President Signs Legislation Reserving Mall Site for SI

President Ford signed on August 9 legislation approved by the 94th Congress reserving for Smithsonian public purposes a site on the Mall just east of the new National Air and Space Museum building.

The legislation states that the portion of the Mall bounded by Third Street, Maryland Avenue, Fourth Street and Jefferson Drive is reserved as a site for the future public uses of the Smithsonian.

It also states that the Smithsonian "may not make any use of the site unless such use is first approved by the Congress."

The site, which is owned by the Federal Government, is near the United States Botanic Garden. It presently is used for outdoor sports activities.

In a statement May 1 before the Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, Committee on House Administration, Smithsonian Secretary Ripley urged the Congress to reserve the site for Smithsonian public purposes so that, at some future date, the Institution can complete its complex of Mall activities for public education and enjoyment.

Mr. Ripley noted that the Smithsonian's Board of Regents had approved, on Nov. 5, 1969, a proposal to reserve the last site on the Mall. Legislation similar to that recently approved was initially introduced in Congress on Dec. 4, 1969. Mr. Ripley pointed out that the legislation had the endorsement of both the National Capital Planning Commission and the Department of the Interior.

Secretary's Statement

In his statement, Mr. Ripley also said: "The Smithsonian, since its inception in 1846, has served the national through museums and exhibits devoted to public enlightenment, enjoyment and education. As one of the world's leading research and cultural centers, we have directed our efforts to presenting and interpreting in a meaningful fashion accomplishments in science, history and art to the millions of people who visit our halls and galleries each year."

"At the Mall facilities these visits are currently running about 15 million per year. By comparison, in the last 1950's we were recording annually two to three million visitors. Since shortly after the end of World War II about 220 million people of all nationalities and cultural origins have passed through our Mall museums."

"This is indeed a large audience, and I cannot predict with any degree of certainty, nor would I wish to, that the number of people coming to the Mall to enjoy and learn will stabilize or reduce. Rather the opposite trend seems to be occurring and will most likely continue to occur, in spite of energy shortages."

"People have increasing amounts of leisure time, and a persistent inquisitiveness about the history of this country, of science, of the arts, and, perhaps most basic of all, about the roots and condition of man. "With respect to the possible public use of the site, it will be a long time before we decide upon a building or indeed whether a building should be constructed there at all. As we look beyond our Bicentennial observances toward the twenty-first century, we can make one certain prediction: that the human condition and particularly the relation of man to the natural life support systems that provide him with the means of existence, such as food, energy, and air, will undergo necessary and stringent change."

"The plant genetics which have evolved the grains, fruits and legumes of today, the continuing development of so-called 'miracle' strains of food plants, their vulnerability to possible climatic change and chemical shortages, the potential and risks in future development of marine and freshwater organisms for life support, the present and future roles of fossil fuels and of solar radiation in satisfying needs for food and energy — these are only a few of the themes which now are of serious concern to scientists and policy-makers, and subjects of intense interest to millions of the public here and abroad."

"Many of these themes are historically important in Smithsonian research. It has been very difficult to present them in the form of exhibitions within the traditional confines of museum halls. They virtually demand outdoor spaces where living plants, sun, water and air can demonstrate the principles and problems involved."

Accordingly, we plan to use this last site on the Mall, easily accessible to millions of people, to present an exhibition of art treasures from the imperial collection, but also from the Tokyo National Museum, as well as paintings by the Empress.

Japan, SI Join In Special Exhibit

The Japanese Government, in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institution, will hold an exhibition of art treasures from the imperial collection and a display of paintings from the Smithsonian Institution Building September 18 to October 5.

The exhibition is being held in conjunction with the visit next month to the United States of the Emperor and Empress of Japan. From October 12 to 29 the exhibit will be shown at the Japanese House in New York.

The exhibition includes masterpieces of paintings, calligraphy and crafts from the Ministry of Education collections, the early Showa period (19th Century). It consists of 46 pieces selected mainly from the imperial collections, but also from the collections of the Takamatsuomiya family, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and the Tokyo National Museum, as well as paintings by the Empress.

