Emperor Hirohito of Japan in an historic visit October 2 spent more than an hour at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History while he and Empress Nagako were in Washington on their tour of the United States. The Emperor was welcomed to the Smithsonian and MNH by Secretary Ripley and Dr. Porter Kier, MNH Director. While at the Museum, the Empress, who is a marine biologist, conducted laboratory studies of a variety of marine specimens with the aid of (from left above) Dr. Frederick M. Bayer, research curator in charge of the MNH invertebrate collections; Dr. Joseph Rosewater, curator in charge of the MNH marine mollusk collection, and Professor Birger S. Sjostrand, the source of the collections.

Dr. Ripley presented the Emperor with a highly prized specimen of the Caribbean silt-shell Enteromochlus adansonianus in commemoration of his visit. (Other photos on page 3.)

Sherburne to Lead SI-Peace Corps Joint Program

Dr. James A. Sherburne has been appointed manager of the Smithsonian Institution-Peace Corps Environmental Program. The program is a joint effort by the Smithsonian and the Peace Corps to provide persons trained in the environmental sciences to serve as Peace Corps Volunteers in developing countries.

Dr. Sherburne, who recently returned from an 18-month leave in Botswana where he served as a wildlife consultant to the government, takes over from Robert K. Poole, the program's founder, who now heads the Nairobi, Kenya, office of the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation.

Prior to his work in Botswana, Dr. Sherburne served for nearly two years as the Smithsonian-Peace Corps program's deputy manager. He holds a B.A., and M.S. in entomology from the University of Miami and a Ph.D. in ecology from Cornell University.

Gretchen Hazen, formerly a program assistant, has been named deputy program manager. She joined the program in 1973 after receiving her M.S. in zoology from the University of Michigan. Jeffrey vonk, who

King of Norway Visits Smithsonian

King Olav V of Norway spent nearly two hours at the Smithsonian October 11, visiting the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the National Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of History and Technology.

King Olav was at the Sculpture Garden by Secretary Ripley, who welcomed him to the "Smithsonian," and presented him with a copy of Bank Camer and Skin Boats written in 1866 by Edwin T. Adney and Howard I. Chappelle.

At the Museum of History and Technology, the King, who is known to be interested in boats and watercraft of all types, was especially pleased by the Hall of American Maritime Enterprise.

SI, Universe Books Sign Agreement

The Smithsonian Institution and Universe Books have signed an agreement that will permit Universe Books to publish calendars drawn from the Smithsonian collections, Gilman Park, President of Universe Books, and Richard Griesel, Smithsonian Business Manager, have announced.

The contract with Universe provides for the publishing and distribution of calendars with themes based on original artifacts and works of art in the Smithsonian collections.

A desk engagement calendar and a variety of wall calendars will be offered annually, with pictures and written material designed to inform the public about the history and significance of the objects.

An engagement calendar featuring American leisure pastimes and three wall calendars will be published for 1976. Themes for the wall calendars are:

- "Pictures at an Exhibition"—drawn from the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and including works by Rivers, Gorky, Euhuff, Dux and Martin.
- "The American Vision"—drawn from the National Collection of Fine Arts, with Sloan, Homer and Wyeth among the artists represented.
- "Paradise Flowers & Other Exotic Tropical Blossoms"—featuring photos of blossoms taken in the field by researchers of the National Museum of Natural History.

(Continued on page 2)

Mrs. Mrs. Dudley Owen

Mrs. Dudley Owen has been elected as the new chairman of the Women's Committee of the Smithsonian Institution.

Most recently she was co-founder and first president of THRS (The Hospitality and Information Service for Diplomatic Residents) and a trustee of MHI (Meridian House International). Mrs. Owen currently serves on the Children's Hospital Ladies Board and Board of Visiting Nurses Association as well as with the D.C. Citizens for Better Public Education, and a member of the Women's National Democratic Club.

The Women's Committee, formed in 1965, advances the interests of the Smithsonian Institution by promoting public participation in Associates activities. The 51 members of the Committee donate their services to numerous projects each year. For the past several years proceeds from the annual Christmas Dance have been used for Residency Associates scholarships to classes for city children as well as for museum educational services. During the past year the Committee supported an Insect Zoo and

President Authorizes SI to Seek Funds for Support Facility

President Ford signed legislation September 19 authorizing the Smithsonian Institution to request an appropriation for planning a museum support facility to be built adjacent to the present SI installation at Suitland, Maryland.

