



The American Museum of Natural History



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EBA

# GRAPEVINE

Winter, 1955





# EBA GRAPEVINE

The Publication of the Employees Benefit Association, The American Museum of Natural History

Volume XII

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Number 1

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*The E.B.A. welcomes contributions from all Museum employees. Please address manuscripts to the editor.*

## News 'n Views

Dorothy Coyne and Letitia Kehoe from the Department of Public Relations, have recently left the Museum. Tish is now an article editor at *Woman's Day*, and Dorothy is with the alumnae office of Barnard College.

Kate Swift, who has worked on *Time* Magazine and done publicity for the Girl Scouts and the Winterthur Museum in Delaware, is now working in the Department of Public Relations. Also new to this department are Lillian Drazek, a former Marine Corps Officer, and Pamela Scallan, who comes to the Museum from a law firm.

The Natural Science Center for young people, which displays live plants and animals native to the New York area, opened Thursday, November 25 on the second floor of the Education Building.

Dr. Edward M. Weyer, Jr. was a guest speaker at the annual conference of the National Writers Club on October 20 and 21 in Denver, Colorado.

Peggy Philipps has recently returned from a pleasant vacation in Bermuda.

We regret to hear that several of our Museum employees, have passed away. They are Grace Dunn, Victor Devoto, W. Watkins, John Germann, Laurente Escobar, Frank Bray, Andrew Johnstone, Charles Dinkelmyer, Richard Joyce.

We all miss the following Museum employees, who have retired: Steve

Murphy, Lilian Utermehle, George Severin, and Howard Cleveland.

George Crawbuck was married during his vacation.

Kay Kutaka from the Hawaiian Islands is now associated with the Insect Department.

Marion Vanderbilt is the new secretary in the Photo Division. She comes from Washington, D. C.

Midge Stryker spent seven weeks on a camping trip in the northern border states and Canada, studying Indian reservations, including those of the Mandan, Blackfeet, and Sarsee, in preparation for a course she is giving to teachers and youth leaders here at the Museum this fall.

Erika Berman spent three months in Europe this past summer. She stayed part of the time with her parents in Freiberg, Germany. She also went to Switzerland and to Italy via the Dolomites, and visited various points of interests in Bavaria.

Farida Wiley, a member of the Audubon staff for a number of years, returned again this past summer to teach at the Audubon Camp in Medomak, Maine, a wooded island in Muscongus Bay, about one-eighth mile from the mainland. Carol Cobb returned to Bear Mountain for the second summer to be in charge of the Cohasset Regional Museum, Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Lois

Hussey and Catherine Pessino visited Gull Island for the Museum to find out whether or not the terns had returned there. They observed forty Terns on the island on July 17. Lois and Catherine will visit the island once more to see if the terns are nesting and will make a report to the Museum.

Arthur Oberman lost his life in Korea, while serving in the Armed Services.

On Friday afternoon ten members of the Employees' Sports Club left work with just one thing on their minds—FISH! Paul Goodhouse had invited the party to spend the night in his cabin at Cutchoque, Long Island, so they could get an early start in the morning.

The evening was spent as any ten men would spend an evening, eating and trying to out-shout one another. Early Saturday morning they drove to Greenport where they clambered into the chartered boat and set sail toward Gardiners Island. And all ten men say it is no fish story that all their bags were filled in two hours.

Wire Tapping—Against the Law?

Mabel Colahan was just concluding a telephone conversation, when, realizing there was an intruder on her line, she hung up abruptly. A tiny mouse had run up the cord and appeared on her telephone! Needless to say, Mabel gave him a private line while she made her exit as quickly as possible.

# From the President's Corner

SINCE its founding the Employees Benefit Association's primary function has been the easing of the burden for many in their most sorrowful period. This interest in our fellow employee created good will and friendliness, a fellowship that through the years has been synonymous with the expression "Museum Family."

Our family has grown and with the changing times we are continually expanding our original purpose. We feel that we are very much alive here in the Museum. Since we work together, let's get along together and have fun together.

The E. B. A. is sound financially and has a great deal of popular support. For the past months your officers, directors, and committeemen have been

enthusiastically engaged in formulating an extensive program of diversified activities in addition to the original benefit.

With a new *Grapevine*, get-togethers, minstrels, amateur shows, card parties, sports, a trading post, information on discount houses, etc., it is hoped to bring our Family closer together. Aside from the above activities, a Welfare Committee is being created. This committee will endeavor to learn of the illness or misfortune of any member and through personal contact, keep such members informed of Museum activities and render whatever assistance possible.

Obviously incorporation of these features is a long-range program requiring much time and effort, and

success will depend wholly on the active participation of our members. Since I assumed office the overwhelming response has been gratifying and proves E. B. A. has a splendid opportunity to perform a service for all employees.

The E. B. A. extends a warm welcome to all new employees of the Museum and an invitation to join. Contact Marguerite Newgarden—Ext. 256 for information.

The E. B. A. is your association. The amount of effort expended by each member will determine its ultimate character. To all those who have to this day so generously aided in formulating these endeavors, I express my sincere thanks and appreciation.

PAUL GOODHOUSE, *President*  
E. B. A.

## Discount Houses

(Prices not given on the telephone)

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Masters, Inc.  
66 West 48 St.  
N. Y. C.

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14 East 46 St.  
New York City

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110 East 31 St.  
New York City

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Michael C. Fina  
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Tilden Jewellers  
71 West 45 St.  
New York City

### Flowers

Blue Ribbon Florist  
200 East 87 St.  
New York City, 28  
TR. 6-9841

## News 'n Views

Dr. Richard Zweifel, native of Los Angeles, was appointed Assistant Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles in July. He recently received his doctorate from the University of California.



Mr. Bogert and Dr. Zweifel attended the September meetings of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Gainesville, Florida, where Mr. Bogert gave the Presidential address. They spent an additional two weeks in the swamps recording the calls of frogs and toads.



Taking the place of Irene Ruibal as Departmental Secretary is Mrs. Madora P. Fillman from Blanch, North Carolina. Irene moved to Riverside, California, where her husband is now on the faculty of the University of California.



Mrs. Alix A. Witteborg is Bessie M. Hecht's successor as Scientific Assistant in the Department of Herpetology. Bessie is now working with Bobb Schaeffer in Vertebrate Paleontology.

*{Continued on page 9}*

## The Credit Union



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OFFICE

Third Floor Reptile Hall  
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TIME

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Phone 519





*Inez and Dorothy survey the pleasant landscape of the Cape.*



*Cape Cod seemed like a restful place for a vacation until Hurricanes Carol and Edna put in their appearances.*

# A Busman

TWO weeks at restful Truro on Cape Cod seemed like just the place for a perfect vacation to my friend Dorothy and me. She also works in New York City.

On August 28, we met at Grand Central Station. Dorothy was equipped with iron, blanket, sheets, and books. I came with more of the same.

Everything went smoothly on the train, except that we were held up a half hour at Buzzard's Bay, while a ship passed under the bridge. And while it's true that ships must go on their way, we also had to eat. And on Saturday nights all stores close promptly at six. With this delay we would get there about six-thirty.

We were fortunate enough to find a sympathetic taxi driver, who knew the highways and byways, and he found us a store about seven miles out of the way.

After the taxi left us at the cottage in South Truro we sat down to catch our breaths and appreciate our surroundings. We were high on a wind-swept hill overlooking Cape Cod Bay with a panoramic view of distant hills and hamlet—and beyond, the expansive curve of the Provincetown shore line. As dusk approached, lights appeared on the distant shore of Provincetown, and we were aware of the sweeping arc of the Highland Light searchlight, which can be seen by ships forty-five miles out at sea. A profusion of stars overhead were unbelievably close—it seemed as though we could almost reach up and touch them. We slept soundly our first evening on Cape Cod.

The days that followed brought brilliant sun-washed mornings with intense blue skies and seas so blue it was difficult to distinguish where sea met sky. Each day brought a new combination of lights and colors—now defining more clearly the shapes and tones of dunes, pines, and hills; now erasing sharp contrasts in a blaze of silver gold haze—forever exposing the many faceted topography that is Cape Cod.

The fourth day wakened us with gales of wind blowing sheets of rain across sea and sky. It was the morning of August 31st and Hurricane Carol was on her way. All morning we listened to radio reports of the hurricane's progress, to the tune of the increasing fury of wind and rain outside





# oliday...

by Inez Bordner

our windows. About ten minutes to twelve the radio announcer was saying "Well—it looks as though we're in for a wild one—" when suddenly everything went dead.

At first we thought something was the matter with the radio, but upon looking in the kitchen at the electric clock with its hands frozen at ten minutes to twelve we realized the power was off. For four more hours the wind increased in velocity—at times so great we thought the roof was going to take off and that we would be raised in the air and go sailing over the steep cliff below.

At this point we began to wonder how well other people were faring, so we decided to brave the elements and go down the hill to the neighboring house. The wind was still whipping it up; it seemed as though our hair would be uprooted, and we had difficulty keeping our feet on the ground.

We made the acquaintance of our neighbors by asking "Is your power

off, too?" They laughed and asked us to come inside. We chatted a while and then as the sun was breaking through, they decided to drive to Provincetown to check on any damage done by the storm. They asked if we'd like to come along, and, of course, we went. They picked up one of their friends who had had a hectic morning getting her husband to a train at Yarmouth, then driving back at the height of the storm with signs flying around in the air and trees crashing down on the highway, always narrowly missing her car. Sea and wind had washed the beach over the main road. Driving back from Race Point, we saw where sand dunes had been held from moving by fences staked in the contours of the dunes.

That evening our neighbors asked us to cook our dinner at their home, since they had a gas range and we an electric one. With the help of everyone in the family, including a girl of fourteen and a boy of ten and a half, we managed to get together a quite

acceptable dinner. And this we did by the light of one little kerosene lamp in the kitchen. We ate by the light of the fireplace and a few candles. Suddenly, there was a click and purr of the refrigerator motor, a radio started talking, the lights were tested, and the children made a mad dash for the telephone. It was 10:30—we had gone ten and a half hours without power.

The days that followed were calm and serene, filled with long walks along the beaches for driftwood, excursions to pick blueberries, beach plums, and trips to town. On these we were always picked up by some accommodating neighbors. On our trips home from town people would often go out of their way to deposit us at our cottage.

We rented a car we had arranged for while we were in New York. And while this got us around a lot faster than our feet, it seemed as if our weather troubles became worse. At night there would be the real deluge! Tons and tons of rain, bolts of blue lightning, sometimes brilliant orange flames, which in one case entered our living room.

By Friday morning September 10, we knew from radio broadcasts that Hurricane Edna was on her way. We briefly discussed the idea of returning to New York, but decided against it. We now felt like real hurricane veterans.

—Turn page.

*Hurricane Carol was no respecter of property. Wrecks like these were common.*



Photo by United Press

That evening we settled down to supper and to absorbing constant details of Hurricane Edna's progress. We weren't too worried at this stage. We were well fortified with liquor and cigarettes, and we had cooked most of our food supply, so that we could weather a couple of days without electricity if we had to. During the night Dorothy stayed glued to the radio and I slept intermittently. The next day we heard reports that the hurricane was headed toward Cape Cod. It was supposed to pass between Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, across the Cape, and then out to sea. About four P. M. the rain ceased, the sun made a weak appearance, and everything seemed unusually quiet. I looked at Dorothy and said "Gosh—is that all there is to it. Why this is nothing compared to the last one!"

I decided to lie down and take a rest. But then things began to get really rough outside. Dorothy screamed "The door!" I went running. When I got there the water was spewing in a mile a minute and gusts of air were forcing the top and bottom corners inward. There was no time for discussion; we both pressed all our weight against the areas of the door that Edna was threatening to blow inward. It was a long stretch to the top of the door, so early in the game Dorothy clutched a stool, stood on it, then pressed her shoulders, arms, and hands against the top corner, I taking the middle and bottom sections. The door was made up of six horizontal sections with a strong lock and three hinges. The six horizontal sections were rippling and waving as though it were corrugated cardboard. Water was coming in through the cracks of every horizontal section until in no time at all my knees were sopping wet through denim pants, and my feet were cold and wet standing in an increasing puddle of water.

The radio was blaring out cocktail music while we were pressing every available part of our bodies against the door. It was getting worse and worse. There didn't seem to be enough hands, arms, shoulders, hips, knees, feet to press against the moving area of the door, so I tried pressing my head. At this point I got extremely silly and began giggling, saying to Dorothy with

my head rat-a-tat-tatting at 125 miles per hour, "I'm going to need my head examined if we survive this ordeal."

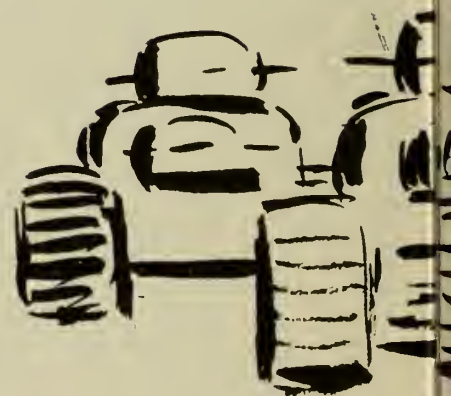
Dorothy said, "For God's sake don't make us laugh or we'll lose our strength."

The wind kept up a steady barrage for two solid hours. At about ten minutes to seven we were able to step away from the door. At last the wind subsided to about 40 miles per hour. We all but crumbled to the floor. I called Dorothy's attention to a streak of gold light at the horizon; the dark sky around us was lifting and passing over. The gold streak widened and became the sky. The storm moving out to sea left in its path a tremendous rainbow arching high in the sky behind our cottage.

We ran out to get a closer look and met our neighbors doing the same thing. It was then we learned we had been in the eye of the storm and that we got the backwash when the wind turned and raced across Massachusetts Bay. As we sat there talking and drinking coffee the sky was an ever changing kaleidoscope of color—first green, then salmon-colored, then gold, deep lavender, smoky tones of purple, brown, the most exquisite sunset my eyes have ever witnessed. In the quiet of observing this magnificence, the purr of the refrigerator motor was heard. This time we were without power only one and one-half hours.

Reluctantly we left our neighbors to go back to our cottage for our last night on Cape Cod. Our energy being all but sapped we sat down to a supper of pre-cooked rice heated over with butter and some milk. The episode of our two-hour ordeal holding back the door was already fading into obscurity. We couldn't get over how incredible it seemed even to us.

Sunday morning found two people ever more reluctant to leave Cape Cod for New York. The vacation was a memorable one—not so much for the the experience of having lived through two hurricanes and the last one a double-eyed phenomenon at that—but for the beauty that is Truro, with its expansive stretches of beaches, its dunes, its hues and colors, its quiet and far-away quality, and most of all its people—warm, solid, genuine.





# THE CAPTURED *Audience*

by Harry Tschopik

BLEARY-EYED, wrinkled, and despondent, after an early (5:00 A. M.) breakfast in the Trinidad airport, we climbed aboard the Brazilian airliner. The reader should know that we had left Miami at 7:00 P. M. the previous evening, and that we are constitutionally unable to sleep sitting up, whether in an airplane or not. In the former case it is completely foolhardy even to doze, because how else can you brace your feet when the plane crashes into the Caribbean?

Well, we took off from Trinidad and were flying across the hump of Brazil en route to the XXXI st International Congress of Americanists in Sao Paulo. Storm clouds soon gathered round so that it was impossible to see the wing tips. A best seller we were reading informed us that we were now flying

across the Sierra Parima—"uncharted, unexplored, and unmapped"—between Venezuela and Brazil. Lightning flashed and hissed, and the plane bounced like a feather in a hurricane. We reviewed our sins and insurance policies, and chewed off our fingers down to the third knuckle.

The stewardess assured us that, although we were some three hundred miles off our course, the Amazon must be *somewhere*, so just relax. We didn't. We closed our eyes and prepared to meet Colonel Fawcett. When we next opened them, we were over the Amazon delta, which is adequately described in standard geographies.

It should be explained that this was the 23rd of August, which happens to be our birthday and wedding anni-

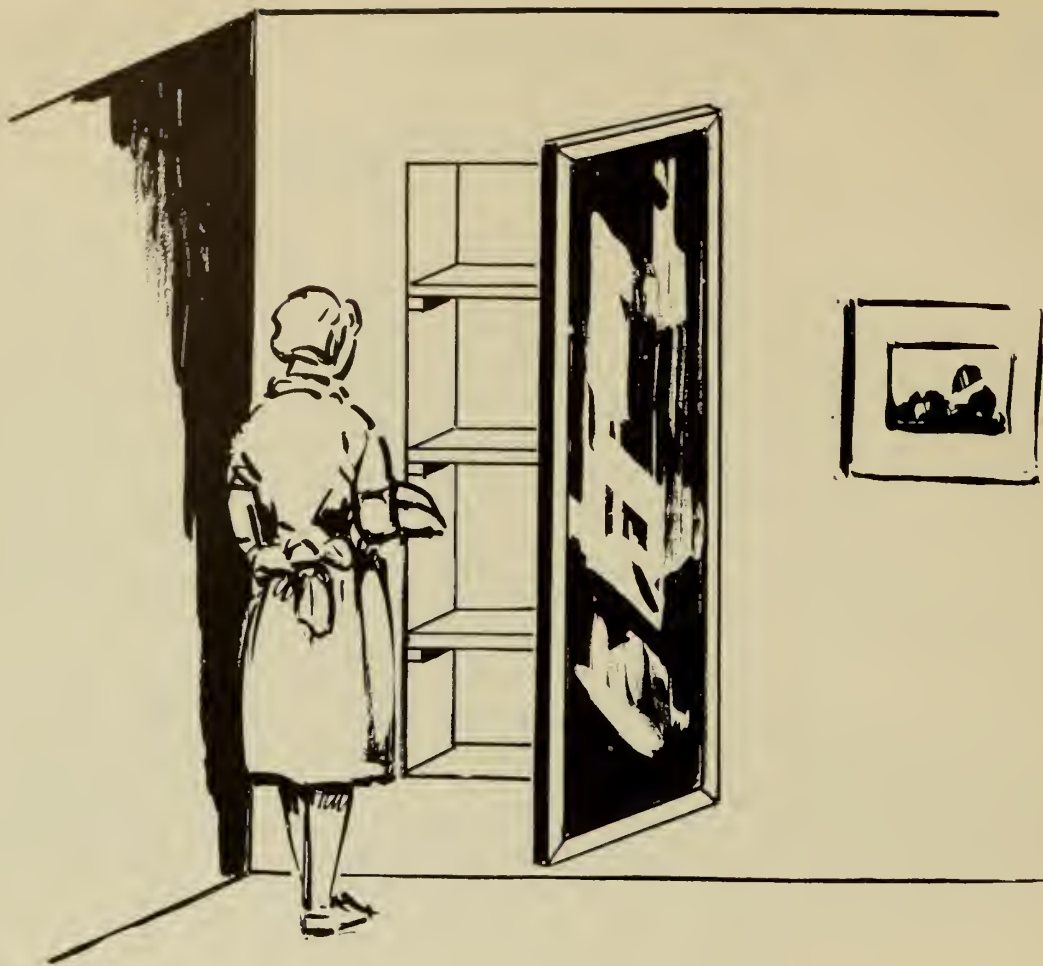
versary, but is otherwise noteworthy, as will become apparent.

Within minutes we were eating lunch in the airport of Belem do Para, which is one degree south of the equator and no summer resort. While we sipped a beer and toyed with the soup we noted that our baggage was being dumped unceremoniously on the airstrip. The fish course had barely begun when the plane took off without us.

There, in a word, we were. We talked with airline officials, inquiring indignantly when a plane would arrive to take us to Sao Paulo. The question, we were informed, was not "when," but "if". It seemed that on this day the first Brazilian revolution in a hundred years was about to take place,

*Continued on page 11*





# *How to Get More Storage Space in the Home*

*by Louis Ferry*

**H**AVE you ever heard of a home that has enough closet or storage area? If you happen to be in possession of such a place you will not need to read this article. But for those who share this common problem, I'll tell you about a couple of methods I have come up with.

For people who own their own homes, or for tenants who have that rare breed of landlords who will permit them to chop holes in the walls, here is a practical solution for building storage areas, including secret ones.

In my case, I have a hall centrally located, but you can use any wall space where you can put a long dressing mirror.

I first cut out an opening by removing the plaster and lath on one side of the wall between two studs. This opening can then be lined with wall paper or painted to match your walls. Next, shelves can be nailed into place. Use small moulding or any small strips for cleats to support the shelves for which a good material is 1/4-inch or 3/8-inch plywood.

The mirror, of course, should be of

sufficient length and width to cover the opening that has been cut out. This opening is about 4-inches deep and will accommodate any number of things from your favorite books to your favorite brand.

The mirror frame is then hinged behind so that the hinges are not readily seen and a stop chain is set in back of it to prevent its swinging open beyond the position that the hinges allow (about 90 degrees). A small friction catch can be put in back of the mirror frame, and this mirror frame becomes the door to your secret cache.

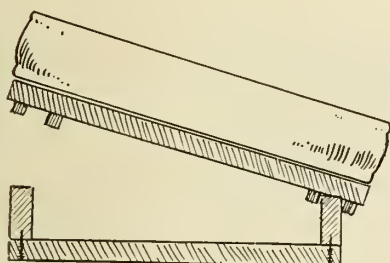


You don't even have to tell your wife about this one. You might try installing this device when she is out shopping, and then when she comes home, you can point out the dressing mirror you have hung for her. Of course, you can't be too sure the dog or two-year-old won't come on it in their travels.

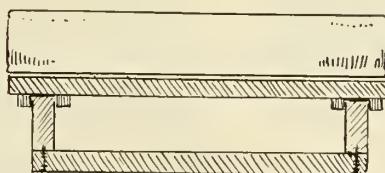
Now for the people who do not own their own homes and also for those who do, I will describe an excellent storage space going to waste in almost every home in the land.

Several years ago I had a cold in my back and was advised by my doctor to

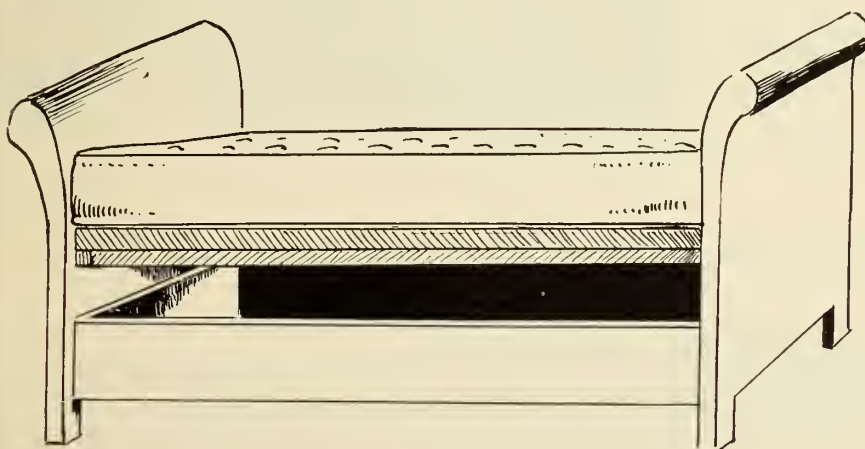
place a board between the bed-spring and the mattress. To my surprise, I found it most restful after I got used to it, so I decided to build a box of plywood the size of the bed-spring and insert it in the bed in place of the springs. Inasmuch as the mattress contains inner springs the board does not take away from your comfort. By fastening strips just under the top, both inside and outside of the box and by making the top of 3/4-inch plywood, I am now able to lift the top of the box, mattress and all from either side, and it is surprising how much storage area it gives. In the case of a double bed, it is about 20 cubic feet.



SECTION ACROSS CENTER  
OPEN



SECTION ACROSS CENTER  
CLOSED



Watch for the

*Photographic Division's Exhibition*

in the Corner Gallery

Beginning Wednesday, January 5, 1955

## News 'n Views

### Department of Fishes

#### and Aquatic Biology

The department was greatly shocked by the sudden death of Dick Joyce, in July. His place is being taken at present by Joe Schmitt. Adelaide Jordan recently returned from a trip abroad. She and two other girl friends took a motor tour in Europe. Victoria Pelton is the New Departmental secretary and hails from Massachusetts, went to Wellesley College, and has taught French and Spanish. Helen and Michael Lerner returned recently from a seven months' trip, which included Japan, Ceylon, Turkey, Switzerland and Norway. Francesca LaMonte just returned from a month on the west coast of Florida where she has been getting a recently acquired house ready for winter rental. Among former Museumites now living in Florida are Eula Gerba Jorgensen and her husband and daughter Diane, who are in Miami; Micaela Welsh who now lives in Fort Myers; Albert Butler now living in Orlando; and Arthur W. Henn now living in Winter Park.—Dr. and Mrs. William K. Gregory have moved from New York City to their home in Woodstock, N. Y.—Joan Gordan spent seven weeks in Mexico, where she attended Art Classes—best vacation she ever had. . . . William Clarke and his wife and son visited Bill's parents in California. . . . Mrs. Marjorie Rodes is temporarily helping Francesca LaMonte with the Game Fish Ass'n work. Joy Block Robb and her husband are in their new house in Park Ridge, N. J.

### Exhibition

Richard Pough, James P. Wilson, and Ray DeLucia have returned from an expedition to Crestview, California, where they collected material for a group to be installed in the new Hall of Forestry. . . . Pough, Petersen and Kalmenoff were off to the Northern wilds of Ontario to collect material for another of the groups in the hall mentioned above. The finished exhibit will give visitors the feeling of being in the woods of Northern Ontario. Among the trees featured in this area will be Spruce, Fir, Aspen, and White Birch. Shown also will be many flowering plants, fruits, and various mushrooms.

### Planetarium

Barbara Jean Chamberlain was born in May to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Chamberlain. Mr. Chamberlain is General Manager and Chief Astronomer at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium.



bird gets the dog'

*Photo by Leon Boltin*



It's worth standing in line for this.

*Photos by Leon*



A prize to have in the cafeteria—John Trotman.

## E. B. A. *Christmas Get-Together*

You can tell by these pictures that the party arranged by Mary McKenna and her able entertainment committee was successful in every way. On Thursday, December 9, over 250 Museum employees dined and danced in the Museum cafeteria.—*A Gramercy photo*





# A New Star Appeared

by Constance D. Sherman

AT the end of July a new star appeared on the horizon of the Planetarium. In terms of light years, Helmut Karl Wimmer's age is scarcely worth mentioning since he was born on December 8, 1925; his accomplishments, however, reveal his brilliance.

Mr. Wimmer inherited a love of art from his mother. It was she who taught her four sons to know the great paintings in the galleries of Munich, and who encouraged young Helmut to draw and model clay figures. For three years he attended an art school, then he entered a studio where he learned how to make architectural models of plastic and wood, to sculpture figures, and to make imitation marble. In olden times this was used for altars in many of the European churches. Nine types of stone are required, and the combination resembles real marble so exactly that no one can tell the difference unless he touches it. Real marble feels cold. This fabrication of artificial marble is no easy task. Only three craftsmen in Munich can produce it, and the other two have long gray beards. Mr. Wimmer does not even wear a moustache.

## THE CAPTURED—(continued)

but this was not explained adequately, or else we haven't mastered Portuguese.

Grounded in Belem, we went to the zoo. We took bus rides. We went repeatedly to the airline office. No news. We said unprintable things, and that if a plane didn't arrive pretty soon we would take rooms in a hotel. No rooms. There were two other grounded planes with priorities, and one large convention. Wistfully we eyed park benches, parked taxis, and the floor of the airline office.

We won't say what we were about to settle for, when all of a sudden there was a great commotion. A plane was coming into the airport on the double!

No plane was there, of course. We cursed. We took nembatal. We drank spirits. We did everything but sleep. Some time or other the plane

After three years in the studio, Mr. Wimmer was called into the army. On May 15, 1945 he was captured in Czechoslovakia and taken to Russia, where he spent four and a half years in a prison camp in the city of Maxim Gorki. "It wasn't nice," he said, and we could see that he did not wish to dwell on those memories.

In 1950 Mr. Wimmer began to create plastic and wood models for the firm of Joseph Spath and Sons in Munich. His photographs show miniature hospitals, the new university, factories, and other public buildings. One of his most interesting stories was about how he replaced damaged ornaments in the churches. Limestone a hundred years old is used, the same substance employed by the fourteenth century builders, for the tradition has been handed down from one generation to the next. His ornaments cannot be distinguished from the beautiful Italian baroque work of six hundred years ago.

It was with deep regret that the firm saw Mr. Wimmer depart. A testimonial letter pays tribute to his talent,

came in. We ate breakfast in Bahia, or was it lunch?

At noon we landed in Rio. There, for some unfathomable reason, the baggage was unloaded and we went through customs. The baggage was reloaded. So were we.

Later that afternoon our bodies were delivered to Sao Paulo. Like zombies we went through the Departments of Immigration, Foreign Affairs, Public Health, Agriculture, Forestry, etc. We forgot.

We took a taxi into the city. Everywhere there were large signs announcing the 400th anniversary of the City of Sao Paulo. There were also loud bangs, which we took to be fireworks. In this we were mistaken. The traffic got more and more congested, and people were racing around like crazy. Having never been in Brazil before, we

industry, and enthusiasm. It also speaks of his ability to work with people and his gift for friendship. There was a merry twinkle in his eye when he mentioned a bicycle trip which he and two boys took in Austria. They slept in haystacks for "anyone can sleep in a hotel." We quite agreed.

The work in the American Museum of Natural History presents a new and fascinating challenge. Already Mr. Wimmer has made a scene for the dome of the Planetarium which represents all the toys Santa Claus made in his workshop. Pieces of plexiglass were cut and fitted like tiny mosaics into a flat sheet, then the whole was bent at exactly the right degree of heat to prevent cracking.

"Everyone at the Museum is very kind," says Mr. Wimmer. He has already made a place for himself, and we hope that Mrs. Wimmer and two-year old Monika Maria will soon come from Munich to join him. The baby's face served as his model for the angel standing beside the great figure of Santa Claus in the Planetarium.

took this to be the normal pace of things. A block from our hotel the taxi driver suggested that we walk it. He implied, moreover, that we should run it. Looking over our shoulder, we saw a covey of Sherman tanks rounding the corner, and got the sketch.

We beat on the doors of the hotel, but the management had thoughtfully lowered the steel curtain which, in Latin America, is reserved for such occasions. We wailed, kicked, and clawed, trying to get in. A battalion of cavalry, swords drawn, rounded another corner at a gallop. Machine guns rattled. We got in.

This was one of the best attended meetings we have ever been to. No one left the hotel. Everyone listened to the papers, even those read in German. Furthermore, after two days, the bar ran out of liquor.



## *Do You Find It Here?*

### **USED AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE**

STUDEBAKER 1950, 4-DR., Aqua-Green. Overdrive, radio, heater, good condition, \$575 cash. Norman Weaver—Electrical Shop.

CHEVROLET 1948, 2-DR., Blue Fleetline. Fully equipped, recent motor job. Jack Beame—Ext. 469.

### **HOUSEFURNISHINGS FOR SALE**

Reproduction of DUNCAN PFYFE DROP LEAF TABLE—will sell cheap. Harry Tschopik, Jr.—Ext. 431.

Will sell or trade large LOUNGE CHAIR, Green upholstery. Interested in selling or trading for a studio couch. Mildred Overstreet—Ext. 333.

### **MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

ARGUS C-2 Camera, 35mm., 3.5 lens with carrying case and flash attachment. Practically new. \$20, Ed Burns—Ext. 499.

Have new PENN SQUIDDER SURF REEL with extra spool and Calcutta cane surf rod—both \$10. Dr. Burns—Ext. 212.

EIGHT PIECE ARCHITECT'S DRAFTING AND DRAWING SET. Perfect condition. Max F. Giraud—Building services.

COMPLETE PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM, good condition. Original cost \$125. Will sell for \$45 cash. A. Tumillo—Ext. 499.

GOLDEN FALL HONEY available at farm prices—large jars at 75c & \$1.00. George G. Goodwin—Ext. 242.

SHELDON ELECTRIC ALARM CLOCK—square shape—cream colored enamel finish—practically new. Charlotte W. Stove—Ext. 240.

WARING MIXER and recipe book, excellent condition. Original cost \$45. Will sell for \$25. Hester Hopkins—Ext. 434.

WHITE CLOCK with broken alarm—otherwise in excellent condition—very reasonable. Good buy for a handyman. Joan Suhr—Ext. 514.

WEBSTER TURNTABLE, 78 R.P.M. for 10 and 12 inch records in stacks \$10. Dr. Burns—Ext. 212.

2 Two-burner EVERHOT ELECTRIC STOVES with broiler drawer. \$10 each. Marguerite Newgarden—Ext. 499.

WANTED—A PIANO—Call Joan Gordan—Ext. 368.

### **YOURS FOR THE ASKING**

BEAGLE, female, beautifully marked. Must relinquish because of limited apartment space. A GIFT to suitable foster parents who will give her a good home. Lili E. Ronai—Ext. 490.

This section is free for active and retired Museum employees only. Send copy for next issue to L. Pintner, Office Services Division by April 1. The Grapevine accepts no responsibility for any statements in advertisements.



# EBA GRAPEVINE

*Spring, 1956*



# \$ MONEY \$

"The Love of Money is the root of all evil". But, what a Love!

Have you ever considered your Credit Union when this subject is put before you? You can use your Credit Union to SAVE and BORROW.

If you need say \$100.00 for a year. Credit Union would charge you \$4.33 for your interest and life insurance.

You may say that a local bank is cheaper in their rates. Apply for a \$100.00 Loan and you will receive \$95.75 so you say the interest is \$4.25, but is it? THINK.

If you borrow or save through your Credit Union it is possible for you to use the payroll deduction plan made possible by the Museum.

Credit Unions are cooperative organizations which are run by their members.

To all employees who would like to know more of their Credit Union why not stop in at the Credit Union Office on the 3rd Floor, Reptile Hall, opposite the freight elevator. Office open Mondays and Thursdays 12:15 to 1:45. Except Paydays.

## THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY EMPLOYEES' FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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Consumer credit is an economic function based on man's faith in man, a service made possible by the fact that most folks are honest, a moving force in creating a higher state of well-being for Mr. Average American and his family.



# News 'n Views

## BIRDS

Dr. Dean Amadon spent several weeks at Christmas time studying the birds on the Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid, Florida. He attended the meetings of the Wilson Ornithological Club in Buffalo, April 26-29.



Dr. Murphy returned from a 12,000 mile motor trip to the Pacific Coast and Mexico in February. In March he flew to Inagua Island in the Bahamas to examine the flamingo colony. Another member of the party, Ian Fleming, wrote a long article for the London Times in which he stated that "Dr. Murphy was perfectly delightful and endowed with the rare gift of making scrambled eggs with Nestle's milk (sweetened)."

Dr. Charles Vaurie became an Assistant Curator of the Department of Birds on February 1, 1956.

Mr. William Partridge of Buenos Aires is making a study of Argentine birds in the Museum collections. He will be here for a year.

Mr. E. Thomas Gilliard is engaged in some work for Cinerama in Nepal. He will return to New York by way of New Guinea, making a trip around the world.

Dr. Finn Salomonsen, Curator of Birds in the Museum in Copenhagen, is our guest in the Bird Department at the present time. Dr. and Mrs. William J. L. Sladen of Oxford are making a study of penguins.

Miss Helen Hays, a graduate student at Cornell University, has been making a catalogue of the Sanford collections.

Miss Constance D. Sherman spent Easter in South Carolina.

Peter Pan, the smallest and most vociferous member of the Bird Department, has now learned to whistle the theme of a Beethoven symphony.

## FISHES

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lerner left in April for a European trip of several months.

Dr. and Mrs. William K. Gregory spent two weeks at the Lerner Marine Laboratory in March.

Priscilla Rasquin worked at the Lerner Marine Laboratory in February and March.

Francesca LaMonte spent most of April in her house in Fort Myers, Florida, and expects to see Albert Butler who has lived in Orlando for several years and Arthur W. Henn, formerly of the Fish Department, who is living in Winter Park.

Janet Roemhild (Mrs. John Canning) will be at the Lerner Marine Laboratory in July doing anatomical drawing for Miss LaMonte. Mrs. Canning and her husband have been remodeling their house in Clinton, Maryland.

