign currencies in various countries due to the sale of surplus agricultural commodities there.

Schmertz says that the major research-funding opportunities for the foreseeable future will lie in Poland, Egypt, India and Pakistan. The demand for research funds in Yugoslavia and Tunisia has grown at such a rate that the life of U.S. excess fund accounts in those countries may end in five to 10 years rather than indefinitely as in others. Funds for Ceylon have run out and Israel and Morocco will go off the list next June 30.

Working under the general guidance of William W. Warner, Assistant Secretary for Public Service, Schmertz has been a member of the Smithsonian staff since 1965. An alumnus of Princeton University and a native of Pittsburgh, he was an international economist and cultural affairs officer with the Department of State for 13 years before joining the SI staff. He served overseas in Germany and Iraq and also was assigned to State's African Bureau.

Here are some examples of possible uses of excess monies to strengthen United States museum programs:

—Travel and maintenance of American curators to museums in the "excess" countries for work with collections of professional interest. The Americans would be expected to contribute to host museum staff training, develop education programs, and the like;

—Travel of foreign curators from the excess currency countries to American institutions to contribute to the organization, display, and conservation of collections. Dollars for the maintenance in the United States of such visitors would have to be provided from another source.

—Tours of foreign museums, including those in one or more of the excess currency countries, with travel funds plus funds for maintenance in the excess currency countries only, available from the Smithsonian Foreign Currency Program.

—Preparation in an excess currency country of exhibits, including the catalogues, to circulate in the United States;

—Support for symposia, with carefully defined purposes, to be held in excess currency countries with travel, maintenance and the publication of the proceedings paid for in foreign currencies.

About SI People Author to Set Up Jazz Program

Martin Williams has joined the staff of the Institution's Division of Performing Arts to plan a comprehensive program of jazz studies and jazz performances. The program will be a component of the Smithsonian's Bicentennial Program in Performing Arts. It will include the development of a permanent jazz archive, research, and public concerts. Mr. Williams has been actively involved in jazz research and criticism for the past 15 years. He is the author of four books on jazz and has also contributed the jazz entries to five major encyclopedias. One of the founders and editors of the *Jazz Review*, Mr. Williams has produced numerous recordings and annotated dozens of record albums. He has been jazz critic for *Saturday Review*, the *New York Times*, and other publications. "There is a great need for publication of biographies, histories and discographies and all aspects of jazz research," he says. "I hope that we can bring live music to audiences of all kinds. It is my ultimate hope that Washington can be the home of the country's first resident jazz orchestra, playing the entire repertoire from Jelly Roll Morton to George Russell and beyond."

Russell Bourne Joins Staff

The appointment of **Russell Bourne** as Consultant on Special Publications has been announced. The Office is being established under the direction of William W. Warner, Assistant Secretary for Public Service. Mr. Bourne will consult with members of the Smithsonian's professional research staff about the development of new lines of books in association with the nation's leading commercial publishers. In the next several months, Mr. Bourne will prepare a series of reports on publishing opportunities that might be of interest to Smithsonian scholars. Mr. Bourne's services will be available to any member of the Smithsonian staff who contemplates a popular publication, either as a personal undertaking or as an official Smithsonian project. One purpose of the new office is to assist the staff in making arrangements with commercial publishers. Mr. Bourne comes to the Smithsonian from the National Geographic Society, Washington, where he was Associate Chief, Book Services. Previously he had been Editor of Time-Life Books' "Great Ages of Man" series and Editor of the American Heritage's Junior Library Series and Horizon Caravel books.

Cornell Wears 2nd Hat

James Cornell, public information officer of SAO and adept cartoonist (see Page 1), has added a second official hat. He was recently named manager of the Observatory's Publications Department, replacing Eliza Collins, who resigned. In addition to his major new responsibilities, Mr. Cornell will continue to have responsibility for all public affairs and press liaison. Miss Collins is going to Japan to live and possibly work.

NASM Adds 2 Key Staffers

Melvin Zisfein, formerly Director of Research for the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, and **Jack Whitelaw**, formerly an assistant to Senator Muskie, have joined the NASM staff. They are serving as Deputy Director and Administrative Officer, respectively.