New Fall Exhibitions at Smithsonian Museums

(See Page 2)
About a year ago a bundle of books arrived at the Smithsonian from abroad with no indication as to the identity of the final recipient.

"Would you like to try it?" a barefoot doctor asked me, "Dr. Ayensu. And don't think that I would say 'no' if you were in my slip of arm. After all, I could feel my hand get numb."

Dr. Ayensu, NMNH Botanist, Visits Scientists in China

Dr. Ayensu flew to China from Russia on July 13 after attending the 12th International Botanical Congress in Leningrad. Officials of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Premier Ambassador, Richard A. Wetjen, greeted him warmly at the airport in Peking. After two hours to rest and travel, he started him on an intensive program of tours and discussions. It was an itinerary that provided him a well, including a tractor factory, where he was invited to drive one of the finished products of the assembly line, and a commune hospital where he not only witnessed acupuncture surgery but got a taste of it himself.

About SI Women—Election Set For Council

The Smithsonian Women's Council election will take place this year over a two-week period.

Each woman staff member in the Washington metropolitan area will receive a biographical package in the mail during the last two weeks of July. The biography and associated form should be returned to the Department of Personnel before August 31st.

The election committee will hold announcements on August 30 and 31.

S-H Center to Hold Symposium on Women in Science

More than 500 high school and college freshmen and juniors will assemble in Detroit for a special symposium on science careers sponsored by the S-H (Sloan-Huston) Foundation. The symposium will demonstrate that careers in the sciences are not the preserve of those with advanced degrees; how to solve problems women can expect to face in a future in the sciences.

A presentation for the outstanding female graduate was made by Donald J. Bartel, SI's K-9 Trainer, to Officer Brewer and John as the top team, based on the test given by the Metropolitan Police Department 13th week of training. Mr. Bartel also presented a package of appreciation to Mr. S. J. Cunningham of the Andrews A.F.B. K-9 Unit and Sergeant Pitzer for their individual assistance.

A warrant was issued because the dog refused to have a "box seat" as indicated by Officer Charles E. Weeber of the Wilson Safety Patrol. The dog refused to have a box seat as indicated by Officer John E. Hunt and Sabeth. When a person hides in a large cubicle, the dog must again rely on scent to determine in which box he is hidden.

Exercises in attacking were also demonstrated. Officer Walter Page commented in an interview that an attack must be called back, in an exercise known as "stand off and attack," a straight attack was done by Officer Kenneth J. Brownington and "gun attack" by Officer John E. Hunt and Sergeant Pitzer. In each of the three attack exercises, Officer Hunt was the attacker.

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New Fall Exhibitions at SI Museums:

**Silk Screen Prints at MHT**

A retrospective exhibition of the works of the Venerable artist Jesus Rafael Soto is on display at the National Museum of History and Technology. It will continue through November 9. The Soto exhibition will inaugurate the Hirshhorn's policy of presenting major loan exhibitions. Since the Museum's opening in October 1974, its entire space has been devoted to the Inaugural Exhibition of works from its own collection of modern and contemporary art that already drawn more than 1,500,000 visitors.

**Work of Soto at Hirshhorn**

Soto, born in 1920, maintains a studio in Paris and travels frequently to Caracas. Forty-nine examples of his work are on loan for the exhibition from public and private collections in Caracas, Paris and New York, including Venezuela's newly established Museo de Arte Moderno "Jesus Soto" in his native city of Ciudad Bolivar. For nearly three decades Soto has continuously experimented with new materials and problems and the representation of movement in his work. His paintings in the 1950s explored the phenomenon of optical movement through the superimposition of one transparent surface over another. In the 1960s he incorporated actual movement into his art and later explored the potential of integrating the viewer into the work of art. In 1969 Soto began a series of works known as "Pénétrables." The "Pénétrables" are constructions which act as inside-outshell centers, thus becoming a participant in the completion of the work. A highlight of the Hirshhorn's exhibition will be a "Pénétrable" specifically designed for the Hirshhorn especially for installation during the show. "Pénétrables" typically measure 10 feet high, 30 feet wide, and 15 feet deep. It consists of 54,000 running feet of (51-inch) flexible tubes suspended from plastic grids. Overhead lighting will cast a surreal dream effect on the visitors walking through the installation.