Vladimir Walters, Research Associate in Fishes, finished his two year Army service in May.

Dr. Horace W. Stunkard, Research Associate in Parasitology is now in this department's marine invertebrate section.

Mary Insinna, Michael Insinna's sister, began work in October as Miss LaMonte's secretary.

Philip Wylie, author of the Des and Crunch stories, and one of the Governors of the International Game Fish Association, came back in March from a ten-week European trip. Mr. Van Campen Heilner, one of the IGFA Vice-Presidents, and formerly on the honorary staff of the Fish Department, has built a home on the island of Exuma in the Bahamas.

There have been two deaths in the department of Fishes and Aquatic Biology the past winter: Dr. Henry Crampton, Research Associate in Mollusks, and Dr. E. W. Gudger who died at the age of 90 at his former home in Waynesville, North Carolina.

Multiple Sclerosis is commonly known as creeping paralysis. There are 500,000 victims in the United States. It attacks between the ages of 18 and 40. Research is being done by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, New York City.

## INVERTEBRATES

Dr. Bobb Schaeffer, accompanied by Michael Insinna of the Illustrator's Corps, will be studying fossil fishes in various museums in Europe during June, July and August.

Dr. George Gaylord Simpson, accompanied by George Whitaker, laboratory technician, and David Bardack, a graduate student of Columbia University, in cooperation with several Brazilian institutions, will go on a fossil hunting expedition up the Jurua River—a tributary of the Amazon River in extreme western Brazil.

Dr. Edwin H. Colbert will attend the International Geological Congress in Mexico and do some field work in Texas during the months of August and September.

Max and Bessie Hecht announced the birth of their second child, a boy, name—Matthew.

## TEAM WORK

The men of the Museum's construction, maintenance and building service departments have ample reason to be proud.

On Sunday, March 3 at 3 A. M. a thirty-inch water main broke in front of the Roosevelt Memorial Building on Central Park West, and flooding waters invaded the Museum's basement and sub-basement.

Despite the hour, the Museum's crews were on the spot within a matter of minutes after the break was discovered. While New York City firemen battled the flood—a pumping operation that lasted until midnight—men of the Museum building service and mechanical forces went into action to protect valuable electrical and office equipment and stored materials.

Determined that the Museum would open its doors, the electricians and engineers managed, almost miraculously, to restore light and power in all but five halls by opening time. While the pumps pumped, more than 12,000 visitors roamed the halls, most of them unaware of the state of chaos below.

Because of the cool-headed efficiency of the men involved, the Museum was back to near normal operation within a week; a situation that could have been disastrous had been averted.



## Tony Cartossa—Retirement Party

The live display pieces found at most Museum affairs have been the rubber plants. Over the years these proud specimens, by their sturdy branches and glossy leaves, proclaimed their appreciation of the constant attentions and loving care they had received. They seem to be drooping in sadness now that their benefactor has retired.

Throughout the buildings, the fire extinguishers miss the familiar hands of this same employee, and must now accustom themselves to a new attendant.

We are sorry that this must be, and could very well be sorry for ourselves, but being humans, can understand.

A bright spot has been missing from the halls, and particularly the shops since April 9th, when our very good friend left to enjoy a well earned rest.

To him, thirty years of faithful service was enough, so a testimonial dinner was tendered our Tony on his

*Heap Little "Tony Boots"*



retirement. His host of friends, including "Smokey" Jake Stevens joined in wishing him the best of everything.

### CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

The Camera Club of the American Museum had its Annual Dinner and election at the Rheinland in Yorkville, on May 17th. Over fifty members and their guests attended and a jolly time was had, singing German-type songs, eating Bavarian chicken, and listening to oom-pah-pah music. This year's Camera Club dinner was the most heavily-attended in the history of the very active Museum Club.

Dr. Lucy Clausen, now of the faculty of Columbia University, came back to visit with old friends, as did Chris and Mrs. Olsen.

The election that followed the dinner reelected Dr. Bill Burns president for a second term, Ed Burns as Vice-President, Marguerite Newgarden as Secretary, and Ernest Neilsen, Treasurer.

Elected to the Executive Board are: Maurice Bial, Anna Montgomery, William Mussig and George Petersen.

Museum employees who are not now members of the Camera Club are invited to join for expert advice on black and white and color photography, wonderful showings at Club meetings, and good fun, good food and good companionship. Join today for next year's program!

We're just Museum attendants  
But have plenty on the ball  
We also have falling arches  
Walking from hall to hall

Our daily task begins at eight  
With pail, and broom and mop  
We have a dozen bosses  
Who keep us on the hop

When we finish with our cleaning  
We get time off to rest  
We also wash and shave our face  
As we must look our best

At 10 o'clock we take our post  
We all look spic and span  
And we are proud to be a part  
Of the best Museum in the land

We are visited by thousands  
Who arrive by bus and trains  
But on Saturdays and Sundays  
Boy, how we rack our brains

They ask such silly questions  
As "Does these stairs go down?"  
And "Where are the stuffed Dinosaurs?"  
Then you look at them and frown

"What have you on the floor above?"  
This question sure is rough  
You name each and every hall  
And they say they've had enough

This goes on for hours  
'Till time comes to a stand  
Until the closing signal sounds  
And boy does it sound grand

Home we plod our weary way  
Our spirits to regain  
Tomorrow is still another day  
And we'll do it all over again

Gene Morton assisted by Sam Kuster

Bill Forbes' Idea of a Diplomat:

A man who can convince his wife  
that she looks fat when he is buying  
her a two thousand dollar mink coat.



## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB

Our twenty-five year members, whether still active here or on pension, will enjoy a deep sense of personal satisfaction should they show the least interest in the modern trend of business. Loyalty is stressed highly by our commercial giants in their bid for public acceptance of their products. The annual reports of two of the largest corporations in the food line highlight the large number of employees in their quarter century clubs (eleven and one-half and twelve and one-half percent).

In an advertisement in the *Daily News* of March 6th of this year the American Iron and Steel Institute devotes a full page to this subject. Thirteen percent of steel workers in associate companies are on the job over twenty-five years and three percent over thirty-five years—sixteen percent in all.

Employee loyalty has been the anchor rock of American progress in science and industry as it has been here at the Museum.

As we hurry along daily we are forever reminded of our obligation to carry on the splendid efforts of those who gave their utmost in the creation of this world famous Museum. Our best wishes to all the family old timers. You are a part of a great tradition.

### BUILDING SERVICES

Cornelius Lafferty now visiting Ireland, as is James P. Morgan.

Thomas Hogan's voice was heard on W.N.Y.C. Radio Wednesday, April 11th.

Fortunato Molinaro traveling to Italy in September.

Eugenie Dahlmann in the Nathan Van Etten Hospital in Eastchester.

Katherine Hrycak back to work. Best wishes.

Betty Nullet going to Honolulu when her grass skirt is finished, and after she becomes a grandma in July.

After an elapse of twelve long years, Mr. Sam D'Angelo of the Building Service Department became a proud Father of a Healthy Baby Boy on March 8th, 1956. He has two other children, a boy of seventeen and a girl of twelve. "You're quite a man, Sam." We all wish you the best of luck.

On top of the above event, Mr. Sam D'Angelo's Brother, The Rev. Rocco D'Angelo, M.S.S.S.T. was ordained on May 31st, 1956. A reception was held in his honor at the Forest Hills Inn, Long Island. It was sponsored by Mr. Frank Shattock, Proprietor of the Schraft's Stores. Many notables attended the reception; such as, The Honorable Carmine DeSapio, Secretary of State; Chief Inspector, John King, of the New York Police Department and Fire Deputy Chief, Carmine Brocco and a host of others.

### GENETICS

Myron Gordon of the Genetics Laboratory left the Museum on Jan. 3, 1956 to give a series of lectures at the California Academy of Sciences at San Francisco, at Stanford Museum, Palo Alto, at the University of California at Los Angeles and at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena. He then went on to Honolulu to collect fishes in the reservoirs and fresh water ponds. He spoke at a meeting of the Honolulu Aquarium Society and at the University of Hawaii. He returned to the Museum on February 2, 1956 bringing with him some of the living platy-fish and swordtails that he had collected. Some of them may be seen swimming about with platyfish and swordtails previously collected from several countries of Central America.

Miss K. France Baker of the Genetics Laboratory won a National Science Foundation Fellowship but she will continue to work here and at Columbia University for her Doctorate.

Dr. William K. Gregory:

Thanks for your letter about the cat, the bad penny and about us. Your friends around the country are anxious to hear of you and all Museum family members on pension. The GRAPEVINE is your medium. Keep us informed as to what's cooking.

Your Editor

### ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Drs. Lester Aronson and William Tavolga of the Department of Animal Behavior are planning to spend the summer at the new Cape Haze Marine Laboratory, Placida, Florida. Dr. Eugenie Clark, Research Associate in the Department is the Director of the station. Dr. Tavolga will study sounds produced by various fishes and will use a specially designed hydrophone and a tape recorder. Dr. Aronson is working on problems of orientation in fishes.

Those of us who have had the opportunity to peek into the animal room behind the greenhouses on the roof of the African Wing may be surprised to see amid a bustle of activity a myriad of electrical devices, hundreds of relays, switches, motors, and a maze of wires. This is all part of a new apparatus being designed to test the visual capacities of birds, particularly in relation to their migratory habits. The project is being conducted by Dr. Helmut Adler, Research Fellow in the Department of Animal Behavior and his assistant, John Dalland. It is even rumored that the room is going to be air-conditioned, to keep the relays from overheating!

Dr. T. C. Schneirla with Joel Rodney as an assistant, will be doing research this summer at the Museum South West Station. Subject, subterranean ants. These pests are so sub., that nothing is known of them, therefore anything gained will be something.

### EMPLOYEES' SPORTS CLUB

The Spring trout fishing outing of the Sports Club at Copake Falls was highly successful.

Over this weekend of April 14th, the Anglers were continuously busy with fish and refreshments.

Emil Kremer caught the smallest, Fred Bisso the monster and Harry Farrar, the Italian Plasterer, the most.

A most welcome addition to the club membership is Oscar Wantsy.

### INSECTS

Dr. Willis J. Gertsch this summer will be avidly collecting tarantulas and spiders in northern Mexico for live exhibits here at the Museum. It seems that we owe thanks to Dr. Gertsch and other scientists for their efforts, for how else would we ordinary workers know about these things but through their efforts. *Continued on next page*

## E B A GRAPEVINE

*The Publication of the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.*

A. M. N. H.

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Joseph Abruzzo  
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Joseph Chamberlain

*The E. B. A. welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address manuscripts to the editor.*

## FLORIDA HEARD FROM

Bill Baker's brother Tom, formerly of the Print Shop, has just returned from vacationing in Florida. While there he visited Bill Hegeman and Ben Connolly who wish to be remembered to their many friends. Tom informs us that letters written to them would be cheerfully received. To brighten their retirement day, write to:

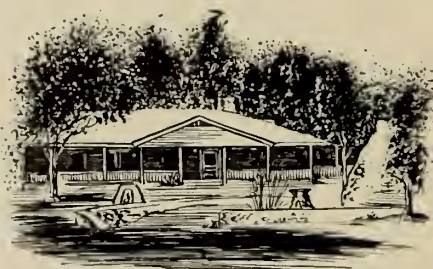
Benjamin F. Connolly  
119 S.W. Seventh Terrace  
Hallandale, Florida  
Williard C. Hegeman  
835 Sixth Avenue, South  
St. Petersburg, Florida.

## INSECTS

Dr. and Mrs. Vaurie are planning a trip to Cuba this summer. We suspect there will be plenty of insect collecting and bird watching.

A hardy welcome to two new members to the Insect Department. Misses Jeannette Reinhardt and Olga Schondelmayer are the newcomers. Miss Schondelmayer plans to change her name in the near future.

The Insect Dept. reports that the new laboratory building at the Southwestern Research Station is in the final stages of completion. i.e. The laboratory equipment is being rushed there at the moment to accommodate the capacity crowd of visiting scientists expected there this summer and fall. Several members of the museum staff are scheduled for residence at the station for further work on their respective research projects.



### Southwestern Research Station

Forty-seven scientists representing fourteen different institutions in twelve states took advantage of the facilities at the Southwestern Research Station of The American Museum of Natural History during its first year of operation, according to a report by Dr. Mont A. Cazier, director of the Station.

The Southwestern Research Station was established by the Museum in the spring of 1955 as a permanent, year-round laboratory for research on the large, diverse and unique fauna, flora, geology and paleontology of the desert and semi-arid areas in our Southwest and northern Mexico. Located near Portal, Arizona the Station is the only research laboratory in existence offering the opportunity for study in five distinct "life zones" and is surrounded by the richest variety of flora and fauna available at any similar institution.

According to Dr. Cazier the scientists who took advantage of the opportunity to study there in 1955 represented nine fields of scientific inquiry: arachnology, entomology, mammalogy, ornithology, botany, parasi-

tology, herpetology, paleontology and general natural history.

The Station, which was established through the interest and support of David Rockefeller and subsequent contributions of other individuals and organizations, is located on the eastern slope of the Chiricahua Mountains, within the limits of the Coronado National Forest.

### New Curator of Fossil Invertebrates

The appointment of Dr. Donald F. Squires as Assistant Curator of Fossil Invertebrates at The American Museum of Natural History has been announced by Dr. George Gaylord Simpson, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Geology and Paleontology.

A specialist in fossil corals, Dr. Squires is particularly interested in the relationship between reef-building and non-reef-building organisms. He is one of the youngest members of the Museum's scientific staff.

Through all the years of Grapevine publication we have been sorely lax in our appreciation of the one man who most cooperatively gets out the issues. Without him we would be sunk. Many Thanks Ed Burns.

Have you heard about the fellow who built a boat in his barn, then had to remove a wall to get it out? Have you heard about the narrow door to Fred Scherer's laboratory? Could be.

### FOR LONGER LIFE

The horse and mule live 30 years and know nothing of wines and beers. The goat and sheep at 20 die and never taste of scotch or rye. The cows drink water by the ton and at 18 are mostly done. The dog at 15 cashes in without the aid of rum or gin. The cat in milk and water soaks and then at 12 short years it croaks. The modest sober bone-dry hen lays eggs for nogs, then dies at 10. All animals are strictly dry, they sinless live and sinless die. But sinful, ginful, rumsoaked men survive for three score years and ten! But some of us tho mighty few stay pickled till we are ninety-two.



DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Vera Ujhely takes Adelaide Jordan Burns' position as Dr. Parr's secretary. Bettie Brewer is second secretary in Dr. Parr's office.

Dr. Bill Burns has his third children's book coming out. The title is "Man And His Tools"—the story of the development of tools from the earliest stone ax to modern machinery. This is published by McGraw Hill and is for children from 8 to 14. Illustrations are by Paula Hutchison, formerly Museum staff artist.

The Burnses are going to Europe this summer to attend a museum conference, to study British museums, and, incidentally, for vacation.

Mrs. James A. Fowler, III, is leaving the Museum in June. Good luck, Peggy. Come back and see us often!

ODDS AND ENDS

Freddie Jalayer—became a father of a bouncing baby girl on Feb. 14, name Tina.

John Babyak, former preparator now with National Park Service, Museums Branch in Washington, D. C.

Power House elevator to get a face lifting with bright new paint job, Jim Flood should be the happiest man in the World.

Lothar Witteborg's wife Alix, formerly with the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles, now with Life Magazine as Science Researcher.

The Camera Club is thinking of sponsoring a national and international photographic exhibit. This will be the first time that not only the club but the Museum has undertaken such an ambitious project.

Dr. Norman D. Newell and G. Robert Adlington returned in February after a two week stay at the Lerner Marine Laboratory in Bimini. Aerial photographs of the area were taken in preparation for their return to Bimini in May to continue their ecological studies of the Bahama Banks. One week after their return to the Museum on July 1st, they will again set forth on a trip down to Mexico and Guatemala to collect fossils and to attend the International Geological Congress being held in Mexico City.

Grandfathers

Bill Bonesteel, Arthur Heiniman. Paul Schroth, Victor Badaracco, Bill Somerville.

Prospectors?

POETRY? UGH!

Uranium Turner  
Left one day  
For the Mountains  
Far away

By his side  
He had a friend  
Who he hoped  
A hand would lend

Geiger Wiley  
Was his name  
Who ever chased  
Fortune and fame

Thru the woods  
Over the creek  
Only in town  
For the meat

Up and down  
Hills and valleys  
In and out  
Lakes and gullies

Hearty is  
As hearty does  
A pair of men  
All dressed in furs

Seeking here  
In the rubble  
Digging there  
With pick and shovel

Thousands have tried  
Few have won  
Searching for  
Uranium

Trouping home  
With their packs  
Loaded on  
Their aching backs

Filled to the brim  
With dirty linen  
Sorry friends  
We can't help grinning

Of gold and platinum  
Nary an ounce  
With dragging legs  
Sans all bounce

Geiger Wiley  
His friend did say  
Fools we were  
To go far away

Here in my desk  
At the Museum  
I have what we sought  
With such enthusiasm

Spreading out  
The papers neat  
While resting on  
Their busted feet

They jumped with joy  
At the pile  
Of golden stuff  
In the aisle

For lying there  
Solved their conundrum  
Ten cent shares in  
Uranium

ODDS AND ENDS

Marion Henriquez dropped in to visit friends in the Museum . . . Is it true that Dotty Bronson and Mabel Colahan both shoot in the low eighties? . . . Louie Penna's son in the Naval Reserve . . . Catherine Mahoney, Eugenie Jatkowsky and Dorothy Fulton spend one evening a week taking care of babies at the New York Foundling Home . . . Ed "Lucky" Morton won a swell rod and reel which he hopes to use on his Florida vacation . . . Edward Collins of the Mason Department is the son of Al Collins . . . Walter McGrath sang at the wedding of Otto Lambert's daughter, Caryl. Walter Lambert, the bride's uncle, was an usher. Gil Powers, John Enright and Larry Pintner also attended. Otto did a noble job in giving the bride away.

Joe Rooney was presented with a Dinner Party in the Red Room. His friends sent him off with a sterling silver sandwich tray. 68 years is tough. Incidentally Hazel de Barard got lost in the jungles of Montana Hall this evening. Best of luck, Joe.

Frank Gonzales back after a long illness. Welcome home Frank.

Johnny Jones always tough with his low seventies for eighteen—watch him now with his new matched clubs.

Another good man gone right. Carol Cobb now Mrs. William J. Schwarting—good luck.

When are we going to have another Museum employees' art exhibition, Miss Beneker?

Univac

Some of the pressure should be off our friends in George Decker's department, bookkeeping, with the addition of this most modern accounting machine.

New England Heard From

Although our information has not come direct, we are very pleased to hear that Mr. Wayne M. Faunce, up in Vermont way, liked the Christmas Grapevine.

Uncle Sam's Boys

The sons of Malcolm Mackay and Edward Holterman will soon receive their honorable discharge from the armed services.

Zolton Batary's son Teddy now in Korea. Bill Bonesteel's son Bill Jr. just signed for two years with the army as a soldier.

## COLD—COLD—NORTH

During January and February of this year Tom Nicholson and Joseph Chamberlain of the Planetarium staff undertook an expedition to the extreme northern boundary of the Canadian land mass in order to make geodetic position determinations for the Air Force in previously poorly charted places. When they arrived at the observing region in the delta area of the Mackenzie River, the spring-time sun had not yet risen. This is an ideal situation for astronomical work, as the stars can be used all around the clock.

When the sun is below the horizon above the Arctic Circle, it is winter in the Northern Hemisphere—which means that the Museum team experienced the coldest weather of the year in that area. They report that one night the temperature dropped to about  $-60^{\circ}\text{F}$  with the wind blowing at about 30 miles per hour. They tried to work but found that their observing instruments had completely frozen. Many times, however, successful results were obtained at temperatures from  $40^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$  below zero. Because of the extreme cold there were two basic problems. One was that in order to manipulate the controls of the equipment only light gloves could be worn. Further, each breath of moist air caused such severe condensation on the lenses that it was necessary to clean them off before and after every observation.

Almost all traveling was accomplished by World War II DC-3 airplanes. In some instances where runways had not been cleared of snow, ski-planes were used. There were construction workers connected with the government projects at most of the sites and consequently there was plenty of good food and usually a warm place to sleep.

Joe and Tom arrived back home none the worse for their frigid experience and with a job well done.

## VACATIONING THIS YEAR?

Telephone 378 for Descriptive Matter on

Maine  
New Hampshire  
Vermont  
Massachusetts  
Rhode Island  
Connecticut  
New York  
New Jersey  
Pennsylvania



## THINGS TO COME

Those busy people in Planning, Art and Exhibition aren't just drawing up plans to rebuild New York or to take over the Metropolitan Museum of Art. They are really working on a long-term program of exhibition for our Museum that encompasses, in general outline, the next twenty years.

But we won't have to wait that long for results. First, the renovation of the Cretaceous Hall on the fourth floor (now to be known as the Tyrannosaur Hall) will be completed by the beginning of June. We're especially proud of the handsome black tile "Dinosaur Island" and the picture-story "rebus" on the north wall. And don't fail to see the story of the birth, life and death of a dinosaur in the long case on the west wall.

The Hall of North American Forests on the first floor is our next major hall scheduled for completion. All those temporary screens, bare light bulbs and empty holes in the wall will, we hope, be replaced by brilliant displays and murals by October 1957—although we're not challenging you to hold us to this date. The three forest groups being worked on now (Boreal Forest, Western Pine and Oak Hickory) will be opened to the public this autumn. And right now a relief map of North America 15 ft. by 11 ft. is being made for us in Philadelphia and will be installed in the south corridor of the hall the week after Labor Day. On the opposite side of this corridor, the very tall half-circular wall just plastered and canvased is the background of the new Giant Redwood Diorama—a really new idea in exhibition technique that you'll see completed next spring.

Toward the end of 1958 we hope, with a combination of good luck and good management, to open the first two sections of the Hall of the Biology of Man. Many of the exhibits for this hall have already been completed. The hall itself will be the area now devoted to Eastern Indians, to the west of the 77th Street foyer.

At about the same time we expect to complete the Hall of the Giant Sloth. This is in the southeast corner of the fourth floor between the new Tyrannosaur Hall and the Hall of Fossil Mammals. Work has been going on steadily in this area for the past year, and it may turn out to be one of the halls that gets completed earlier than we expect.

Projects in the planning stage (and that means being put on paper, not just being dreamed about) include the

## The Boy

By PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER

*Tue., March 10, 1930, on the Radio*

"Together with his sister, the boy is the most precious possession of the American home. I sometimes think that one of the sad things of life is that they will grow up. Literature and lore have established our boys in varied relations to life; as a growing animal of superlative promise, to be fed and watered and kept warm; as a periodic nuisance; as a joy forever; as the incarnation of destruction; as the father of the man; as the child of iniquity; as the problem of our times and the hope of the nation.

"In any event, he is a complex of cells teeming with affection, filled with curiosity as to every mortal thing; radiating sunlight to all the world; endowed with dynamic energy and the impelling desire to take exercise on all occasions. He is a perpetual problem to his parents, and the wisdom in his upbringing consists more often in the determination of what to do with him next rather than in what he shall do when he goes out into the cold world.

... "We assure ourselves that the cure of illiteracy and the fundamentals of education are the three R's—reading, 'ritin', and 'rith-metic. To this we must add one more R, and that is responsibility—responsibility to the community—if we are not to have illiteracy in government."

remodeling of the Hall of Ocean Life, design of the new Halls of Botany and Insects, and small North American mammal habitat groups in the corridor between the North American Mammals Hall and the main auditorium.

All honors to Miss McGoldrick and also to Miss Scharf

For the splendid service to the Museum they rendered in the past.

We know that in the future their service will be the same.

God bless those faithful servants—all honor to their names!

John Schmitt



# E B A Buffet Supper and Dance

It was with misgivings that I accepted the nomination for President of E.B.A. since a woman had never held this office.

I now realize that the feeling for this organization is so deep rooted that I would have indeed missed the opportunity to direct the efforts of such a splendid group of people.

In the history of E.B.A. more employees participated in the May get-together than in any affair of a similar nature. This is most encouraging to those who unselfishly give their time and efforts in the promotion of these activities. The success of our party on May 3rd is evidence of the acceptance by our members of our social program. I might add here, more ladies came and remained to dance (this the males liked). This proves that it is good to periodically shed the burdens of office, lab., shop and planets and spend a few carefree hours together.

To the new E.B.A. members—Welcome; and the old standbys—Thank you; to the new employees—any day now you may be eligible to join E.B.A. Ask anyone in your department about us. We want so to have you.

We have many plans, but let us have your ideas. Get behind our organization, participate in our activities and enjoy each other.

Sincerely

MABEL C. COLAHAN, *President*

Thanks a million to: Farrell Carney and his Ticket Committee, and to the dependable group of young lads who worked so diligently on the refreshments—a job well done.

PHIL MILLER, *Chairman*  
Entertainment

## PLAY BALL !!!

The Museum will again have a softball team in competition this season.

Games will be scheduled for Mondays and Thursday evenings after work. The games on Mondays will be at our old field at MacCombs Dam at 6 P. M. Diamond No. 5 lockers and showers are available for the players. On Thursdays Diamond No. 1 Great Lawn, Central Park at 86th Street. Players can dress and shower at the Museum. Players will assemble on game days in the yard outside the Shipping Room. Anyone wishing to come out for the team will be welcomed. We play only Museum employees and everyone will get a chance to play. For any further information call Al O'Connell at Ext. 323.

Everyone is urged to come out either to play, root or razz the home team. Play Ball. . . .

## CARD OF THANKS

Our thanks to Mr. Cavanaugh of the Hoffman Beverage Company, through whose generosity our Spring Get together was amply supplied with their delicious Ginger Ale and Club Soda.

## FLOWER SHOW

Those of the Museum family who visited the International Flower Show held in the old Wanamaker Store building March 11th to 18th probably noticed a rather spectacular exhibit based upon Mount Raimier National Park was a product of several Museum personnel.

This exhibit featured a canvas some 10 feet tall by approximately 17 feet wide painted in color by Matthew Kalemoff and based upon actual photographs taken on the spot. The scene was dominated by the great white mass of Mount McKinley and there were the great floral meadows which are such a feature of this national park.

The architectural framework for the exhibit was designed and set up by Louis Ferry and the electrical fixtures by Arthur Scharf. Ray de Lucia built a rock which was accepted by many of the beholders as the real thing. Several other members of the Museum force were drafted to help install the group on location and to remove it at the end of the show. This was an undertaking planned by the Committee on National Parks of the Garden Club of America. Mrs. Harold E. Anthony was in charge of the committee which was responsible for the planning, installation, and attendance at the exhibit. The American Museum cooperated with the Garden Club of America by permitting Museum men to work on their own time on this exhibit, holidays and evenings, in Museum quarters.—

HAROLD E. ANTHONY





# Little Known Facts From the World of Natural History

## THE UBIQUITOUS BOOMERANG

The boomerang, that odd crescent-shaped throwing stick, is most often associated with Australia where the word is derived from the aboriginal word for the wind. But in fact, it has been known and used in many areas of the world. The Hopi, Acoma and Zuni Indians of the American Southwest had a type of boomerang from early in their history. Boomerangs have been unearthed in India, Celebes, Borneo and Ethiopia, and ancient legend tells of its use in Gaul, in Thebes and in Egypt. It has been used in hunting, sport and warfare and even as part of female puberty rites in Australia, according to Joseph J. Cornish III, author of "The Mystery of the Boomerang" in the May issue of Natural History Magazine.

But despite its widespread use and the variety of shapes that have been employed, until recent times only the Australians knew the secret of fashioning the boomerang that returns to the thrower. So great is their skill in throwing the strange stick, that they claim to be able to make it circle five times before it returns, or even make it bounce on the ground at a distance and then return. To date, however, no statistics are available to show how many throwers have become their own victims.

## Poison Ivy, A Persistent Pest

Like it or not, the itching season approacheth, and in its honor Gary Webster presents some sobering, unsoothing did-you-knows in the article, "Poison Ivy, the Three-fingered Menace," in the May issue of Natural History Magazine.

For example, did you know that the "green villain" is villainous to humans alone? Cows munch it, dogs, cats, horses and such wander through it, carry the pernicious poison on their coats (from which a petting human hand can pick it up), and never suffer a moment's discomfort. And did you know that so persistent is the red-patch producer that cases have been known to occur from changing tires that have been driven through poison ivy clumps, or from handling articles that have touched the plant days and even weeks before?

## RIDDLE OUT OF AFRICA

One of the great unsolved mysteries in the annals of archeology is described by Peter Holz in the May issue of Natural History Magazine. In Southern Rhodesia stand the massive ruins of a lost civilization, "Zimbabwe," great stone structures estimated by archeologists to be over five hundred years old. Within their walls have been found lovely stone figure carvings, objects of gold, iron and bronze and decorated wooden bowls, but no clue as yet to reveal the identity of the builders of Zimbabwe—who they were, where they came from and where they went.

## KISSING COUSINS OF THE GOURAMI

Thirty-five feet below the ocean's surface near Nassau, British West Indies, blue-striped Grunts, fish common to these waters, indulge in regular and vigorous kissing, says Natural History Magazine for May. A couple of fish will rush toward each other, mouths wide open, and meet to kiss for a few seconds, much like the famous Kissing Gourami. The same two may keep up this seeming-courtship for quite a while, but, says Carleton Ray, author of "Why Do Fishes Kiss," animal behavior specialists are not sure that it's romance at all. Many believe it may be a form of antagonism or even, an establishment of hierarchies. It all looks pretty fishy!

As if it weren't enough of a nuisance in the wild, it has been just as bothersome in the laboratory in a different way. Dr. Charles Dawson of Columbia University spent thirteen years attempting to isolate the toxic element (he finally did), and during that time ten of his students made the problem the subject of their doctoral dissertations!

And were you aware that the average number of treated cases of poison ivy is conservatively estimated at 250,000 each year? And those who smugly assume they're immune, aren't? It often takes many exposures to contract a case, but once it's caught, you're likely to be ever more susceptible.

So, despite sprays to control its spread and medicines to ease the blisters and itches it causes, the best advice is still, "leave it alone."

## FOR SALE—WANTED—FOR RENT

Published Free for Employees

### OUTBOARD MOTOR FOR SALE

Lawson Outboard Motor 3½ HP air-cooled and in top condition. Used very little. \$70. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE

Gretsch Guitar in first class condition. A fine instrument and the case is included. Will sell for \$35. Martha Demaras—Ext. 447.

Accordion and Case large size, 120 bass. In good condition \$75. Dorothy Bronson—Ext. 240

Gibson Banjo-Mandolin cost \$118. new. Will sell for \$50. Ray Fuller—Ext. 369.

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Plate Glass Mirror 24" x 36" Flawless, bevelled edges, drilled, complete with 4 glass rosettes. \$12. Louis Ferry—Ext. 369.

Whitney Doll Stroller chrome and wood. In excellent condition. Original cost \$25. will sell for \$7. Alma G. Cook—Ext. 221.

Reproduction of Rouault Painting full color, 21" x 25" with wormed oak frame. Silkscreen Museum of Modern Art reproduction. Fully backed, like new. Best offer. Isabel Mount—Public Relations.

Walker Turner Table Saw 10 inch blade. Free standing tilting arbor and all attachments. \$175. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

Emerson Television set 17" table model with built-in antenna. \$75. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378

Dodge Engine Brand New \$50. Automobile body free. Hendrik Van Dort—Ext. 369.

Frigidaire, small size, perfect condition. A good buy at \$15. Anthony Tumillo—Ext. 499.

Desk-Secretary Combination, good condition. \$15. Anthony Tumillo—Ext. 499.

Jordan Upright Deep Freeze, 18 CU. ft., like new. A steal for \$350. Bailey Lewis—Ext. 499.

Household Furniture available in Brooklyn Heights. D. Goodwin—Ext. 473.

### MISCELLANEOUS WANTED

Piano upright, grand or spinet. Do you have one in good condition but at a low cost? Marcia L. Rosen—Ext. 335.

Air Conditioner. Would like one room ½-ton unit. Frank Forrester—Ext. 363.

Recorder (flute type musical instrument) Soprano preferred. Marcia L. Rosen—Ext. 335.

Drill Press table model. Hendrik Van Dort—Ext. 369.

Second-hand steamer or wardrobe trunk. D. Goodwin—Ext. 473.

### APARTMENT WANTED

Three or four room apartment midtown or lower Manhattan. To \$140. Can swap large one room apartment Fifth Ave. & 12th St. (professional lease) Judy Schwartz—Public Relations.

### APARTMENT TO LET

Sublet Studio Apartment in Fort Lee, New Jersey. Location convenient for Museum employee, available June 1st. Mrs. Marion Crawbuck—Ext. 274.

### HOUSE FOR SALE

Valley Stream, L. I., 7 rooms, oil heat, full basement, garage, plot 50 x 100. Screens, storm windows, garden and outdoor fireplace. \$12,000. John Stoutenburgh—Public Inst.



# Excerpts from Recent Press Releases

## *Holiday Attendance Sets Record At Museum and Planetarium*

A new record for holiday attendance at The American Museum of Natural History and the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium was scored Washington's Birthday (February 22, 1956) when a total of 41,763 people visited the two institutions.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955, 1,673,445 people visited the Museum and 499,449 visited the Planetarium, making a total attendance of 2,172,894 for the twelve-month period.

Since July 1955 attendance at the two institutions has increased by 71,700 over the figure for the same period in the preceding fiscal year.

## *Adventures Of World's Largest Blossoming Plant Described in Natural History Magazine*

A single Wistaria vine that covers an entire acre of land, weighs an estimated 225 tons, produces one and a half million blossoms each year—and is still growing!—is the subject of an article in the March issue of Natural History Magazine.

For those reckless readers with the courage to chance eviction by a vine, the Natural History article offers some good tips on the raising of Chinese Wistaria—but better not try it in a window box.

## *Spring And Romance Comes To Natural Science Center*

In a setting of bright, new exhibits, accompanied by the croaking of live frogs, Spring—and Romance—have come to the Natural Science Center at The American Museum of Natural History. The toads have awakened from their winter's nap, springtime's birds are mounted in all their flamboyant finery and Petunia, the skunk, has a new wife!

## *Guy Murchie, Jr. To Be Awarded John Burroughs Medal*

Guy Murchie, Jr.—noted author, aerial navigator and naturalist—will receive the John Burroughs Association Medal for 1956 in recognition of his book *Song of the Sky*.

Dr. Charles B. Hitchcock, Director of the American Geographical Society,

will accept the medal on behalf of Mr. Murchie who is presently in Spain working on his next book. The award will be made by Richard Pough, President of the John Burroughs Association and Chairman of the American Museum's Department of Conservation and General Ecology.

## *Brief History Of Ahnighito Meteorite*

Ahnighito (originally called "The Tent") is the largest of three meteorites recovered from the north shore of Melville Bay, near Cape York in western Greenland, by Robert E. Peary who later discovered the North Pole.

During the construction of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium (opened in 1935), Ahnighito made its last journey, halfway around Manhattan Square, to the Planetarium's first floor where it has remained on exhibit since.

A modern version of the adage about Mahomet coming to the mountain was re-enacted at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium when the Ahnighito meteorite was lowered onto a giant scale brought to the Planetarium for the sole purpose of weighing the meteorite.

The new Toledo Scale is probably the only scale ever built to weigh but one object and to perform this one weighing task continuously, with the resulting weight visible on the dial at all times.

## *Ireland's Only Reptile A Lizard Says American Museum Scientist*

Only one reptile has made Ireland its home since the last Ice Age and it is not a snake but a lizard, says Dr. Richard Zweifel, Assistant Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles at The American Museum of Natural History.

Despite the popular legend that St. Patrick drove the "snakes" from the "Emerald Isle," scientific evidence indicates that these animals have not lived in Ireland for at least many thousand, if not a million, years.

Ireland is not the only country that lacks snakes, says Dr. Zweifel. It must share the distinction with New Zealand, the Azores and a number of smaller islands also separated from larger bodies of land.

## *Problem Of Finding New Sources Of Wonder Drug Reserpine Discussed in Natural History Magazine Article*

While science continues to look for new uses for reserpine, the drug that has proven so effective in the treatment of high blood pressure and certain mental disorders, a search is also underway to discover new sources of the drug, according to an article in the January issue of Natural History Magazine.