'Skip' Grant Joins CYO Staff

The personable **Oliver (Skip) Grant** of SI Duplicating has resigned to join the Washington Archdiocesan Catholic Youth Organization as Assistant to the Director. A former athlete of note, Mr. Grant has coached CYO football, basketball, and track teams for years.

Reception Center Chief Named

Mary Grace Potter, formerly Assistant Development Director for the Girl Scouts, has joined the SI staff as Director of the Smithsonian Associate Reception Center in the Great Hall. The Center is becoming the principal service link between Smithsonian Associates and the Institution. Miss Potter replaces **William C. Grayson**, who has transferred to the Office of Development.

Old Link Is Continued

The longtime association, personified by the late Remington Kellogg, between marine mammals, the National Geographic Society, and the Smithsonian, has been continued through the appointment of **Frank C. Whitmore Jr.** as Dr. Kellogg's successor on the Society's Committee for Research and Exploration. Dr. Whitmore, a specialist on fossil whales, collaborated with Dr. Kellogg in research, and is a Research Associate in the Smithsonian's Department of Paleobiology.

NCFA Assistant Selected

Douglass G. Williams has become a special assistant for traveling exhibitions at the Smithsonian. He is the former curator of the Georgia Museum of Art. Mr. Williams is serving under Dr. Joshua C. Taylor, Director of the NCFA, and will coordinate activities between SITES, the NCFA, and the Smithsonian as a whole.

Zoo Aide Appointed

Byrd W. Walker Jr. has joined the staff of the Office of Personnel Administration as the Personnel Management Consultant for the National Zoological Park. Mr. Walker has worked for the Department of the Army and the Department of Justice. He has had more than 20 years of experience in all phases of the personnel profession. His responsibilities include providing advice and consultation to NZP management and supervisory staff on personnel matters, and advising, assisting, and counseling NZP employees.

Angst Makes His Own

Requisitioning and scrounging for equipment are not for **Walter Angst**, an exhibition specialist on loan to the NCFA, because Mr. Angst believes in direct action and also loves to work with his hands. Assigned the job of restoring historic gilded furniture for the Renwick Gallery, he started out by first furnishing his workspace with a complete set of furniture he crafted himself—table, desk, shelves, podium for chair, tool rack. Mr. Angst is now working on the furniture itself, using—what else but?—handmade tools.

Goode Is Curator

The SI Building now has a curator. **James M. Goode** will be responsible for cataloging and accessioning all art works and all antique furniture used in the building, and for inspecting potential acquisitions for suitability of style and period. As curator, he will be coordinator and liaison for all exhibits in the building, act as registrar and custodian of all objects and specimens loaned for furnishing or exhibits in the building, and maintain an index of all architectural drawings for all Smithsonian buildings.

Photo Sales Section

The Photographic Services Division, recently reorganized under the direction of **Arthur Gauth**, has added a Photographic Sales Section to fill the photo needs of research and educational organizations and the general public. **James F. Pinkney Jr.** has been named the section's chief. Mr. Pinkney, whose experience is in commercial manufacturing and marketing operations, comes to the Smithsonian from Rixon Electronics. He has a B.B.A. degree in marketing.

Center's 1st Year: Spirit of Wilson Thrives

By Mary Krug

Rare is the institution that can boast visits from the heads of state of three different nations during its first year of operation. The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars is one that can.

The Center, established by Congress in 1968 as the official national memorial to the 28th president, opened its doors to its first group of scholars in October 1970. In the year since, it has been host to 47 fellows and a dozen guest scholars, evolved traditions, sponsored symposia, launched a publications program, and, not incidentally, provided a milieu for the study of some of the world's most pressing problems.

It has, in the process, returned the SI building to its original function as a "home" for scholars. During Joseph Henry's day, the Smithsonian was the only advanced study center in the nation. Scientists and scholars made it not only their intellectual residence, but very literally a place to live.

They were interested for the most part in physical and natural phenomena. Their successors come to consider contemporary social, governmental and international issues, and they do not live within the castle walls, but they share with their 19th century counterparts the excitement and enthusiasm generated by common intellectual goals.