The exhibition was organized by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York and will be shown in the Hirshhorn's lower-level special exhibition gallery.

**Silk-Screen Exhibitions**

The exhibition tells the story of America's involvement in banking from pre-Revolutionary days, when prices were expressed in beaver skins, through the growth of a nation demanding more and more money and credit, and coming up to the present. It is a comprehensive survey of the history of American banking from finest American sculptors. Franklin's famous declaration of independence in 1776, which included the phrase "We hold these truths to be self-evident," has been interpreted in the exhibit as an expression of American values. The contradictions clearly and individually. The contradictions of the process. It makes the original negative in his camera, and thus is analogous to the hand-pulled photogravure made directly from original negatives by artist-photographers at the turn of the century. The exhibition runs through December 29.

**Exhibit Traces of the Past**

A major Bicentennial exhibition tracing the history of American banking from colonial barter systems to contemporary electronic banking opens September 18 at the National Museum of History and Technology. Valuable memorabilia of American banking is on loan from financial institutions and private individuals, although the bulk of the exhibition is drawn from the Museum's own holdings. Many of the objects are being shown for the first time. They were selected from the 1,500,000 NMSH curator collections of numismatists, Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli, and Mrs. Elvira Clain-Stefanelli. They have written a catalog for the show entitled Two Centuries of American Banking. The exhibition was funded by a grant from the American Bankers Association with design by Joseph Tobey Associates of Stamford, Conn.

Located on the third floor of the Museum, the entrance to the exhibition is flanked by two large columns suggesting the monumental architecture of ancient Greece and adapted the ultimate symbol of elegant grace, the column. The opulence by American banks of the past.

The exhibition tells the story of America's involvement in banking from pre-Revolutionary days, when prices were expressed in beaver skins, through the growth of a nation demanding more and more money and credit, and coming up to the highly automated systems of today.

**Food Facilities Remodeled at MHT**

In order to increase food service capacity at the National Museum of History and Technology, the employee and main public cafeteria and the main kitchen that have been closed since December.

Some 22 high school students in learning/service experiences, the program provided an enriching part of the out-of-town experience, the program here at the National Collection of Fine Arts doing research on Winslow Homer and other American artists and learning how a museum functions.

The program in which Look participate involved 22 high school students in learning/service projects in the various Smithsonian museums over three-month period, including exhibit design, design displays, and food service projects in the various Smithsonian museums during the three-month period, including exhibit design, design displays, and food service projects in the various Smithsonian museums.

While remodeling is underway, food services remain open, and the supply kitchen reopens.

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Memories of the Old South Shed at SI

I was employed in the Division of Mechanical Technology. The Curator was Carl Misumi, a gentleman and, I thought, a kind and quietly capable administrator. My title was Assistant, one who prepares specimens for display or preserves them for storage. The salary was low, my duties included the care of the “John Bull” and “Stout Citizen” locomotives, automobiles, bicycles (not one each, but several), a parade float and the one-on-one exhibition, officially, to be sure that it was properly repaired and preserved. (I recall one week when the “Stout Citizen” had toppings from the high-wheelers, telegraph and telephone instruments, small watercraft, guns, Patent Office models of various mechanical gadgets, a large selection of electric light bulbs, scale models of numerous forms of transportation, and eight aircraft suspended from the rafters of the Arts and Industries Building. There were the Stringfield tripod model, Lilienthal glider, three Langley models, his large “Aerodrome A”, the Wright Military Flyer, and a then-recently installed DelBouton-Deirdre biplane.)