## *Harnessed Icebergs Suggested As Tomorrow's Water Supply*

Stealthy, floating icebergs, like those that once were the scourge of arctic seas, may be a potential source of water supply in tomorrow's world, according to an authority quoted in the April issue of Natural History Magazine.

The idea of towing an antarctic berg to some thirsty area by means of ocean-going tugs has been advanced by Dr. John Isaacs of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He suggests that a fence of impermeable material could be built to retain and channel the melting water. Another oceanographic expert cited in the article, Rear Admiral Edward Hanson Smith, Director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, believes that the project is a fascinating one, but that it would raise tremendous technical problems.

## *American Museum To Begin Peruvian Archeological Study*

An unusual study of a South American Indian group—the first systematic archeological work to be carried on in the eastern jungle area of Peru—will be carried out under the auspices of The American Museum of Natural History, according to an announcement made yesterday by Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Anthropology.

Mr. Donald Lathrap, a graduate student at Harvard University, left New York last week to begin archeological excavations at Yarinacocha, a village on the Ucayali River, a tributary of the Amazon, now inhabited by the Shipibo Indians.

According to Dr. Shapiro, these Indians are considered the great artists and craftsmen of the Upper Amazon

region and are known for their intricately patterned cotton textiles and delicately carved wooden objects as well as for their pottery.

### *Five World Records Broken By Boone And Crockett Trophies*

Five trophies submitted in the seventh North American Big Game Competition of the Boone and Crockett Club have established new world records, according to Mr. Samuel B. Webb, Chairman of the Club's Records Committee, who made the announcement at The American Museum of Natural History during the presentation of awards.

The record-breaking trophies include a Polar Bear, Mule Deer (typical) Columbian Blacktail Deer, Coues Deer and a Grizzly Bear.

The Sagamore Hill Medal for the best trophy entered in the Competition was presented by Mr. Archibald B. Roosevelt to Mr. J. A. Columbus of Anchorage, Alaska for his record Polar Bear. This award is given by the Roosevelt family in memory of Theodore Roosevelt, who was first president of the Boone and Crockett club and by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Kermit Roosevelt. The club was organized in 1887 by Theodore Roosevelt and a group of his friends in order to encourage sportsmen in selective hunting.

### *Study Tour Of Mexico And Central America*

A rare opportunity to study the culture and history of Mexico and Central America at first hand under the supervision of a trained expert is being offered this summer by The American Museum of Natural History. The five-week field trip, open to all interested adults, will be the first of its kind to be sponsored by the Museum, reports John A. Saunders, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Public Instruction.

Through the cooperation of the Guild of Student Travel, the Museum is able to present the travel course for \$860, which will cover all but a few minor expenses. All major points along the route will be reached by plane.

The tour, arranged by C. Bruce Hunter, Supervisor of Adult Programs and lecturer in anthropology at the Museum who will accompany the group as its leader, has the endorsement of the New York City Board of Education.

### *"From Pole To Pole"*

The skies of the South Pole, with their constellations, galaxies, and other celestial wonders that are never visible to star gazers in the United States, will be reproduced on the vast dome of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium in the new sky show "From Pole To Pole".

Show audiences will travel first to the top of the world to see the midnight sun at the time of the northern summer. Then, journeying toward the Antarctic, they will stop at a point far to the south in the Pacific Ocean to preview a total solar eclipse.

As they near the South Pole on their imaginary tour, audiences will witness the Aurora Australis—the little known Southern Lights—glowing amid unfamiliar stars. From their vantage point in the frozen wastes of Antarctica they will see the famous constellation of the Southern Cross, the mysterious Coal Sack which is actually a cloud of cosmic dust, and the two galaxies that are known as the Clouds of Magellan.

Finally, through the recorded voice of Admiral George J. Dufek, commander of the Navy task force which set up bases in the Antarctic for the International Geophysical Year project, Planetarium visitors will learn about preparations for the scientific studies to be made at the South Pole during the I.G.Y. in 1957-1958.

### *Anthropologist Describes Past Glories Of An Ancient Indian Culture*

An ancient culture has almost disappeared, states Philip Drucker in his new illustrated book, *Indians of the Northwest Coast*, just published by McGraw-Hill as part of The American Museum of Natural History's series of anthropological handbooks.

The Indians of the Northwest Coast are today universally Christian and their way of life has become modernized. Almost nothing remains of their elaborate aboriginal culture, except in museum collections, among which the collection of The American Museum of Natural History is especially fine, according to Dr. Drucker.

### *Remains Of Ancient Plants Valuable Resource Of Modern Industry, States Natural History Magazine*

A microscopic plant of seas and streams, dating from the dawn of time, is an unsung but ubiquitous and important ingredient of modern industry,

according to an article in the February issue of *Natural History* magazine.

The purity of our drinking water, the sparkle in beer, the absorbency of paper, the high polish on cars, mirrors and airplanes, the strength of plastics and the safety in safety matches are all due in part to the tiny diatom. And these are only a few of its many uses, claims Jennie E. Harris in the article, "Diatoms Serve Modern Man."

### *Archbold Expedition Leaves For Remote Area Of New Guinea*

The leader of the Fifth Archbold Expedition to New Guinea left New York on Sunday, March 4, 1956, to resume biological investigations in one of the least-known areas of the world.

Leonard J. Brass, Associate Curator in the Museum's Department of Mammals, will head a scientific collecting team which will work for nine months in the eastern islands of the Papua area. The expedition is sponsored by Richard Archbold, Research Associate of the Museum and President of Archbold Expeditions, a non-profit corporation affiliated with the American Museum. Working with Mr. Brass in New Guinea will be Russell F. Peterson, staff member in the Department of Mammals.

### *Planetarium Presents Astronomy Round Table For Sky-Minded Adults*

Sky-minded adults can be assured of ideal weather conditions while satisfying their curiosity about the heavens in "Astronomy Round Table," a descriptive astronomy course given at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium. The first session was held Tuesday evening, February 7, 1956, according to Frank H. Forrester, Deputy Manager of the Planetarium.

The course, which is geared for the layman and open to any interested adult, will be conducted under the Planetarium's famous dome, where "cloudless climes and starry skies" prevail despite the weather conditions outside. Designed to be an informal discussion group, as its name implies, the Round Table will be presided over by Mr. Henry Neely, popular authority and veteran lecturer on descriptive astronomy and star identification.

The 16" Telescope Frank Aime is constructing will be installed in a silo top observatory on his farm at Hortonville, N. Y.





# EBA GRAPEVINE

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Number 1 **3**

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Sam Kuster  
Josephine A. Barry  
Paul Goodhouse  
Marion Henriquez  
Walter Lambert  
Marion Carr

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Mabel Colahan      Walter Joyce  
Harry Farrar

*The E.B.A. welcomes contributions from all Museum employees. Please address manuscripts to the editor.*

## News 'n Views

Floyd and Nina Blair now on pension. Williston, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Skinner spending the summer at Aimworth, Neb.

Mrs. Micaela Welch building home at Fort Myers, Florida

John Schmidt formerly of the Print Shop now in Miami, Florida.

Jean Beattie in Norway.

Albert Butler living in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Vaurie have returned from a collection trip in Mexico.

Arthur N. Henn living in Winter Park, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Lerner have returned from a hunting trip to British Columbia.

Miss Francesca LaMonte has bought a home in Fort Myers, Florida.

Bob Adlington took under-water pictures at Bimini—color slides and moving pictures.

Dr. Willis J. Gertsch returned from Portal, Arizona.

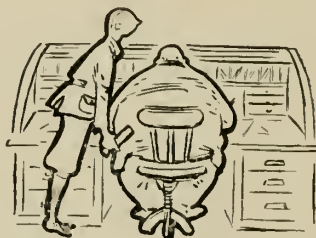
Dr. Mont A. Cazier busy between New York and Portal, Arizona.

Dr. T. C. Schneirla's bees doing much better than anticipated.

Marie Lou Failla now Mrs. Jim Campbell.

Dr. Lester Aronson experimenting on jumping gobies at Bimini.

Dr. Brian Mason now in Europe.



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sorenson spent three months back home in Norway and Denmark.

**BEHIND THE SCENES**—Visit the Power Plant and see the source of your light, heat, and power.

Bill Forbes' idea of a diplomat:

A man who can convince his wife that she looks fat when he is buying her a Two Thousand dollar mink coat.

John Enright thanks all for their concern during his recent illness, but no exceptions, he closes the 77th St., door promptly at 5:30 p. m.

Dr. Harry L. Shapiro just back from UNESCO meeting in Paris.

Welcome back to the Museum, Philip Horan and Jimmy McDonnell—a return to the fold!

Best wishes to Frank Gonzalez. Hope your recovery is rapid.

Edward Holterman now Assistant Power Plant Engineer.

Congratulations to Zoltan Batary! 25-years of perfect attendance!

Jane Darken is now Mrs. Pierce Brenann.

## LARGER FAMILIES

Congratulations to:

Mr. and Mrs. George Whitaker—1 new addition.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Serret—1 new addition, Patrice Mary Ann. This makes third, no more says he.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Scharf—1 new addition—Randall.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Noonan—1 new addition—Michael.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Trenholm—1 new addition—Dennis.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Bial—1 new addition—Helene Elizabeth.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Weir—4th grandchild.

Dr. Charles Russell with UNESCO.

Oscar Wantsy finally received his operator's license.

Mrs. Mabel Colahan has returned from a cruise to West Indies.

Thanks to Sam Kuster on the Plaque of Arthur Oberman, killed in Korea. The unveiling was November 10.

Planetarium First Floor for correct time—beamed direct from the nation's Capitol.

Your Editor understands that the new Museum addition at Portal, Arizona is flooded with visitor requests.

To those on pensions: Write us about yourselves and where you are located.



## *To One and All at the Museum—*

### *Happy Holidays and all Best Wishes for the New Year!*

As we go into 1956, I want to thank every employee of this great institution for the public-minded, helpful attitude which prevails in these buildings. I, personally, feel this kindness every time I am at the Museum and know the public is equally grateful for the welcoming warmth shown by all who work here in any capacity.

The reputation of this Museum is something we cherish—we hope it will continue to grow with the years. Every one of you contributes to our prestige and helps in the effort to reach our goals in the fields of education, exhibition, exploration and research.

We have come a long way over a road that has not always been smooth. Let us hope that the coming year will see us making further progress in solving the riddles of nature and presenting the world with facts which will make it a better place in which to live.

Good luck and thank you.

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER M. WHITE, *President*

## *Letters From Our Family Members*

Dr. Gudger writes that he is doing as well as can be expected at his age of 89! He is very anxious to hear from his friends. Have you read his letter, Miss Mary? Rest Home, Waynesville, North Carolina.

John C. Larsen states there is no winter in the Gem of the Foothills. Mr. and Mrs. Larsen enjoy the GRAPEVINE—it takes them home again! 432 North Palm Avenue, Monrovia, California.

We're sorry the article and photo sent in by Chris Olsen went astray. However, he completed the Firefly Model, magnified 262,144 times, for the Museum of Science, in Boston, Mass. West Nyack, New York.

Williard C. Hegeman retains his contact with the Museum through his copy of the GRAPEVINE. We hope regular issues will be coming off the

press in the very near future. We hope you have completely recovered from your illness, Bill. 835 Sixth Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Robert H. Rockwell of Jamesville, Northhampton County, Virginia, writes of his work since 1942—modeling miniature animals for ceramics and bronzes. A recent piece of an African Elephant is now owned by President Eisenhower. He also tells of publication of MY WAY OF BECOMING A HUNTER written in collaboration with his daughter, Jeanne. His description of the eastern shore of Virginia is too drooling for copy!

Mabel Seim writes of her work— weaving rugs. Good luck, Mabel, to you and your work at the Central Islip State Hospital, Central Islip, Long Island, N. Y.

Walter C. Jensen of 620 Wood Street, Dunedin, Florida, is happy in his leisure in the Sunshine State. The GRAPEVINE brings back pleasant memories of his friends here at the Museum.

To Hazel Lockwood Muller of 435 West 119th Street, N. Y. C.: Sorry about the GRAPEVINE. Sure you will receive all future copies.

Dear Ben, will try to follow your suggestion and get the "old geezers" to write in. Probably an "Old Geezers Column." Nice to know you and Johnny Schmitt got together. Will send your copy of the GRAPEVINE to Benjamin Franklin Connolly, 119 S.W. 7th Terrace, Hallandale, Florida.

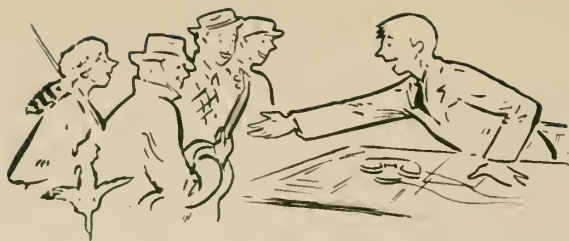
### **FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Why do we like our Credit Union? Because we save, we borrow and get life insurance at no extra cost.

Who pays for this insurance? The Credit Union, out of its earnings. Life insurance is loan protection which means that Credit Union debts die upon death or disability.

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## *Do You Find It Here?*

### **USED AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE**

PLYMOUTH 1953 4 DR. Heater and defroster. Original owner. Low mileage. A very good clean car. Mabel C. Colahan—Ext. 239.

PLYMOUTH 1941 4 DR. SEDAN. Body in perfect condition. \$65. Arthur Scharf—Ext. 378.

### **AUTOMOBILE RADIOS, HEATERS FOR SALE**

MOTOROLA AUTO RADIO in excellent condition. Perfect for an old automobile or boat. It can be yours for \$8. Larry Scheuerer—Ext. 450.

SOUTHWIND AUTO HEATER in good condition. A good heater and you can have it for \$5. Al Wanagel—Ext. 450.

### **BOATS, OUTBOARD MOTORS FOR SALE**

LAWSON OUTBOARD MOTOR 3 HP air-cooled and in top condition. \$70. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

MERCURY OUTBOARD MOTOR 10 HP & 14 ft. WOLVERINE BOAT \$225. Or will sell separately. Henry Ackerman—Ext. 324.

### **ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES FOR SALE**

18.5 cu. ft. MANITOWOC SUB-ZERO UPRIGHT FREEZER practically new. Original cost \$819. Will sell for \$500. Fred Pavone—Ext. 378.

ELECTRIC GRILL \$5. For details call Helmut Wimmer—Ext. 324.

### **TAPE RECORDERS, RECORDS FOR SALE**

BRUSH TAPE RECORDER MODEL BK401. In very good condition. For the price call Joe Abruzzo—Ext. 450.

78 RPM RECORDS classical and popular music. A very large collection in albums. Reasonable. Dr. William Burns—Ext. 212.

### **MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

BENRUS "PRESIDENT" WRISTWATCH 17 jewel, new crystal, just cleaned and adjusted. A real buy at \$20. Rudy Schrammel—Ext. 241.

ROYAL TYPEWRITER in good condition. A very serviceable machine. \$15. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

GOLDEN FALL HONEY available at farm prices. A large jar at \$1.00. George G. Goodwin—Ext. 242.

SILVERWARE in tarnish-proof folding case. Knives, forks, spoons, etc. Very reasonable. Also, Stenotype Machine. Dr. William Burns—Ext. 212.

STAR "D" CAMERA TRIPOD used once. Joe Abruzzo—Ext. 450.

### **FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE**

BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND RING one carat with 13 points. Will sell or exchange for some article I might find useful. Louis Ferry—Ext. 369.

### **MISCELLANEOUS WANTED**

ARTESIAN WELL PUMP urgently needed for country home. Al Wanagel—Ext. 450.

SMALL DOG or PUPPY. Will be given a very good home. George Tauber—Ext. 278.

GAS RADIATOR for large room. Bob Murray—Ext. 263.

ELECTRIC SEWING MACHINE preferably with table. Helmut Wimmer—Ext. 324.

LADIES' ROLLER SKATES size three shoe. Steve Ryan—Ext. 480.

This section is free for active and retired Museum employees only. Send copy for the next issue to Larry Pintner, Office Services Division. The GRAPEVINE accepts no responsibility for any statements in the advertisements.

### **PEETERS' BOOBY TRAP?**

You got trouble? Want a soft shoulder to cry on? Antoine Peeters, the genial manager of Globe Canteen, will provide. Speeding in his boat, off Oceanside, he was chagrined to see his motor some distance back sing its swan song and plunge to the bottom of the drink. Calling on a friend and diver for help he located the approximate spot and the diver tossed off the anchor. Lo and behold! the anchor rope was not secured! So, no motor, no anchor and no rope. Boiling with rage but respecting the diver's huge bulk, he, Peeters, jumped overboard to cool off.

Don't go away! Old Lady Misfortune was not finished with this adept pupil. Andy, as he is affectionately known, had dug 17 holes on his property in the fond hope of a fruit orchard. Finding that the price of fruit trees was \$6.00 per, the project was abandoned. The holes remained, of course! One dark and sinister night Andy's cottage went on fire. Oh! Those poor crippled firemen. Their legs were like pegs in a pegity game. Net result—lame firemen, no water, no cottage.

Still in all adversity there is always a shining ray. Andy still has his job, his slicing machine, and his baloney. No foolin'.

If you care to express your sympathy his estate has been renamed by the Fire Department. Write—Peeters' Booby Trap, Oceanside.

Those who have taken advantage of the E.B.A.'s offer of free instructions in golfing can hardly wait for spring to come to try their new skill on the links.

The Museum Employees Sports Club had three salt water fishing expeditions this year plus a hunting trip at Guy Cree's. Keep going, boys.







## A BIRD OF A TIME

Dr. Parr gave a luncheon last summer in his office for some friends of the Museum. The air conditioner was working overtime, and was competing with the conversation. He turned it off and opened the window. A parakeet was flying around in the upper breezes and apparently decided to come in and see some of his relatives here at the Museum. He never got to the Bird Department however, because Dr. Parr sent down to the Insect Department for a net. He succeeded in catching it, and ensconced the bird in Adelaide Burns's office. Conversation that day was destined to be limited, for this parakeet, although his vocabulary was limited, had a loud overpowering voice. Dr. Parr is still undecided as to the lesser of the two evils, parakeet or air conditioner.



## BEEES WILL BE BEEES

As probably everyone in the Museum is aware by this time, Dr. Schneirla is doing an experiment on bees. Instead of one case of bees he expected to receive, he got seven. Louis Ferry, hearing about the surplus, offered to take a case of them. He kept them in the carpenter shop for awhile. Someone accidentally kicked the case catch, releasing the bees. He had been warned by some of the men in the shop that these bees had stingers just like any others. Louis however, in this short time had become attached to his pets, and said that they wouldn't sting him because they were his friends. A few minutes later he was seen on his way to Mrs. Emery's office with his hand covering his ear.

We all learn sooner or later, Louis.

## Department of

## Public Instruction

At the meeting of the Management Board of The American Museum of Natural History, held on May 26, 1955, the Trustees expressed their grateful appreciation of the contributions to the Museum and to science education of Miss Farida A. Wiley who retired after thirty-two years a member of the staff of The American Museum of Natural History. In recognition of her outstanding service in the field of science education and for the continuing benefit of her colleagues on the staff of the Museum and the community which it serves, the Trustees wished to retain her participation in the work of the Museum. They therefore appointed her Honorary Associate in Natural Science Education, effective immediately.

## REBATE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The 1956 edition of the Hollywood Ice Revue opens in Madison Square Garden on Thursday evening, January 12th. Employee identification cards are available for discount tickets. If You are interested we suggest you get your identification card early so that you may have first choice in the selection of dates and tickets.

Discount tickets are also available for Vittorio De Sica's film, "Umberto D." This film is being shown at the Guild Theatre, 50th St. & Rockefeller Plaza.

For Tickets or further information call Larry Pintner, Ext. 263.

## Where are you?

Joe Nullet has been out sick for some time with a serious infection. We missed your nice smile, Joe. Welcome back.

Florence Adams and Alice Sinkoff announce their new family additions—born in the same hospital two days apart.

Captain Jean Delacour, Research Associate of the Department of Birds, spent a week in New York before leaving for France.

Tom Gilliard flew to Venezuela in April to collect data on hummingbirds.

Dr. William H. Phelps of Caracas, Venezuela, Research Associate in the Department of Birds, celebrated his 80th Birthday on June 15th.



## EXPECTING:

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Torino.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jones.

## Recent Grandfathers:

Victor Badaracco.

James Bourdonnay

Jimmy McDonnell.

## What are you doing?

Jim Sheeran stopped in to see his old friends.

Glad to see John Enright and Pat Pryor back to work and looking fit.

Our thanks to John Lambert and Margaret Connolly. Politeness pays if the response of the visitor is any indication.

Bob Jones and Bob Blake did an exceptional job in extinguishing a fire before it reached serious proportions.



At noon on Friday Aug. 5th the Sports Club said goodbye to B49 with a luncheon. Two freshly caught plum gut bluefish, 7lbs. each, home baked, was the highlight. Capt. Les. Bouden of the Eleoles out of Greenport received high praise. He never fails to take you where they are.

Professor and Mrs. Da Silva from Coimbra University, Lisbon, Portugal.

1st visitor Can that cactus group be correct?

2nd visitor—If it's in this Museum it's right.

## Those Away From Home Not Heard From



Hans C. Adamson  
Charles W. Allgoever  
Roy C. Andrews  
Andrew F. Arnaudo  
Clara M. Beale  
Hazel de Berard  
Anna K. Berger  
F. Blair  
Helene C. Booth  
Barnum Brown  
Albert E. Butler  
Robert J. Burns  
Howard W. Cleveland  
Benjamin F. Connolly  
Joseph F. Connolly  
James P. Chapin  
Fred M. Christman  
James L. Clark  
Richard Cooke  
Guy Cree  
John A. Dooley  
Benjamin Edwards  
Charles Edwards  
Walter G. Escherich  
Wayne M. Faunce  
Mary M. Gerold  
Patrick Grady  
William K. Gregory  
E. Greigle  
Katherine Griggs  
Ida Grobe  
E. W. Gudger  
Teresa C. Hamerbacher  
Albion Haddon  
Hattie Hawes  
Williard C. Hegeman  
Sydney Helprin  
Frank W. Hennessy  
Michael J. Higgins  
Lawrence Hillyard

Ida R. Hood  
Jules M. Hyman  
Francis L. Jaques  
Walter C. Jensen  
Reginald P. Johnson  
Frederick Kessler  
Louis N. Kinzer  
Charles J. Lang  
John C. Larsen  
Ashton T. Littlefield  
Jannette M. Lucas  
George F. Mason  
James McKeon  
Vincent Marra  
Bernard Marshall  
Leonard Marthens  
Ernst Mayr  
David McClure  
Clara P. Meadowcroft  
F. G. Miller  
Florence S. Milligan  
Roy W. Miner  
Charles C. Mook  
Herman O. Mueller  
Hazel Muller  
Cecilia P. Murphy  
Robert C. Murphy  
Stephen J. Murphy  
Ushinsuke Narahara  
Nels C. Nelson  
Ethel L. Newman  
Hohn T. Nichols  
Charles J. O'Connor  
Chris E. Olsen  
Joseph A. Orr  
John C. Orth  
Timothy O'Sullivan  
John E. Paradis  
George N. Pindar  
Blanche Preston

Gracy Ramsey  
Ella B. Ransom  
Harry Ramshaw  
Timothy Reardon  
Viola K. Reckert  
Chester A. Reeds  
Charles Rice  
Alcide Roche  
Robert H. Rockwell  
Joseph B. Roesner  
Charles Russell  
George E. Schmitt  
John E. Schmitt  
John Schmitt  
C. J. Schroth  
George Severn  
Bernard Shanley  
Mae Sheehan  
James J. Sheeran  
Oscar M. Shine  
Jacob W. Shrope  
Dorothy E. Shuttlesworth  
Herbert E. Sperzel  
Robert Stitzel  
Miss A. H. Summerson  
Henry K. Svenson  
Geoffrey M. Tate  
Ethel J. Timonier  
Wilson L. Todd  
James Trimble  
Lilian T. Utermehle  
Williard F. Van Name  
Frank S. Vitolo  
Thomas N. Voter  
Patrick J. Wallace  
Jeremiah Walsh  
Katherine M. Warren  
Farida Wiley  
Frank Wippert  
Tina Zwoboda



## New Employees, 1955

Philip Horan  
Robert Carson  
Mary C. Niebes  
Helga Udvardy  
Margaret S. Shore  
Cicely A. Breslin  
Constance B. Christopher  
Martha N. Demaras  
Lois D. Goldsmith  
James F. McDonnell  
Robert Allen  
Elizabeth McHugh  
Seymour Couzyu  
Lester L. Danlev, Jr.  
Jean B. Penty  
Edwin D. Holland  
Griffin D. Sullivan

John G. Anderson  
John J. Duffy  
Ellen Ordway  
Eleanor Lappano  
Joseph A. Guarracino  
Paul T. Richard  
Donald F. Squires  
Jack S. McCormick  
Gloria Lucente  
Thomas J. Foley  
Joseph Curtis Moore  
Henry H. Wortis  
Joseph M. Sedacca  
Jean F. Silbersweig  
Marilyn Scott  
Cynthia L. Macdonalad  
Leon E. Stover  
Helmut Adler

Joan R. Duggan  
Jennifer Chathfield  
Paula N. Goldwasser  
Gerald Turkewitz  
Mary A. Heimerdinger  
Edith A. Talambiras  
Dorothy K. Cinquemani  
Eugene Luczkow  
Raymond A. Graham  
Edith Hamburg  
John Dalland  
Jean L. Marxhausen  
Irene L. Gould  
Eva Selka  
Marie Lou Campbell  
Judith Schwartz  
Joseph Kayel

## Pensions—1955

Howard N. Cleveland  
Ida Grobe  
Robert C. Murphy  
Farida A. Wiley  
Jeffery Tate  
Floyd F. Blair  
Edward Creigle  
Sebastian Marshall  
Vincent Marra  
Guy Cree  
Robert Stitzel  
Patrick Grady  
John McCormack

## Deaths—1955

Oskar Granstedt  
H. Ernestine Ripley  
Edward A. Wilde  
Almeda Johnson  
Walter Favreau  
Michael Beeth  
Francis Bushell



# What's Your News?

Mrs. Sonja Krummel is leaving us. Sorry to see you go, Sonja.

PLEASE, don't ask the librarians when they are moving!

Joan Gordan had a piece of sculpture on exhibition at the Brooklyn Museum—Also bought her first automobile—Danger on the highways!

Former Museumite Val Clements worked his way through Medical at the University of Colorado—Congratulations!

Dr. Libbie Hyman received the National Academy of Science Gold Medal Elliot Award for her outstanding work in Biology.

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Mont A. Cazier. Mrs. Cazier formerly Carolyn Gordon.

Lambert Pintner had steel pin removed from his foot. Had been inserted because of break.

Jim Mooney had an accident resulting in a broken hip. "Bet you soon will feel so swell, you'll really go to town," just to prove YOU CAN'T KEEP A GOOD MAN DOWN!. Best wishes, Jim.

Dr. William Burns and Adelaide Jordan, two of our good friends, are now Mr. and Mrs. Congratulations and best wishes to you both!

Marguerite D. Phillips and James Fowler took the vows this summer. You have always had everyone's admiration, Peggy. Mr. Fowler is indeed fortunate.

Ed Burns is again a grandfather, for the fourth time. Tough at Christmas time, Ed.

Tony Tumillo building a home on west coast of Florida. Lucky you!

One of the primary functions of the E.B.A. is the welfare of its members. To Dr. Howard C. Curran and Marjorie Statham we extend our sincere appreciation for their kind efforts in furthering our purpose.

At the time we went to press Catherine Mahoney was in the hospital recovering from an operation. We hope you're fine by now, Catherine.

Best wishes to Henry Ehlenberger of the Planetarium for a speedy recovery from a recent operation.

Frank H. Forrester of the Planetarium was married in April.

Anne Giraud, Planetarium, and Max Giraud, Museum, recently celebrated their First Wedding Anniversary.

Jan Fairservis, formerly of the Planetarium, gave birth to a baby girl.

Helmut Wimmer, Planetarium, made happy by the arrival in this country of Mrs. Wimmer and daughter, Monica.

John Tuma, Planetarium, still talking about his camping and fishing trip, and Tommy Smith dreaming about another trip to Bermuda.

During the month of June, Joseph Chamberlain and Tom Nicholson of the Planetarium staff, Elwood Logan and Lee Boltin of Photography, made an eclipse expedition to Ceylon, India. Results: expedition successful, eclipse unsuccessful (too cloudy).

Two beautiful new classrooms and a comfortable conference-seminar room are nearing completion in the Planetarium basement. They will be used to house the Planetarium's expanding course program.

We have been wondering whether Harry Farrar and Whitey Payne are on the Planetarium or the Museum payroll.

Mary McKenna, Dorothy Fulton, Eugenie Jatkowska, and Catherine Mahoney are volunteer workers at the New York Foundling Hospital each week.

Danley did it! Lester Danley of the Film Division was married on November 10, in the Riverside Church, New York City.

Freidoun Jalayer was married in May to Catherine Schneider.

Thomas Newbery was married in April to Gwendolyn Lewis.

Alma O'Connor of Building Services intends to retire the end of this year.

Steve "Pappy" Knapp has become a proud papa again.

Dr. Ferdinand E. Okada has been awarded a Grant in Aid from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and plans to make a Community Study of a Nepalese Village.

Lois Hussey and Catherine Pessino flew from Idlewild International Air-

port on June 20th for an eight weeks' trip to Alaska.

Erika Rawitscher flew to Germany on July 8th where she visited her parents.

Marguerite Newgarden enjoyed her six-week trip this summer during which she visited California. She returned to New York by boat via the Panama Canal.

George Urban of the Loan Division became the father of a son on June 4th.

John Stoutenburgh with his wife Ellen and their two small daughters left July 1st on a two-month camping trip which took them as far as Colorado.

Henry Gardiner daddy of a baby boy named John.

Ludwig Ferraglio daddy of a baby girl, Debrah.

Charles Tornell and Jack McCormick started out October 4 on a field trip to Bangor, Maine.

Miss Briggs from the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Charles Guigue from French Provincial Museum, Victoria, Canada.

Dr. J. C. Lindeman—Botanical Museum and Herbarium, Utrecht, Holland.

Mr. de St. Denys J. Duchesnay—Provincial Wild Life Service, Quebec, Canada.

35 Medical Illustrators visiting New York for their 10th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Medical Illustrators.

The Annual Twenty-five Year Dinner on March 29th went off as usual. Everyone had a good time and renewed old acquaintances. Come on, you guys and gals, come in and let's get together!



**Drop a line to your editors.**

## LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

May 2, 1955

Dear Sir:

I had a very exciting experience yesterday. No, I wasn't robbed, assaulted or mugged, and so it won't be in the paper, but I want you to know about it just the same.

I was at your Museum, and I am still thrilled. You took me on a trip from tropic islands where, I am sure, it was raining all day when I wasn't looking, to the Antarctic. And there was that other journey into the long long past, when man was not even a gleam in God's eye. Oh, the footsteps of those Sauruses (or what you may call them) it only leaves you wondering whether man may not follow in those footsteps—into ultimate extinction.

You can tell from every scene that is so real to every leaf that is so right, that those who labored over the exhibits were not ordinary mortals, just doing a job, marking time from Saturday, to Saturday, to open the pay envelopes. I want you to thank them for me, every one of those laborers of love. Tell them there's a woman in Brooklyn who faced a Siberian tiger, (without flinching),

a skunk (the same way), a house-mouse without jumping on a chair and traveled the world, thanks to them.

June 5, 1955

Dear Mr. White:

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your letter of June 2nd and at the same time tell you how deeply I appreciate the Museum of Natural History and all its activities and contributions in so many phases of life. I think it is the most wonderful museum of its kind—in the world—and I have been thrilled with its constant change and growth. To me, it is the most wonderful museum in the world—of any kind!—and I feel so very fortunate to be near it, to visit and enjoy it often. This is a very small contribution, but someday when my son is through college, where he starts this fall, I hope to do more for I believe in the work and worth of the Museum, more than I can express! Thank you—and all who work therein—and who contribute to it in any way and give such joy and interest and wisdom to all who "pass within those portals."

(Name withheld by request)

## WELL-LOVED WOODCHUCK DIES

"Chuckles," the friendly woodchuck known to thousands of young visitors to The American Museum of Natural History, died suddenly Tuesday, May 24th at the age of nine years.

At The Natural Science Center Chuckles was sometimes permitted to wander about the room while young visitors watched his activities. He was always good-natured with children, for many of whom he was the only wild animal they knew personally. The young regulars at the Natural Science Center, and all his friends at the Museum, will miss him very much.

## THE GRAPEVINE

The Grapevine spreads its tendrils  
Through corridors and halls,  
It has its secret microphones  
Concealed within the walls;  
It's not the printed GRAPEVINE  
'Bout which this poem inquires,  
But to that other Grapevine  
That works sans print or wires.  
"I heard from twenty people—"  
Or—"Rumour hath it that—"  
"Careers and salary schedules—"  
"But keep it in your hat—"  
"I hear a raise is in the wind—"  
Or—"What's the latest word?"  
The message of this Grapevine is  
"I heard, I heard, I heard!"

PERTINAX



On Thursday, May 26, the members of the Bird Department had a buffet supper at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Dean Amadon in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Cushman Murphy. Twenty-eight guests were present. Dr. Murphy, who retired as Lamont Curator of Birds on April 28, was given a barbecue grill, long-handled frying pan, and all the necessary implements to use with it, even a pair of asbestos furnace gloves. The presentation speech, a delightfully humorous one, was made by Dr. Amadon.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Children of Employees Christmas Party on Dec. 29th, under the direction of Phil. Miller. Walt Disney films, live indian war dances, music, refreshments, gifts, Santa and fun. At the last count there should be some mob.

## CAMERA CLUB BLOOMS AGAIN

The Museum Employees' Camera Club held a 5:00 o'clock supper in Room 319 R. M. on October 17th, with a special showing of Kodachrome slides by Mr. Joseph M. Sedacca, of Exhibition. Mr. Sedacca's slides were not the usual scenic or nature photographs taken by Museum members. They were unusual angle shots, studies of still life, art compositions, unusual color effects gotten by using daylight color film under artificial lighting conditions, and shots of children taken at parades, along the lower East Side, and the like.

The following Saturday the Camera Club took a ride up to Bear Mountain's Trailside Museum, where they were met by Jack Orth, Director. Jack led the color cavalcade to a camping site on Long Mountain. Here, the males showed off their cooking ability by lighting gasoline stoves and making coffee. Lunch, which was provided by the ladies, was eaten amid the glorious October foliage. After lunch, the group took pictures of the autumn colors. On the way home, the cavalcade stopped to take pictures of two tame deer—a buck and a doe—so friendly that they poked their noses into the cameras, knocking off lens shades.

For the coming year, the Camera Club plans to have more 5:00 o'clock suppers with slides taken by members, lectures by representatives of leading film manufacturers and, when the snow melts, field trips. New members have been added to the Club recently, the newest being Joe Sedacca. Museum employees are invited to join the Camera Club. Get in touch with Marguerite Newgarden.

## ARTHUR L. OBERMAN PLAQUE UNVEILED

On November 10th 1955, a plaque was unveiled in memory of one of our boys, killed in Korea.

Arthur L. Oberman employed here but two years, lost his life on Pork Chop Hill while serving in the Marines.

This day, the Marines' birthday, a color guard was at attention as Dr. Anthony spoke eloquently of our good friend. Sam Kuster concluded the ceremonies with a splendid account of Arthur's activities. We all miss this good citizen, fine soldier, patriot and loyal friend.



EBA GRAPEVINE  
Christmas, 1956

*Merry Christmas*





A FEW  
DAYS AGO  
A SMILING REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE GRAPEVINE AP-  
PROACHED ME AND SAID  
"MABEL, WHEN CAN WE EX-  
PECT YOUR CHRISTMAS MESSAGE  
TO YOUR FRIENDS IN THE E. B. A.?"  
THEN AND THERE I WAS SUFFUSED WITH  
A WARM AND SATISFIED FEELING. I WAS  
IN THAT ENVIABLE POSITION WHERE I COULD  
EXPRESS FULLY, MY HEARTFELT THANKS TO ALL  
THOSE WHO AIDED ME SO SPLENDIDLY THE PAST  
YEAR IN THE AFFAIRS OF THIS FRIENDLY ASSOCIATION.  
I REALIZED ALSO THAT IT AFFORDED ME A REAL PERSONAL  
PLEASURE, FOR AS PRESIDENT, I COULD GREET EACH AND  
EVERY ONE AND WISH THEM WELL. SO, USING THIS  
GOOD OFFICE—I EXTEND MOST HUMBLY MY WISH FOR  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.