"One of the most interesting aspects of the first year's operations has been the gradual, often spontaneous, development of an institutional life," observes Director Benjamin Read. "Although each fellow's own research project is, of course, his prime consideration, the Center was conceived of from the beginning as an intellectual community with certain wider responsibilities. As such, it has provided frequent formal as well as daily informal opportunities for the exchange of views and ideas and sponsored programs to enable those outside the Center to participate in its life."

Among the most special of the Center's special programs have been those visits by heads of state. President Nixon dedicated the Center in February, paying tribute to Woodrow Wilson's search for lasting peace. He shared the platform on that occasion with Hubert H. Humphrey, the very active chairman of the Center's Board of Trustees.

Chancellor Willy Brandt of the Federal Republic of Germany, an honorary member of the Center's Advisory Committee, and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi both came to the Center while on visits to the United States and led informal afternoon discussions in the library with Congressional leaders, other U.S. officials, diplomats, and Wilson trustees and fellows.

Other special programs have also been staged to carry out the Congressional mandate to "strengthen the ties between the world of learning and the world of public affairs." Biologist Rene Dubos and Maurice Strong, Secretary General of the U.N.'s 1972 Conference on the Human Environment, were the featured speakers at a dinner in May hosted by Chairman Humphrey and Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott, a Smithsonian Regent, for leaders of environmental reform.

A distinguished panel of journalists and government representatives including Mylai reporter Seymour Hersh and Defense Department spokesman Daniel Henkin staged a day-long discussion on "Government Information, the Media and the Public." Former Undersecretary of State George Ball and Senator Jacob Javits held a "public dialog" on the evolving Congressional role in foreign affairs. Other less formal programs have been held steadily throughout the year.

But despite the renowned guest speakers and programs, the most significant factor in shaping the Center's first year has been the fellows themselves. They have been, by design, about evenly divided between U.S. and non-U.S. scholars. They have ranged in age from the twenties to the sixties, and in career from diplomat to journalist to academician to soldier. They have come from as far as Japan, Russia, Nigeria, the Philippines, and as near as D.C. They have worked on studies of law as an instrument of social change; Soviet objectives



Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, one of three heads of state to visit the Wilson Center in its first year of operation, leads a discussion that also included, from left, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator John Sherman Cooper, and Center Director Benjamin Read.

in the Middle East; ethnic conflict in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean; the relationship between rapid economic growth and environmental cost; the adjustment of rural peoples in Africa to technological change and development; the uses of the seabed for military and peaceful purposes.

"The projects of some two-thirds of the fellows have related to one of the Center's designated areas of emphasis—international affairs, environment, or oceans," points out Mr. Read. "The ocean studies program has included roughly a quarter of the first scholars, and probably represents the most concerted and sustained effort of its kind,

by private international experts, to deal with this increasingly important set of legal, political, and social issues."

Foundation grants helped to get the Center started. The Ford Foundation, for instance, financed initial staff appointments and planning expenses. The Center now gets an annual Congressional appropriation, but is still dependent on non-Federal money for much of its program. Until it can build a headquarters of its own, the Center will be housed in the SI building, which was renovated for the Center's use.

Reflecting on its first year of operation, Read said that "building an institution is never an easy task, and it could not

have been accomplished without the good will and assistance that the Center has had in such generous measure from its immediate family, from the Smithsonian management and staff, and from numerous friends in Washington and elsewhere in this country and abroad.

"Of course the job has just begun. There are still many lessons to be learned, and tremendous efforts to be made if we are to continue to attract the high caliber of applicants we have had to date. But an auspicious beginning has been made. The spirit of Woodrow Wilson thrives in the castle on the Mall."

Christian Manuscripts, Art On Exhibit at Freer Gallery

By William O. Craig

One of the world's great collections of Biblical manuscripts is among the treasures of the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery of Art, a museum more generally recognized for its famed collection of Far Eastern art objects.

Among the Freer's holdings are Greek, Coptic and Armenian manuscripts, as well as illustrations that were once part of Byzantine Christian works. These include what has been called the greatest Biblical treasure in the United States—a virtually complete fifth-century copy of the Gospels, in Greek.

Of special artistic as well as scholarly interest are the Armenian manuscripts. Selected pages from the manuscripts will be displayed during the holiday season in an exhibit hall at the Gallery. Also on exhibit will be religious and decorative objects in Byzantine style, including items from a gold treasure unearthed in Egypt some 60 years ago.