I soon made friends with other Smithsonian personnel, then totaling about 250, and I took interest in the widespread activities of our own and other departments. Thus I met Frank Cole, head of the main carpenter shop in the Natural History Building. He had worked on Langley’s large aerodrome and told me proudly how he had been the one to suggest to Langley that the wings could be lighter if the ribs were hollow. On his side he had made such a rib and showed it to Langley with some trepidation, but it was approved. Mr. Cole devised a jig for forming the ribs and made a rib in about four hours. This was 3 feet long and about 30 inches square at the ends. He made it himself and he and his helper Willard and I could come along. He was one of the few who had a key to that shop.

A few days later we went over. I was pleased to see that the arrangements of fueling, propellers, their attachment, and benches, and weapons was actually unchanged. Mr. Cole had some work to do in another annex and objected to changing over for me, but I had persistently and perseveringly fended off several of the small wooden propellers, about 3½ inches in diameter, metering at the nose of a great many laminations had been spayed to radiate from the hub and then smoothed into the growing contour. Because of my experience with flying, and I had a special interest in this, I could better appreciate the aerodynamic features of these units in which Langley had tried out his ideas. I found a wooden box containing several small engines, revealing that Langley had tried out various forms of power. A single-cylinder Deirdre-Bouton engine was a rare type, seeing a narrow-ladder packing to安宁e I climbed up and found the cylindrical blocks and patterns for casting engine parts. There were several large boxes at one side. Opening one I found a pair of beautiful biplane wings labeled for the Quarter-scale airship. They were exquisite, exact and firm, the spotted white fabric still eger for flight. The balsa wings were cut from the same block. I followed the wings, each of the ends, and the top and bottom cut from a single piece of wood, ¾ inch thick, glazing with smooth steel. They had been made before the days of large plywood panels. On the floor was a large dynamometer. I was trying to determine its purpose and was so engrossed that I cut my trip short. As we were walking out I asked him about the smaller biplane and he volunteered to show me his. "They," he said, "are the parts of the catapult used on the sub to launch the big aircraft in 1903." I was thrilled. I borrowed it from the Coast Guard for a parade float and I was so thrilled with the wonder of my hour with Mr. Cole that I was overflowing with an enthusiastic "Gerrhherr!"

I suggested that Langley’s shop should be restored to the time of its aeronautical activity. It would be a marvelous exhibit. We could scrub the floor, erect glass-walled aisles around its periphery so that visitors could see the layout; though work in progress could have mannequins at the benches, one of the large aerodromes and making allacker took a bit of ingenuity. I thought we could have a pole over which the small engines could be raised to the height of a man. As we entered the door on the east side, he stopped to talk with Stephen Kramer, who had worked on the Langley-Maryland engine. I recognized the engine of course, which I had seen, but had not flown in 1903. Afterward he was retained to make instruments for the Astrophysical Society. He was a superb artisan in metal. I remember particularly his use of hand-held tools for turning metal in the lathe. Those tools were triangular in section with angular points. He would hold them against the metal, taking precise cuts to bring the piece to its full perfection. The conversation of the two friends soon came around to their days with Langley, while I stood by with wide open eager ears, absorbing the stories of those historic days.

By Paul Edward Garber
Historian Emeritus
National Air and Space Museum

THE SMITHSONIAN TORCH

September 1975

Dr. Langley’s associates working on his aircraft in the South Shed in 1900.

SITES Exhibit Shows Women In Trade Unions

The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service is preparing a special exhibition on the role that women have played in U.S. labor movement.

Entitled "Workers and Allies: Female Participation in the American Trade Movement, 1824-1976," the show is available for local bookings.

The panel exhibit depicts women's participation from their first jobs in the New England cotton mills, through the formation of self-improvement societies, to the blossoming of full-fledged, politically powerful trade unions.

The story is told through reproductions of photographs, documents, newspaper accounts and memorabilia of the women, and women's organizations, that figured in the development of organized labor in this country.