MABEL C. COLAHAN  
President, E. B. A.

## Fall Get-together a Huge Success

On November 14, 1956 the E.B.A. held its Fall Get-together in the basement of the Roosevelt Memorial building. Two hundred and thirty-five of our employees attended and had, from all indications, a good time. A good crowd and one of the largest in recent years. 385 Roast beef dinners were served, including seconds, along with six kegs of beer. The Globe Canteen table setting was excellent. Five Museum employees went home with the price of their Thanksgiving Day turkeys as a result of the raffle, also two door prizes were given away.

I would like to express my thanks to the members of the Entertainment Committee who worked so diligently throughout the past year.

Merry Christmas to all.

Philip C. Miller, Chairman  
Entertainment Committee

### "Thanks To Everyone"

I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation and sincere thanks to all members of the Ticket Committee for the excellent job they did in making the E.B.A. Social the huge success that it really was. Particularly to all the young ladies who have always shown a personal interest in all social activities in the past, and we hope we can always count on their support in the future.

Farrell Carney, Chairman  
Ticket Committee





# News 'n Views

## HAYDEN PLANETARIUM

Two years of change in the skies demonstrated in forty minutes! The accomplishments in the subject of astronomy for 1956 and the predictions of things to come in 1957, told under the cloudless skies of the Planetarium.

The Biblical Christmas Star has never been positively identified, but through the years astronomers have tried to explain it in many ways. These theories and their plausibility are investigated in the light of what we now know about the Star, and many of the traditions of our modern American Christmas are traced to the motions of the sun and stars, as observed from earliest times.

Jack Garvey and Joseph M. Chamberlain both back to work after sojourns in local hospitals.

Strange noises from the apartment in Roosevelt Basement may be from Dr. Franklin's new radio astronomy laboratory.

In spite of the new classrooms in the Planetarium, there's just not enough space for all those interested in courses in astronomy, navigation, and meteorology. Incidentally, Paul Goodhouse, Emil Kremer, and John Eslandsen have

been sitting in on the navigation lectures. Anyone for boating? (Joe Chamberlain reports that employees are welcome, no cost, whenever there is space available).

John Tuma, Planetarium Chief Technician, knows more about fish habits than the fish themselves. There is a rumor that he has never returned from a fishing trip without a good catch.

### *Meet the Planetarium's Two New Staff Members*

The appointments of Franklyn M. Branley as Associate Astronomer and Kenneth L. Franklin as Assistant Astronomer at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium have been announced by Joseph M. Chamberlain, Planetarium Chairman.

Franklyn M. Branley, formerly Associate Professor of Education at New Jersey State College for Teachers in Jersey City, is supervising the expanding course program. A resident of Bergen County, Mr. Branley has two teen-age daughters. His books include *Mars*, *Experiments in the Principles of Space Travel*, *Experiments in Chemistry*, *Experiments in Physics*, etc. Most recently he has written *Mickey's*

*Magnet*, a delightful science booklet for children just learning to read.

Dr. Kenneth Franklin, formerly of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, though only 32 years old, is a recognized authority on radio astronomy. He was codiscoverer of radio energy coming from Jupiter. He will continue his work in radio astronomy research, and will also teach Planetarium courses and give some of the popular lectures.

### *Courses in Astronomy and Navigation*

The American Museum-Hayden Planetarium offers a wide variety of courses throughout the year in astronomy, navigation and meteorology. For further information and fees, write to the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium, Central Park West at 81st Street, New York 24; or call TRafalgar 3-1300, ext. 363.

### *Leaving with Regret*

After many years on the Planetarium Staff, Frank Forrester, formerly Deputy Manager and Supervisor of Guest Relations, has resigned, effective Sept. 1, 1956. Jim Pickering, who joined the staff one year ago, will be assuming his guest relations duties.

## *A Christmas Message.*

AFTER FIVE STIMULATING AND HAPPY YEARS AS YOUR PRESIDENT, I AGAIN SAY "MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR" TO ALL OF YOU—YOU WHO MAKE OUR MUSEUM SO THRILLING AND IMPORTANT TO MANY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE. DUE TO YOUR EFFORTS, OUR CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE WIDENS CONTINUOUSLY, AND THE NUMBER OF OUR FRIENDS INCREASES CONSTANTLY.

IN THIS BEWILDERING PERIOD IN WORLD HISTORY, OUR ROLE AS A GREAT MUSEUM AND A GREAT SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY MUST REMAIN STEADY AND HELPFUL TO ALL.

MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING YOU THE BEST OF LUCK AND HAPPINESS.

*Alexander M. White*

## E B A GRAPEVINE

*The Publication of the*  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.

A. M. N. H.

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*The E. B. A. welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address manuscripts to the editor.*

### Work Break

An appeal to the municipal employees of Parsippany—Troy Hills, New Jersey was posted in township headquarters, by an anonymous boss. This is the notice:

We are asking that somewhere between starting and quitting time and without infringing too much on time usually devoted to lunch periods, coffee breaks, rest periods, story telling, vacation planning, ticket selling and the rehashing of yesterdays T. V. programs, or ball games, that each employee endeavor to find some time that can be set aside and known as the "work break".

### AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

Mrs. Margaret Shaw of the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles was ordered by her doctor to take four months' rest, but she is recuperating rapidly and expects to return to the Museum in November. Miss Jean Fuller has taken over Mrs. Shaw's duties during her absence.

Dr. Richard Zweifel has returned from a five month trip through Mexico, where he combined frog collecting with honeymooning, after having talked the former Miss Frances Wimsatt of the Illustrators Corps into accompanying him on the trip. The Zweifels went down the east coast of Mexico and returned via the Pacific Coast, collecting frogs at various stations between Veracruz and Sinaloa.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Helga Udvardy, of the Department of Anthropology, was seriously injured, as was her husband, when their car was involved in an accident near Gainesville, Florida in August. Mrs. Udvardy writes us that she is now much better and hopes to be able to walk again in a month or so.

It was with great sorrow that the Museum heard on Tuesday morning, after the Veterans' Day holiday, that Dr. Harry S. Tschopik died in his sleep at his home in Pleasantville, N. Y. Harry was known to everybody, always friendly, always smiling, with a pleasant word for each person with whom he came in contact.

He came to the Museum in 1947 as Assistant Curator of Ethnology in the Anthropology Department. Before that he had spent six years living with the Aymara Indians of Peru and Mrs. Tschopik, herself an archaeologist, had worked with him. He was the author of "The Aymara of Chucuito, Peru, Part I, Magic", many scientific papers and "Indians of the Americas," a Man & Nature publication.

Funeral services were held in the chapel at Ferncliff on Wednesday, November 14th and were attended by many of his Museum friends and those not connected with the Museum. He is survived by Mrs. Tschopik and three children.

### Louisiana and Dr. Jim Ford

Crossing a river bridge wide enough for two cars or one railroad train, Jim was confronted head on by a monster steam locomotive. Although the signal light gave him the right-of-way, guess who backed off the bridge?

### BIRD DEPARTMENT

Dr. Amadon, Dr. Charles Vaurie, and Mr. William Partridge attended the meetings of the American Ornithologists' Union in Denver during the first week of September, after which Dr. Amadon and Mr. Partridge visited various museums and National Parks in the West.

After working at the Paris and London Museum of Natural History in April, Mr. Gilliard observed birds in the New Delhi region of India, Nepal and Kashmir while serving as consultant with the Cinerama group. He then spent seven weeks in New Guinea studying and photographing birds between sea level and 9000 feet.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Vaurie spent the month of July collecting insects and observing birds in a very remote region at the western tip of Cuba.

Dr. William H. Phelps of Caracas returned to the Museum in September after a trip to Europe.

Master James Robert Fowler arrived on August 16, tipping the scales at seven pounds.

Dr. Dean Amadon is in Brazil with Mr. and Mrs. Crawford H. Greenewalt. The purpose of this expedition is to observe and photograph hummingbirds of various species. Dr. Amadon plans to return to New York by way of Caracas, Venezuela, where he will visit Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Phelps, Jr.

Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy sailed from San Diego on the *Stranger* of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography on November 7. He is cruising throughout parts of the Pacific and will return to New York just before Christmas.

### A LETTER OF APPRECIATION

254 Knox Ave.  
Cliffside Park, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Emery:

May I take this means to thank you and the blood bank and all my friends at the Museum for the interest shown me during my illness. I am alright now except for a little weakness which seems to be wearing away as the days go by. I hope to pay you a visit in the near future. Once more many thanks from,

Sincerely yours

Albion A. Haddon

*Editors Note:—Mr. Haddon, a pensioner, formerly connected with the Museum Printshop.*



Dr. T. C. Schneirla of the Dept. of Animal Behavior, accompanied by Mrs. Schneirla spent the summer at the Museum's Southwestern Research Station in Arizona. Dr. Schneirla undertook an analysis of the movements and colony organization of the poorly known army-ants of the region. These ants are nocturnal and subterranean. Armed with a pickaxe and shovel, on hands and knees, with the skill and diligence of an ace sleuth, he trailed the wandering ants through the night.

"Charmonte" Yvonne Bonnafous formerly of the Dept. of Animal Behavior is now employed as a writer for the Grolier Society, editors of the Book of Knowledge. We still see Yvonne occasionally since she is working in the Department towards the completion of her Master's thesis at New York University.

In discussing the general question of "animal intelligence" with a representative of the U P, Dr. Schneirla happened to say that in his estimation, the domestic pig is generally underrated in its intelligence. Evidence indicates that the pig is a cut above horses and even above many dogs in its intelligence ranking. Two editorials on this subject have come from Texas, one hotly defending the horse against the pig; but several letters from Texan farmers are all on the side of the pig.

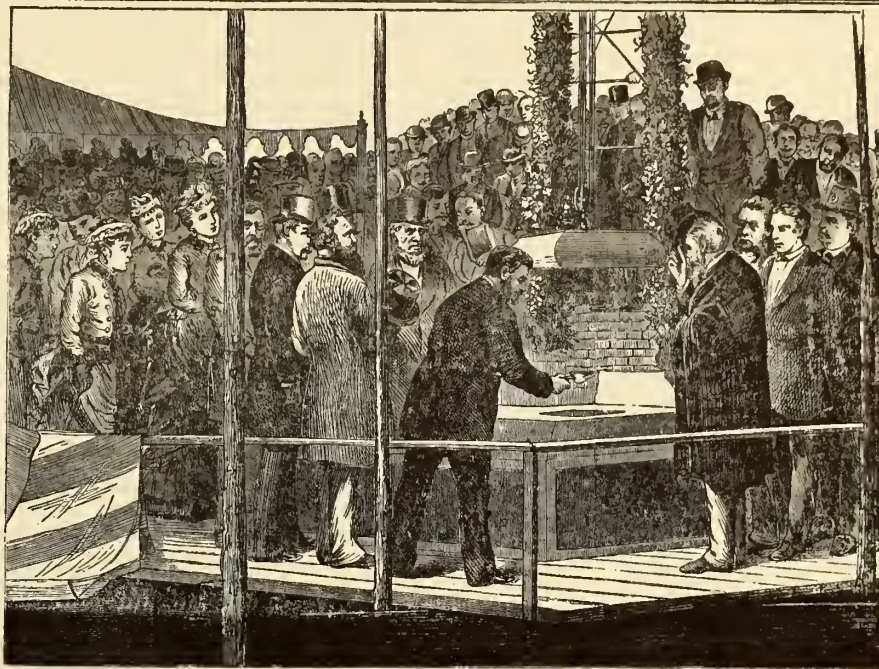
Dr. Lester R. Aronson spent two months at the Cape Haze Marine Laboratory, Placida, Florida studying jumping behavior in goby fishes. Research Associate, Dr. Eugenie Clark is director of the laboratory. Incidentally, Dr. Clark now has three children, Hera, Iris and Themistocles.

Miss Madeline Levy, Scientific Assistant has announced her engagement to Kenneth Cooper who is working for his Master's Degree in the Department. The wedding is planned for January 20, 1957. Best wishes to you!

Jerry Turkewitz, assistant to Dr. Schneirla is the proud father of a baby girl, Barbara, born June 23, 1956, weighing 5 pounds.

Richard Pankanin, technician and general factotum of the Department is well along in the role of grandpapa. He now has two robust grandsons born in February and June of this year.

Dr. Helmut Adler, Research Fellow, and Mrs. Leonore Adler add the following non. seq.: Their pedigreed miniature dachshund Reni von der



NEW YORK CITY.—GENERAL GRANT LAYING THE CORNER-STONE OF THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, AT NASSAU ST. AND 7TH AVE., NEAR JEFFERSON PARK, YESTERDAY. (SEE PAGE 225.)

President Ulysses Grant, accompanied by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, laying the cornerstone of the Museum in Manhattan Square in 1874. President Rutherford B. Hayes officiated at the opening of the building on December 22, 1877.

Jeetzel—from the famous von der Jeetzel kennels in Dannenberg an der Elbe—gave birth by Caesarian section to two minuscule puppies. Their father Pretzel von Adler of Heidelberg is American born and this affords the puppies U. S. citizenship, i.e. registration in the A.K.C. The girl puppy has been named Anmut von Hohenhorst and the boy, Baron Waudl von Hohenhorst. Both were bottle-fed for 3 months—six drops of a special egg nog formula every hour—and are now growing up rapidly.—Gott sei dank!

## FISHES

Dr. Walters and Miss LaMonte attended the Gulf & Fisheries Institute Meeting, at Nassau, Bahama Islands, Nov. 24-30.

Harriet Kennedy now working with Miss LaMonte, as secretary.

During "Sharing Period" at school, Johnny was telling about refurbishing their house. "We've been having arguments—most every day—about our new furniture, but I guess it's all settled now," he said. "Mommy got her way about the living room, but Daddy won on the bedroom deal."

"Yes?" said the teacher, encouragingly.

"Yes," replied Johnny. "Mommy wanted twin beds, but Daddy said that he commuted every day and he'd be darned if he was going to commute at night."

## Whom Do Bats Chase?

An explanation of why migratory bats crash into the Empire State Building has been offered by Richard G. Van Gelder, Assistant Curator of Mammals at The American Museum of Natural History.

In an article in the summer (1956) issue of Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science, Mr. Van Gelder dissents from the generally accepted theory that the building's television antennae interfere with the so-called "radar" navigation of bats.

As bats are equipped with an ultrasonic echo-location mechanism that enables them to avoid obstructions regardless of visibility conditions, it is more likely, he says, the occasional bats which have died hitting the building in blind-flying weather were confused by the presence of the large numbers of birds.

To a bat a building looming ahead may well be detected as another moving bird.

## Fish and More Fish

At 12 noon on August 24, ten members of the Sports Club sat down to a delicious dinner. The Bluefish were caught and supplied by Ray Fuller. The overstuffed members were vociferous in their thanks to Ray and those who did the exceptional job in the preparations.



## GUILTY OR INNOCENT ?

With some hesitation and embarrassment we find ourselves in the position of having to impugn the veracity, not only of a member of the Scientific Staff, but of his wife as well. They have been recently telling a moving story about a lady, a friend of theirs, who lives in Titusville, Pennsylvania. Some weeks ago this lady was invited to a bridge party where the hostess served shrimp cocktails. Unfortunately the cat had eaten one serving while the food was on the kitchen table, so the hostess, being fresh out of shrimp, had to eat crabmeat. As dishes were being removed to the kitchen, the cat was discovered on the back porch, stone dead, with all four feet in the air. (Suspicion of the whole affair should arise at this point for dead cats normally do not have their feet in the air.)

Naturally the three ladies who ate the shrimp were rushed to the hospital and had their stomachs pumped out, thus breaking up the bridge game and badly straining friendships. Next morning the grocer's delivery boy apologized at length for having run his truck over the cat—explaining that he had hesitated to interrupt the party with the tragic news and, therefore, left the cat on the porch.

Now the hard facts are that this story is an old saw that was resurrected on October 1 of this year by Robert Ruark in his syndicated column, which appears in "The World Telegram and Sun" among other papers. Ruark heard this story last February in Sydney, Australia. It also was in the Readers Digest six years ago. The hostess was the wife of a well-known local doctor who took great delight in personally doing the pumping, for he was fed up with the woman's club activities of his wife.

The cruel facts in this case leave us an unfortunate choice of one of the two horns of the dilemma: either the couple are deliberately disseminating a bit of human history which they know to be false, or, much worse, they have become innocent victims of the diffusion of a good-story-with-a-local-setting.

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John Schmitt, retired, and now in his 81st year, sends this little poem to the gang.

To my Museum friends at Christmas time

My thoughts are with you all,

If I were young and gay again

I'd join you one and all,

But this wish is the best I can do

Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year too.

## Lois Hussey and Catherine Pessino Please Note

The frequent moving of the herons' rookeries on eastern L. I. is not fully understood. By actual record, a colony of night herons has changed its nesting location six times since it originated in Orient in 1916. The start of the colony was on Peter's Neck between Orient harbor and Gid's island, remaining there several years. Then the birds moved across Long Beach Bay to Long Beach (Orient Beach State Park) and used 4 sites there before abandoning the Orient region completely in 1952.

One of the oldest rookeries on the north fork was at Cutchogue in Oak woods on the north shore of Peconic Bay. The colony shifted to Fort Neck, when a house called *The Quawks Nest* was built on this site in 1896. A few years later the woods were cut at Fort Neck, and the herons moved to Gildersleeve's Neck near Mattituck. Here they remained for score of years or until a building development began in that area. The colony split up finally. Thereafter small scattered groups were found from Southold to Mattituck. All the shifting of this particular black-crowned colony, originally from Cutchogue, was caused by human agency.

On Gardiners Island, where there has been no interference, at least two colonies have endured in the same locations for a period of forty to fifty or more years.

*Long Island Naturalist*, Pub. by Baldwin Bird Club, Spring, 1956.

### SOUTHWESTERN RESEARCH STATION

The Museum took possession of the Painted Canyon Ranch at Portal, Arizona on May 12, 1955. The acceptance and success of this unique scientific research development was immediate, according to Dr. Mont A. Cazier.

During the period of January 1, to June 30, 1956, ten different fields were followed — Herpetology, Ornithology, Entomology, Animal Behavior, Botany, Malacology, Ichthyology, Ecology, Arachnology, and Mammalogy.

Distinguished visitors during this same period were, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander White, Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Heineman, Dr. John B. Loefer, and Mr. and Mrs. Shor. Mrs. Shor is the daughter of the late Prof. S. H. Williston.

## EBA ACTIVITIES

Our get-togethers are a proven success and, we hope, will remain our entertainment stand-by.

How about a barn dance, a minstrel show, a dinner dance for employees and their friends, a boat excursion.

Phil Miller will be most happy to receive your recommendations.

### Classified Ads:

A free service of the E.B.A.—To buy, sell, or exchange ads are published free in the Grapevine. Larry Pintner is most anxious to build up this worthwhile service.

### Soft Ball:

In the past two years our soft ball activity has fallen off, caused mainly by changes in personnel. This sport has given much enjoyment to both participants and spectators. The E.B.A. is most anxious to further this activity, and needs your assistance. Please contact Charlie Kerr.

### Golf:

With the new year the E.B.A. begins a new round of free golf instructions. If interested as student or instructor, contact Paul Goodhouse for application forms.

### Bowling:

Probably the most popular of participating sports is bowling. The E.B.A. will aid in the formation of a men's team and a women's team, and the entry of these teams in tournament play. Mabel Colahan welcomes your suggestions and assistance.

### Dancing:

The E.B.A. has learned of a very nice dance studio in midtown, and what's more, the rates are unbelievable. This is a reputable studio where a program has been arranged for just select business groups. Classes are arranged so that individuals may join and interchange several evenings to suit their particular schedule. A trial offer has been made to Museum employees of \$1.00 per hour for a two-week period, (two hours each). A very low rate has been offered for the full course. As you know, social dancing is for young and old, and the new dances are fun—Merengue, Cha Cha Cha, Samba, Rhumba, Waltz, Foxtrot, Mambo, Charleston.

Employees may, of course, include their husbands and/or wives. (If interested, Mabel C. Colahan will forward schedules and other information).

A schedule is posted in the E.B.A. room, B-49 Roosevelt basement.



# Excerpts from Recent Press Releases

## *Survey of Great Bahama Bank*

The first members of a team of nine scientists and assistants left New York in May to continue work on an extensive geological and ecological survey in the West Indies which may throw new light on the relationships between present day communities of living organisms and those that existed thousands of years ago.

Members of the expedition, in addition to Dr. Newell, were: Mrs. Valerie Zirkle Newell, recorder and assistant to Dr. Newell; Mr. G. Robert Adlington, Museum specialist, who was in charge of equipment and scientific photography; Dr. William K. Emerson and Dr. Donald Squires, of the Museum Staff, made special investigations respectively of the mollusks and corals of the area, both living and fossil; Dr. Karl K. Turekian of Yale University and Mr. David L. Thurber, Columbia University graduate student, who studied geochemical conditions in the region; and Mr. Edward G. Purdy and Mr. Louis S. Kornicker, graduate students at Columbia University, who made special studies of sedimentation and organisms involved in sedimentary processes.

The Great Bahama Bank was selected as the site for the study, according to Dr. Newell, because it is one of the largest areas in the world in which limestone is now being actively formed in a variety of ways, including the accumulation of organic remains of limy shells. It is ideal for this study, he said, because rocks of the islands contain the fossil remains of many of the animals now living in the Bank waters.

## *French Authority on Animal Sounds*

The nature and significance of animal sounds was the subject of a lecture-demonstration and film presentation given by Dr. Rene-Guy Busnel, eminent French physiologist, at The American Museum of Natural History. This presentation, for Museum scientists and members, was arranged by Dr. T. C. Schneirla, Curator of the Department of Animal Behavior.

While in this country, Dr. and Madame Busnel, his wife and assistant, also plan to work on further research with Dr. Hubert Frings of the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Pennsylvania State University.

## *Assistant Curator*

The appointment of Richard G. Van Gelder as Assistant Curator of Mammals at The American Museum of Natural History has been announced by Dr. Harold E. Anthony, Chairman and Curator of the Department of Mammals.

One of the youngest members of the Museum's scientific staff, Mr. Van Gelder was born on December 17, 1928, in New York City. He was graduated from Horace Mann School in New York in 1946 and from Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1950. He received his Master of Science degree from the University of Illinois in 1952.

Mr. Van Gelder is a member of the American Society of Mammologists, the Herpetologists League and the Wildlife Society.

He is a resident of New York City.

## *Paleontological Expedition to Upper Amazon*

Members of a paleontological expedition to one of the major tributaries of the Amazon River left New York last May on a journey that took them more than 2,000 miles into the interior of Brazil.

Dr. George Gaylord Simpson, Chairman of the Department of Geology and Paleontology at The American Museum of Natural History and co-leader of the expedition, has announced that the first stop of the group from the American Museum was Belem do Para.

From Belem the group flew to the town of Cruzeiro do Sul on the Jurua River, one of the Amazon's major tributaries. There they joined a party of Brazilian scientists from the National Department of Mineral Production and the Goeldi Museum led by Dr. Llewellyn Ivor Price. The joint expedition then continued up the Jurua to the Peruvian border in search of fossil remains of early animal life.

In addition to his position at the Museum, Dr. Simpson is a professor in the Department of Zoology at Columbia University and is well-known for his books on evolution including "The Meaning of Evolution" and "Life of the Past."

## *New Book by Museum Author*

Before the dawn of modern time, primitive man had created the prototype of every tool known and used today. Modern man has merely refined their design and added new means of power through the use of steam, electricity and atomic energy, says Dr. William A. Burns in his new book, "Man and His Tools."

His other books under the McGraw-Hill-Museum contract include "A World Full of Homes" and "Horses And Their Ancestors".

Dr. William A. Burns is Assistant to the Director of The American Museum of Natural History and this latest book is published as part of the McGraw-Hill — American Museum series of Whittlesey House Books for Young People.

## *Appointed to Museum Post*

The appointment of Dr. Vladimir Walters as Assistant Curator of Fishes at The American Museum of Natural History has been announced by Dr. Charles M. Breder, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Fishes and Aquatic Biology.

Dr. Walters will work on a special project for the Office of Naval Research, investigating the metabolic efficiency of large, fast-swimming marine fishes. The study, which will last about three years, is expected to provide further insight into the movements of objects through media of various densities. This use of biological models to study hydrodynamic characteristics may affect the design of future sea and aircraft.

A research associate in the Museum's Department of Fishes since October, 1955, Dr. Walters completed two years of service with the U. S. Army Chemical Corps in May, 1956. He is a specialist in the zoogeography of arctic fishes and has done considerable research on the climatic adaptation of arctic and tropical plants and animals.

A native of New York City, Dr. Walters was born on December 18, 1927. He has contributed articles to numerous scientific publications and is a member of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Arctic Institute of North America, the Society of Systematic Zoology, and Sigma Xi.

### *Pickering Appointed to Planetarium Post*

The appointment of James S. Pickering as Assistant Astronomer at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium has been announced by Joseph M. Chamberlain, Planetarium Chairman.

Mr. Pickering graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. He received his B.A. from Columbia University in 1921 and taught English and French at the Browning School in New York for a brief period before starting his business career.

Among the scientific organizations to which Mr. Pickering belongs are the Amateur Astronomical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Association of Variable Star Observers.

Mr. Pickering, who has been a special lecturer at the Planetarium since 1951, will serve on the regular lecturing staff as a sky-show narrator and course instructor. In addition, he will supervise the Planetarium's program of special performances for school children, business and industry groups, and conventions.

### *Underwater Survey of Long Island Sound*

"Operation Triple S" (Submarine Sedimentation Survey) a three-year study of the sedimentation of Long Island Sound, was announced yesterday by Dr. Brooks Fleming Ellis, leader of the survey, who is Chairman of the Department of Micropaleontology at The American Museum of Natural History and Professor of Geology at New York University.

"'Operation Triple S' marks the first attempt at a thorough analysis of sediment deposition and distribution in Long Island Sound," Dr. Ellis said. "And the Sound is a perfect place to carry on such a survey. The animals and plants that eventually become part of the sediment on the bottom of the Sound are extremely diverse. In addition, literally millions of cubic feet of this sediment are deposited there during the course of a year.

Dr. Ellis went on to state that the black muds which compose part of the sediment are the raw materials from which petroleum may be formed many millions of years hence. Another of the problems the survey will be concerned with is how and why this

sediment is changed into oil. "Several theories as to the source of the energy that accomplishes the metamorphosis from mud to oil will be explored," Dr. Ellis continued. "Is it bacterial action, heat, pressure or could it be the small amounts of radioactivity that have been found to exist in the Sound?"

The project is being carried out under the joint auspices of the Museum and New York University, with the support of Abercrombie and Fitch. It will continue through this year and will resume during the summers of 1957 and 1958. In addition to Dr. Ellis, the survey's staff will include scientists from both institutions, graduate students, technicians and several professional skin divers who will act as advisers.

### *Courses in Study of Coastal Navigation*

A navigation course of special interest to present and prospective owners of small boats is being offered for the first time this fall in the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium's program of adult courses in astronomy, navigation, and meteorology.

"Navigation in Coastal Waters I", a series of ninety-minute lectures on Friday evenings beginning October 5, provides an introduction to navigation in confined waters with emphasis on charts, compasses, other aids to navigation, and methods of safe piloting. No previous study or experience in navigation is required and students may continue in the advanced course, "Navigation in Coastal Waters II", which begins January 18, 1957.

The course is conducted by Robert B. May, Assistant Professor in Nautical Science at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, New York, and will meet on consecutive Fridays at 7:15 through December 21, omitting November 23.

### *Three-dimensional Weather Exhibit*

Our ever-changing weather, the subject that everyone talks about and few really understand, is depicted with graphic interpretation in the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium's Willets Memorial Exhibit.

In a series of colorful three-dimensional dioramas, the exhibit describes visually the forces behind the creation of weather phenomena. Through supplementary color and lighting effects, various phases of weather such as warm and cold fronts, clouds, rain, and a tropical cyclone are shown. The

technique of radar weather detection is also illustrated in a three-dimensional model.

A new addition to the original exhibit is a panel of sight-reading dials which show at all times the air temperature, barometric pressure, and wind force and direction outside the Planetarium.

### *Life 120,000,000 Years Ago*

Tyrannosaur Hall, a striking exhibition of life on earth 120,000,000 years ago, was opened to the public at The American Museum of Natural History, after more than a year of being redesigned and refurnished.

According to Dr. Edwin H. Colbert, the Museum's Curator of Fossil Reptiles and Amphibians and scientific adviser for the hall, Tyrannosaur Hall is the world's most comprehensive display of Cretaceous dinosaurs. Formerly known as Cretaceous Hall, the exhibition has been renamed for the specimen which is the focal point of the display, *Tyrannosaurus Rex*.

"In a sense, Tyrannosaur Hall is a monument to the work of one man," Dr. Colbert said. "During the 46 years of his active association with the Museum, before his retirement in 1942, Dr. Barnum Brown collected hundreds of dinosaurs, many of which are on view here. In fact, 17 of the 24 complete dinosaur skeletons in the hall can be credited to him. He led numerous expeditions to many wild and isolated localities to gather this collection, now unsurpassed anywhere, and earned the title 'Father of the Dinosaurs' in the process."

### *Wildlife of Fire Island*

Fire Island, lively resort beach off the coast of New York's Long Island, is not only a mecca for lightly-clad sun seekers, it is also the home of a wide variety of nature's smaller creatures as well as a luxuriance of exceedingly lovely plant life. Visitors with an eye to investigating these delights while acquiring the much-desired tan, will find invaluable The American Museum of Natural History's popular twenty-page booklet, "August on Fire Island Beach."

Profusely illustrated with photographs of the flora and fauna of woodland and beach, the booklet was prepared for nature-minded laymen by Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, Lamont Curator Emeritus of Birds at the American Museum.



## **Two Invertebrate Zoologists**

The appointment of Dr. Dorothy E. Bliss and Dr. William K. Emerson to the Department of Fishes and Aquatic Biology at The American Museum of Natural History has been announced by Dr. Charles M. Breder, Department Chairman.

Dr. Bliss, formerly a Research Fellow in Biology at Harvard University, is a specialist in the study of crustaceans and has done extensive research on hormonal control of metabolism in the common tropical land crab. A graduate of Pembroke College in Brown University, she received her master's degree from Brown in 1942 and her doctorate from Radcliffe College in 1952.

Dr. Emerson, a specialist in marine mollusks, comes to the American Museum from the University of California Museum of Paleontology where he served for four years as Museum Paleontologist. Previously he had been a Research Fellow at the Allan Hancock Foundation for Scientific Research at the University of Southern California.

## **Braille Edition of Junior**

Junior Natural History, a monthly magazine for children published by the American Museum of Natural History for the past twenty years, is to be transcribed in braille each month beginning with September's issue, reports Marion Carr, Junior's Editor.

The project, including the preparation, distribution and all expenses involved, has been undertaken by the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, Kentucky, the largest publishing house of its kind in the world. According to this organization, the braille edition is being produced in response to repeated requests for the magazine from a number of special schools and classes for the blind. It will contain the complete text of each month's edition prepared for the enjoyment of blind children throughout the country by a specially trained ediphone operator who is also blind. "Facts About Mars", gives simplified scientific information about the planets close approach to earth in September. Even young people unable to see the red planet will be able to learn about it, and through subsequent issues, to learn all about the natural world around them as described in the pages of Junior Natural History Magazine.

## **Unique Series of Tibetan Paintings**

Thirty-one Tibetan banner paintings depicting the events in the former incarnations of the founder of Buddhism—the only complete series of its kind in the United States—will go on view to the public for the first time today in the Seventy-seventh Street Foyer of The American Museum of Natural History. The exhibition will be held in conjunction with UNESCO'S International Museums Week, it was announced by Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Anthropology.

## **American Museum's Controller Marks Fortieth Year**

Walter F. Meister, Controller and Assistant Treasurer of The American Museum of Natural History, celebrates his fortieth anniversary at the Museum it was announced by Dr. Albert E. Parr, the Museum's Director.

Mr. Meister, a native of New York City, began work at the Museum at the age of 15 as office boy for Henry Fairfield Osborn, then President of the Museum. A short time later he joined the Bookkeeping Department and in 1942 was named Assistant Treasurer. In 1953 he was named Controller of the Museum.

Mr. Meister supervises the business activities and disbursements of the American Museum and the American Museum - Hayden Planetarium — an operation involving the expenditure of more than \$4,000,000 a year. He is also directly responsible for the management of personnel relations for the 600 people employed by both institutions, and for the supervision of the departments of Accounting, Personnel, Payroll, Budgetary Accounting and Office Services.

## **First Major Exhibition of American Museum's George Catlin Paintings Opens at Kennedy Galleries**

An exhibition of two hundred paintings from The American Museum of Natural History's outstanding collection of works by George Catlin, painter of the American Indian, opened at the Kennedy Galleries, 785 Fifth Avenue, New York.

The exhibit, which is sponsored by the Women's Committee of the Museum for the benefit of the Museum's research and education programs, constitutes the first public showing of many of the Catlin canvases since they were acquired by the Museum forty-four years ago.

## **Life of Navaho Photographic Exhibit**

With surpassing skill and deep compassion, photographer Laura Gilpin pays tribute to a hardy group of Americans in the exhibit "The Enduring Navaho," in the Corner Gallery of The American Museum of Natural History.

Famous for their exquisite silver jewelry, their horsemanship, their colorful ceremonial sandpainting and their "faces of unusual character" the Navaho today number about 80,000.

The black and white photographs which make up the exhibit "The Enduring Navaho" have been selected from a group soon to be brought out in a book so titled. In the foreword to the book Miss Gilpin discusses the grave economic crisis facing the Navaho today. In the twenty-five years since her first contact with them, they have been forced into a position demanding drastic changes in their economy if they are to survive—and the will to survive is deep-seated in the Navaho.

## **First Archaeological Expedition to Marquesas Islands**

The results of the first archeological expedition ever made to the Marquesas Islands in the South Pacific were announced by Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, Chairman of the Department of Anthropology at The American Museum of Natural History and leader of the expedition.

The Marquesas are a group of eleven volcanic islands, six of which are inhabited. This archipelago is located approximately half way across the Pacific between South America and Australia. Covered with mountains and luxuriant valleys, the islands are noted for their beauty. They were used by Herman Melville as the setting for his novel "Typee" and the painter Paul Gauguin, who is buried on one of the islands, spent his last days there.

Other members of the two-month trip included Mr. Robert Suggs, a graduate student at Columbia University and Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Crane, who financed the expedition.

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A police car, cruising along a New York street late one night not long ago, received the following radio call: "Car 15. Go to Third Avenue and 89th Street. Nude woman running up and down the avenue. That is all."

There was a short pause. Then the voice came through again, with this afterthought: "All other cars stay on your beats. That is all."



### *Museum's Role as Great Teacher*

"To Make To Know How," a colorful and dramatic exhibition which takes its title from Webster's first definition of the word "teach," and illustrates the tremendous variety of imaginative techniques through which a great museum instructs its public, opened (Wednesday, December 5, 1956) on the 2nd Floor of the Roosevelt Memorial Building of The American Museum of Natural History.

With brilliant color and modern structure and design, the exhibit is in bold contrast to the high-vaulted, marbled columned setting of the Roosevelt Memorial Hall. An array of informative and often amusing old documents, photographs, illustrations and early exhibit pieces, side by side with their modern counterparts, presents a visual interpretation of the pioneering role that the American Museum has played through the eighty-seven years in which it has been developing the many specialized educational activities utilizing the Museum's unique facilities.

"To Make To Know How" will remain on view through Sunday, February 24, 1957 during regular Museum hours:

#### *"Let's Take a Trip"*

The American Museum-Hayden Planetarium's giant Zeiss projector was the magic carpet on which television watchers journeyed into space through CBS-Television's "Let's Take A Trip" from the Planetarium in New York.