The acquisition of the manuscripts now in the Freer collection began in 1906 when Charles Lang Freer, the Detroit industrialist whose bequest created the Gallery, purchased four Greek manuscripts from a dealer named Ali, in Gizeh, near Cairo, Egypt. One of these was the copy of the Gospels later designated Washington Manuscript III. The others were a manuscript of Deuteronomy and Joshua, also dated to the fifth century; a manuscript of the Psalms dated to the fifth and eighth centuries, and a sixth-century manuscript of the Epistles of Paul.

They were studied by H. A. Sanders of the University of Michigan, who found the Psalms and the Pauline Epistles badly decayed into glue-like masses. By painstaking work with a wet cloth and a knife, he was able to separate the individual leaves. One of the manuscripts contained a living bookworm and remains of others.

The same dealer sold manuscripts and fragments of Christian works written in the Coptic language to Freer in 1908 and 1909. These included a fifth-century psalter of diminutive page size (2¾ by 3⅞ inches) thought to be from the same monastery as the Greek manuscripts, part of a tenth-century homily on the Virgin, and a fragment of a magical text asking God's protection from the perils of the deep and sickness.

Later acquisitions included 34 papyrus leaves of a third-century work in Greek on the minor prophets, other leaves in Greek from Christian works, a thirteenth-century bound volume of the New Testament in Aramaic, and illuminated leaves illustrating Byzantine manuscripts of the Gospels and the 30-rung ladder to heavenly bliss envisioned by a sixth-century monk, St. John Climacus of Mount Sinai.

The beginning of the Armenian section came in 1932 when the Freer acquired a Gospel written in the thirteenth century and illustrated with numerous miniatures. This was called the finest such work in existence outside the large collections of Erevan, Jerusalem, and Venice.

The Armenian section now includes six Gospels, a hymnal and a psalter, and covers a span of seven centuries.

Learning Lab Offers Classes Free to Staff

If you want to upgrade your present skills or acquire new ones to enhance your career, the new Smithsonian Learning Lab is for you.

Opened early this month, the training center offers free, one-hour courses every day of the week from Monday through Friday in beginning typing, office typing, beginning shorthand, speed shorthand, career arithmetic, blueprint reading and shop mathematics, basic statistics, and career English.

Speed typing will be added later, and probably these courses: basic electricity, elementary electronics, first year electronics, an introduction to computer math, algebra, and slide rule fundamentals.

Supervisors are strongly urged to permit interested employees to participate in the training programs, which will be individualized and thus permit the student to progress at his own rate.

For information and application forms, contact Brenda Howell, A&I 1235 (BMD employees contact Cheryl Price, A&I 1402).

Air Museum Given Aubusson Tapestry

A tapestry designed by the French artist Mathieu Matégot and woven in the famous French tapestry manufacturing center of Aubusson was recently presented by the artist to the National Air and Space Museum. An abstract design woven mainly of brown, buff, beige, tan and silver threads, the tapestry is 13 feet high and 10 feet wide. It is entitled "Man's First Step on the Moon."

Mr. Matégot views the work as a symbol of the joining of science and art as commonly creative endeavors. The tapestry has been placed on public display in the Hall of Aerospace Art, Arts and Industries Building.

SMITHSONIAN TORCH DECEMBER 1971

Published for Smithsonian Institution personnel by the News Bureau of the Office of Public Affairs, Room 107, SI Building. Editor of this issue was Benjamin Ruhe. Suggestions for news items are invited. Call Extension 5911.



Inside the NCFA, a crack crosses the Lincoln Gallery terrazzo floor; outside, work proceeds on the 55-foot deep subway trench. Photographs by John Bergner

Gallery Closed

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ture is one of Washington's most beautiful edifices and houses national art treasures, Mr. Kline said: "Believe me we don't want to damage it either." He feels the monumental two-block-long, three-story building is the most difficult one Metro will have to contend with during the entire time of its construction.

What caused the cracking, exactly? Mr. Kline theorizes that weight transfers during the underpinning operation might have caused the north wing to settle slightly and break away, in a hinge-like movement, from the east wing.