Some of the major events in labor history in which women have played a central role also will be portrayed, such as the Homestead Strike of 1892, the Triangle Shirt Waits Fire of 1911, the Pullman Massacre of 1894, the Chicago Massacre of 1917, and the founding of the National Organization for Women in 1970.

Much of the material for "Workers and Allies" has been gathered from federal, state, municipal, union and university archives. However, the show was designed to encourage organizations to organize supplemental display materials, using the Smithsonian exhibit as a basic resource.

Organizations that exhibit "Workers and Allies" will receive 100 copies of a 96-page booklet, "The Role of Women in the Development of Labor Unions," published by the Smithsonian Institution Press, and designed to serve as a reference work on the subject for visitors.

"Workers and Allies" is being produced photographically in five duplicate copies and will be available to schools, historical societies, labor unions, and other educational and union organizations.

Smithsonian Press

The Smithsonian Institution Press has published the most definitive work to date on White House china, entitled Official White House China: Ceramics, 1875-1975

Written by Margaret Brown Klapthor, chief of the Decorative Arts section of the National Museum of American History, the book offers an authoritative源泉 on American china, based on records of the design and acquisition with federal funds of official tableware by the National Park Service.

The 284-page, volume, with 81 color plates and 140 additional black-and-white illustrations, is the result of a 19-year research project that began during the first months of the museum’s official history.

The effort was triggered in 1956, during the renovation of the First Ladies Hall, then in the Arts & Industries Building, when Mrs. Klapthor was writing a book for White House China in the Smithsonian collections and found very little authenticated information available.

Klapthor began combing "through records at the Smithsonian, the White House archives and elsewhere, and I had to pinpoint the cost, design, manufacture, markings and provenance of the White House service.

Her research also brought her into contact with such of the historical sources as a recently retired Washington, D.C. doctor, whose father had provided important historical sources to the White House, its families and its furnishings.

Mrs. Klapthor supervised the research and installation of "We the People", the major Bicennial exhibition at the National Museum of History and Technology.

The new book is priced at $15.95 and is distributed in the U.S. and Canada by Braziller, Inc.
Soon I had brought over the more impressive examples. From the taxidermist I learned that they had in one of their bins several of the stuffed birds which had been mounted for Langley’s mansion. I hung them from the top of the case. Two cellular kites and several beginnees were said that Langley had tested those primitive aircraft. The propellers and airfoils formed inverse rows across the length of the case, while the small engines and larger instruments were placed on the floor. Just to confirm what the photographs and labels made the purposes of the material known to the visitor. I regret that the case was too narrow for one of the biplane wing units, and there were several other treasurers that could not be shown, but the case did look attractive and was in an appropriate place, near the models and a large microscope suspended above. Sometimes, I alone walked by and saw visitors looking at the case I would listen to their comments and then explain some detail to them.

Time in its inexorable fashion moved on and another case was claimed by my Langley display. When I returned I was disappointed to learn that the Langley exhibit had been dismantled and even the case removed. I was told that the material had been stored.

My next visit to the South Shed was another disappointment. Historically anything that the Smithsonian could show the Langley material. I offered to buy it but was told I could have it if I would move it before the truck came to haul it away. Soon I had it on the back of "The Old Bucket" as I had named my ancient Ford. I now have this cabinet in my basement shop at home where of recent months I have been making replicas of historic aviation apparatus for the series of films I’m producing on the history of flight, thus justifying the cabinet’s retention.

Following that visit to the South Shed I tried whenever possible to get over to the South Shed to glance through the Langley items. Thus we do have the engine and some other parts. But then, as I understand it, the personnel of some Smithsonian by-products was established and official some say that the South Shed would be more useful if it could be completely cleared to make room for their project. Permission was granted.

And now I learn that the Old South Shed itself is to be demolished. Sir Transit Gloriae Munthis. Perhaps one of the Powers that he will indulge an old timer so that I can some day see a market in the future, on which can be told for those who do not care, a few facts of aviation history that were accomplished in that location. And if you happen to see me there do not let that marker, don’t laugh. Just smile, and permit me that reverence.