This popular Sunday noon (EST) program carried its viewers into the Planetarium's vast dome to see how the sun, moon and stars are recreated in this man-made sky. James S. Pickering, Assistant Astronomer of the Planetarium, played host to the show's well-known threesome, Sonny Fox, Ginger MacManus and Pud Flanagan.

The once-yearly "behind the scenes" tour of The American Museum of Natural History to see how the world-famous exhibits are made, is again being offered this year, reports Miss Farida A. Wiley, well-known naturalist at the Museum who is directing the event.

Through different exhibits in various stages of preparation, visitors will be able to see the step-by-step process in the creation of habitat groups. Within the laboratories of the Museum, skeletons are prepared, skins tanned and mounted; and the leaves, trees and flowers that would fool even the birds and the bees, are painstakingly fashioned.

### *Mystery of the Christmas Star*

The mystery of the Christmas Star, which for almost 2,000 years has been a source of wonder and speculation to man, will be probed in the December presentation, "The Star of Bethlehem," at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium.

Referring to the beliefs of ancient peoples about the nature of the universe, the holiday sky show traces the development of various customs and traditions associated with the Christmas celebration.

The Wise Men guided by the light of "The Star of Bethlehem" travelled across the desert and finally arrived at the manger, guided by the light of the star which remains today a symbol of the miracle of Christmas.

The time of year at which we commemorate Christ's birth, for example, is also the time of the winter solstice which primitive man in northern Europe celebrated each year with joyful festivals, evergreen decorations, and log fires.

### *Traveling Editor*

Dr. Edward Weyer, Jr., editor of NATURAL HISTORY, traveled some 13,000 miles in less than ten weeks this past summer. He and his family drove from more than 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle to Spain and Andorra. Highlights of their tour included villages in Lapland, Florence, Italy, the caves at Lascaux, and the ancient walled city of Carcassonne in France, where they stayed in a chateau converted to tourist accommodations.

In Florence, their "hotel" was a famous Renaissance villa where Florence Nightingale was born. "Servants pussyfoot around answering all our wants," Dr. Weyer wrote in a letter to the office. "A key to the huge gate enables us to drive in and out, but the servants always lurk behind some door or shrubbery. The car is suddenly washed; our breakfast is brought to our rooms; just as our lights are turned out for the night, a few strains of operatic music float through our barred windows."

Dr. Weyer addressed the 32nd International Congress of Americanists in Copenhagen and attended the International Congress on the History of Science in Florence.

Earlier this year, he made an expedition to the jungles of Chiapas, Mexico, to study and record on film and tape special ceremonies of the Lacandone Indians.

### **FOR SALE—WANTED**

*Published Free for Employees*

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#### HOME FURNISHINGS FOR SALE

Antique Bed, solid mahogany four poster. Mrs. Irene Gould—Ext. 521.

Bedroom Set, solid mahogany, single bed, dresser, chest of drawers, table and chair. Box spring and mattress. Will sacrifice for \$175. Harry Scanlon—Ext. 521.

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#### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Great Barrington, Mass. 168 acre farm, 50 acres in woodland, 150 year old house. Artesian well, outbuildings, high elevation, beautiful view. In the Berkshires near Tanglewood for those interested in the Berkshire Festival. Will sell or divide. 2 1/2 hours from New York. Mrs. Irene Gould—Ext. 521.

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#### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR SALE

Accordion and Case large size, 120 bass. In good condition \$50. Dorothy Bronson—Ext. 240.

Trumpet in excellent condition with case, reasonable. George Decker—Ext. 280.

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#### AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

Chevrolet 1941 2-Dr. Black. 5 new tires, radio and heater. Recent motor job. A good clean car. Very reasonable. Walter Lennon—Ext. 204.

Ford 1946 4-Dr. Maroon. Everything new but the year. A good buy at \$89. Tom Hogan—Bldg. Services.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Binoculars 7x50 power. In very fine condition with carrying case. Will sell for \$20. Gilbert Powers—Bldg. Services.

Stenotype Machine with case. Will include tripod, paper, books and cover. Worth much more than the \$35. asked. L. Penna—Ext. 239.

Roller Skates with wooden wheels. Girl's shoe size 6. Metal carrying case. \$8. E. Andreone—Bldg. Services.

10-inch Electric Fan "Cool Spot" oscillator type. Good condition. \$7.50. Louis A. Benesh—Ext. 292.

Ronson Electric Shaver 1956 model. Practically new. \$12. E. Andreone—Bldg. Services.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS WANTED

Small electric refrigerator. Must be D.C. Louis Ferry—Ext. 369.

Portable 3-way radio and 3-speed phonograph. E. Andreone—Bldg. Services.

The Southwestern Research Station would appreciate receiving any used children's books or games, jigsaw puzzles and adult books both fiction and non-fiction. Please leave anything that you would care to contribute with Rose Ismay, Dept. of Insects & Spiders. Thank you.

*Excerpt from letter written by Helga Udvardy, while she was still in the hospital in Gainesville, Fla., to Helen Kenyon.*

"Please give all my thanks to the people who took so nice interest in me. I think to give one's blood is to give the most personal thing possible. I found in this terrible accident very wonderful people; I don't mean just the nurses and doctors, but people from the museum and from the town—they were really good."



## Did You Know?

That the chances of you and your wife being called for Jury service at the same time are 783,358-to-1 odds. In Cincinnati the names of a man and his wife were drawn consecutively from among 391,684 electors. A professor of mathematics figured out the above odds.

That if you want the man in your life to be gallant and pull back your chair for you at the dining table, you had best allow at least fifty-four inches between the back of the chair and wall so that he can walk behind. If he is carrying a sizeable paunch, better give him more space.

That the word Tip was coined from "To Insure Promptness". Tipping originated in the 16-17th century when boxes were hung up in coffee houses in England. The customer was expected to drop coins "To Insure Promptness". Interesting also to know is that the coffee houses in England in those days were called penny universities and were seats of wit and learning. How times have changed—if service is prompt now, it is too much so and your plates are removed before finishing—and you had better tip or else. And where, oh where, is the restaurant where one may exchange wit and learning without paying a heavy cover charge.

There is nothing really difficult under heaven, What is to be feared is lack of application (Anon.)

That the 77th Street Foyer was originally built, in 1889, as a lecture hall seating one thousand people?

That The American Museum of Natural History was located in the Arsenal in Central Park from 1871 to 1877 when it moved to Manhattan Square?

That the annual attendance in 1876 was 1,200,000 people?

That in 1909 a Children's room, a public reading room, and an exhibit room for the blind were located in what is now the Staff Cafeteria on the second floor?

That the first General Guide to the Museum was published in 1904?

In "Rules and Regulations and Duties of the Employees of the Museum", published in 1881, the hours of the Engineer and the Janitor "will be from 7:30 a. m., to 6 p. m. in Summer, and from 8 a. m., to 5:30 p. m., in Winter."

## Testimonial Dinners Tendered to Retiring Employees



On June 28th, 1956, the Museum Cafeteria was the setting for a gala Retirement Party accorded Anthony Tumillo who served as pressman in the Department of Printing for thirty-three years.

Eighty-one fellow employees and friends were in attendance to pay homage to a man who served faithfully and well, never tiring in his zeal to do ever better in the performance of producing exceptional printing—a craftsman in the true sense of the word.

To Tony, every printing job was a challenge to his skill. From the simplest business card to the printing of a fine halftone, Tony had the knowledge of bringing out the best in both.

It must have been very gratifying to Tony at seeing so many of his friends in attendance at his Retirement Party. Among his many friends, five pensioners, Dorothy Shuttlesworth, Steve Murphy, Frank Vitolo, Tony Cartossa, and Harry Ramshaw attended this festive occasion—a real tribute to a fellow employee.

Also present were Tony's wife Mildred, and his son Vincent and wife, who were quite thrilled and pleased at sharing in Tony's happiness.

At the end of the dinner, a Testimonial Plaque filled with signatures of his many friends, plus a parting gift was presented to Tony, for which he was both overwhelmed and overjoyed, and in turn responded with thanks to his many friends, both collectively and individually.

It is only right and fitting that we all bid you — Tony — Godspeed.

Ernest A. Neilson, retiring from employment in the Museum, was honored at a Camera Club dinner, attended by members and Ernie's friends, on October 25th, in the Main Cafeteria. Over 65 people were there to pay homage to one of the most active of Museum employees. The Sportsman's Club and the Credit Union also honored Ernie at two separate dinners before he left.

Dr. Bill Burns, Master-of-Ceremonies, spoke after the dinner, saying that Ernie Neilson would be missed by all because of his cheery spirit of co-operation, his unflinching loyalty to the Museum and to its personnel and because of his ability to help people who were in need of counsel and guidance. He then presented Mr. Neilson with a scroll signed by all present and a purse. A letter from the officers of the PVEO was also read at the dinner.

After the presentation and the speech, Mr. Neilson arose, saying that he had heard so many nice things about himself that he did not intend to add to them. He then thanked the group for thinking of him, invited them all down to Florida when they were traveling, and then accepted the tokens of appreciation.

After dinner and the ceremonies, dancing was enjoyed and the friends of Ernie sat around in groups and talked until it was time for Ernie to go. Then they all shook hands with him and with Mrs. Neilson and watched them leave the museum.

Good luck, Ernie and Mrs. Neilson!



## *Bits of News Gathered from Here and There*

Ask Bob Murray how he happened to get boiling water poured over his foot?

If you want your astrological horoscope given see Marie Praitano, the new telephone operator in Office Services.

Many in the Museum have received postals from Ernie Neilson who wishes to be remembered to all—and hopes you will write him—Here is the new address: E. A. Neilson P.O. Box 205, Interlachen, Florida.

Jean Jatowska and Catherine Mahoney have just returned from a fine vacation down in Nassau, said it was most restful.

Charles Kerr thought so much of the museum he came in to attend the E.B.A. supper and dance even though he was on vacation at the time. How many of you would do that?

As we go to press—Harry Lange has been hospitalized. Hope he continues to improve.

Eddie Woods in the Book Shop and his wife welcomed a baby girl last August.

Miss Bella Weitzner in the Anthropology department retired this fall.

By the time we go to Press, Gloria McClain will be Mrs. Joseph Guaracino. Joe works for Helen Jones. Our sincere best wishes.

Lost to the bachelor society one Arthur Schaeffer. It happened in September. Good luck, Artie.

At the last 25 year dinner, Jim Turner put in his first appearance. Was he confounded when he was placed directly in front of the microphone and between Mr. White and Dr. Parr. It just happened that way.

George F. Mason, a former member of the Preparation Department, is teaching natural history at the Putney School in Putney, Vermont.

Welcome to Rita Quinn, a pretty colleen, working in Mammal Dept., cataloguing material.

Don Carter (Mammals) had the misfortune to lose his beautiful and tame peacock. The lovely creature strayed from home and was run down by a car.

Charlie Kerr keeps mentioning Don Carter's souvenir opium pipe. Why, Charlie?

Received a very nice letter from Ella Ransom. Everything going fine in her Neck of the Woods. She said hello to all of her friends here, and also complimented us on the Grapevine.

Let us use this space to thank Ella, Josephine Kimball, Ruth Norton, Kay Beneker, and the others who have taken time out to comment on our publication. How else would we know what's wanted?

Louis Monaco had a prize winning picture in Fishing Waters of the World, the magazine of the Fishing Club of America. His "Clam Opener" won a beautiful Penn fishing reel.

When the stars are not out the sun is shining—why—Cause Joe Chamberlain is about.

Miss Maureen Collins has joined the Planetarium Family in the capacity of Secretary.

Ed McGuire (Mammals) came in for some well deserved mention in a very fine column by our John O'Reilly. Appearing under the title "Sanctuary for Man", in the Sports Illustrated July issue an outline of the history of the Greenbrook Sanctuary across the Hudson atop the Palisades, is given. Ed is head of the wildlife committee of this very interesting and charming sanctuary. The area covers some 150 acres and the association has a membership of 1,000. A number of prominent Clubs sponsor the Sanctuary. Some groups are responsible for upkeep and planting of sections of the six and a half miles of trails. The Garden Club of N. J. donated \$11,000 for the planting of trees and shrubs. Boy and Girl Scout Groups help out and members plant practically everything. Unfortunately the area is not open to the general public, but any individual or group may join a guided tour. If interested contact Ed McGuire about this.

The Optical Division A.A.A. wishes to acknowledge, with thanks, the assistance rendered by members of the Planetarium Staff and of the Custodian and Shipping Department in preparing for the public viewing of the Lunar Eclipse of November 17th—18th, also the budding interest of Messrs Tauber and Ferry in making and use of Astronomical Telescopes indicates that there may be other readers of the Grapevine with similar interests whom we would be glad to hear from.

E.B.A. BOASTING. . . . We have an E.B.A. room (B-49 Roosevelt Basement). Primarily it is for record keeping and holding Board meetings, but we are in the early stages of big plans for use of these two rooms. A library has been started and all members are welcome to the use of books—honor system please—on a loan basis. We hope to have a bulletin board shortly where notices of E.B.A. activities will be posted. We are on our way—E.B.A. has a wonderful past, but such a great future.

### **Visitors**

After pacing the Roosevelt Entrance for some time, visitor requested attendant to deliver the following message, to person unknown to guard: Dear Miss Lind:

I was waiting for you for one-half hour. Now visit the Museum yourself.

### **The Parakeet**

With parakeet popularity steadily mounting, Junior Natural History Magazine in its October issue offers a number of good suggestions on how to buy and care for the brightly-plumed pets to assure the greatest return in fun for bird and owner.

According to the article, "If You Want A Parakeet," sex, age and state of health are important factors in the selection of a good pet.

Junior Natural History is a magazine for children and is published each month by The American Museum of Natural History.

### **Gratitude**

Earlier this year Dr. James Ford was in Louisiana on a Museum trip. In the course of his work he found it necessary to do some building. Accordingly, he ordered considerable lumber from the local saw mill. When he asked for his bill, he was told that there was none. The mill owner, an amateur naturalist, and "Adventure" fan, felt that this was his contribution to the Museum's work. Appreciation is appreciated.

### **Did You Know ?**

You may join the class on telescope mirror making now being conducted in the Planetarium through the joint efforts of the American Museum, Hayden-Planetarium, and the optical division of the Amateur Astronomers Association, Inc.









# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XIV, No. 1

APRIL 1, 1957

## What the EBA Means to You

There are few organizations most of us could join that offer advantages comparable to those of the EBA. First, there's the fun of it—the supper parties, turkey raffles, dances, and now the dancing class and lunch-time table tennis in the Roosevelt basement.

Then there's the feeling of keeping in touch with people all over the Museum. Even though you may be working pretty much alone or in only one part of the building for long stretches, you can meet friends and relax in the new EBA club room. And, starting with this issue, *The Grapevine* is going to be published ten times a year—monthly from September to May, plus one summer number. So the news should be up-to-the-minute, and, with your help, full of interesting details about what people are doing.

Speaking of the club room (B-49 in the Roosevelt basement, convenient to the Credit Union) it is now open to members between 11:30 a. m., and 2:30 p. m. We are trying to make these quarters as attractive as possible, and suggestions are welcome. Any books and magazines we will be particularly grateful for, as we are trying to establish a members' library.

Let us not forget, however, the original reason for the founding of the Employees' Benefit Association. It was to make sure that, should you die suddenly, your family and dependents would not have to worry about immediate financial problems. The death benefit of \$200 is reason enough in itself for EBA membership.

Last year members were assessed seven times at 50 cents a time. In other words it cost each of us \$3.50 to belong. The same was true for the preceding year. A small enough amount, don't you think, to pay for the advantages of the EBA?

GORDON REEKIE, *President*

## Amadon Becomes Chairman

We are sorry to hear that Arthur Amadon died on March 11th but it is nice to know that he lived long enough to see his son, Dean, appointed Chairman of the Department of Birds. Dr. Amadon came here twenty years ago as an assistant in the department and during that time has grown into one of this country's foremost ornithological scholars. He is also Lamont Curator of Birds. We are proud of Dr. Amadon's success and offer him our warmest congratulations.

## "Spring Forward"

We called Jim Pickering in the Planetarium to ask him about that all-important event—Daylight Saving. This year it takes place on APRIL 27th. Since we are always confused about which way to turn the hands of the clock, Jim gave us this, "Spring forward, Fall back."

## The Puritans

Three months of skin diving, underwater photography, shooting and trapping sounds like a vacation. But for Bill Emerson (Invert.), Dick Zweifel (Amph. & Rep.), Dick Van Gelder (Mamm.), and Don Squires (Paleon.) it's work. They are off—three of them—on the Puritan, a 103-foot schooner owned by Harry J. Bauer of Los Angeles, to explore the islands and coastal waters of northern Mexico.

Mr. Van Gelder plans to study the behavior of whales; Dr. Squires wants to confirm reports of a living coral reef at the mouth of the Gulf of California; Dr. Zweifel is looking for a native snake genus, the only known example of which has been lost; and Dr. Emerson—Well, he's been taking swimming lessons, so you can guess where he'll be, beside leading the expedition. Dr. Zweifel will be back about the middle of April and Dr. Squires, who is still here, will join the Puritan at that time.

## Those New Cafeteria Murals

By now Robert Osborn's murals in the Museum cafeteria have been declared officially open, and all that remains is for the public to come and admire while they eat. However, a few details about how they were conceived may be of interest to our readers.

Two years ago, Dr. Parr and Robert Osborn met at the International Design Conference in Aspen, Colorado, at which they were both speakers. Mr. Osborn spoke of the necessity for humor in education, a belief held strongly by our director in relation to the Museum's educational function. They talked, exchanged ideas, and the upshot was that Mr. Osborn was asked to consider possibilities for some humorous illustration in the Museum.

It so happened that we had felt for some time the need to brighten up the public cafeteria. Here was a splendid place to start our campaign of light-heartedness.

And now that the job is completed, we're looking around for new areas for witty adventuring. Anthropology and birds have occurred to us, and there are miles of blank-walled corridors that would be a pleasure to walk through if the great humorous artists of the land were let loose in them. Dr. Parr, please go back to Aspen this year, and make some more friends!

## EBA

### SPRING DINNER DANCE

May 9, 1957

in the Hall of Ocean Life

Tickets will be \$1.25 a plate and will include a chance on the door prize. Beer will be served as usual for a before-dinner tongue loosener. Tickets are not yet available but save the date: May 9.



The Science Center is looking forward to the birth of a family of skunks sometime in April.

## THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

### Gilliard Makes Life!

If you haven't already seen it, try to get hold of a March 25th issue of LIFE magazine and read all about Tom Gilliard's Bower Birds. Or better still, stop on the first floor of the Roosevelt building and see them in the flesh, or rather, in the skin.

Mr. Gilliard has spent many months in New Guinea watching these birds during their courtship and taking copious notes and pictures. What you will see in the exhibit is a very small part of what he brought back.

The bower bird, a relative of the bird-of-paradise, is so-called because of the "bower" which it builds as a staging ground for its courtship. There are four kinds of bowers: the mat, the maypole, the 2-wall avenue and the 4-wall avenue. All four types of bowers are shown in this exhibition which lasts until April 29th.

### Bird Wins Award

On March first, Junius Bird of the Anthropology Department was awarded one of the three Viking Fund Medals for 1956. Junius was selected by the Society of American Archaeology for outstanding achievement in archaeology. The award was made by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and presented by Dr. William Ritchie of the New York State Museum who is president of the Society. In his presentation address Ritchie cited Bird for his outstanding researches on early cultures in Chile and Peru, and in the Arctic. The lighter aspects of Junius' career were not forgotten. It was recalled that on one occasion he had sailed a model-T automobile several hundred miles up a coastal road in Patagonia to save Museum field funds.

### Golf Instructions

Arthur Naylor, Chairman of the recently formed Golf Committee, is arranging for Golf lessons again this year so all those interested in rudiments or in becoming an instructor can get their applications at the Mail Desk 3rd Floor Sect. No. 2.

### Blood Bank

Can you afford to pay \$35 out of your pocket for a pint of blood? Can you afford \$70 for two pints or \$280 if you need eight pints? Of course not! But there are occasions when a Museum employee needs blood for himself or for his family and if there is no blood in our Bank, he will have to fork out the fee.

All of us carry life insurance, health insurance, car insurance, household insurance, camera insurance, fire insurance. Those who give their blood for their fellow employees are paying the premium for Blood Insurance. Strangely enough, only once in the history of the Museum's Blood Bank has an employee who gave blood actually needed it for himself.

Don't let somebody else pay your insurance premium on the Blood Bank. When you receive your notice, make up your mind that *this time* you'll give for yourself, your family, and your fellow employees.

The Blood Bank will be held this year at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The date is April 15th. Mrs. Emery will schedule appointments when she receives your filled-out pledge.

Bill Burns, Chairman  
Blood Bank (10th year!)

### The Trading Post

#### FOR SALE

1948 Kodak Reflex camera, Kodak Anastigmat f 3.5 lens, complete with leather carrying case. This model cost \$145 when new, and is in excellent condition except for the winding mechanism, which is stiff and needs attention. A bargain at \$25.00. Call Gordon Reekie, Ext. 334.

25 H.P. 1954 Johnson outboard motor with 6 gal. gas tank. In very good condition. \$175. A. Schaefer—Ext. 369.

### Busman's Holiday

Don't forget April 15th—the deadline for sending in your entry for the Employees' Art Exhibit. You don't have to be a professional artist, or even talented, to exhibit in the show. Let other people see what you have been doing in your spare time—we mean in the way of art. You will be surprised to find out how much you can learn about your own attempts when you see them hung in a gallery along with other work. If you plan to enter—and please do—call K. Beneker, Ext. 353, so that she can have some idea of the number of entries to expect.

### Are You A Shutter Bug?

The Museum Employees Camera Club is one of the oldest clubs in the Museum. It is also one of the most active and has every classification of employee in its membership from the Director to the Scientific Departments, Bookkeeping, Education, Custodial Department, Exhibition and Construction.

There are many benefits in being a member and you are cordially invited to join. Call Bill Burns, Ext. 212, for details.

The next meeting is April 2 when Joe Abruzzo will show both slides and motion pictures taken on his trip to Mexico last summer.

### CAR POOL ANYBODY?



#### FROM:

Hicksville  
East Meadow  
Garden City  
New Hyde Pk.

Westbury  
Mineola  
Roslyn  
Etc.

#### TO:

American Museum and Metropolitan Museum.

#### SCHEDULE:

9:00 A. M.—5:00 P. M. Monday through Friday.

#### REQUIREMENT:

Drive own car One (1) day per week.

Call TR. 9-5500  
Robert M. Chapman



### Discount Tickets

Discount Tickets are available for use in the seven Maisel Restaurants in mid-town Manhattan. They entitle the bearer to a Fifty Cent Discount on the \$1.89 Charcoal Broiled Steak and Strawberry Shortcake Dinner. These tickets are honored all day, every day, including Saturday and Sunday.

From time to time discount tickets are available for various events held in Madison Square Garden. We have special rate tickets for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Call Larry Pintner, Ext. 263.

### Sentimental Journey

Judie Schwartz, who has been a highly valued member of the Public Relations Department since 1955, resigned at the end of March in order to sail for Europe with her husband.

It was just five years ago this summer that the Schwartzes met for the first time—both were vacationing in Paris and happened to be standing in front of the same painting at the Louvre.

And now they are returning to the Louvre—as well as England, Spain and Italy—and the P. R. Department flag hangs at half mast!

### Softball

The softball team had a successful season in 1956 and will welcome anyone wanting to join this year. They expect to start playing April 29th. Play starts at 6 P. M. at Macomb's Dam Park, 161st St. (Yankee Stadium) on Mondays and in Central Park on Thursdays.

Please get in touch with Al O'Connell, Ext. 323 as soon as possible so that schedules may be arranged.

### Credit Union

The following members of the museum were elected as officers to serve for 1957 in the Employees Federal Credit Union:

**DOROTHY BRONSON,**  
President

**PHILIP C. MILLER,**  
Vice President

**HARRY L. LANGE,**  
Treasurer

**CONSTANCE SHERMAN,**  
Secretary

**JOSEPHINE BARRY,**  
Ass't. Treasurer

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

## Heard in Passing . . .

MARCIA ROSEN of the Museum Shop became Mrs. Fred Haberberg on January 27th. Congratulations, Fred!

On February 18th, AGNES VLAVI-ANOS joined the Department of Geology and Paleontology as Scientific Assistant. She speaks three languages and has an excellent working knowledge of classical Greek and Latin, which should be of great help in her job as researcher for Drs. Colbert and Schaeffer.

The former PRISCILLA KENNA-DAY, now Mrs. Robert Pick, has recently returned from her honeymoon. Mrs. Pick is Manager of the Planetarium Book Corner.

DR. MONT CAZIER, Chairman of the Department of Insects and Spiders, and Mrs. Cazier are expecting a little Chairman sometime in November. The Cazier are leaving shortly for the Research Station in Arizona to make arrangements for the crowd of visiting scientists due this spring and summer.

The ubiquitous DR. EVELYN SHAW of the Dept. of Animal Behavior was awarded a grant from the Office of Naval Research to study schooling behavior in fishes. She will spend the summer at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass. Incidentally, did you see that photograph of Dr. Shaw and her three children in the January issue of Women's Home Companion? Where will she turn up next?

DR. HORACE WOOD, research associate in the Department of Geology and Paleontology, but better known as a world-famous authority on rhinoceroses, has undergone two unsuccessful operations for a detached retina in one of his eyes. He may be operated on again and we certainly hope that this time it will be successful.

Because the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia is not fortunate enough to have the skilled technicians that we have, GEORGE WHITAKER, of our Paleontology Lab was asked to mount a large duck-bill dinosaur for them on his own time. With help from WALTER and CARL SORENSEN, the cleaning, restoring and forging of the armature was completed in a year and on March 6th the completely articulated skeleton was installed in its place in the Academy. But a fine courtesy to a sister institution!

The Carpenter Shop has two new members and we are glad to have them with us. One is JOHN ZEMBA, a brother of Louis Zemba who worked for many years in the engineering shop. The other is JOSEPH JACOB. We don't know much about him yet but just wait.

ENNE WEISSMAN, instructor in the Department of Public Instruction, left on March 8th to be married to Jerome Braun. They motored to the West coast where they plan to live.

RUTH COHN, consultant in the Department of Animal Behavior is the envy of the entire department. She has just left for a two-month trip which includes stops in San Francisco, Honolulu, Guam, Hong Kong and Tokyo. Most of her time will be spent in Japan visiting her daughter and son-in-law who is in the army. Since Ruth's departure, the members of the department have been trying hard to content themselves with the Central Park panorama environs.

CHARLES LASALA (Bldg. Ser.) is attending Brooklyn College for his Bachelor of Arts degree. He is also taking Bruce Hunter's course in Sociology here at the museum. Good luck, Charles.

HEDY ENGLERT visited the Dept. of Animal Behavior recently with her four year old son. Hedy is a former secretary of Dr. Aronson. Her husband is a doctor, and they are now living in Boston.

MRS. FUMIO (PATSY) SERIKAWA, the newest addition to Dr. Parr's office, is an unusual young lady. She was married in Honolulu on January 19th, left the Islands for the mainland the same day, arrived in New York on January 21st and was employed by the Museum on January 23rd! Mrs. Serikawa was born in Honolulu, attended school there and was a secretary for ten years in the Hawaiian Agricultural Experimental Station. Mr. Serikawa is studying for an engineering degree in Columbia University.

We can't keep up with the men around this place. Every time we turn around we hear of a new father (the cigar smoke is so thick you can't see your hand before your face). Now it is SEYMOUR COUZY (Exh. Dept.) with a baby girl, the second heir to the COUZY FORTUNE.

DR. WILLIS J. GERTSCH is leaving shortly to spend several weeks in Georgia to study the spider fauna of that state. We are sure that many new species will turn up as a result of the thorough collecting of Dr. Gertsch.

TOM GILLIARD, Associate Curator in the Bird Department, has been in the National Institute for Neurological Diseases in Bethesda, Md. since the end of January having treatments for a parasitic infection in his left eye. We are happy to report that his condition has greatly improved and that Tom is back again.

A new appointment in the Bird Department is MR. EUGENE EISENMANN as Research Associate. Mr. Eisenmann is a lawyer but his great interest is birds. He is very active in the Linnaean Society, has often volunteered his service to this museum and has written about birds. We are glad the association is now formalized.

From Copenhagen, Denmark to New York City, via England, France, India—and Brooklyn, comes OTTO STII to join the Planning Department as a junior draftsman. In spite of ten years in the shipping business (steamships, that is), Otto has taken courses at Pratt Institute and has always been interested in architecture and design. If you see Otto around in the attic storerooms weighing bones, it's just a throwback to his shipping days when he had to figure cargo stowage.

JENNIE CARR has joined the Planetarium as secretary and we all welcome her.

The many friends of FRANCES PIANSKY (Mr. Meister's Off.) will be happy to know that she is gaining strength every day after what we hope was a painless and successful operation.

TOM NEWBERRY of the Exhibition Dept., and a successful portrait sculptor to boot, has made a bas-relief portrait plaque of Dr. Ralph Windfred Tower who came to our Museum in 1903 to organize and develop our library and stayed until his death in 1926. The plaque is for the new library but hangs at present in Miss Gay's office. Those who remember Dr. Tower judge it an excellent likeness, which gives much credit to Tom because he worked entirely from photographs.

JOE GUARACINO of the Film Division left on March 22nd to take a new job with the Telephone Company.

CHRIS OLSEN, artist and former employee of the museum, visited the photography division recently in search of a photograph of himself painting backgrounds. We learned from this "hail and hardy" gent that he has just had a show of marine paintings at the Albany Museum, and will have another very shortly at the State Museum, Gainesville, Florida.

We are so glad to see HELGA UDVARDY back in the Department of Anthropology again. She still has to use a cane but we hope she can discard it very soon.

GEORGE FLOEGEL, our foreman painter, has sailed for a month's vacation in Germany and will visit Leipzig where he was born. When George was last in Leipzig twenty years ago it was under Nazi rule and today it is under Russian rule, being in the Eastern Zone of Germany. George has not seen his brothers and sisters since then, and we know it will be a happy and festive reunion. We look forward to his return and an account of the changes that have taken place.

Two new appointments as Research Associates in the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles are DR. HERN- DON G. DOWLING of the University of Arkansas and MR. SAMUEL B. McDOWELL. Dr. Dowling is currently on a year's leave from Arkansas as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Florida. Sam McDowell is a familiar figure to many Museumites, and when not teaching at Hunter College or Rutgers University (Newark branch) is certain to be found at the Museum working on various herpetological problems as well as dealing with fossil mammals.

DOROTHY CINQUEMANI, a full-time instructor in the Department of Public Instruction until last January, and her husband Frank, welcomed to their home on March 15th a seven months old boy, Richard. They hope to adopt another child next year so that their son will have some one to play with. Dorothy still conducts her Adult Course on Mexico every Thursday in Duplex Hall.

Jim Ford's office is practically an incubator these days. No sooner did MARILYN WEBER leave to have a baby (born Feb. 7th) than NICHOLAS AMOROSI, who replaced her as scientific illustrator, became the father of a son. What's hatching?

JOSEPH KROESCHE, more affectionately known as Stitch, is back in the Electrical Shop once again. He is working on the lighting for the Giant Sloth Hall. It is good to have you back, Stitch!

DR. SIMPSON visited the Museum in his wheel chair, recently. He is convalescing from a severe leg injury received while on a field trip in the Amazon last summer.

BETTY HELLMANN, wife of BOB HELLMANN, transferred on March 1st from the Department of Animal Behavior to the Department of Public Instruction where she and Bob are now instructors.

Those two roly-poly cherubs reading Junior Natural History Magazine (with their little bird friend) on the elevator posters and the March Calendar are Penny and Richard Puza, the proud possessions of LUCILLE PUZA, Dorothy Fulton's "Gal Friday."

Lost, strayed or stolen—NOPE—just that New York has lost a familiar face and photographer to California. The unpredictable LEE BOLTIN has taken up permanent residence in San Francisco to begin a new career.

ANTHONY CARTOSSA, a recently pensioned member of Building Services, enjoyed some Florida sunshine in March and cleaned up on the horses—not with a broom.

BARBARA GRAHAM has replaced Marion Crawbuck as Dr. Newell's secretary. Marion has resigned in expectation of a visit from the stork.

DR. ELEANOR LAPPANO, former assistant to Dr. Schneirla in the Department of Animal Behavior, is now working in the 4th Surgical Division at New York University Bellevue Medical Center, on a tissue culture project related to tissue and organ transplantation studies.

With the ever-increasing popularity of insects with the public, the Insect Department has added several new members to its Research Staff. They are Research Associates DR. CORNELIUS B. PHILLIP, DR. RALPH V. CHAMBERLIN, DR. FREDERICK M. SNYDER and MR. F. MARTIN BROWN. DR. LUCY CLAUSEN has been made an Associate and is working with ALICE GRAY on plans for a new Insect Hall.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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MAY 1, 1957

## Only Yesterday

To Dotty Bronson, Martin Dunne, Betty Emery, Jimmy Philburn, Patrick Pryor, Frank Rinald and Harriet Walsh twenty-five years ago seemed like yesterday, so quickly did time pass. But suddenly, yesterday did become twenty-five years ago when these seven people joined the Quarter Century Club of The American Museum of Natural History at the 8th annual dinner on April 10th. Of the 163 members, 85 were present to welcome them into the Club and to share once more the experiences of past associations which did so much to make the years fly.

To renew friendships suspended by time and distance, pensioned members came from all over the metropolitan area to meet those who are still working here. We saw Barnum Brown, Bobby Burns, Tony Cartossa, Fred Christman, Joe Connolly, Ida Grobe, Larry Hilliard, Charlie Lang, Ashton Littlefield, Jim McKeon, Robert McMorran, Chris Olsen, Grace Ramsey, Chester Reeds, Charlie Rice, Alcide Roche, May Sheehan, Jim Sheeran, Jake Shrope, Dorothy Shuttlesworth, Ethel Timonier, Lilian Utermehle, Frank Vitolo, Jeremiah Walsh—all of them looking younger, handsomer and prettier than ever.

The pigeons on the Roosevelt statue must have wondered at the noise which escaped into the night as the flow of reminiscence, encouraged by the sight of old familiar faces, increased. There was talk of the old ball team—hard ball, not sissy stuff—with Dr. Anthony as pitcher and Jim McKeon as catcher (Charlie Lang and Eddie Meyenberg were on the team, too) which used to play on the diamond located for years where the Hall of Ocean Life now stands, and when there was a green park in place of the Roosevelt Memorial, the Planetarium, the Power House and School Service building. And a few years later Joe Connolly, famed for his athletic skills, was the catcher—Henry Ruof and Eddie Burns played outfield. There was talk about the beautiful young widow, Ethel Timonier, who set the men's hearts to beating faster back in 1915, particularly that of the dapper Mr. Foulke. And they talked about the

time Herby Matausch and Alcide Roche were building the Indian elephants and Director Sherwood brought around some very important visitors. How Herbie, in his ankle-length cerise smock, working inside the mannikin, mistook Alcide's signal and emerged from the elephant just as the guests arrived, looking for all the world as though the elephant had just given birth to a pink-clad preparator. But there was talk of the present and the future, too: Jake Shrope proud of his 50th wedding anniversary last November, and Dorothy Shuttlesworth of her forthcoming book on dinosaurs, her third since she left the Museum; Charlie Rice bragging about his 72 years—but no one would believe him; Carl Sorenson impressing Jeremiah Walsh with his wonderful new machine for drilling and grinding off the matrix from fossil finds.

Too soon it was time for dinner, held in the Birds of the World Hall. At the head table sat five of the new members and Malcolm Aldrich, representing Mr. White, and Frederick Warburg, Dr. Parr, Dr. Anthony and Walter Meister.