Construction of the subway along the two-block stretch next to the NCFA is now in the home stretch. Pouring of the concrete cocoon that will house the subway itself should permanently end the peril of further structural damage to the building from that source.

SAO to Build Third Largest Optical Scope

A radically new type of astronomical instrument using an array of several relatively small mirrors to produce a single large telescope will be developed jointly by the University of Arizona and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

The unusual concept will cluster six 72-inch mirrors around a central core so the light from celestial sources that strikes each of the individual mirrors will be focused into a single image, thus producing the light-gathering power equivalent to a 176-inch telescope.

In addition to conventional optical astronomy, the telescope will have special capabilities for use in infrared research. The multiple will be the world's third largest optical telescope.

The completed instrument will be located at either the Smithsonian's Mt. Hopkins Observatory south of Tucson or at the University's Catalina Station on Mt. Lemmon north of the city. For the past six months, atmospheric-quality tests have been conducted at both sites.

4 Catlin Paintings Score Hit in Europe

Four George Catlin paintings showing American Indians on the hunt were a hit in a recent visit to Central Europe. On loan from the NCFA, the canvases were displayed in Budapest in an exhibition devoted to "Hunting in Art" and then in Vienna at America House. At both places they aroused much interest and their loan was taken, in the word of the USIS in Vienna, "as evidence of American friendship."

The project was managed by the International Art Program of the NCFA.

Is Civilization an Accident? Valdiva Finds Fuel Dispute

Betty J. Meggers, MNH research associate, is one of the contributors to the newly published Praeger book "The Quest for America" edited by Geoffrey Ashe. (\$15)

The book examines links—in literature, mythology, archeology, and history—between the Old World and the New.

Anthropologist Meggers, and her husband, MNH anthropologist Clifford Evans, co-authored with a South American colleague the 1961 Smithsonian Institution Press study, "Early Formative Period of Coastal Ecuador: The Valdiva and Machalilla Phases," documenting links between Japanese pottery and pottery they uncovered in excavations at Valdiva, Ecuador, which they suggested was evidence that Japanese sailing vessels had made contact with coastal Ecuador as early as 3000 B.C.

In the Praeger book, Meggers points out that even though the archeological record makes it a difficult case to prove, "a growing number of complexes cannot be explained except as the result of contact, and many anthropologists are convinced not only that trans-Pacific contact took place but that it occurred repeatedly and independently at different times on different parts of the western coast of the Americas." It seems increasingly probable, she writes, that trans-Pacific introductions played an important part in shaping the civilizations that existed at the time of the European discovery.

Her conclusion: "The acrimonious nature of the debate about trans-Pacific influences on New World cultural development reflects the subconscious realization that more is at stake than the inventiveness of the American Indian. If New World civilizations are part of the Old World diffusion sphere, then civilization has developed only once on this planet. Such a conclusion forces us to recognize

that culture is not the free creation of the human intellect, but a unique product of the complicated interaction over many millennia between man's needs and the resources of the environment. If destroyed, there is no assurance that it would rise again in a similar form. Nor is there any ground for assuming that something comparable exists elsewhere in the universe."

New Bookstore To Open in MHT

A major bookstore operated for the Smithsonian by McGraw-Hill Inc. will be opened next spring at the National Museum of History and Technology. It will be located immediately inside the Constitution Avenue entrance and will reflect the vast range of Smithsonian exhibits and research interests, which include everything from the lives of the Presidents to the workings of a steam engine.

The bookstore is designed to be a major educational resource of the Museum of History and Technology, whose six million yearly visitors give it the highest recorded attendance of any museum in the world.

"The Smithsonian and McGraw-Hill intend that the bookstore will be the most complete of its kind, with both general and specialized publications reflecting subject areas represented in the Museum of History and Technology and other Smithsonian museums," notes Daniel J. Boorstin, director of the museum.

The store will feature a wide range of titles in science, technology and American history. Book exhibits, author-reader meetings, and similar activities are planned.

More Private Aid Is Asked to Spur Venture Projects

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exhibits and the use of educational techniques to aid formal teaching at all levels."