Operation Moonwatch Ends After 18 Years of Service

Moonwatch, the worldwide volunteer satellite tracking network that produced the western world’s first observations of Sputnik I, ceased operations June 30 after nearly two decades of sky patrols.

The Volunteer Flight Officers Network (VFON), an informal organization of airline personnel which provided information on reentering satellites and bright fireballs, was also disbanded. Both organizations were coordinated by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory with support primarily from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

When Russia launched Sputnik I into Earth orbit on October 4, 1957, the United States had no trained observers or leaders, a "condition which William Palmer, center) working on a tiger. He is sewing excisor onto a model of the animal’s body. An old photograph shows the Smithsonian was considered the nation’s leading taxidermy center. Founded for many years by William T. Hornaday, the shop’s artists mounted hundreds of birds, fishes and mammals for museums and exhibitions.

When I entered an old, dusty cabinet on the second floor of the South Shed in September 1975, its contents were filled with historic aviation apparatus for the series of films I’m producing on the history of flight, thus justifying the cabinet’s retention.

Footnote to South Shed History — From the 1880s to 1930s, the Smithsonian’s taxidermy shop was located in a room in the South Shed. The old photographs show that the Smithsonian’s photo archive shows SI taxidermist William Palmer (center) working on a tiger. He is sewing excisor onto a model of the animal’s body. An old photograph shows the Smithsonian was considered the United States’s leading taxidermy center. Founded for many years by William T. Hornaday, the shop’s artists mounted hundreds of birds, fishes and mammals for museums and exhibitions.

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M. G. Courtney, Data Specialist, Drowns at Reston

Maxwell G. Courtney drowned August 10 while swimming in Lake Anne at Reston, Va., with friends.

Mr. Courtney had been a Smithsonian employee for almost three years and most recently had been assigned to the Office of Public Affairs as a data processing specialist.

Mr. Courtney was assisting in the establishment of the membership department of the Smithsonian's Resident Associates Program, which has about 34,000 members throughout the Washington area. He also had planned a part in planning exhibits, like other Associates' activities, including a recent charter flight to the Soviet Union in which he served as a staff representative.

Born in Tallahassee, Fla., on Sept. 7, 1945, Mr. Courtney majored in mathematics and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1965, with honors, from Florida State University. He also had received a Master of Science degree in computer sciences from the University of Maryland.

Mr. Courtney was the first black student to attend Florida State University, where he was graduated at the age of 19. Among his survivors is his mother, Mrs. Hazel Franklin Courtney, of Tallahassee. A memorial service will be held on August 14 at the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Washington. Burial was at Tallahassee after a service there.

Mall Site
(Continued From Page 1)

visitors each year, for outdoor exhibitions explaining the delicate relationship between man and the natural systems that support his life on this planet. The exhibitions would be located in theme and location to those of the adjacent National Air and Space Museum, which will deal with some of the implications of man's technology for the twenty-first century.

"The complex will provide in some sense a capstone to the Smithsonian's mission, which is to engage the public in art, history, and science and to give that public an active interest in and a sense of ownership of the collections and our expertise in museum and archival practice available to Native Americans."

The award culminated a seven-month application process by the institution's Archives Director Dr. Herman Viola, working with the museum's James Lyons and Jeffrey Siann, visited a number of foundations in December of last year.

Rockefeller Grant Funds SI Program

The Rockefeller Foundation recently awarded a grant of $34,700 to the Smithsonian Institution for a Cultural Resources Training Program.

Operated by the National Anthropological Archives in the National Museum of Natural History, the program helps Native Americans to Washington for brief periods to acquaint them with photography, documentation, and other materials relating to their cultures available at the Smithsonian and other institutions in the city.

Begun through a grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1974, the program is continued during the current fiscal year through a combination of Rockefeller foundation money and appropriated funds. The trainers will come for periods of about two months each year.