The bill passed by the Senate and House Representatives authorizes the Regents to prepare plans for a museum support facility "in, out of, or adjacent to" the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of American History, or other buildings on the Mall. The bill also authorized the Smithsonian to request an appropriation to proceed with the plans.

The Institution is proposing in its Fiscal Year 1977 budget request to seek funds for planning the new facility.

In testimony before the House Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, Secretary Ripley explained that the support facility will house expanding national collections and museum support and maintenance services; and will permit greater utilization of the museum buildings on the Mall for public exhibitions to serve increasing numbers of visitors.

The Secretary pointed out that at the request of Congress, the Institution for many years has accepted responsibility for the development, preservation, study, exhibition, and interpretation of the national collections.

As more of the natural world is destroyed, as civilizations change, and as habitable space decreases, museums such as the Smithsonian's have increasing responsibilities for preserving the material documentation of our history," Mr. Ripley said. "As the nation grows and changes, the Smithsonian will continue to expand..." The though acquisitions are being screened, the rate of increase of the national collections over the past two decades has averaged about one million objects and specimens a year. The rate of increase is in many respects beyond the Institution's control. This selective growth of collections is an essential part of the Institution's mission to increase and diffuse knowledge. Like books in a library, the specimens, objects, and artifacts in these collections are available to the public for study and research.

(Continued on page 4)

Funds for China Exhibit—T. Ames Wheeler, Smithsonian Treasurer, on September 3 presented a check for $5,000 to Paul Perrot, Assistant Secretary for Museum Programs, to be used for the SI-APF-China Traveling Exhibition Service. At the presentation were (from left) Anne Gossett, SITES Program Officer; Edwin T. Adney, Curator; Mr. Wheeler; Mr. Perrot; and President Dorothy M. Hill, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Smithsonian Institution. A portion of the funds came from the sale of Haviland Co. reproductions of Presidential china in the Museum Shops and through an advertisement in Smithsonian magazine.
Dr. Buechner, SI Ecologist, Dies

Dr. Helmut K. Buechner, Senior Scientist at the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park, died October 7. Before assuming the post of Senior Scientist, Dr. Buechner was head of the Office of Ecology at the Smithsonian Institution. Under his guidance the Smithsonian sponsored wildlife research in Ceylon, India, Israel, and Korea.

Dr. Buechner was a member of the Zoo staff for three years and greatly influenced development of captive propagation programs. He will be remembered as an active research and teaching. Dr. Buechner specialized in the biology and behavior of large mammals.

His early research concerned the management of the pronghorn antelope in Texas for wildlife research in Ceylon, India, Israel, and Korea. He demonstrated as a scholar and a professor. And no doubt that you can be very well-known as a well-known as a senior scientist, as you have been on the staffs of a large number of scientific institutions and you are associated with numerous distinguished honorary and professional groups here and overseas.

"Since taking office at the Smithsonian, this large empire which includes both a leading research center and a vast museum complex, your watchword has been "Increase and Diffusion." On one hand, emphasis has been placed by you on scholarships and research in accordance with your concept of the Smithsonian as an open university. At the same time, your determination that museums should serve a wide public in imaginative ways has provided exhibits and a greatly expanded range of educational activities. This imaginative freedom of the Smithsonian Institution will continue to satisfy the needs of the Smithsonian as an open university, and will further this large empire which includes both a leading research center and a vast museum complex, your watchword has been "Increase and Diffusion." On one hand, emphasis has been placed by you on scholarships and research in accordance with your concept of the Smithsonian as an open university. At the same time, your determination that museums should serve a wide public in imaginative ways has provided exhibits and a greatly expanded range of educational activities. This imaginative freedom of the Smithsonian Institution will continue to satisfy the needs of the Smithsonian as an open university, and will further.

"So you to consider it as a token of our admiration, which we have for Franco-American cooperation in cultural activities."
Japanese Emperor, Empress Visit Smithsonian

Emperor Hirohito of Japan was welcomed October 2 to the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History by Secretary Ripley (above) and Dr. Porter Kier, Museum Director. While the Emperor was examining marine specimens in the NMNH collections, the Empress was touring the Freer Gallery of Art. The royal couple returned to the Smithsonian the evening of October 3 when the SI Building was the scene of a state dinner.

