Herman, Feldman
In Renwick Posts

The appointments of Lloyd E. Herman as Administrator and Arthur M. Feldman as Associate Curator of the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery have been announced.

Mr. Herman will direct a staff that will specialize in American applied arts, both past and present. Formerly associated with the National Association of Travel Organizations for five years and then manager of public relations and special exhibition programs for the National Housing Center, he joined the staff of the Smithsonian in 1966, and previously was Director of the Office of Exposition Hall Programs at the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building.

Mr. Herman was educated in his home state of Oregon, and received a bachelor's degree from American University, Washington, D.C.

Before accepting the Renwick appointment, Mr. Feldman served as a visiting curatorial assistant at the National Gallery of Victoria and Albert Museum in London. He had previously trained at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., and at the University of Missouri's Museum of Art and Archaeology, where he received a Master of Arts degree in art history and archaeology in 1970. He also did post-graduate work at the University of Pennsylvania. He received a bachelor's degree from Villanova University.

He has taught, organized 12 exhibitions for the University of Missouri museum, served as a chairman of a Temple University archaeological dig, and has done extensive research and art collection cataloging.

Lawn Appointed Assistant Director Of Freer Gallery

Dr. Thomas Lawn has been appointed Assistant Director of the Freer Gallery of Art.

Dr. Lawn has been with the gallery since September, 1967, as Assistant Curator, then Curator, Chinese Art. He studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and the Durfee Technical Institute and received a Master of Fine Arts degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1959. Dr. Lawn subsequently attended Harvard University and the Chinese Language Training Center in Taipei, Taiwan, where he mastered the Chinese language. He was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Harvard in 1970.

Dr. Lawn has distinguished himself in his studies of Far Eastern art, with special emphasis on China. He has lectured extensively, and has served as a consultant to the National Palace Museum in Taiwan, and as Vice-Executive Secretary of the International Symposium on Chinese Paintings held at the National Palace Museum in Taipei in 1970. He has published a number of scholarly works dealing with aspects of oriental art.

(Continued on Page 4)
Who visits the Smithsonian Institution? A white, middle-aged, upper middle class man who has a better-than-average education and is not from the Washington area.

That is the conclusion of a year-long visitor survey conducted for the Smithsonian from October 1968 to October 1969 by Mrs. Carolyn H. Wells, a museum employee, and a staff of trained volunteers. It supports the findings of other museums that have conducted surveys of this type.

The conclusions are based on data collected from more than 4,000 interviews with visitors to the National Museum of Natural History and National Museum of History and Technology. The sample did not include any of the area school groups who visit the museums because of the difficulty in detaining a whole class while interviewing one member of it. Thus, it does not reflect any of the some 45,000 area youngsters who took Smithsonian-led tours in that year, nor any of the undetermined number of school groups from Washington and elsewhere that visit regularly.

The survey questionnaire was designed by the Bureau of Social Science Research of Washington, in consultation with Smithsonian officials. Questions ranged from the general to the specific: among them, "Have you ever visited the Smithsonian?" Among the responses, "I'm sure he made it," to "Is this your first visit to this particular museum?" Among the people you came with, how many had difficulty finding a place to park?"

Among the facts turned up about the visitors:

- The largest group (31 percent) of the out-of-town residents came from the Northeast part of the country.
- Sixty percent of the respondents over 18 had some college education.
- Seventy percent of the respondents had incomes over $10,000, with 17 percent making more than $20,000. Only 7 percent had a family income of less than $4,000.

What attracts visitors to the Smithsonian? Of all the exhibits in the two buildings surveyed, dinosaurs, the First Ladies' gowns, the Hope Diamond and the natural history exhibits were the most popular at all age levels. "Visitors bring friends and relatives and their own children to see subjects they remember from childhood," according to Mrs. Wells' report. "They like to return and find the latest exhibition at the same location. The Smithsonian Institution is unique in that it is in the United States in attracting a large number of visitors from all over the country who have, as mentioned earlier, always known "about the exhibits, from school days on. Smithsonian exhibits are truly a national heritage."
The Smithsonian and the Past

By S. Dillon Ripley

Following are excerpts from Secretary Ripley's address at ceremonies September 26 celebrating the Institution's 125th anniversary.