After the last cup of coffee had been served, the speeches began. First Mr. Aldrich welcomed the new members and spoke of how much the trustees appreciated the devotion to this fine institution of all those present. Dr. Anthony, with his 46 years of service, replied in behalf of the members, saying that after 25 years you begin to suspect that maybe you have a permanent position in the museum, and by the time you retire you are certain of it. Then he introduced the new members:

Dorothy Bronson, who began as an accessions clerk under Mr. Pindar and in the course of her 25 years has served as secretary of the PVEO, secretary of the EBA, president of the Federal Credit Union, and is an active member of the Camera Club; Elizabeth Emery who was the first full-time nurse to be employed by the museum and on June 1, 1931 had her first patient . . . Walter Meister! Harriet Limekiller Walsh, who doesn't look old enough to have spent 25 years in the Membership Dept., and is a second-generation museumite, her father having worked in the Preparation Department under Carl Akeley. Martin Dunne, who,

retired because of ill health but looking hale now, came to the museum as an attendant. Many of us remember his gentle manner, due, perhaps, to the soft, balmy air of County Sligo in Ireland where he was born. And Jimmy Philburn, who has been stationed at the "front door" (1st floor Roosevelt) for the past 8 years, and has served in many other places in his time—mail desk, elevators, information desk. He has seen thousands of people pass through those doors—celebrities and otherwise—and he has the same pleasant greeting for all of them.

After that Mr. Meister passed out the certificates; Dr. Parr and Mr. Warburg said a few words; and suddenly . . . yesterday was today. The chairs were pushed back, autographs were signed, good-byes were said, and the annual dinner of the Quarter Century Club was over until another year.

## Shopping Guide

We paid a visit to our Museum Shop the other day and found two items that might interest you. They did us. One is a ceramic ashtray in the form of a foot print of a small Triassic dinosaur. It was made by Margaret Colbert (Mrs. Edwin Colbert) and you can be sure that Ned supervised the accuracy. It sells for \$1.50 (minus the 10% discount for employees).

The other is a model of Brontosaurus—and one of Tyrannosaurus, too—cast in white metal with a bronze finish. These sell for \$4.50 and \$3.00 respectively (the discount holds here also). Rachel Nichols in the Osborn Library and Dr. Edwin Colbert of the Paleontology Department are backing the production of these models. They have been sculpted by William Otto of Pasadena under Dr. Colbert's eagle eye, and Rachel is the distributor.

**Don't Forget  
May 9  
EBA  
Spring  
Dinner Dance**



## THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions from all Museum employees. Please address all communications to the editor.

## What's Up ?

Every time you pass Lothar Wittborg, Evelyn Shaw, George Krajian, or Dr. Shapiro, you hear words like mitosis, hemoglobin, lucite, neurons, hormones, histostereograms and gaseous exchange. What's up, indeed!

This is Dr. Shapiro's fifteen-year-old dream—a Hall of the Biology of Man. It has been a long time in the planning, a shorter time in the making, but some one of these days it will become a reality. The architectural plans were submitted to the Parks Department in 1955 and this spring, we hope, will see the contracts let.

The Hall of the Biology of Man will be located in what is now the Eastern Woodland Indians Hall, on the first floor, west of the 77th Street Foyer.

A small amount of Indian material will be selected for public display in Education Hall and the rest stored until the time comes when it can be installed in its final resting place—the present Comparative Anatomy Hall.

## Busman's Holiday Opens May 3rd

We would like to give you a verbal preview of the Employees' Art Exhibit, but you know how temperamental artists are. They want you to see their work in the proper setting and at the proper time—which is May 3rd in the Corner Gallery. We can tell you this... thirteen departments are represented, but if you want to know how and by whom, you will have to see the show. Don't forget!

## From Our Library Shelves

"Picture books" may seem out of place in a serious research library like ours, but often a picture gives a better description of a natural object than pages of text. Besides, they're more fun for librarians. One of the most unusual books of pictures the library has received recently is *Forms and Patterns in Nature* by Wolf Strache. It contains striking pictures of formations and designs in stone, crystal, plants, clouds, and other natural phenomena, and demonstrates the similarity often existing between these patterns and those created in human abstract art.

The Indians of Bolivia and Peru have fascinated tourists since the Spaniards first landed there. The newest book of photographs of these people is called *From Incas to Indians*, and contains the work of Werner Bischof, Robert Frank, and Pierre Verger—names familiar to anyone interested in this area. The pictures are of outstanding quality.

The Library has received two books on animals that contain both text and pictures. One has photographs taken with such skill and sensitivity that we feel we are seeing the animals for the first time. The photographs are by W. Suschitzky, the text by Julian Huxley, the title: *Kingdom of the Beasts*. The other book contains 60 color plates of prehistoric animals as they must have looked when alive—and an awe-inspiring collection is the result. This book is entitled, appropriately enough, *Prehistoric Animals*, and is by Dr. Joseph Augusta.

## How's Your Dancing?

Kind of old-fashioned like the rest of us? Then join your E.B.A. Dance Group held every Tuesday from 6 to 8 P. M. here in the museum. If you are a good dancer, don't bother to come because we're all beginners and don't want to be embarrassed. Send word to Mabel Colahan if you are interested. It's never too late to join.

## The Trading Post

### FOR SALE

Lawson outboard motor 3½ HP air-cooled and in top condition. Used very little. \$70. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

Accordian and case large size with 48 bass. In very good condition and reasonably priced at \$50. Dorothy Bronson, Ext. 240.

Walker Turner table saw 10" blade. Free standing tilting arbor and all attachments. \$175. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

Antique side chair—can be seen by calling Louis Ferry—Ext. 369.

Emerson Television 17" table model with built-in antenna. \$70. Paul Goodhouse—Ext. 378.

### WANTED

Clarinet in playing condition. Call M. Kalmenoff Ext. 517.

### FOR RENT

Sublet: Charming Studio Apartment—furnished (tile bath and kitchenette)

First floor, bay windows, very quiet, close to Central Park, five minutes walking distance from Museum. Available from June 15 to Sept., 30, perhaps longer. Inquire with Erika Rawitscher, Ext. 526 or EN 2-7322 (evenings).

## Forams

Looking tanned and healthy, Angelina Messina of the Department of Micro-paleontology recently returned from the Lerner Marine Laboratory in Bimini. She is convinced that a one-month-per-year study at this laboratory should be on the schedule of all persons working in Marine Biology. Expressing deep regret in having to return so quickly, Miss Messina added that the disappointment was somewhat softened by the complete success of the trip for she brought back specimens enough to start an aquarium here which will eventually house a huge collection of living foraminifera. As the problem of culturing living foraminifera is one of the projects being undertaken by Hans Behm and Robert Popper, these samples will aid considerably their undertaking.

## Good News !

If you have ever sat through one of our moving picture shows in the Auditorium, you will know how desperately we need comfortable seats, to say nothing of better lights, air and acoustics (there's nothing wrong with the speakers!). You will be glad to know that the Trustees have commissioned plans for remodeling our old Auditorium. That lecture hall was quite elegant in its day, but that was 57 years ago!

## Credit Union

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.



## Up and Down

We often hear "Let's take the elevator."

Well—let's take it. Did you know that on a simple ordinary elevator approximately thirty moving parts on the control board alone go into automatic operation each time the operator moves the knob? Multiply this by the number of stops and starts in a day, and you will have a general idea of the amount of wear and tear on the parts, to say nothing of the electrical burning action on the contacts.

There are a number of safety features, one of which causes the car to come to a standstill if it goes above the top floor or below the bottom landing. The elevator will not function if any door or gate is not fully closed; and if something happens to the governor and the car goes too fast, brake clamps will automatically lock the car in the shaft.

Our elevator has three speeds which work automatically in sequence. The minute the knob is thrown in one direction, it is locked in that direction and will not reverse until the car comes to a stop. Believe it or not, it takes more juice to bring an empty car down. The counter weights, which are balanced against a normal load, have to be pulled up by the motor rather than by the weight of the car.

When you see a **NO RUNNING** sign on any one of our fourteen elevators, please have patience. Mechanics may be in, over, or under the car; in the control room, oiling, greasing, making hurried repairs or adjustments; or in the shop affectionately nursing some ailing part back to health.

Have a pleasant trip. You are safe with us!

## E.B.A. Membership

The E.B.A. extends a warm welcome to ten employees who were elected to membership during the first four months of this year. They are Nicholas Amorosi, Art; Hal D. Bartlett, Building Services; Jennie Carr, Planetarium; John Doscher, Building Services; Josefine Koenig, Main Library; Joseph Krosche, Construction; Alan Munro, Exhibition; Marie Praitano, Office Services; Lucile Puza, Slide Library; and Patsy Serikawa, Director's Office.

This group brings our total strength to 535 members, of whom 442 are at present employed in the Museum. The balance is made up of former employees, now on pension or deferred pension, who are maintaining their memberships by paying the regular assessments.

## Any Year Now!

Every week the elevator boys say to the Library girls, "When are you going to move?" And every week the answer is the same: "Any year now!"

It is a brave answer to what must seem like a frustrating situation, but few of us realize why it takes so long for plans to become a reality.

First of all, plans—and ultimately estimates—are drawn up by members of the Planning Department, headed by George Nelson, who have spent much time in consultation with the curators concerned. These plans are then submitted to Dr. Parr, who in turn shows them to the Exhibition Committee.

Next the plans go to the New York City Department of Parks where they are read and, at the proper time, submitted to the Budget Director for the allocation of funds. This seems to take a long time because all of the public institutions in this city request work through the Parks Department, too. And—have you ever heard of priorities?

If and when the money is appropriated, the Parks Department advertises for bids (three must be obtained). After the contract has been let, the work must start within sixty days . . . any year now!

## Camera Club

The Camera Club has announced the date of their annual dinner dance for members and their friends. It will be held in the Employees' Cafeteria on Thursday evening, May 16th and the tickets are \$3.75 which includes a roast beef dinner, cocktails and music. Contact Bill Burns for particulars.

## Burroughs Medal

On April 1st the John Burroughs Association's Medal for 1957 was awarded to Dr. Archie Carr for his work "The Windward Road," an extremely readable book. Dr. Carr is Research Associate in our Department of Amphibians and Reptiles and is on the teaching staff of the University of Florida. Since he was temporarily engaged in an educational project in Costa Rica, Dr. Carr asked Charles (Chuck) Bogert, Chairman of Amphibians and Reptiles, to accept the medal in his absence at the presentation ceremonies here in New York.

Just in case you wondered about the activity and noise emanating from the Photo Division during the past month—they've had a face lifting (the rooms, that is, not the employees). Pay them a visit, but don't get lost! Things aren't where they used to be.

## Heard in Passing

MR. T. D. NICHOLSON visited West Point on April 10th and 11th to lecture to the Yearling Class. This is the annual visit by Planetarium staff to conduct the astronomy program for the United States Military Academy.

Showers are being installed on the 5th floor for the Paleontology Laboratory personnel. Those boys do some pretty heavy work—forging iron, cleaning and assembling large skeletons, working in basement storerooms, moving dinosaur bones in and out and up and down ladders, disturbing the decades of accumulated dust. What a boon to the wives and their laundry problems!

DR. ARLENE TUCKER who has just come from the University of Chicago is the latest person to join the Department of Animal Behavior. Dr. Tucker is a Public Health Service postdoctoral fellow who will be working on a comparative study of the mating behavior of various members of poeciliid fishes.

The "Regulars"—13 boys and girls who, as the name implies, come to the Science Center regularly—recently surprised PAULA GOLDWASSER with a wonderful birthday present: the five-volume Audubon publication "The Community of Living Things." Paula rose to the occasion by sending out for hot dogs and baked beans which were cooked in the fireplace and promptly consumed.

The Exhibition Department has so many new faces that we decided to find out who they are. Let's start with PHILIPP HEMMINGSEN, formerly with the Natural History Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark; identified by beautiful plaid shirts and a cigar. There is ARNOLD SAKS, recently with the U.S. Army Exhibit unit and now working on designs for the Giant Sloth Hall; ROBERT LOBERG, not long ago an instructor of Fine Arts at the University of California and now an assistant designer who wants to paint pictures; MIRON SOKOLE, at one time associated with Norman Bel Geddes; ALAN MUNRO, who worked at the Museum of Early Americana at Shelburne, Vermont, but longed for city life; EDWARD DENYER, once an instructor of Fine Arts at the University of Missouri but more recently a proud Father; and HARRY KESHIAN, a recent graduate student of Yale University's School of Fine Arts.



**HELEN JONES** of the Film Division is mighty proud of her new Walt Disney "True Life Adventure" sound films. They can be rented at \$10.00 for one day's use. Here's fun for old and young alike. Suggestion: Good material for your club programs.

On April 10th **MARTIN CASSIDY** started work as a specialist in the Department of Geology and Paleontology Lab, replacing Joe Nocera. He is from the Kerpel School, one of New York's leading dental technology schools.

**JOE NOCERA** has transferred to the Anthropology Department where he replaces Ernie Neilson.

We are distressed to hear that **NELS NELSON**, curator emeritus of Prehistoric Archeology, has temporarily lost his sight. We know that he would be glad to see his museum friends if they can find time to stop in at 150 W. 79th St.

**GIL STUCKER** (Geol. & Paleo.) is taking a leave of absence as of May 15th to spend the summer at Dinosaur National Monument in Utah. Gil is the naturalist who interprets the geology of that area to all the thousands of visitors who come there each summer. Why don't you western-bound travelers stop in for a personally conducted tour?

Due to poor health **BOB STITZEL** was unable to attend the 25 year dinner, but he would appreciate hearing from his many friends.

Our **JIMMY CLARK**, otherwise known as James Lippitt Clark, exhibited one of his fine bronze animals, a Kodiak bear, at the National Academy's 132nd Annual Exhibition held in March.

Dr. Clark is now Director Emeritus, Preparation and Installation, but his great contribution to our museum are the habitat groups in the Akeley, South Asiatic, North American Mammal and Whitney Bird Halls, most of which were done under his supervision when he was head of the Preparation Department.

**GORDON REEKIE** has left on a trip to Italy, Switzerland and Holland. Although it is supposed to be his vacation, he is spending most of his time in museums, as far as we can learn.

**JOSEPH O'KANE** (Cust. Dept.) has returned to work after an operation for the removal of cataracts. We are glad that it was successful, Joe.

**MILICA DIMITRIJEVIC**, just arrived from Yugoslavia with a degree in anthropology, is a newcomer in our Anthropology Dept. Milica should have much to contribute and we are glad to have her with us.

**JACK SCOTT** is now permanently assigned to the Yard, and **DON BUCKLEY** is the man who feeds the incinerator fires.

We have great admiration for our painters who are doing so much to improve the appearance of the museum. But we are really open-mouthed to learn that two of them, **OSCAR WANTSY** and **JACK GREIG**, after painting all day continue to paint after hours—on pictures, not walls. We are looking forward to seeing their efforts when Busman's Holiday opens.

Have you noticed **ALEX ROTA** (Photo Div.) strutting like a peacock lately? Well—he's the proud new owner of 5 acres (forest primeval-type land) at Van Wyck Road, Fishkill, N. Y. He has it posted already! "NO FREE PICNICS—CARPENTER AT WORK" He is building the partially pre-fabricated house himself, and will have none of you unless you bring your own hammer, nails and bandages. (How can he click the shutter with sore fingers?)

Don't just talk about the Museum. Show your friends your enthusiasm and entertain them at the same time. **DOROTHY FULTON** in the Slide Division has a new set of slides "Artists at Work in the Museum". Might be fun to acquaint your community groups with what goes on behind the scenes. This is known as bragging . . . with finesse!

**CHARLES H. FALKENBACH** (Frick Lab) has been made Research Associate in the Division of Vertebrate Paleontology at the University of Nebraska State Museum. Charlie has been associated with that museum for the past twenty-five years in various research and field projects, and has co-authored a series of papers with Dr. C. B. Schultz, the Director.

**LEW BROWN** has developed an in-human interest in skeletons lately. His collection consists of 20 mammal and 30 bird skulls, but no humans. The reason: Lew is teaching a course in Comparative Anatomy at Pratt Institute every Monday and he needs study material. Watch your head!

The nice young man working for Helen Jones in the Film Division and who took Joe Guaracino's place is **HENRY SEELMANN**.

**PATRICIA VAURIE**, Research Associate in the Dept. of Insects and Spiders, plans to spend the months of May, June and July in the natural history museums of London, Copenhagen, Berlin, Frankfurt, Munich, Bonn, Vienna and Paris, studying the types of various genera of beetles. Her husband, **DR. CHARLES VAURIE** of the Bird Dept., will study bird collections. Dr. Vaurie is finishing a five-year study of the birds of Europe, Asia and North Africa. Bugs and birds will keep them busy!

**HARRY FARRAR**, Mason foreman, leaves this month for San Francisco for a reunion with his son Robert and family. He plans to fly (this time by plane). Have a good time, Harry!

**DR. K. L. FRANKLIN** has been assembling components to be installed at the Planetarium's new radio astronomy observatory on the Palisades. Construction work will begin shortly on the equipment which will be used to investigate further radio bursts observed from the Planet Jupiter by Dr. Franklin in 1955-56 while he was in the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism at the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

**LESTER DANLEY** (Film Div.) has earned a reputation as a mental giant among his co-workers. Lester is taking a memory course to enable him to remember formulas when he starts his course in electronics at RCA. He has one formula that is driving the 4th floor of the School Service Bldg. crazy. It has to do with telephone numbers in the Manhattan Directory.

#### Grateful Acknowledgment

Good wishes and kind thoughts are always welcome, but they are of immeasurable importance when one is ill. A personal and grateful acknowledgment of all the many expressions of good wishes and kind thoughts that I have received is far beyond my capacity at present. Therefore, I hope that all of my friends who read this will know that my very sincere and simple "Thank you"—although only two words—is actually a volume of deep and thorough appreciation.

Frances Piansky



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XIV, No. 3

JUNE 1, 1957

## Borrow and You Will Save

If you have to borrow, borrow from your Credit Union because when you do, you eventually end up saving.

Take Henry, for instance. Some years ago Henry, one of our Museum family, was in a bad way. His back was to the wall, forced there by wage assignments, garnishees, outstanding loans and the sheriff. Just in time the AMNH Employees Federal Credit Union came to his rescue. They contacted all his creditors and made a settlement with them, consolidated these debts and wrote a loan for Henry at a very low rate of interest which he was able to pay off through payroll deduction over a period of years. Today, Henry is long since rid of his debt, owns a number of shares in "his" Credit Union, and is a free and happy man.

What is this Credit Union? It is an organization to be sure, but more important, it is a way in which people can help each other with money problems. Members of a credit union pool their money and lend it to each other at low interest rates. Its only purpose is service—not charity or profit.

Back in January 1936 the AMNH Employees Federal Credit Union was organized by Miss Ethel Newman, assistant registrar, with the help of Mrs. Dorothy Bronson, to meet the financial problems of people just like Henry. There were many employees beset by worry and creditors, as Miss Newman well knew. After her retirement in 1938, Miss Margaret Fish, then Manager of Printing and Publishing, took over as Treasurer and General Manager. Mrs. Bronson continued as Vice-president, and today is President. At the end of the first year there were 175 members and assets of \$8,025.50. Today there are over 425 accounts of museum employees and their families, and the assets are approximately \$130,000.

The AMNH Employees Federal Credit Union, like all credit unions, is legally incorporated as a non-profit organization for members only. Only members have money in the credit union; only members can take money out; and only members can vote for its officers who are elected from the mem-

bership and, except for the Treasurer, serve without compensation. Its assets are protected by law, inspected regularly by government examiners, and audited by the Credit Union's supervisory or auditing committee, four times a year. All officers and directors are under a \$50,000 bond which is increased as the assets increase. Since our charter does not permit the buying of stocks, bonds or mortgages, surplus funds are invested in Federal Savings and Loan Associations and in local savings banks. At the end of the year 20% of the net profit is set aside for what is called "Reserve for Bad Loans" (in 21 years only \$257.63 has been charged against this fund). The rest is used to pay the annual dividend to the shareholders. This may vary from year to year, but last year it paid 3.6% per share.

Share holdings (valued at \$5 a share) are limited to \$40 a month on the payroll deduction plan until \$1000 has been accumulated. The limit on a loan is \$2500 and a borrower must be a share holder even if he owns only one share. In any credit union the interest rate can never be more than 1% a month on unpaid balance but at the present time, our charge is 2/3 of 1%.

Maybe that seems high to you and maybe you think you can do better at a bank (never, but never go to a loan shark!) but here is what happened to Anne and a friend of hers who wanted to go to California for their vacations. Anne, a member of our credit union, had \$600 worth of shares which she planned to use but which wasn't quite enough. She applied for a \$200 loan which was granted. Anne agreed to pay it back by having \$10 deducted from her salary check every pay day, which meant that at the end of ten months the loan was cancelled out. For the convenience of being able to transact business right in the museum, for monthly payments automatically deducted from her salary check, and for loan insurance (paid for by the Credit Union), all she paid in interest over those 10 months was 66/100 of 1% on the unpaid balance, or \$7.30.

Anne's friend wasn't as fortunate.

(Continued on page 2)

## Kudos

One of the highest honors that can be accorded a scientist is to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, an organization that acts as official adviser to the government on scientific matters of all kinds. It, therefore, gave us great pleasure to learn that our Dr. Edwin Harris Colbert, Curator of Fossil Reptiles and Amphibians, was elected to membership at the 94th annual meeting on April 23rd. Membership in this illustrious organization, composed of 500 of the nation's leading research scientists, is based on original contributions to scientific knowledge. Small wonder, then, that The American Museum of Natural History is represented by four scientists, one research associate, and one trustee: Drs. Gregory, Simpson, Shapiro and Colbert, Dr. Ernst Mayr, and Prof. Columbus Iselin. We have cause to be proud, and offer our congratulations to Dr. Colbert, and also to Dr. Shapiro, who, though already a member, was elected to the council at the April meeting.

## New Editor for "Natural History"

We all know that after Ed Weyer gave up the editorship of *Natural History* to pursue his first love, anthropology, Bill Burns stepped in and did a valiant job of pinch-hitting (for three issues) until a permanent editor could be found.

Well, here he is: John F. Purcell, editor of *Natural History Magazine* as of May 20th.

Mr. Purcell, a graduate of Harvard, class of '38, and a foreign correspondent for *Life* magazine for six years, comes to us from the United States Government. He has been editorial advisor on foreign affairs since 1948; lives in Waldorf, Md., with his wife and two children; is looking for a house or apartment in or about New York City; is interested in skin-diving, and will be a valuable member for the Camera Club. He likes *natural* history, too, and even finds our building rather "cozy"—after the Pentagon.

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That most of us remember one or two,  
Or think we do—so let's define for you.  
The learned Doctor Bliss,  
A carcinologist,  
Has relatea with crustea,  
She dábs  
In crabs;

Conchology's the old shell game,  
A science true and tried,  
But malacology's not the same,  
It deals with what's inside;  
The ants like myrmecologiee,  
It tells us of their family tree;  
Dendrologists are hard to please,  
They're always barking up right trees;  
Miss Muffet's pet is an apology  
For Willis Gertsch's arachnology;  
Doc Ellis' work in Micro-Pale  
Brings him to grips with clay and shale,  
He knows much more than you or I  
Of fossils found 'way back in Tri-  
Assic times—wee things so small  
The undressed eye can't see at all;  
The herpetologist's eye, alas,  
Is caught by some snake-in-the-grass;  
And last, but surely not the least,  
Is why we humans act like beasts,  
Animal Behavior's vice versa—  
Let's stop before this gets much worse!

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Within the last six months two new names have been added to New York's already lengthy list of museums—the *Museum of Primitive Art* and *The Museum of Contemporary Crafts*. The first was founded by Nelson Rockefeller to house his collection of primitive art which includes sculpture, masks, carvings, pottery, jewelry and the like. It is located at 15 West 54th Street and is open daily, except Mondays, from 1 to 5.

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## Stop and Say "Hello"

With the advent of flowers, green leaves, singing birds and warm weather, the time has come to think about vacations. With the wide world to choose from (provided you have the money) it is a difficult problem, and besides it takes some effort to get oneself ready for a cross-country jaunt. But there are places that are easier to reach, such as the New England states. They are all beautiful and we cannot recommend one more than the other. However, we would like to remind you that should you be in any of the following states, these AMNH pensioners would be delighted to have you stop in and say "hello."

### MASSACHUSETTS:

Clara Beale  
62 Riverside Place  
Walpole

Jannette Lucas  
29 Leyden St.  
Plymouth

Fred Mason  
Merriam Road  
Princeton

Charles Russell  
Truro

### CONNECTICUT:

Grace Ramsey  
Brookfield Centre

### NEW YORK STATE:

Helene Booth  
c/o F. H. Rindge  
E. Bethany Road  
Stafford

William Gregory  
Woodstock

Herman Mueller  
Cherry Ridge Road  
Katonah

Chris Olsen  
West Nyack

George Pindar  
Sharon Springs

Chester Reeds  
Ghent

Frank Wippert  
Loch Sheldrake  
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A carcinologist,  
Has relatea with crustea,  
She dabs  
In crabs;  
Conchology's the old shell game,  
A science true and tried,  
But malacology's not the same,  
It deals with what's inside;  
The ants like myrmecologiee,  
It tells us of their family tree;  
Dendrologists are hard to please,  
They're always barking up right trees;  
Miss Muffet's pet is an apology  
For Willis Gertsch's arachnology;  
Doc Ellis' work in Micro-Pale  
Brings him to grips with clay and shale,  
He knows much more than you or I  
Of fossils found 'way back in Tri-  
Assic times—wee things so small  
The undressed eye can't see at all;  
The herpetologist's eye, alas,  
Is caught by some snake-in-the-grass;  
And last, but surely not the least,  
Is why we humans act like beasts,  
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Back issues of the Grapevine. The files of the EBA are sadly lacking in any kind of records of the Grapevine. Not one issue was saved for filing. Look among your souvenirs and pass on to Marilyn Badaracco any old copies which you may have. Duplicates will be placed in the EBA Library in Room B49, Roosevelt basement.

## Stop and Say "Hello"

With the advent of flowers, green leaves, singing birds and warm weather, the time has come to think about vacations. With the wide world to choose from (provided you have the money) it is a difficult problem, and besides it takes some effort to get oneself ready for a cross-country jaunt. But there are places that are easier to reach, such as the New England states. They are all beautiful and we cannot recommend one more than the other. However, we would like to remind you that should you be in any of the following states, these AMNH pensioners would be delighted to have you stop in and say "hello."

### MASSACHUSETTS:

Clara Beale  
62 Riverside Place  
Walpole

Jannette Lucas  
29 Leyden St.  
Plymouth

Fred Mason  
Merriam Road  
Princeton

Charles Russell  
Truro

### CONNECTICUT:

Grace Ramsey  
Brookfield Centre

### NEW YORK STATE:

Helene Booth  
c/o F. H. Rindge  
E. Bethany Road  
Stafford

William Gregory  
Woodstock

Herman Mueller  
Cherry Ridge Road  
Katonah

Chris Olsen  
West Nyack

George Pindar  
Sharon Springs

Chester Reeds  
Ghent

Frank Wippert  
Loch Sheldrake  
Sullivan County

## Heard in Passing

Ask EMIL KREMER (Bldg. Constr.) to show you the handsome certificate which he received from the Department of Labor in Washington for completing 30 hours of instruction in industrial safety, plus 5 hours of examination. Emil learned about the use and care of machinery; the use, handling and storage of chemicals; and when to let fresh air into a building and when to close the windows! All joking aside, certain kinds of materials need air to prevent combustion and others can be controlled by lack of air. We are proud of Emil. After all, a five-hour exam is no cinch when you've been out of school for . . . say, a few years.

JOAN SUHR, secretary of the Contributors' Program, will be married to George J. Governale on June 9th in Bergenfield, N. J. and will make her new home in Dumont. Best wishes, Joan; we think George is a lucky fellow.

And speaking of weddings, we have just heard that on April 20th REX JOHNSON was married to Verna McKean. For the past three years Mr. Johnson has been Chief of Building Maintenance and Operations at The New York Public Library, but he was our General Superintendent from 1935—1951. His old friends here at the museum wish him much happiness.

FRANKLYN BRANLEY and TOM NICHOLSON of the Planetarium are degree-conscious these days, Mr. Branley working for his Ed.D. at Teachers College and Mr. Nicholson for his Ph.D. at Fordham Univ.

BRUCE HUNTER (Publ. Instr.) is taking a leave of absence in order to spend the months of July and August in Japan where he will continue his study of folkcrafts in some of the remote villages. Bruce has recently been made a director of the Japan Society of which John D. Rockefeller III is president.

LOU KINZER, head of Custodians Dept. until 1952, is now Plant Manager of a large research laboratory, a recent subsidiary of the Cities Service Company. Mr. Kinzer has bought a house in Hightstown, N. J. where the laboratory is located.

We are constantly being surprised by the unexpected nooks and crannies which turn up in our day's work. We discovered the other day that the Bird

Dept. has a library all its own. It is on the 5th floor of Whitney, has just been painted a beautiful yellow, and is being rearranged so that visiting ornithologists will have a place in which to read and study.

It certainly pays to read the Daily News because you never can tell what you will find, especially under FISHING AND HUNTING:

"... caught seven striped bass, averaging three pounds; two marine catfish, each three pounds; 20 white perch, nice and fat; two 2-foot eels; one yellow perch, about two pounds, and one golden carp, 30 pounds and 34 inches long."

Who is the successful fisherman? None other than Adelaide Burns, or more formally, Mrs. William A., fishing in the Hudson River.

JOSEPHINE KOENIG has transferred from the Main Library to the Archbold Expedition office, replacing Rita Neuhaus who retired a few months ago.

RUTH NORTON, head of our Public Relations Dept., recently spent three weeks in Arizona helping to launch a membership drive for the Southwestern Research Station of which Dr. Cazier is director. The purpose of this program is to give the residents of Arizona an opportunity to become members of the Station and thereby support a resident research scholarship fund for promising scientists and students. There has been a marked interest among all Arizonans in the activities of the Station and many of them have asked how they might help. This membership is the answer.

After attending the Annual Meetings of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in New Orleans over the Easter holidays, CHUCK BOGERT, accompanied by Dr. Paulo Vanzolini, an eminent Brazilian zoologist, spent a couple of weeks in Texas and Chihuahua, Mexico, collecting specimens as well as recording animal sounds. The latter will be included in an album, a sequel to his 1954 recording "Sounds of the American Southwest."

DR. DEAN AMADON, Chairman of the Bird Dept., left on May 27th for Nairobi in Africa where he will join Col. and Mrs. Donald McChesney of Syracuse, N. Y., and Mr. John G. Williams, Curator of the Coryndon Museum in

Nairobi. They will drive to Victoria Falls to attend the Pan-African Ornithological Congress which will be held July 15—20. Dr. Amadon will see Dr. and Mrs. James Chapin (Dr. Chapin is one of our Research Associates) at the Congress and hopes to spend some time in the field with them after the Congress is over. Dr. Amadon expects to be back by Aug. 20th.

The SAM McDOWELLS (Amph. & Rept.), proud parents of 2-year-old Edward, announce the birth of a daughter, Janet Anne, on April 22. Congratulations, Sam.

PATRICK BAKER, who has been an attendant for nine years, resigned on May 10th to accept a position with the State of New York in Middletown where he has had a summer home for the past few years. Pat's usual station was the Mexican, Stone Age and South American Halls, and we will miss him every time we go that way. We wish him luck in his new job and hope he will visit us whenever he can.

A valuable asset to the Office of the Superintendent of Construction and Maintenance is WILLIAM GRAHAM. Not because he is handsome (sorry, girls, he's married, all of six months), not because he builds and races stock and racing cars, but because he is an experienced handyman, draftsman, all-round office assistant and typist, and knows a lot about radio, electronic devices and fire equipment. Bill will help George Tauber in the office and will be responsible for all the museum fire equipment.

If you see an old familiar face around the shops, it will probably be JOHNNIE LARSON, just in from California where he now lives. Johnnie used to work in the Museum's shop before he retired in 1939.

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### Thanks!

The Entertainment Committee of the EBA wishes to thank all of those who did so much to make the Spring Dance a success. They are particularly grateful to Sam Taffet and Gordon Lord of Globe Canteen for the delicious buffet supper—so delicious that a number of people (who shall go unnamed) braved the line for seconds . . . even thirds!

P.S. Tony Cartossa and Mrs. Dean Amadon won the door prizes.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XIV, No. 4

JULY 1, 1957

## High Finance

How the Museum is financed is a question which each one of us has wondered about, and certainly been asked time and again by our families and friends. Haven't you sort of floundered around with the answer, just as we have?

To help you the next time you are questioned, we have done some "research" on this terribly complex and intricate subject and will tell you about it as best we can. We say that with all humbleness because we are so overawed by the thought of anyone managing a budget of over three million dollars when we have such trouble with our own finances. You know how it is. By Friday the budget allotment for food is gone, so you take a few dollars from the rent envelope and then Junior needs a pair of shoes you hadn't counted on, so you borrow the money from what was set aside for insurance. But imagine if you had the Museum's budget!

To start with—we work in a building which is owned and operated by the City of New York, on land (Manhattan Square) which is also owned by the City. This means that The American Museum of Natural History is really a tenant, but a tenant who does not have to pay for rent, heat, light or upkeep. The City of New York gives us over a million dollars each year to cover this. Building Services and Building Construction and Maintenance, including the Power Plant, are the two departments that take care of the building. But because on April 6, 1869, the Act of Incorporation established "The American Museum of Natural History, to be located in the City of New York with the purpose of establishing and maintaining in said City a Museum and Library of Natural History; of encouraging and developing the study of Natural Sciences; of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects, and to that end of furnishing popular instruction and recreation" the City funds also support the library and the Department of Public Instruction.

So there we have a building, with people to keep it in good repair, with people to clean and protect it, and with people who will instruct the visitors. We would have had an empty building with no one to take care of the collections or to provide the necessary scientific information if it had not been for additional funds.

In 1884 an Endowment Fund was established when William K. Vanderbilt gave the Corporation \$50,000. Today that Fund has grown to over \$20,000,000. 91% of the income from this Fund is used for operating expenses other than those previously mentioned. The remaining 9% is set aside for special projects, each one with a special fund. Last year there were 157 such funds earmarked for purchase of collections, motion picture development, guide-aphone, publications, operation of our two field stations (in Bimini and Arizona), research projects in the Museum, field work, and many others.

Interest on \$20,000,000 may sound like a lot of money to you, but it still is not enough to run the Museum and so it must be augmented by personal contributions (mostly brought in by our Men's and Women's Committees of the Contributors Program), outside trusts (foundations which give us a set sum each year, but which may stop at any time), membership dues, sales and services (rental of films, slides, fees for lectures, etc.), and sales in the Museum Shop, including Man and Nature Publications. Altogether, these sources must make up the difference between the \$3,500,000 which it costs to run The American Museum of Natural History and the \$1,260,000 which the City of New York gives us. Very often they don't, and then we have a deficit. It is just exactly like your own budget. You get a salary—a stated amount each year—which, as most of us know, never is quite enough, and so you have to earn the extras by doing an outside job on week-ends. Even then, there may be a deficit.

The exhibition work is maintained by individuals—friends of the Museum. You have noticed the names of the

donors on the habitat groups in our Mammal Halls, and when the Hall of North American Forests is completed you will see the names of donors there. The money is given for a specific group or exhibit or hall, whichever the case may be.

Now some of you may ask about this business of the City building 1A or the Hall of Man. Until recently the City built and paid for all of our halls, but lately it has been a joint project between the City and the Museum. In the case of the Roosevelt Memorial building, the State paid for it and then turned it over to the City. In the case of the Planetarium, a Planetarium Authority was set up to finance it by floating a bond issue. At that time the City deeded to the Authority the plot of land on which the Planetarium rests. When the bonded indebtedness has been paid up, the land and the building will revert to the City and thereby become City property.

Do you see what we mean when we say it is a complex subject?

## New Appointees

Two Assistant Curators have been appointed to the Scientific Staff as of July 1st, although they will not be in the Museum until after Labor Day.

One of them is Dr. Wesley E. Lanyon, Assistant Curator in the Bird Dept., and the other is Dr. Robert L. Carneiro, Assistant Curator of South American Ethnology.

Dr. Lanyon, a native of New Hampshire, taught at the University of Arizona and Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. His main field of interest is in general systematics approached both from the point of view of museum studies and from experimental studies of behavior in the field and in the laboratory. He is spending the summer at the Southwestern Research Station.

Dr. Carneiro's specialty is primitive agriculture, with emphasis on South America, where he has done field work. For the past year Dr. Carneiro has been teaching at the University of Wisconsin.