2. Environmental Studies, in which, noted Mr. Ripley, "the Smithsonian through its collections has played a major role. Our collections form a historical data bank. Using them as a base, current research can project rates of change, thus helping to monitor environmental balances on an international scale and assist in the creation of needed warning systems. Few investments are more important for future planning and productivity assessment."

Mr. Kautz pointed out that "most people today have forgotten that the Smithsonian was established with private money. And few of the more than 13 million individuals who annually visit the Smithsonian's national museums recognize that they are all, in a sense, the outgrowth of an act of generosity of a man who evidently had great faith in America, a land he had never visited."

Among other gift opportunities described by Mr. Kautz were:

The Venture Fund — "Significant Smithsonian accomplishments have been made possible because private funds were readily available. Examples include the U.S. Weather Bureau, the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum, and the Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies. The Smithsonian wishes to maintain a working fund of \$2.5 million to take advantage of key opportunities as they occur."

The Smithsonian Research Foundation — "Congress appropriates \$400,000 annually to underwrite many basic research projects at the Smithsonian through the Foundation. A committee of scholars and scientists independent of the Smithsonian examines all proposals and determines which merit funding. Only half of the projects accepted can be funded by the annual appropriation. The Smithsonian seeks an additional \$200,000 annually, or half the appropriated amount, from private sources to augment the Foundation total."

A brochure titled "Smithsonian Institution Opportunities in Private Giving" has been printed at private expense. It may be obtained through Arthur W. Gardner or Henry D. Steele, of the SI Office of the Development.

TV Crew Has Own River Adventure

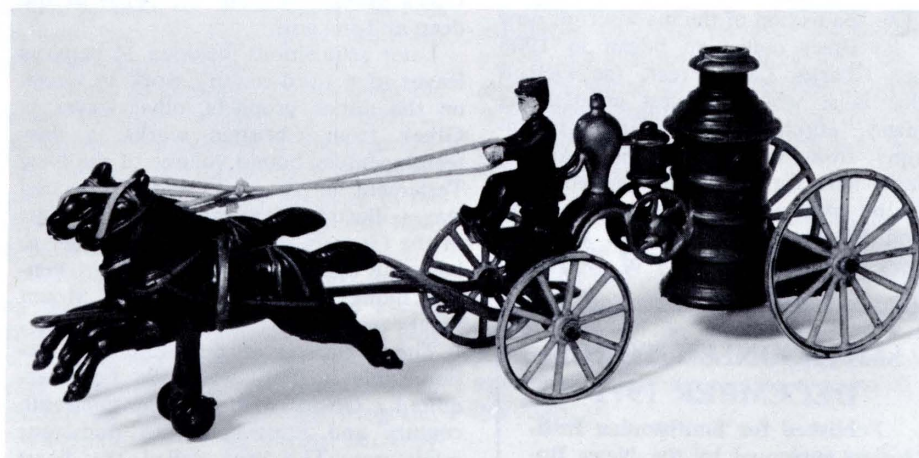
"Smithsonian Adventure" has a very literal meaning now for the CBS television crew working on the new series that bears that title.

Filming a show on naturalist John Wesley Powell's exploration of the Colorado River, the crew found out first-hand the kinds of hazards he faced when their boat overturned and their equipment was lost. More equipment was flown in, and the Powell special was completed.

Produced in cooperation with the Smithsonian and coordinated by the Office of Public Affairs, the series of one-hour specials got its start last summer with "The Search for the Goddess of Love." The story of archeologist Iris Love's search for the Praxiteles Aphrodite, the show drew an enthusiastic audience response. Nearly 1,000 letters from throughout the country have come in to OPA, seeking additional information on the search and on the Smithsonian.

What Is a Museum?

The International Council of Museums provides the following definition: "A museum is a permanent establishment administered in the public interest, with a view to conserve, study, exploit by various means and, basically, to exhibit, for the pleasure and education of the public, objects of cultural value."



THE LOOK OF YESTERYEAR—Fire engines, clowns, motorbikes, buses, taxicabs, tricycles, and trains, all fashioned from cast iron or tinplate, are the feature Christmas attraction at MHT through January. About 500 of a collection of nearly 3,000 nostalgic toys given to the SI by Sears, Roebuck & Co. will be on display on the second floor. They range from 1880 to 1960 and, according to curator Rodris Roth, reflect the world of their times.