It is hoped that by this means Indians will be encouraged to make greater use of the library and its resources relating to their past and, after they return to their homes, to begin the systematic preservation of materials still in private or tribal hands. In accepting the grant on behalf of the Smithsonian, Secretary Ripley remarked that "the American Indian Cultural Resources Training Program is a useful means, we believe, of sharing with our collections and our expertise in museum and archival practice available to Native Americans."

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Bedini is Author Of New Book


The book is an alternate selection of the MacMillian Book Club, which described the book in its catalog: "Until now the history of American science has centered on the Frankfurt Institute and Audubons. Unacknowledged was an impressive band of self-taught men who solved the common practical problems of the emerging nations . . . In the beginning America was a maverick nation, wild and only marginally supplied from abroad. American inventors, indeed, were the ones who invented the best tools for day-to-day living. Silvio A. Bedini has collected the biographies of the uncommon men, the craftsmen, surveyors and scientists, who looked at the common problems of the day and fashioned solutions."
Long-Term Program Brings Improvements to Museum Shops

By Barbara A. Brand

In the past several years, the Museum Shops of the Smithsonian Institution have experienced an expansion and development never before attempted by the Institution's retail operation. A long-term improvement program has made tremendous changes in the appearance and operation of the Museum Shops.

Leading the drive for the improvement of the Shops' merchandise is the Product Development Program, a project whose aim is to produce items inspired by or reproduced from the Smithsonian collections. Field-crest Mills, Steiff, Tonka, and Universe Books have received licenses from the Smithsonian granting them the right to market such products as reproductions of textiles and pewter, miniature dioramas, and full-color art calendars. All of these items were designed in close collaboration with museum curators. A Smithsonian Christmas catalogue will make its debut in October, illustrating these new products, plus many more selected from the Museum Shops' wide selection of gifts and books (see story on this page).

The search for merchandise which is appropriate to the purposes and educational goals of the Institution is a difficult and lengthy process. Florence Lloyd, Josephine Fingeret and Kathy Borrus, buyers for the Shops, spend much of their time interviewing vendors and traveling to gift shows, conventions and craft fairs all over the country. Whenever a new item is selected for sale in the Shops, it is usually referred to one or more curators for comment on its appropriateness and accuracy. Books are also chosen with great care, since scholars and visitors alike require a wide range of technical and educational material from which to choose.

The largest department of the Museum Shops is the sales section. A substantial staff of career and seasonal employees keeps all nine shop locations going at a constantly busy rate. The sales staff is the vital link between the public and the shops. The ideas which they relay guide the merchandising staff in the search for items which are both educational and saleable. The daily operation of the shops is managed by Irene Jeffers, one of several supervisory employees who have grown up with the Museum Shops over the past few years.

Several departments support the activities of the buying and selling staffs. Display is extremely important; a well-trained staff is directed by Bob Dills. Roy Stewart supervises the receipt and distribution of merchandise at the large warehouse facility at North Capitol Street. Requests for merchandise by mail have been increasing over the past months, and are expected to increase even more when the catalogue becomes available.

The mail order department, organized and headed by Jim Hull, has been established to respond to this growing aspect of the Museum Shops operations. The accounting section, recently streamlined and computerized, is directed by Sandra Nickens, Assistant Controller (who has been a Museum Shops employee for almost ten years).

The Museum Shops are now embarked on a plan of expansion. In the last year, the Hirshhorn Museum Shop opened, and two new facilities replaced the shops in the Museum of History and Technology. When the Arts and Industries Building reopens in May, there will be an "1876 Shop," with fixtures and merchandise reflecting the optimism and taste of the Centennial era. The new Air and Space Museum, opening in July, will have a large Museum Shop carrying books, gifts, and models of interest to aviation buffs.

The Museum Shops have spent two years in broadening their horizons, and will continue to do so for many more. Not only are the shops more attractive and visible, but the selection of gifts has been carefully aimed to reflect the educational scope of the national museums. William Rowan III, Director of the shops, states that theirs is a modest goal: that the Smithsonian Institution will have the finest museum shops in the world.