Empress Nagako was escorted on a tour of the Freer Gallery by Dr. Harold P. Stern, Gallery Director, and Mrs. Mary Ripley, wife of the Secretary. The Empress had asked to see certain items in the Freer collection of Japanese works, as well as Whistler's works.

Secretary and Mrs. Ripley and the Emperor and Empress at the entrance to the SI Building.

The Emperor greeted MNH staff members inside the building, including James F. Melio, Assistant Director of the Museum (right) and Dr. Frederick M. Bayer, research curator in charge of the MNH coleolporate collections. Secretary Ripley and Dr. Porter M. Kier, MNH Director, are in background.

Secretary Ripley and Dr. Kier conferred with members of the Emperor’s staff in the Director’s office as the Emperor was engaged in laboratory studies.

The Emperor and Empress and President and Mrs. Ford welcomed guests in a receiving line in the Great Hall of the Smithsonian Institution Building prior to the state dinner held in the SI Commons. Forty Japanese art treasures from the imperial collections, including five paintings by the Empress, were on view in the Great Hall.

The Emperor addresses the guests from the head table.
Los Angeles Times
By Henry J. Seldis, October 6, 1974
"The Hirshhorn Museum: Capital Paints Catch-Up" (Extracted)

"With this week’s opening of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, the Nation’s capital has caught up to the country’s major art centers. Going back nearly 100 years and encompassing almost every aspect of contemporary American and European art, the 900 works shown in the inaugural exhibition are a tribute not only to Joseph H. Hirshhorn’s lifelong love for art and its creators but also to those who made the criticism of this magnificent gift to the Nation.

The inaugural exhibition within Beuscher’s controversial building opens with some truly outstanding works of the 19th century, including some of the most moving paintings of the museum’s unmatchable assemblage of paintings and sculptures of Thomas Eakins.

The show is presented with an incredibly subtle installation of sculpture, ranging from the academic work of 19th century artist Jean Baptiste Carpeaux to pieces by Modigliani and Brancusi."

Wall Street Journal
By Benjamin Stein, October 4, 1974
(Extracted)

"Assessing the Hirshhorn Museum on the Eve of Its Opening" (Extracted)

"Despite the flaws in its collections, and they appear to be significant, the Hirshhorn’s holdings are so rich, so eclectic and inclusive, that it ranks, at birth, as one of the few museums capable of tracing the mainstreams, and the tributaries, of the art of the past century."

"Its construction on the Mall, rather than in Boston, Los Angeles, or Florence, and its prominent location, within easy reach of the National Gallery of Art, the Corcoran, the Phillips, the National Collection of Fine Arts and the Library of Congress, significantly enhances Washington’s position as a major international museum for the study of art."

Washington Star-News, October 15, 1974
Editorial
(Extracted)

"Well, we’ve seen it (HMSG) now. And we’re in love with it. It’s exciting, it’s full of old friends and many new ones that we haven’t had the pleasure of meeting before, and if it’s, above all, great fun."

San Francisco Chronicle
By Terrence O’Flaherty, March 22, 1975
"Ty Critics“ Decry Ellsner” (Extracted)

"The Hirshhorn is an ‘instant major museum’ in which, thanks to the ‘inspired greed’ of one man, the capital has caught up to the country’s major art centers. Going back nearly 100 years and encompassing almost every aspect of contemporary American and European art, the 900 works shown in the inaugural exhibition are a tribute not only to Joseph H. Hirshhorn’s lifelong love for art and its creators but also to those who made the criticism of this magnificent gift to the Nation."

The new building, right on the Mall about midway between the Capitol and the Washington Monument, is imposing, even formidable, and the paintings and sculpture on display and stacked away in the cavernous store rooms — about 6,000 works in all — constitute one of the most impressive private collections of art ever to open in public."

Evening Star (San Francisco)
By Leslie Freudenheim, May 1, 1975
"A Bagful of ‘Inspired Greed’" (Extracted)

"Although there are many ways to judge a new building, it has always seemed to me that the most important criterion is its ability to function as intended. Based on such criteria, the Hirshhorn is a success. The art collection is magnificent, and the architecture which houses it deserves acclaim."

SMITHSONIAN TORCH
October 1975
Published for Smithsonian Institution personnel by the Smithsonian Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C.
Craig, Editor; Kathryn Lindeman, Assistant.