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

## Vacation On Horseback

If you like horseback riding, camping, and exploring the wilderness, you will probably be interested in an unusual vacation sponsored by the American Forestry Assoc. Each year the Association offers its members a variety of saddle trips in different parts of the country. This past May, Kate Swift of our Public Relations Dept. joined twenty other A.F.A. members for ten days of trail riding through the Great Smoky Mountains of North Carolina.

Headquarters for the event was a 1500-acre cattle ranch just outside the eastern border of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For the first few days the group (10 men and 11 women) explored the nearby mountains, valleys, and high grassy plateaus—riding for six or seven hours a day, eating their lunch on the trail, and returning to the ranch at night. Then they set out for the deep woods and camped for four days as they rode through areas of the Park rarely seen by tourists. The camping was primitive, i.e., sleeping bags on the ground and washing in a stream (which also provided delicious rainbow trout for breakfasts).

The cost of the ten-day trip was \$200. To participate in any of the A.F.A. saddle trips you must belong to the Association which has a membership fee of \$6 a year. If you are interested, write to Mrs. Dorothy Dixon, American Forestry Association, 919-17th St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

## Going West

Last month we listed the pensioners living in the New England States, but somewhere between the editors, the printers, the proof readers and the final copy, the name of Wayne Faunce, who is living in Stowe, Vermont, and owns the local hardware store, got lost. We are truly sorry, because Mr. Faunce has a warm spot for our Museum.

For those of you going West this summer, we would like to list the following pensioners and their whereabouts, knowing that they, too, will be glad to see you.

## PENNSYLVANIA

John A. Dooley  
3060 E. Thompson St.  
Philadelphia 34,

Walter C. Escherich  
31 Reed St.  
Mohnton

## MINNESOTA

Francis Lee Jaques  
10 East Oaks Road  
St. Paul 13

## WISCONSIN

Clara P. Meadowcroft  
Arbor Place  
Mukwonago

## ILLINOIS

F. G. Miller  
233 S. Vine Street  
Kewanee

## CALIFORNIA

Hans C. Adamson  
Parklabrea Towers  
360 South Burnside Ave.  
Los Angeles

Roy C. Andrews  
Carmel Valley

John C. Larsen  
311 S. Primrose Ave.  
Monrovia

And if you are Wrong-Way Corrigan and find yourself in Ireland, look up

David McClure  
9 Georges Street  
Ravenhill Road  
Belfast

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

## The "Puritans" Return

Thinking they looked like missionaries from Tibet, the "Puritans" (Emerson, Van Gelder, Zweifel, Squires) tried to fool the pretty little stewardess on the plane coming home. But you can always tell a scientist who has been in the field for three months because he looks exactly like a Tibetan missionary.

All we can find out about the expedition at this point is that the mission was accomplished, the seas were rough, the wind blew all the time—and there's nothing like a Volunteer to make life interesting, especially if his name is Oakes Plimpton. His four bosses will all attest to his eagerness, daring, willingness, hard work, youth—and his superb instinct for getting into trouble. Oakes was bitten by an iguana and a boa constrictor, shot off the tip of his finger, sat on his own rat trap and . . . well, ask the Puritans.

## It's All Yours

Remember that the EBA Clubroom, B-49 in Roosevelt Basement, is open every day from 11:30—2:30 for the use of all employees. Although we have tried to make it as comfortable and attractive as possible, no one seems to be using it. If there is anything (within reason) that we can do to make it more useful, please let us know. There are magazines for you to read and a small collection of books which you may borrow. Here are a few:

THE HEART OF THE HUNTER by Marshall

DINNER AT ANTOINES by Keyes

STEAMBOAT GOTHIC by Keyes

THE PRESIDENT'S LADY by Stone

MY COUSIN RACHEL by DuMarquier

SHANNON'S WAY by Cronin



## Never Too Late

The following was received too late for the June Grapevine but your editors felt it would still be news to most of you.

The Upsala College (E. Orange, N. J.) table tennis team visited the Museum on April 15th, and won a closely contested match by a score of 10-6 against a picked team of Museum players. Under the coaching of Ted Fleck, the Upsala team won the intercollegiate championship in 1952, and has consistently been one of the high ranking teams in college circles for the last ten years. Table tennis is perhaps the most popular intramural sport at the Museum, and there is a group of players here that can hold its own in fast competition.

Due to the popularity of table tennis (or ping-pong, the name that Parker Brothers copyrighted years ago) Museum games are almost always doubles rather than singles so that everyone has a chance to play. In college competition singles play the primary role in match scoring. As was expected, the Museum doubles teams made an excellent showing; they won four out of eight matches and were barely nosed out in three others. In the eight singles, however, only Don Carter (Mammalogy) and Don Rosen (Genetics Lab) scored for the Museum, although the scoring was very close in several of the others. The play of Fred Jalayer (Exh.) and Ed McGuire (Mammalogy) was also outstanding. They were matched against two young Persians who rank No. 1 and 2 in singles for Upsala.

The team of Dean Amadon (Birds) and Ed McGuire scored two doubles victories for AMNH. The teams of Chas. O'Brien (Birds)—Don Carter, and Fred Jalayer—Don Rosen each won one of their two matches. Henry Ruof (Mammalogy) and Phil Miller (Bldg. Serv.) won the first game of their first match, but were finally beaten by one of Upsala's strongest combinations.

The Museum team made a highly creditable showing in its first outside competition, and is looking forward to a return match with Upsala in the fall.

With this issue the GRAPEVINE calls a halt for the next two months. We hope that you won't forget us, and that you will see to it that your editors have plenty of news by September 15th when the October 1st issue goes to press.  
Happy Holiday!

## The Trading Post

**WANTED:** Furnished apt. south of 79th St. 3 rms., lg. livrm. Miron Sokole, Ext. 460.

**FOR SALE:** Kodak Enlarger 35mm—\$25. Stainless steel developing tank—\$3. Cornell bird and frog call record albums good as new—\$3 each. J. McCormick, Ext. 272.

**FOR SALE:** Portable record player, 20 yrs. old but in good condition. German make. Joan Gordon, Ext. 272.

**FOR SALE:** Beachcomber surf spinning reel—250 yds. 12 lb. test Platyl line—9½ ft. glass surf casting rod. Bargain at \$20. Call W. A. Burns, ext. 212.

## A Scuba Summer

"Have you checked your regulator? Do you have enough air? Is your inflatable self-rescue kit in the correct position? Are all your straps tight?"

Is this a jet pilot preparing for a takeoff into the wide blue yonder? Not quite, because the takeoff is into the blue depths. These are some of the vital thoughts that will be running through the minds of thousands of young sportsmen this summer as they partake in one of the world's newest and most popular sports, SCUBA diving, that is, swimming with a self-contained underwater breathing apparatus.

Among these lucky people will be a group of students from New York University who will renew the outdoor activities of the Long Island Sound Expedition, a research project supervised by Dr. Brooks Ellis of the Dept. of Micropaleontology. Under the command of Darwin Hemer of the Micro Department, the men have already put their boat into shape for this summer's work and will commence study about the middle of June. Utilizing the apparatus which made last year's venture such a success, plus some new additions, the men intend to take cores from all depths in the Sound.

Benefiting by the experience they received last year, the men should make this year's study an even more successful one. Once again the temperature, plant and animal inhabitants of the Long Island Sound sediments, as well as other vital information, will come under close scrutiny. Without a doubt, it sounds like an ideal way to spend the summer.

Larry Pintner in Offices Services has discount tickets for Palisades Amusement Park with which you can get \$1.45 worth of fun for 50c. Each ticket is good for 6 big rides plus admission.

## Heard in Passing

The quiet man working on the cylinder press in the Print Shop is ROBERT DALY, two years out of Ireland and three months and twenty-one days in the Museum. Bob spent 7 years as a printer's apprentice in Dublin before he could become a journeyman, and as part of his training he had to study math, the history of printing and English.

Having completed a tour of duty in Animal Behavior, supplemented by further research in the Library, GLADYS STACK became Mrs. Lou Serrille on Memorial Day. Best wishes and congratulations!

The Ruibals, now residing in Riverside, California, will be frequent visitors to the Museum during the next few weeks while Rudy is working on the Dept. of Amphibians and Reptiles' collection prior to their departure for Cuba. Having served for ten years as the departmental secretary, Irene will be remembered by many of us, and we are anxious to meet their young son.

MRS. OLGA SMITH, the Library's secretary, knows French, Spanish, German and Hungarian, enough languages to keep her busy with extra-secretarial translating. She lived in Switzerland and Austria for several years. The Library is happy to have her with them.

Congratulations to TERRY CURTIN, Sc. Asst. in the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles, who received her B.A. degree from Hunter College in June.

Maybe it's the glorious view outside or the equally attractive scenery inside, but this is the *third* time it's happened to the Director's Office . . . first, Peggy Phillips, then Adelaide Jordan, and now VERA UJHELY. We are happy to learn of her engagement to DICK VAN GELDER of the Mammal Dept.

The Insect Department reports that DR. and MRS. RINDGE are on a collecting trip in Colorado this summer, and that ALICE GRAY and MARJORIE STATHAM are at the Southwestern Research Station. Alice has a full schedule of lectures throughout the state on the potentials of the Station.

MRS. ETHEL SMITH, who has been a temporary addition to the President's Office, is now a permanent employee. We are so glad because she is devoted to the Museum and everyone in it.

**WILLIAM B. GIBBONS**, who has just retired as Seaman 3/c after twenty years in the Navy, is now employed as a watchman on the 1 p.m. shift of the Watchforce. He probably has seen plenty of the world already, but we have a good part of it right here within our walls.

**MARJORIE MCKENZIE**, Instructor in the Department of Public Instruction, sails on July 15th with her husband to visit several European countries. Back in September.

**FRANCES PIANSKY** is at St. Josephs Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas, where she is undergoing treatment.

Three Columbia University graduate students are working in the Paleontology Lab this summer—Messrs. **GEORG ZAPPLER**, **DAVID BARDACK**, and **GILES MACINTYRE**.

**LEROY FREEMANTLE**, son of Victor Freemantle (Bldg. Serv.), is the new face in Office Services. He is here just for the summer months to see that the mails go through in spite of vacations.

**JIM FLOOD** (Bldg. Serv.) and his wife flew to California in June to attend the graduation of their youngest son who, because of asthma, has been living with his older brother.

**DR. G. G. SIMPSON**, whose leg was broken in an accident while on a Museum Expedition on the Amazon River, has been recuperating at his home in New Mexico. He will return to New York in July for further medical check-up and treatment.

**FARIDA WILEY** left for Maine on June 9th to teach botany at the Audubon Nature Camp at Medomak, a little island in the Atlantic.

**PETUNIA**, the pet skunk in the Natural Science Center, is passing out cigars and cigarettes to his friends in celebration of the birth of four offspring on June 10th.

**DR. BILL TAVOLGA** of the Dept. of Animal Behavior is doing field work at Eugenie Clark's Cape Haze Marine Laboratory, Placida, Florida. Dr. Tavolga is investigating the vocal aspects of our underwater friends. Might the female goby be a coloratura after all?

**LOUIS MONACO** (Geo. & Paleo.) is deserting Sheepshead Bay for two weeks of salmon fishing in Maine. July is fine for salmon, but what will the flounders do without him?

**TONY TUMILLO**, who retired from the Print Shop last July and now lives in Florida, is coming to New York this month to see his new grandson whom he has never seen. We hope he will stop in and visit with his old friends.

**JENNIFER CHATFIELD**, Instructor in the Department of Public Instruction, is leaving on July 3rd to travel in Europe for two months this summer.

**JOSEPH O'NEILL**, the attendant stationed in the Warburg Hall, is the father of two boys, born on June 7th. Mrs. O'Neill and sons are doing nicely—and so is Joe.

**ETHEL TOBACH** of the Dept. of Animal Behavior is now Dr. Ethel Tobach. Congratulations, Ethel!

Paleontology has a mascot—a parakeet. It flew in the window and was netted by **GEORGE WHITAKER** in a butterfly net. It is now housed in a strong cage which it is constantly trying to pull apart. It must have come from Brooklyn because it is the noisiest choiping boid we ever heard.

**DR. GORDON EKHOLM**, Curator of Mexican Archeology, returned a few weeks ago from southeastern Mexico with his collection of bigger and better bricks from the Maya site of Comalcalco. The most notable event happened after Dr. Ekholm's return. None the worse for his four months of strenuous, backbreaking work in the field, Gordon sat down in his new beautiful office chair, reached over to adjust the knob which regulates the spring tension, wrenched his back and has been creeping around ever since. The perils of the field are nothing compared with the dangers lurking in our Museum.

**ERIKA RAWITSCHER**, Instructor in the Department of Public Instruction, left on June 8th for the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole where she will take some courses. At the end of July Erika is flying to Germany to visit her parents and to travel for a while in Europe.

**THOMAS MAWHINNEY** (Bldg. Serv.) is taking his family to Grand Falls, Province of New Brunswick, Canada, for the month of July. Tom expects to do a lot of fishing—especially for trout.

**RICHARD PANKANIN** (Animal Behavior) is a grandfather again. Two girls this time. He already has two grandsons.

Mount Airy Lodge in the Poconos was where **THOMAS BRADLEY** (Bldg. Serv.) took his June bride. It's a perfect spot for a honeymoon as Tom can tell you.

**DR. SCHNEIRLA** of the Dept. of Animal Behavior is hot on the trail of ants—we hope. He spent the first week of his field trip in Cades Cove, Tennessee, but alas, those wily creatures were nowhere around. So, Dr. Schneirla with a spade and plenty of perseverance went on to what he hopes will be more fertile territory—Decatur, Alabama. Happy anting, Ted!

This seems to be **THE** summer to go to Europe. Here are two more people on their way: **MARY PATSURIS** (Geo. & Paleo.) and her husband; and **KENNETH CHAMBERS** (Pub. Instr.) to spend the summer with his parents in Sussex, England.

**ANNE** and **MAX GIRAUD** (Planet. and Bldg. Serv.) celebrated their third wedding anniversary on May 29th. Do you remember when they had stars in their eyes? Well, they still do.

While some people like Tony Tumillo and Albert Butler leave Florida at this time of year, **JOSEPH KEEGAN**, relief elevator operator, will go there for his vacation. You won't see him around here in September.

Did you know about **CHUCK BOGERT'S** pet bob-cat that barks like a dog? It seems that he got it from a Mexican family when he was in Tucson in 1955. The cat was a baby then, but under Chuck's quieting influence, it has become a tame two-year-old who loves domestic cats, children and sociability, and has the run of the Bogert homestead. We wish Chuck would keep his snakes at home, too. The other day one of them climbed the back stairs of 1A and parked outside Adrian Ward's office, almost preventing Artie Naylor from getting his work done.

**BETTY LAWRENZ** resigned from the Dept. of Public Instruction on May 17th. Betty will have a new job after the middle of July when the baby arrives.

Spry and full of vim and vigor, 80-year-old **ALBERT BUTLER**, former Assistant Chief of the Preparation Dept., visited some of his friends in the Museum recently. Mr. Butler retired 11 years ago and much exhibition has been done since then, all of which Mr. Butler says is very handsome, especially the groups in the Hall of North American Forests.









# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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OCTOBER 1, 1957

## Where Were You?

Those long, lazy sunshiny days of summer which held our precious five weeks and two days of vacation have given way to the shorter, cooler ones of Fall and a return to the business at hand. Away and far behind us are the days we lolled on beaches, growing browner by the minute; the hours we stood knee deep in streams full of trout—rainbow, brown and speckled; the miles of superhighways, air lanes and seaways we rode, through and over fields and mountains and seas, to come at last to the great cities of the world, the wonders of our National Parks or our favorite relatives and friends.

All this while, the life of the museum went on eight hours a day, seven days a week, and we who were left to open the doors at ten o'clock each morning to over 300,000 visitors wondered where you were.

Where were you when the late Alfred Kinsey, an entomologist before becoming a sexologist, bequeathed his collection of five and a half million gall wasps to the museum; Mrs. Riess-Vasquez gave us her collection of jade; and Connie Borland Hall, the New Zealander who spent a year in our Department of Public Instruction back in 1949-50, sent the Mammal Department a number of pieces of ambergris, so valued for fine perfumes?

Where were you when every other man in the museum (or so it seemed) sported a beard and the 77th Street Foyer sported a coat of bright red paint?

Were you sitting under a shady tree drinking a tall cool one when the temperature in New York was over 90° day after day and the panel box in Sect. 1 caught on fire, throwing many of the buildings into darkness, burning the telephone wires and filling the place with smoke? And the next day the same thing happened in the Sloth Hall but was quickly discovered, and the NEXT day the wiring on the Planetarium marquee caught fire?

Where were you when Cupid had a hey-day inside our ivied walls and Priscilla Rasquin became Mrs. Edwin

D. Holland on August 17th; Vera Ujhely became Mrs. Richard Van Gelder on August 19th; Otto Stii married Barbara Spencer on August 10th; Agni Vlavianos became Mrs. Epimenides Haidemenakis on July 20th; and Fortunato Molinaro married Antonina Lonetto—on vacation?

And where were you when Francesca LaMonte, after eighteen years as Secretary of the IGFA (International Game Fish Association), resigned that post and H. Dale Shaw replaced her, locating himself and the IGFA files in the little room at the north end of the Reptile Hall?

Were you bird watching in Maine when here in New York, first a parrot and next morning a parakeet flew in the window of Dr. Mead's 6th floor office and shortly thereafter became the property of Julia Crane and Walter Carroll, respectively? And the proverbial stork flew in with a girl named Wendy for the Jack McCormicks and a girl named Suzanne for George Crawbuck and his wife? And the AMNH pigeons had some frightening moments when Gordon Reekie asked for \$65,000 worth of pigeon-proofing at the Capital Budget Hearing.

Were you stargazing, or dreaming, when Mrkos, the fourth comet to be discovered this year, appeared in our northwestern skies during the first part of August and excited us with its clarity and beauty?

Where were you when Parade Magazine and many of the papers carried the story of how our Department of Public Instruction set up a nature trail and museum for the 800 blind people who come each summer to the Vacation Camp for the Blind in Spring Valley, N. Y.?

Were you visiting the National Museum of Pakistan in Karachi when the Pakistan Prime Minister, Hussein Shaheed Suhrawardy, visited The American Museum of Natural History? And Benny Edwards of St. Petersburg visited his old friends in the Carpenter Shop?

Where were you when the Eastern Woodlands Indian Hall was moved, case by case, to its new location in Maxwell Hall?

And where were you when the museum smelled like the great out-of-doors on a cold frosty night because one of Petunia's offspring 'hit' Paula Goldwasser in the face, just two days before it was to be de-skunked?

Where were you when Dr. Ellis acquired for the museum and N.Y.U. a 26-year-old, 100-foot yacht, the Sea Echo, once the property of the Army Corps of Engineers and now a floating laboratory for all kinds of scientists?

Wherever you were—and we hope it was just where you wanted to be—all this and more happened while you were away.

## Earth, Air and Space

All day long on Sept. 12th the atmosphere, both upper and lower, was bombarded by words like electromagnetic, geomagnetic, chemiluminescence, thermoluminescence, fall-out, glow curves, Nike-Deacon, Nike-Cajun and vlf emissions, as 600 science educators and scientists gathered in the Planetarium for a symposium on "Earth, Air and Space."

The purpose of this, the fourth Planetarium symposium in six years, was to disseminate first-hand information on recent IGY developments to science teachers in universities, colleges and high schools in the metropolitan area.

Dr. Joseph Kaplan, Chairman of the U. S. National Committee for the IGY opened the meeting with a discussion of the United States participation in the International Geophysical Year. Papers followed on "The Upper Atmosphere," "Chemical Research in the IGY," "Sun-Earth Relationships," and on radioactive fall-out.

As Joe Chamberlain said afterwards, "It means that our basic function of education in astronomy and its subject environs is being transmitted beyond this building and into as many classrooms as are represented here today."

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

## Hallelujah!

Our memory often fails us these days, but it seems as though the word "conversion" has been echoing around our ears for quite some time. It was always just "over the hill" or "around the corner" or "any time now." Eventually it took on the quality of a myth, and few of us ever thought that it would become a reality. Perhaps the gargantuan size of the project or the herculean task of coordinating the dozen or so agencies involved colored our thinking. But in this modern world no project is too large, and at last, myth has become fact—the conversion is starting!

Don't get excited. Don't, please, rush out and buy those power tools you've been longing for, and don't ask for air-conditioning right away. This kind of conversion takes a long, long time. We have only embarked on Stage 1 and there are many more to follow. As each step is finished, Con Edison will take over some of the load on our generators, until in the end. . . . Hallelujah, we're converted!

## Project Vanguard

On September 25th a new exhibit: PROJECT VANGUARD opened on the 2nd floor of the Planetarium.

As you may already know, the Vanguard is the giant three-stage satellite launching rocket being built by the Martin Company of Baltimore, and Project Vanguard is the satellite program.

Sometime before the end of 1958, the Vanguard rocket will propel the satellite, a 20-inch instrumented sphere, to an altitude of 300 miles and launch it in a semi-permanent orbit around the earth. It will circle the globe once every hour and a half.

The exhibition in the Planetarium contains a 12-foot cutaway scale model of the rocket (the actual rocket will be 72-feet long and will weigh about 11 tons), as well as an animated model of the satellite circling the earth and an illuminated diagram of the rocket's trajectory. In addition the exhibit illustrates the highlights of rocket development and the possibilities of future space travel.

Whether or not you are feeling too earthbound and want to get away from it all, be sure to see this timely and worthwhile exhibition.

Then, if you still don't understand what it is all about, wait patiently until October 15th when Dr. Franklyn Branley's new book, EXPLORING BY SATELLITE, will be published. It is the story of Project Vanguard and has been illustrated by Helmut K. Wimmer, staff artist in the Planetarium.

## Congratulations

Of the forty-six scientists in New York State who recently received grants from the National Science Foundation, three of them are on our staff: Dr. Dorothy Bliss (Fishes); Dr. Mont Cazier (Insects) and Dr. T. C. Schneirla (An. Beh.).

It was with sorrow that we heard of the death of Aloysius P. Collins on September 10th. Al, as he was known to all of us, suffered a heart attack while on vacation in July but seemed to be recovering until he had another one on September 1st. Al came to the museum twenty-one years ago as an elevator operator, but for the past fourteen years has worked in the Shipping Room. He leaves a wife, three children and four grandsons. His son, Edward, works with Harry Farrar in the Mason Shop. We of the museum extend our sympathy to his family.

## The Trading Post

WANTED: 26" girl's bike in good condition. Reasonable. Bill Heslin, Ext. 272.

SUBLET: 3½ room furnished apt., Riverside Dr. at 106th Street, from Nov. 1, 1957—Aug. 1, 1958. \$160 a month. Brian Mason, Ext. 315.

FOR SALE: 1955 Studebaker Commander 4-dr. Sedan. Black, nothing wrong anywhere. \$965. George Nelson, Ext. 419.

FOR SALE: Keuffel & Esser drawing set, never used. \$20. Isabel Mount, Ext. 444.

FOR SALE: Swedish hand loom, floor model, natural wood, 36" wide, like new. \$25. Isabel Mount, Ext. 444.

FOR SALE: Universal Coffeematic 10-cup percolator—\$5. Kendall, Ext. 477.

FOR SALE: Two Mexican pins—inlaid copper and silver—darning needle \$10; beetle \$7. Joe Sedacca, Ext. 275.

FOR SALE: 1952 Ford Customline V-8. Standard shift, Radio, Heater, Slip Covers—\$450. Call Otto Ext. 521.

## Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner, Ext. 263, has discount tickets for the 1957 World's Championship Rodeo at Madison Square Garden through October 13th.

## Sports

Because of the work that has piled up while we were on vacation, there has been little time to devote to extracurricular activities such as sports. However, it is hoped that we can get two bowling teams started soon. If any of you (and that includes women) are interested, please contact Don Serret, Ext. 201.

For the golf enthusiasts in the museum there has been set up on the 4th floor Mezzanine of Roosevelt Bldg. a very fine driving net. Those wishing to use it, please contact Artie Naylor, Ext. 437, to reserve a time for playing.

The Museum Sports Club has opened its Fall season with plans for four trips. In September there is to be a salt water trip in L. I. Sound with Paul Goodhouse in charge; a fresh water trip with Harry Farrar in charge; and in October a hunting trip under Emil Kremer's guidance. On October 12th a salt water fishing trip will leave Sheepshead Bay, headed by Walter Joyce.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.



## "Gray Amber"

This is the story of a girl who didn't forget. Remember Connie Borland who worked for a year in our Department of Public Instruction? When Connie returned home to New Zealand she carried with her a strange request—a request for ambergris.

Ever since the founding of the Museum people have been lugging large chunks of "foreign" material to the Museum hoping that some curator would identify their finds as ambergris (after the French 'ambre-gris' meaning gray amber). This waxy substance from the intestinal tract of sperm whales was called "floating gold" by Dr. R. C. Murphy in an article in *Natural History* (1933). Hardly a month passes that the Museum is not called upon to pass judgment on bits of stranded refuse washed up on our metropolitan beaches. However, the times that genuine ambergris have been brought in can be counted on the fingers of one hand because sperm whale are usually found in southern waters.

For years the attendants directed these callers with bulky packages to the office of Dr. Murphy. Here they were shown a small sample of ambergris obtained by Dr. Murphy from his Cape Cod friend, Capt. Stull of Provincetown, a dealer for many years in porpoise-jaw oil and ambergris. This ounce of musk-scented perfumer's "gold" was kept in a large glass jar, and the disappointed beachcombers were allowed to sniff the distinctive odor. The expert buyers of ambergris in the essential oil companies find that the nose is the best judge of "gray amber." Early whalers also used this criterion. They would probe deep into the intestines of each newly caught sperm whale and smell the blade on withdrawal to see if this were an "ambergris fish."

Whalers traditionally sell their haul of ambergris at the first port of call, which, in the South Pacific, is often one of the principal New Zealand ports. Thus it was that Connie carried instructions to contact an ambergris dealer upon her return home, and send graded specimens to the Department of Mammals for their collection.

True to her word, Connie posted samples of high grade gray ambergris, the low priced, black, gummy variety, and a number of intermediate types. In one of these fragments several of the horny beaks of squids, a favorite food of sperm whales, can be seen. The most commonly accepted theory ex-

plaining the formation in ambergris is that these sharp foreign objects irritate the lining of the digestive tract causing secretions which envelope the offending body. Cross sections of ambergris often show concentric layers of material.

Now, thanks to Connie Borland, anyone in the Museum may become an "expert" at identifying ambergris. The nose is still better than all the laboratory tests yet devised. The odor of what the Chinese call the "dragon's saliva perfume" is so distinctive that the olfactory memory is rarely fooled.

## No More Leaky Radiators

On Wednesday evening, August 28th, a farewell dinner was held for Anthony Meyenberg who retired after 19 years in the museum's Plumbing Shop where he got to know every radiator, every elbow joint and every leaking valve on the premises. Don Serret, Teddie Pedersen and Walter Joyce organized a fine party with good food, good music, good (?) dancing, and speeches by Ed Meyenberg (Tony's brother), Walter Joyce and Tony himself.

For some years now, Tony has been living at Lake Carmel, N. Y., and commuting to work which is a long, hard ride. So we don't blame Tony for retiring before he has to, even though we will miss him and hope that he will miss us, too.

## No More Cataloguing

On September 30th Mrs. Jacqueline VanTil-Miller retired after thirty years as cataloguer in our Library. When Mrs. VanTil-Miller came here in 1927, she not only catalogued books but for three years she was our first nurse. Before coming to this country in 1920, she had spent five years studying nursing under Edith Cavell, the famous English nurse who was executed by the Germans in 1915, and another five years in Miss Cavell's clinic in Brussels. In March 1920 Jackie, as she is called by her friends, suddenly decided to come to the United States "to see the Indians and to get a nice husband." As it turned out, there were no Indians in New York City, but she did find a nice husband to whom she has been married for 29 years. We hope that she will never have to catalogue another book and can devote all of her time to her two hobbies, poetry and drawing.

## HELP WANTED

Man-power, brain-power and new ideas for the EBA Entertainment Program; also a hard-working Chairman.

Call Gordon Reekie, Ext. 334

## Heard in Passing

T. DONALD CARTER, Assistant Curator in Mammalogy, has been made a member of the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University in appreciation for his interest in that institution and especially for his gift of five pair of choice wood ducks. Don has a "sanctuary" in Boonton, N. J. where he raises forty-two species of ducks and geese, as well as playing host to over two hundred wild fowl.

RUDY BONEN (Electr.) is building a new house right next to the Yacht Club on Staten Island. Hi, Commodore!

A year ago last March a water main on Central Park West broke and flooded the basement of Roosevelt. One of the places that suffered the most damage was the office of Building Services. It has looked forlorn and empty until recently when work started on the renovation. WALTER LAMBERT hopes to move back by Thanksgiving.

DR. and MRS. HAROLD ANTHONY (Mammals) attended the Annual Convention of the American Orchid Society, held in Hawaii this past month. Dr. Anthony is president of the Society and an ardent orchid grower.

On Sept. 13th in Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, Ireland, Patrick Daly was born. His proud father, ROBERT DALY of the Print Shop, could hardly keep his mind on the presses until he had the good word. We hope that Mrs. Daly and Patrick will be home soon.

FRED WERNERSBACH (Machine Shop) and his wife are spending part of their vacation in Houston, Texas, with Cecil Gill of the Humble Oil Co. Cecil supervised the construction of the oil derrick in the Hall of Oil Geology and spent some weeks here at the time of its installation.

Did you know that the Department of Correction of the State of New York gets out a catalogue of all the things made in prison shops? We learned this the other day because Building Services has just purchased some "fireman's" chairs for the Men's Locker Room and they were made in Sing Sing. They are comfortable, good-looking—and strong. Also cheap!

CONSTANCE CHRISTOPHER (Nat. Hist.) sang a solo part in the concert version of Hindemith's "Frau Musica" at a lecture on contemporary music given by Aaron Copland at Tanglewood this summer.



LEE BOLTIN, whose photographs of Pre-Columbian objects are on exhibit in the Corner Gallery until October 27th, has been in New York this past month, catching up on AMNH activities and telling us of the wonders of San Francisco where Lee is now living.

Apparently he was so persuasive that HARRY COONEY (Graphic Arts Div.) has resigned and is on his way to Frisco to make his fortune or catch a movie star—or both. We wish him luck but will miss him, too.

RICHARD FORTUNE, an expert Russian linguist, has joined the Micropaleontology staff as a translator. He is in the process of completing his doctorate in Slavic languages at Columbia.

DR. OTTO H. HAAS, recently retired Associate Curator of Fossil Invertebrates, goes to Hofstra College on Long Island this fall as a visiting professor in geology. He and Mrs. Haas have been given a small house near the college and we hope that they have a pleasant and rewarding year.

SHERMAN A. MINTON, a medical doctor on the staff of the Indiana University Medical Center at Indianapolis, has been appointed Research Associate in the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles. Dr. Minton, who is extremely interested in herpetology, has published important papers on venom studies as well as taxonomic herpetology.

Long time employees of the museum will be distressed to hear of the death of MRS. JOHN GERMANN, who worked in our Paleontology Dept. from 1924 to 1938. An artist, gifted in many ways, she was especially adept at restoration models and fine line drawings of specimens.

MARGARET KRUSE, secretary in the Dept. of Micropaleontology, has resigned in order to accept a scholarship in English History at Radcliff College. RICHARD CHARMATZ, a geology student at NYU, has taken her place.

We are glad to see that EUGENIE DAHLMANN (Bldg. Serv.) is well again and back in the museum after a whole year of absence due to ill health.

DR. BERTRANDSCHULTZ, Director of the University of Nebraska State Museum and a paleontologist to boot, spent the month of August in the Frick Lab working on oreodonts. He is co-author with CHARLIE FALKENBACH of a series of papers on these critters.

Lamont Curator Emeritus of Birds DR. and MRS. ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY left on Sept. 20th to attend the Ninth Pacific Science Congress in Bangkok. They will travel through India and Japan, and return to the United States about the first of January.

JOHN BABYAK, formerly with our Dept. of Exhibition, turned up in the New York Times of Sept. 3rd as a "small-arms specialist" (whatever that means) in the Parks Museum Laboratory in Washington, D. C. It seems that John is working on a diorama which will depict 16th century Spaniards in an attack on French civilians at Fort Caroline in north Florida. The Laboratory makes exhibits for the museums in our National Parks and has found the diorama of great value in illustrating historical events. They are lucky to have John because we remember him as an excellent and painstaking craftsman.

DR. G. G. SIMPSON, Chairman of the Dept. of Geology and Paleontology, recently spent a month in the hospital undergoing a bone graft. Although it will be some time before he is about, we hope that this time his leg will be completely healed. It has been a year since Dr. Simpson was injured on a field trip in South America.

Now we've heard everything! JEANNE LYONS of the Library staff gave up her VACATION this summer to work in the Dept. of Micropaleontology! It seems Jeanne is getting her master's in geology at NYU, and working helps.

Friends of ELLA RANSOM, former secretary to Trubee Davison, will be sorry to hear that she spent most of the summer in a hospital in Rockland, Maine, due to a heart attack which occurred while she was vacationing on an island in Penobscot Bay. We hope that she is at home by this time, and fast regaining her health.

There are great changes in Public Instruction these days: AALBERT HEINE left to become director of the Corpus Christi Junior Museum as of August 1st; LEON STOVER left to become head of the anthropology section of Hobart College in Geneva, N. Y.; and ROSEMARY KANE is teaching in the Huntington, L. I. schools. We wish all of them the best of luck.

ANTHONY LARUFFA and HERBERT LEWIS, both getting their doctorates in Anthropology, have joined the Department of Public Instruction as instructors.

The Mammal Dept. has a small "investment" in the Broadway show, "Auntie Mame" because the longer it runs, the more money comes in. A mounted rhino head, a tiger skin and a pair of elephant tusks from the collection made their stage debut in the second act of "Auntie Mame" in October 1956, and the Mammal Dept. has been "collecting" ever since.

THOMAS MAWHINNEY has transferred from Building Services to the Mammal Dept. where he has taken over the cataloguing of specimens.

RITA QUINN, the former cataloguer, left to enter a convent.

E. THOMAS GILLIARD (Bird Dept.) flew to Caracas in September to join the Angel Falls Expedition led by Lowell Thomas. The expedition's objective was to make a photographic record of Angel Falls and the plateau of Auyan-tepui for television purposes, but Tom's objective was to observe and photograph birds on this plateau where he had collected in 1937-38. Tom is expected back shortly and we hope his camera was in working order.

ARNOLD SAKS, designer in the Exhibition Dept., has resigned to devote full time to free-lancing.

Classes in the Natural Science Center have been so popular that JUDITH ZANGER, a recent Cornell graduate, has been appointed an instructor there.

HOBART M. VAN DEUSEN (Mammals) and his son Hobart D., a senior at Dartmouth College, won the First Father-Son Golf Championship at the Montclair Golf Club on Sept. 8th. There were 67 teams entered. Van says that he and his son are really not good golfers but they were on fire that day.

Bronze lettering has been added to the niches on either side of the second floor entrance to the Roosevelt Memorial Building to enlighten the visitor as to his whereabouts—just in case he thinks he is at the Metropolitan Museum, the Public Library or the Tombs.

MRS. ANTOINETTE GORDON, who is in charge of our Tibetan collection, has returned from a summer in Japan. It seems that she and BRUCE HUNTER kept running into each other in their travels throughout that country.

MRS. RUTH FINKELSTEIN is the new secretary in the editorial office of Natural History Magazine.



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## The First Blush of Youth Returns

In the years between 1890 and 1957 the "soft warm stone" of our older buildings has lost its youthful appearance under the soot, smoke and smog of New York City. But since September 4th, when the steam cleaning started, it has gradually returned to illustrate once again what the Messrs. Cady, Berg & See, architects for the museum, had in mind when they dreamed so long ago of a "harmonizing result."