In September, 125 years ago, the first meeting of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution was held in Washing-

ton. It was a profoundly significant event, and one that every year we celebrate with a sense of pride and joy. For it marks the birthday of a great institution.

Over the years, the Smithsonian has grown and expanded, and its achievements have been celebrated in countless ways. Yet, there is something about the Institution's 125th anniversary that feels especially special.

In 1846, an Act of Congress established the Smithsonian Institution, a national repository of knowledge and a center for scientific and cultural exchanges. Its mission was to promote the increase and diffusion of knowledge, and to foster the improvement of society through education and research.

Today, the Smithsonian is one of the most visited museums in the world. It is a place where people come to learn about our past, to understand the present, and to imagine the future. It is a place where science and culture meet, where history and innovation coexist.

The Institution's collections include over 16.7 million items, ranging from ancient artifacts to cutting-edge technology. They are a testament to the ingenuity and creativity of humanity, and they serve as a reminder of the importance of education and research.

But the Smithsonian is not just a museum. It is a living, breathing institution that continues to evolve and adapt to the needs of society. It is a place where new ideas are born, and where old ones are challenged.

In 1876, the Smithsonian marked its 25th anniversary with a special celebration. It was a time of reflection and celebration, of looking back on what had been accomplished and looking forward to what might be.

Today, as we celebrate the Institution's 125th anniversary, we are reminded of the same thing. We are reminded of the importance of education and research, and of the power of knowledge to transform lives and societies.

The Smithsonian is a symbol of the American spirit, a place where ideas are exchanged, and where the pursuit of knowledge is cherished. It is a place where we can come together to learn, to celebrate, and to imagine.

So, let us take this opportunity to reflect on the past, to celebrate the present, and to look forward to the future. Let us use the Institution's 125th anniversary as a reason to learn more about the world around us, and to imagine what the future might hold.

For everyone—visitors and residents alike—it is a fitting occasion to pay tribute to the Smithsonian, and to find out more about the vast array of programs being planned for the future.

The Smithsonian Institution has broken new ground in the field of museum operations...for 125 years.

Museums are supposed to concentrate on their core business—exhibits and collections. The Smithsonian will sail into almost any area of human and zoological endeavor. Six million cataloged objects contain such an amazing array of animal, vegetable, and mineral. That for many in society it seems the result of a colossal of gigantic pockmarks.

But for many more, it is the ultimate museum, with so much to see and with such variety, that there are very few recorded cases of the "museum blues" resulting from its exhibits.

Reounce, Va., World News

To the Editor:

I read with interest the Dispatch editorial Sept. 25 on the anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution.

I had the great pleasure of spending three days in Washington over the Labor Day weekend, and I consider it a must for each of us to realize the beauty, solemnity, and dignity of the past ever since and envying the Smithsonian.

I came home feeling much richer and my faith uplifted by the trip to the community and to involve people in its activities...
Tests Show Chinese Made Royal Axes From Meteorites

By Tom Harney

Experts at the Smithsonian Institution's Freer Gallery of Art and National Museum of Natural History have established that two ancient Chinese axes in the Freer collection—made centuries before China's iron age began—were fashioned from iron meteorites.

The metal blades are among the oldest objects made from meteoric iron known to exist and also two of the earliest instances of the use of iron in the Far East. They are believed to have belonged to a Chinese prince.

The Freer Gallery then enlisted the cooperation of the Smithsonian Institution to determine whether the axes were made of meteoritic iron, because iron metallurgy in China was unknown to experts before the Freer collection—made centuries before China's iron age began—were fashioned from iron meteorites.

The Freer Gallery then enlisted the aid of Roy S. Clarke, Jr., W. T. Chase and Nathan Gettens. They were dated at the Freer Gallery of Art by the Freer Gallery in 1934, part of a series of studies sponsored by the Royal Society of Great Britain, the Chinese Academy of Science, and the Chinese Ministry of Education, as well as the Freer Gallery.

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