Smithsonian Catalogue Published

The first Smithsonian Christmas catalogue, with items for sale based on the Smithsonian collections, will make its appearance in October, Richard Griesel, SI Business Manager, has announced. The 32-page, full-color catalogue is being designed and printed for the Institution by outside firms. It was produced under the editorial direction of Mrs. Virginia Fleischman, Special Assistant for Product Development in the SI Business Management Office.

Christmas cards in the catalogue feature artwork from the Hirshhorn, National Museum of History and Technology, Cooper-Hewitt and Hillwood collections.

Four calendars include an engagement calendar that provides a nostalgic view of America; a wall calendar based on items in the Hirshhorn, another based on paintings in the NCFMA, and a fourth featuring floral photos from the National Museum of Natural History.

Other items include pewter, silver, linens, needlework kits, dinosaur stuffins kits, dioramas, jewelry, and two glass items reproduced from the NMHT collections. Recent books by Smithsonian staff members on a variety of subjects are also offered. Products have been selected to reflect the range of the Smithsonian's collections.

The catalogue will be sent to all employees, to Resident Associates, and to a list of 25,000 visitors. Advertisements will appear in Smithsonian and five other magazines whose readers may send 25 cents to get copies. Orders will be filled out of stock at 1111 North Capitol St. The 20 per cent employee discount will apply.

Karen Bigelow assigns computer stock numbers for Museum Shops merchandise.

Florence Lloyd and Barbara Brand in the book stockroom at NMNH, where Museum Shops offices are located.

Libby Cutler verifies transfers of merchandise. Helen Stephan checks in jewelry at NMHT.
Scenes From 'Women's Week' at the Smithsonian

International Women's Year 1975 was observed at the Smithsonian during "Women's Week" August 4 through 8. Guest speaker at the opening program was Dr. C. Dolores Tucker, Secretary of State for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (above left), who was introduced by T. Ames Wheeler, SI Treasurer. "Even though the road is rocky, personal experience has taught me that perseverance is the only way to wear down those rocks," Dr. Tucker said in the course of her address, adding, "I'm certain that the antiquated attitudes with which you have had to contend will gradually become a thing of the past."

International Women's Year Coordinators for SI buildings are (from left) Barbara Faison, NPG-NCFA; Karen Hinkle, Barney House; Carol Parsons, Hirshhorn; LaVerne M. Love, Women's Program Coordinator; Rose Ann Tilton, Chesapeake Bay Center; Claudia Lipschultz, Radiation Biology Laboratory; Shirley Smith, NMHT; Lillian Kurlonski, NNMH. Missing are Priscilla Smith, Freer; Ruth Monk, L'Enfant Plaza; Wendy Harrower, Renwick, and Chumbea (Debbie) Yang, A & I. The coordinators helped to plan and carry out the IWY Observance Program, and showed movies in almost all SI buildings.

Alexander Methvan, career development specialist, conducted two sessions for supervisors, entitled 'There Ain't No Santa Claus,' at NMHT and Hirshhorn.

An International Women's Year Luncheon was attended by bureau heads and department chairmen, hosted by LaVerne M. Love, SI Women's Coordinator. Dr. Estelle Ramey of Georgetown University spoke, and a statistical breakdown of employees in each bureau was given by Archie Grimmett, Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity.

One of the men participating in the Women's Week program was Armstad Chambers who attended the "Future Planning Workshop" conducted by Vince McDonnell, Director of the Office of Training and Career Development. At right is Edythe Coffey.

A skit presented at the opening program was entitled 'Presenting Discrimination During Heterosexual Interface.' It was written by Louisa Stimpert and performed by SI staff members from L'Enfant Plaza offices. They were (from left) Dolores Mortimer, who was narrator, Juanita Jeter, Nadine Lee, Marta Schley, Patricia King, Lucille Dawson, and Francine Berkowitz. Barbara Crumpler directed.