"As the buildings are to be in a park with surroundings of grass, trees, and shrubbery, it was felt that both the material and architectural treatment should be influenced by this fact. For this reason a warm, reddish granite was chosen, its tone harmonizing well with the verdure about it, its rock-faced surfaces being in keeping with the scene. Granite, moreover, seemed especially suitable for a monumental building. The usual fault has been its coldness of color. In this case a granite of remarkably beautiful tone was found in Canada, a little north of the State of Maine. The quarries were small, but American enterprise opened them sufficiently to get, although with great difficulty, the stone needed for the building. As wing after wing has been added, the scheme itself has become more evident and its effect more impressive. When the buildings at each end of the south facade shall have been completed, the whole front will be one of the greatest in extent in the country, and with its soft warm stone, its varied sky-lines and natural surroundings, will present a picture rarely seen in our great cities—a building of great extent in which color, form and nature have been carefully considered for a harmonizing result."

Thus wrote Mr. H. M. Pettit in an article which appeared in Harper's Weekly of April 3, 1897.

All important buildings that are destined to stand for at least a century are cleaned at one time or another, and The American Museum of Natural History is one of these. The work is being done by the Standard Water-

proofing Company, low bidders at \$25,413, the same company that is now cleaning our City Hall. It will take ten men three months to remove the grime from the 202,000 square feet of our three facades and the granite posts in the fence around Manhattan Square.

The steam cleaning and Mr. Pettit's description set us to thinking about our building and what has happened to it since the first section (F) was opened in 1877 as "one of the largest buildings devoted solely to Natural History, yet completed in any land."

Of course the most important event has been the addition of sixteen buildings, or wings. We wish that there was room to tell you all of the trials and tribulations that accompanied the construction of each one. Of how the excavations for Sects. S and G remained a yawning hole for ten years because the City was badly in debt; of how in 1899 the increasing cost of labor and iron construction necessitated a revision in the design of the Auditorium; and of the gigantic plans for filling out Manhattan Square and for the erection of a tower in the center of it to house a vast astronomical hall capped by a dome.

Not of much importance, but still interesting is the fact that twice we have been hit by lightning. In 1918 "on May 21, lightning struck the east tower of the Museum, breaking off large pieces of stone and causing considerable damage" for which \$2,500 was needed for repair. Then on June 25, 1925 the west tower was struck, again causing considerable damage not only to the building but to Dr. Child's nerves. He was working in the 5th floor tower room at the time and still remembers the rather violent jar that shook the building from top to bottom and the rain of masonry that hurtled past the windows as he ran from the room. After that the polished granite balls which had topped the towers were replaced by copper spheres and, we hope, lightning rods.

During the eighty years of its exis-

tence, neither storm nor flood nor steam nor gloom of soot has stayed these buildings from the full completion of their appointed task, that of housing The American Museum of Natural History.

### Busy, Busy, Busy

The arrival of Sputnik created a great deal of excitement at the Planetarium, as one might guess. On the weekend of October 5th the entire staff worked day and night answering phones, supplying newspaper stories, and, as many people who tuned in know, making a good many television and radio appearances.

Within the week following Sputnik's debut, the staff participated in five television shows and twelve radio broadcasts. Even now, several weeks after Sputnik became a reality, the activity is continuing at a high level. Calls for information are almost continuous, and the staff finds itself booked for more and more radio and TV programs.

On Tuesday, October 8th, a radio receiver was installed in the corridor adjacent to the Vanguard Exhibit, and an antenna on the roof of the Whitney Building. The radio is tuned to the frequency at which Sputnik is broadcasting and the signals are audible in the corridors whenever the satellite comes within range. Signals are transmitted into the dome during the program when the reception is good.

An exhibit has been installed on the 2nd floor of the Planetarium to illustrate the orbital characteristics of satellites and their internal instrumentation. This display includes a map of the earth with the satellite orbit above it, as well as the changing relationship of the sun, the satellite orbit and the rotation of the earth. Through these varying circumstances can be demonstrated and predicted the visibility of Sputnik from the New York area.

A special course on "Artificial Earth Satellites" started on October 17th and will last for five weeks. The response has been tremendous.

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## J. P. Wilson Retires

So quiet and unassuming, yet so much a part of the Museum, is the man named James Perry Wilson. Working as he has for twenty-three years behind closed doors and barricading screens, it is small wonder that we did not learn of his retirement until long after August had come and gone. To be sure, you will still see him around because he is in every day from nine to five, working on the Coast Redwood diorama which he has contracted to finish for the Hall of North American Forests.

Perry, as everyone calls him, wasn't raised to be a background painter, but all of his training and all of his hobbies have contributed to his success as one of the outstanding, if not THE outstanding background painter in the country. He graduated from the Columbia University School of Architecture in 1914 and for eighteen years worked in architectural offices. Then came 1932 and the depression. Architects were a dime a dozen and Perry

was out of a job. Landscape painting had been a consuming interest since childhood, so he hied himself off to spend the summer on Monhegan Island painting landscapes. There, two important things happened to Perry. He met Marian Lockwood of The American Museum of Natural History's Department of Astronomy and he painted a picture of the total eclipse of the sun (Astronomy is one of his great interests).

When he got back to New York early in 1933, he took his painting to the Museum to show Miss Lockwood. She was so impressed that she called in Dr. Clark, then head of the Preparation Department, who in turn called in William R. Leigh, the chief background painter for the Akeley African Hall. It was a foregone conclusion that Perry would become a part of the museum, but that did not take place officially until June 1934 when he became Leigh's assistant and cut his background-painting teeth on the Water Hole Group. Since that time Perry has painted twenty-five backgrounds alone, collaborated on seven others, and, during a two-year leave of absence, three backgrounds for the Peabody Museum at Yale, the only time that Perry forsook our museum for another.

All of his backgrounds in the Akeley Hall were painted from someone else's field sketches and photographs. But in 1938 he was sent on his first trip to collect for the bison, wapiti and grizzly bear groups in the North American Mammal Hall, and since then has covered a great deal of the United States and Canada.

"Field trips are an especially enjoyable part of museum work," says he.

Perry's architectural training in perspective (which is much more rigorous than in art school) and his mathematical mind have been of great value in solving the problems of perspective which arise when painting on a curved wall, and over the years he has devised various methods of dealing with these problems. His present project, the Coast Redwood diorama, is taxing all of his experience and ingenuity because in this exhibit 270 feet are condensed into 7, which means that the perspective is greatly forced. Not only is he painting the background but the foreground as well, in an effort to create, through technical tricks, an illusion of more space than is there. It is the first time that any attempt has been made to force the perspective of the foreground accessories.

## An Appeal for Clothing

There are many employees of The American Museum who are sending used clothing . . . shoes, suits, dresses, coats, hats, etc. . . to needy relatives overseas. If you have any clean used clothing which you do not want, please wrap it and deliver it to me so that we can get it to those who need it more than we do.

William A. Burns  
Chairman of Welfare, EBA

We are anxious to see the results but we hope that Perry will be around long after the Coast Redwood diorama is finished.

## Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner in Office Services on the 3rd Floor has discount tickets for the New York Rangers at Madison Square Garden for three games in November and December. Call Ext. 263.

## Sports

The Sports Club has had a busy month with two bluefish dinners, a fishing trip and a hunting trip.

Emil Kremer went after bluefish with a couple of his friends out of Montauk Point on September 14th and had such a good day that he brought to the Museum gang a bluefish so large that nine men ate more than their fill and left enough for lunch for three the next day.

Ray Fuller took a trip from Sheepshead Bay the following week and brought back enough bluefish to feed the entire club.

The October 12th trip turned out to be a wonderful boat ride without a single bluefish aboard. However, a few blacks and several ling, all of which were left on board, were caught. It was the most beautiful day the Club had ever had on the water, the ocean being calm and the sun warm. The pool prize was won by Whitey Payne.

October 19th found at least six of the boys trying their hunting luck at Guy Cree's place at North Mountain in Copake Falls. Emil Kremer, who was in charge of the trip, hoped to bring back enough birds to feed the entire museum, but did you see any?

Bowling is getting some action but Don Serret states that there is still plenty of room for more bowlers, so, all of you enthusiasts, get busy!



## 45 Shopping Days 'til Christmas

The calendar tells us that there are only forty-five more shopping days until December 25th, and our October 15th pay envelope told us of the 20% discount in The Museum Shop and The Planetarium Book Corner, so we have put two and two together and come up with the fact that Manhattan Square is the best (and easiest) place to shop. This month we would like to tell you about the things we found for children and next month those for adults.

For children under six we found a wonderful coloring book with a new gimmick: a do-it-again book which first you color, then you wipe off, and next you color the same picture again. It sells for \$1.00 and there are two books from which to choose: **OUR PETS** and **OUR FARM**.

For older children who like to do things with their hands, and what child doesn't, there are a number of "kits." **ADVENTURE WITH LEAVES**, **ADVENTURE WITH BIRDS** and **ADVENTURE WITH INSECTS** are one series selling for \$2.95. At the same price are the **ROCK KIT** and the **SHELL KIT** and the popular weather kit called **LET'S FIND OUT ABOUT THE WEATHER**. For an additional three cents (making it \$2.98) there are two sandpainting kits: **CHILDREN OF THE WORLD** and **BIRDS AND ANIMALS**.

Dolls go with little girls and there are many to tempt the fancy as well as the pocket book. Guatemalan dolls for 75c each; Chinese dolls for \$1.00 each; Navajo dolls for \$1.25 a pair (a man and a woman); Japanese mascot dolls, which may be hung on the wall to bring good luck, for \$2.00 each; and a set of nested Japanese Kokeshi, which are charmingly painted wooden dolls selling for \$1.00 for a set of six. There are really lovely 15" dolls from India for \$5.00 each and even more elaborately dressed ones for \$7.00 (the women wear saris and the men turbans); Korean dancers for \$3.25 and Spanish dancers, both men and women, for \$8.50 and \$10.00.

There are no puppy dog tails for the boys but there are any number of miniature animals, including a series called **ANIMAL FAMILIES**, representing owls, zebras, elephants, donkeys and dogs, which sell for \$1.00 for a family of three. Individual animals made in Austria with great care and detail sell for 75c and \$1.00. The eagle and the stag are especially good and would please any boy.

And jig-saws—lots of them, for all ages and most of them for \$1.00.

Then, of course, there are books. Even if Johnny can't read, the illustrations are wonderful, especially in Jessie Brewer McGaw's **HOW MEDICINE MAN CURED PALEFACE WOMAN** (\$2.75), a story told entirely in authentic Indian picture writing. But if Johnny *can* read, there is **ALICE AND JUMBO** by Florence L. Lattimore (\$3.00), the true story of Alice Ward, the daughter of the founder of Ward's Natural Science Establishment in Rochester, a place known to every museum worker. **FAMOUS INDIAN CHIEFS** by John Moyer (\$3.00) has full page color portraits plus biographical sketches of such well known braves as Sitting Bull and Geronimo. Among other new books for children are **INSECTS ON PARADE** by C. J. Hylander (\$3.75), **GARDENING—A NEW WORLD FOR CHILDREN** by Sally Wright (\$2.75), **GOLDEN PICTURE BOOK OF OUR SUN** by Gene Lyon (\$1.35) and **PAGOO** by Holling and Holling (\$3.75), the story of a crab's adventures on the bottom of the sea.

All of the above may be found in The Museum Shop, but while we are on the subject of books, The Planetarium Book Corner has a wonderful selection, particularly for boys. The choicest "buy" is Dr. Franklyn Branley's **EXPLORING BY SATELLITE** (\$3.), not only because it is good but because it is autographed! And Dr. Branley has also written **SOLAR ENERGY** (\$2.75). For younger boys (girls, too, if they are space-minded) there is **SPEEDING INTO SPACE** by Marie Neurath (\$2.00), all about space ships, space stations and space travel; **THE EARTH SATELLITE** by John Lewellen (\$2.25); **THE BIG BOOK OF SPACE** (copiously illustrated) by Earl Oliver Hurst (\$1.00); **THE FIRST BOOK OF SPACE TRAVEL** by Jeanne Bendick (\$1.95), also well illustrated; **ROCKET AWAY!** by Frances Frost (\$2.25), the story of two children who take a rocket trip to the moon. We could go on and on, but we do want to tell you about the celestial globes which range in price from \$3.75 to \$14.50 and the Spitz Jr. Planetarium for \$14.95 which can project all the major constellations on your own bedroom ceiling. There are actual meteorites for \$5.00 and \$6.50. And pocket microscopes for \$3.50 and \$4.00. And a Constellation Card set which is a star game for only \$1.00.

Last but not least is one of the best presents of all because it lasts all year

### EBA

### FALL GET - TOGETHER

November 19, 1957

### Roosevelt Cafeteria

Be sure to have your \$1.25 ready when the ticket sellers come around. Beer, music and door prizes—not to mention the usual convivial company—make this the best buy of the coming social season.



long, and that is a subscription to either (or both) **JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY** for \$1.50 a year, and **SKY REPORTER** for \$1.00 for a 1-yr. subscription or \$1.50 for two years.

REMEMBER THAT IN BOTH SHOPS ALL BOOKS ARE AT COST PLUS 10% AND FOR 45 DAYS ALL GIFT ITEMS ARE LESS 20%. The prices quoted above are *not* discounted.

### Camera Club News

The AMNH Camera Club promises a bright season of activities, including speakers from well-known picture magazines, and a raffle which will begin in November, the prize to be given at the Camera Club's Christmas Party. The first prize will be a \$30 certificate for camera equipment, second prize a \$20 certificate. Plans are afoot, too, for moving the dark room to a new location and getting some improved facilities. How about coming to the next meeting and seeing some of the creative photography done by Museum employees? For information drop a note to Vera Van Gelder, Secty.

### Welcome to the EBA

The Employees' Benefit Association welcomes ten new members who were elected at the September and October meetings of the EBA Board. They are Andrew Drago and Maurice Kelly of Building Services; Harold Shaw of Fishes and Aquatic Biology; John Purcell of Natural History Magazine; Salvatore Furnari, Joseph Krosche and George Shaw of Construction and Maintenance; Richard Van Gelder of Mammals; Kenneth Franklin of the Planetarium, and Wesley Lanyon of Birds.

### Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.

## Heard in Passing

HENRY ACKERMAN of the Planetarium's Art Dept. has resigned "to become a millionaire" (according to his fellow workers). He is going to devote full time to his already thriving enterprise, Ack's Beach on Lake Hopatcong.

The new Copy Editor of Natural History is MARGARET MATTHEWS TUDOR, who has been in editorial work for nearly twenty years, a good part of that time on the staff of Town and Country Magazine.

The many friends of FRANCES PIANSKY will be interested to hear that the treatments at Hot Springs have been of much benefit and she is well on the road to recovery. Frances is now living in Los Angeles where the climate is better than ours, or so they say.

Building Services reports four new additions to their ranks: FRANK LOMBARDI, RICHARD DUNNE, LEONARD PERRONE and MAURICE KELLY. Messrs. Kelly and Perrone will keep the nightly vigil over the Museum's 40 acres.

Retiring from the Museum after long terms of service are FORTUNATO MOLINARO and JOSEPH O'KANE of Bldg. Services. We hope they will find time to visit us often.

Accounting will be made easier by the arrival of two new co-workers in the Div. of General Accounting: MARY CARCIONE and GERTRUDE MOSLER.

ROBERT LOBERG, asst. designer in the Exhibition Dept., has returned to his home in California and JULIUS PERLMUTTER, a recent graduate of Yale University's School of Design, has taken his place. HUBERT PRITCHARD has also been added to the department as a preparator.

JERROLD B. LANES, new editorial assistant on Natural History's staff, is a Harvard graduate ('52) and has studied at Oxford and in Paris. He has done magazine and news feature writing.

Two new instructors joined the teaching staff of the Public Instruction Dept. on Oct. 16th: SARAH HOBBS, a biology major, and CHRISTOPHER SCHUBERTH, a geology major.

BARBARA EVAS is a new secretary in the Dept. of Animal Behavior. She was formerly an assistant to an insurance adjuster, but finds biology more interesting than auto liability insurance.

The population of Portal, Arizona has been increased by one Karen Cazier, born October 18th. Congratulations, DR. and MRS. MONT CAZIER.

On September 20th, JIMMY DRAGO left Public Instruction to join the N.Y.C. Fire Department, but his first duties were shortly interrupted by a sojourn in Knickerbocker Hospital. He hopes to be home the second week in November.

RUDOLF BONEN (Elect.) is spending his spare time down at the U. S. Rubber building where he is trying to keep the water from spilling all over the floor when the miniature ship goes through the locks in an electrically controlled terrain model exhibit.

As our Auditorium will not be ready for occupancy this year, the Metropolitan Museum and Hunter College have graciously consented to our using their auditoriums for the Adventure Series and Members' Series respectively. Bill Burns informs us that we have 76,186 members as of November 1st, but fortunately all of them do not attend the lectures.

DR. and MRS. CHARLES BREDER (Fishes) left on October 21st for Cape Haze Marine Laboratory, Placida, Florida, to continue a study of various features of fish reproduction and the schooling behavior of northwestern Florida. They will be gone until November 30th.

JOSEPH SEDACCA is acting Chief of the Graphic Art and Illustration Division, and ROBERT GARTLAND has been transferred to that division from the Exhibition Department.

Sixty or more employees attended the farewell dinner in the "red room" on September 26th for NORMAN WEAVER who left his duties in the electrical shop for a sunnier clime. A verbal send-off was delivered by the party chairman, Fred Pavone, and Norman's foreman, Paul Goodhouse. There were both tears and laughter, but everyone wished Mr. and Mrs. Weaver the best of everything in their new habitat—Miami, Florida.

ELWOOD LOGAN, Chief of the Photo Division, was "written up" in the Sept. issue of "Professional Photographer."

FRED PAVONE of the Electrical Shop flew to California to visit his daughter and son-in-law.

The new assistant in the department of Amphibians and Reptiles is RICHARD BOTHNER. Dick has always had a keen interest in reptiles and is continuing his studies along these lines at Fordham University where he is completing work on his doctorate.

A second son, Thomas Leland Fowler, was born on September 14th to PEGGY (Phillips) and JIM FOWLER, too late for our October issue but not too long ago for felicitations to be in order.

A note from ELLA RANSOM brings the good news that she is "back on the job and feeling very fit." We hope she will stay that way for many years, if not forever.

DR. BRIAN MASON of the Department of Geology and Paleontology is leaving on November 11th for an extended field trip to southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand. He will travel via London and Paris to Bangkok, where he will represent the Museum and Columbia University at the Ninth Pacific Science Congress. After the Congress he will spend several months visiting mines and mineral deposits in Ceylon, Malaya, and Australia, and doing geological field work in the Southern Alps of New Zealand.

Since 1928 JOSEPH KROSCHE, more affectionately known as "Stitch," has been temporarily employed by the Museum eleven times. At the termination of Norman Weaver's employment, Stitch will, at long last, become a permanent employee of the Museum. Good luck, Joe.

DR. ALBERT E. PARR was recently elected chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Design Conference at Aspen.

Too late for our last issue came word of the death of HELENE BOOTHE on September 20th in Batavia, N. Y. Many of us will remember her as Dr. Svenson's secretary, but thousands of service men will remember her as the warm and friendly woman who ran the AMNH Canteen during World War II. Miss Boothe came to the museum in 1935 as Dr. Fisher's secretary and later transferred to Dr. Clark's office. After the war, she became Dr. Svenson's secretary, but retired in 1950 because of ill health. She had been in hospitals and nursing homes until her death.

GIL STUCKER (Paleo. Lab.), who has been dividing his time between here and Dinosaur National Monument, is now with us permanently. Good to have you, Gil.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 3

DECEMBER 1, 1957

## From One to Eighty-eight

Annual Reports will never make the best seller list nor will Hollywood snap one up for a fancy price, but that does not mean that they are dull reading.

The 88th Annual Report of The American Museum of Natural History is just out, and its seventy-seven pages are well worth your time. Besides the accomplishments of eleven scientific departments, three research stations, a natural science center, the Planetarium and sundry other departments, it lists attendance figures, membership figures, financial figures and a staff list containing 190 names.

It is a far cry from the First Annual Report of 1870 whose thirty pages were devoted almost entirely to the Constitution, the Incorporation and accompanying correspondence. There was no staff list because there was no staff; and the Treasurer's report was confined to one page on which he accounted for the income through subscriptions (\$43,006.65) in one column and the expenses (\$39,904.82) in another. Most of this was for the purchase of specimens, but one item reads: 'Nov. 19 . . . By am't paid K. Meyer for 500 bird stands at \$12 P 100 . . . \$60.00.' The present Treasurer's report is fourteen pages long, and the expenses for 1956-57 (the annual budget) are \$3,668,000! Bird stands are not mentioned.

From 1870 to 1931 every Annual Report listed, among other things, donations. This is really fascinating reading. For instance, on May 31, 1872, Mr. P. T. Barnum of New York City donated 1 Iguano; 1 Human hand; 2 Snakes; 1 Phasmida. Now, what about that hand? Where did he get it? Did it belong to the Fat Lady or to the Sword Swallower? In what condition was it? And, most important of all, where is it now? No one knows.

On Oct. 9 of the same year, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., also of New York City and almost fourteen years old, gave to science some of his most cherished possessions, probably kept

in an old shoe box, namely: 1 Bat; 12 Mice; 1 Turtle; 1 Skull, red squirrel; 4 Birds eggs.

A few years later a Charles Drake donated a "ball of hair from cow's stomach" and Capt. John H. Mortimer of the Ship "Isaac Webb" gave us "Sixteen species of Pteropods and Jelly-fishes from Pacific and Atlantic oceans." What kind of ship was the "Isaac Webb"? How long was her voyage? What ports of call? What cargo and what crew?

One year Hon. Geo. B. Glover of Shanghai, China, sent 19 Chinese games, among them "cards used in playing 'Pigeon Ticket'" and "Dominoes for playing 'Snatching the House-Sparrow.'" Who was the Hon. Glover and what is "Pigeon Ticket?"

In 1896 forty-five pages were needed for the list of donations and among them we find 2 pigs and 2 horses from one William Wallace. Were they alive or dead? Who ate the pigs or were they kept in a sty in Manhattan Square? And we note that the youthful Franklin D. Roosevelt of Hyde Park contributed 10 Pine grosbeaks. Was he following in his cousin's footsteps even at that age?

And so this fascinating reading goes on year after year until 1931 when the Annual Report stopped printing the donations. In one of the last listings we find the name, Charles M. Bogert of Los Angeles, who sent us 121 living salamanders, 44 lizards and 8 snakes. He turned out to be our own Chuck Bogert, but did he know then that six years later he would be on our staff, accepting donations instead of presenting them?

The 88th Annual Report may not list such thought-provoking items, but did you know that our Bird Department has the finest and best-housed collection in the world, with a total of about one million specimens? Or that the Southwest Research Station was host to 82 scientists working in 13 fields of natural

history? Or that starlings, kittens and platyfish share the Animal Behavior Lab with Dr. Schneirla's army ants?

All this and more is yours for the asking. Call Ext. 444 for your copy of the 88th Annual Report of The American Museum of Natural History.

### Recent Acquisition

On December 6th casts of eleven heads from Ife in Nigeria will go on temporary exhibition on the first floor of the Roosevelt building. These beautifully made casts are a recent acquisition of the Dept. of Anthropology, but they are more than that. They represent a mysterious and little known art which was first unearthed forty-seven years ago, and which anthropologists have speculated about ever since.

At the time of their discovery, Nigeria was still a colony, and as was natural with all discoveries of this nature, the first heads were sent to the British Museum. Wide recognition of the quality and importance of the art only came after the unexpected find in 1938 of a collection of brass heads, shallowly buried in the ground. By that time Nigeria was becoming politically independent and the Government promptly forbade any more heads leaving the country. As a consequence, the British Museum has the only originals.

Dr. Shapiro had long been interested in these unusual heads and several years ago decided that the Ife art should be included in our collections, if only by a cast. So he wrote to the museum in London, only to find that he would have to get permission from the Oni (the King) of Ife. This he did, but somehow the permission went astray and it was many months before it reached the right person. Meanwhile, Dr. Shapiro decided that he wanted more than one head, but that meant another permit, and so the correspondence started all over again.

At last the eleven heads have arrived, and eventually they will go on permanent display in the African Ethnology Hall on the third floor.

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

## Calling All Pensioners

For six months we have been telling you what has been going on in the Museum, but not a word about those of you who once worked here and are now retired.

Recently Dorothy Edwards Shuttlesworth, the former editor of Junior Natural History, wrote to us and we thought you might be interested in what she is doing.

Dorothy not only keeps house for her husband and two children, but somehow finds time for many other things. For two years she has been writing a monthly column, "Sharing Nature with Your Child," for Everywoman's Magazine which is sold at Food Fair and other supermarkets. Last spring her book, "The Story of Rocks", was published and this November "The Real Book about Prehistoric Life" came out. She has just finished the manuscript for "The Age of Reptiles" which will be published next year.

Dorothy writes: "Aside from this, I can't think of anything to report except the monthly piece for Junior Natural History, and of course, there's already a 'next' book brewing in the dim recesses of the cranium." She forgot to mention this, but we do know that she is very active in her church and in the PTA.

Won't the rest of you write and tell us what you are doing so that we can spread the news through The Grapevine?

## Camera Club

The Camera Club is true to its word. They promised lots of activities this year, and indeed there are. Incidentally, if you haven't gotten your raffle tickets for the camera equipment prizes, it's not too late. Contact Sam Kuster, Bill Mussig or Vera Van Gelder.

The drawing for these prizes will take place at the Christmas Meeting on December 12 at 5:30 in Room 426, where a cold buffet will be served. More information will be forthcoming about the cost of the supper. Peter Stackpole, from Life Magazine, is tentatively scheduled to give a talk.

## Stop, Look and Listen!

In a place as big as the AMNH things are bound to get lost—this time it's an etching by Botts of the facade of Roosevelt Memorial during construction. If you know of its location, please call Mrs. Kimball, ext. 220.

## Former Museum Chairman Dies

Word reached the Museum early last month of the sudden death of Dr. Charles Russell who passed away in Randolph, Vermont, on November 3rd. Dr. Russell served as Chairman of the Department of Public Instruction from 1938 to 1953, as well as Associate in the Department of Forestry and General Botany.

Since his retirement he had made his home in Truro on Cape Cod. During 1954-55 he was technical adviser for FOA in Iraq and for the Indian Government. And in 1956 he served as a special consultant on Indian Affairs in Alaska for the American Association on Indian Affairs of which he was a director.

Dr. Russell is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and two sons, Brinley and David.

## Hail and Farewell

A few weeks ago some of us were distressed to see one of our trees in the 77th St. yard being chopped down. It was sad to see a healthy tree go because it takes so long for one to grow, but progress is not to be denied. This tree was directly in the path of the new AC feeders coming into the Museum from 77th St., and in spite of many surveys, there seemed no feasible way to preserve this landmark. The Grapevine Staff has written the following in commemoration:

For many years your stately form  
Stood sentinel upon our lawn,  
And quietly you bloomed each year  
To let us know that Spring was here.  
Some say that you were "just a tree"  
Without a trace of ancestry.  
And "progress must be served today"  
Regardless of what blocks the way.  
The woodman's axe has cut you down.  
No trace of you lies on the ground.  
But we within these learned halls,  
Who watched your shadow on the walls,  
Give you this toast:

Material things all have their day,  
Continually falling by the way.  
So grieve not that you are no more  
Standing serenely by our door.  
Portrayed in paint and photograph  
By many experts on our staff,  
Your perfect image will remain  
For all to see and to acclaim.

Incidentally, the construction and concrete work progressing in the sidewalk area is the new transformer vault. It is being installed by Con Edison to serve us with the long-awaited alternating current.

## Hot Off The Griddle!

Those aficionados of America's traditional lunch, the hamburger, can now find it, accompanied by its usual partner, French fries, in the Main Cafeteria. Beside the new short-order grill, lots of brand-new stainless steel equipment has been added and there are promises of colorful changes in the decor. Could it be friendly rivalry with the Metropolitan's Junior Museum Snack Bar which we understand is the last word in modern cafeterias?

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



## 20 Shopping Days 'til Christmas

Now that the turkey has gone the way of all turkeys, the time has come to seriously think about Christmas. Each year our list seems longer and we are at our wit's end to think of what to give Aunt Sally or Johnny's teacher. A quick and easy trip to The Museum Shop and The Planetarium Book Corner will settle most, if not all, of these problems.

An attractive and unusual gift just made for Aunt Sally's teapot is a trivet from India of Shesham wood inlaid with brass and only \$2.00. And a sure way to any woman's heart is a piece of jewelry. The Museum Shop has an extensive collection from Persia, India, Mexico, Italy—and the Bronx. Bracelets range from hand-painted camel bone at \$3.00 to silver and abalone at \$10.00; earrings from enamel-on-copper butterflies for \$2.00 a pair to an endless variety of Navaho silver and turquoise. A handcarved ivory necklace (\$5.00) and earrings (\$2.25) made of tiny elephants will tickle the fancy of the woman who has everything (or at least you think she has). Pins and earrings made of gold-plated leaves (yes, actual leaves) will intrigue her and the price, \$2.50, will please you. Remember that there is a tax on all jewelry, but there is a 20% discount, too.

Johnny's teacher doesn't smoke, but the girls in the bridge club certainly do, and the Shop has most attractive individual ash trays for \$1.50 each. The larger and more elaborate ones are, of course, more expensive but you may have some one very special on your list.

For that bare spot on your dining room wall there are delightful Chinese prints of trees and birds, matted 10" x 14", for 75c each, or you may prefer masks instead of pictures. We like the ones from Indonesia, both large and small (\$10.00 and \$1.50), but there are also reproductions of Mexican, African, Northwest Coast and Iroquois Indian masks.

Speaking of museum reproductions, The Shop has quite a complete line, mostly from our own ethnological collections. The star of them all is the Buddha of Infinite Light, a ten and a half inch high, gilt-bronze statue. This is \$27.50. For \$5.00 you can get an equally attractive, though much smaller (2 1/4") statue of Vasudhara, a Tibetan goddess.

If you have a shell or mineral collector on your list there is an extensive and exciting selection of individual specimens from \$2.00 up. We were interested

to find that the smallest shell, the very rare *Murex carvicornis*, Lam., cost \$15.75 whereas one of the largest, the Pink Conch, is only \$1.00. The polished Red Abalone shell (\$3.00) appealed to us because it would make such a fine dish for candy, nuts, or even ashes (you can see that we are not collectors). A handsome mineral specimen is a large group of Calcite crystals from a cave in Missouri but there are more modest specimens: Sulphur from Mexico (\$2.00); Rhodonite from New Jersey (\$3.00); Pyrite from Mexico (\$4.00); and Linnarite from New Mexico (\$5.00).

Gifts for men seem to be difficult to find, but The Shop has a few quite handsome cuff links made by the Navaho Indians which would look wonderful on your favorite man.

And then there are books. Both The Museum Shop and The Planetarium Book Corner have the latest books on all phases of natural history. The Book Corner has recommended three new books on rockets and satellites: *VANGUARD* by Martin Caidin (\$3.95), the story of the U. S. Satellite program; *THE MAKING OF A MOON* by Arthur C. Clarke (\$3.50), which explains the construction and equipment of satellites; *MAN INTO SPACE* by Hermann Oberth (\$4.50), who is one of the earliest and most distinguished pioneers of rocket research.

But larger than Vanguards, Sputniks and Russians is the universe itself. These three books attempt to explain it: *THE MODERN UNIVERSE* by Raymond A. Lyttleton (\$3.50); *THE CHANGING UNIVERSE* by John Pfeiffer (\$4.75); and *DISCOVERY OF THE UNIVERSE* by Gerald de Vaucouleurs (\$6.00). Another side of the story is *HOW LIFE BEGAN* by Irving Adler (\$2.95) which may be purchased in The Museum Shop as may the following: *WINGS OF THE FOREST* by Dr. William J. Long (\$4.00), affectionate impressions and observations of bird life; *THE BIRD WATCHER'S ANTHOLOGY* by Roger Tory Peterson (\$7.50), a veritable library of the great literature of bird watching; *A NATURALIST IN PALESTINE* by Victor Howells (\$6.00); *THE LIFE AND DEATH OF CELLS* by Joseph G. Hoffman (\$4.50); and *STARLIGHT AND STORM* by Gaston Rebuffat (\$5.50) about the ascent of six great north faces of the Alps, with a section on the technique of mountain climbing.

The prices quoted above are NOT discounted. In both Shops all books

## E B A

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

for Children of Employees

Monday, December 16th

at 5 p. m.

in the Planetarium

are at cost plus 10% and all gift items are less 20% from now until Christmas.

Of course the best present of all is a membership in the Museum. The \$5.00 membership includes ten issues of *Natural History Magazine* as well as membership privileges. The \$15.00 one gives ten lectures for adults and ten lectures for children in addition to the magazine. You may get all the information by calling Joe Saulina.

### Sports

The Museum Bowling League is off to a good start with seventeen of our best bowlers (don't let that frighten you) out for the third night, and a promise of at least seven others joining them. The place is Falcato's Bowling Alley at 181st Street and St. Nicholas Avenue. The time is every Wednesday at 6 p. m.

Those attending so far are Don Serret, Ted Pedersen, Huey Ohrnberger, Paul Goodhouse, Louis Penna, Bill Sherman, Arthur Naylor, Ed McGuire, Farrell Carney, Joe Torino, John O'Donnell, Harry Scanlan, Otto Simonis, and on the distaff side, Catherine Pessino, Lois Hussey and Helen Jones.

### Every Little Bit Helps

You might be interested in knowing that there are several stores in the neighborhood and around the city that give discounts to Museum employees:

Carib Luggage Shop and Neal's Men's Shop on Columbus Avenue between 76th and 77th Streets;

Bailey's Drugstore and the LaRochelle Drugstore between 75th and 76th Sts. on Columbus Avenue;

Tilden Jewelers, 71 West 48th Street; and the William Morris Furniture Co. at 3842 Third Avenue.

The EBA supper dance on Nov. 19th was graced by the mother of John Erlandsen, one of our painters. Mrs. Erlandsen, 74 years old, is fresh over from Ayrshire, Scotland, to visit John and his sister, who lives in Vancouver. This is her first trip to this country and she likes it fine.

## Heard in Passing

**ERNIE NEILSON**, formerly with our Anthropology Dept., is really settling into his Florida habitat. He has a job at the Florida State Museum in Gainesville as Museum Technician in the Department of Social Sciences. Good luck with your new job, Ernie, but we wish you were back with us.

Cupid must favor red heads in November. **RUBY SIMMONS**, red-headed secretary in Natural History office, was married on November 10th to George Macdonald; and **JOAN DUGGAN**, red-headed Art and Production Assistant on the magazine, is engaged. Her fiancé, Bill Campbell, is currently in the Navy, stationed at Newport, R. I., and after their wedding in the Spring, Joan will join him there. Other news from that office is that **FLORENCE BRAUNER**, thrice-hired secretary, is back at her post. She and Ruby will jointly cover secretarial duties in that office.

**HENRY M. NEELY**, a member of the Planetarium's guest lecturing staff since 1949, Planetarium Instructor and Editor of the Sky Reporter, was given a surprise party by his co-workers and personal friends on November 4th, his 80th birthday.

Two fortunate members of the Fish Department have headed south. **DR. VLADIMIR WALTERS** and **MISS FRANCESCA LA MONTE** have arrived in Miami where Dr. Walters will work on an Office of Naval Research project, and Miss La Monte will attend meetings and study specimens at the University of Miami Marine Laboratory.

After nine years in the Museum, first in the Director's office and then as an instructor in the Department of Public Instruction, **KAY SCHLEMMER** left on November 30th. We will all miss attractive and popular Kay.

On November 12th **DR. MARGARET MEAD** was presented with the 1957 Woman of the Year award by the women's division of the American Friends of the Hebrew University. She received an illuminated scroll which will be inserted in a specially designed copy of the biblical Book of Ruth.

**DR. MEAD** and **DR. ETHEL TOBACH** of Animal Behavior have both received grants from the National Institutes of Health. A grant was also received by **DR. JOSEPH MOORE** (Mammals) from the National Science Foundation.

If your reaction to a rat is jumping on the nearest chair and shrieking, don't venture near the Dept. of Animal Behavior because about 25 rats are now

reposing comfortably there (relax, they're in cages). They are the subject of Dr. Schneirla's new experiment on current stress-tension. **RENEE FULLER**, a new member of the department, is working on this project.

Other new additions to Animal Behavior are **ARTHUR SNAPPER**, **WILLIAM AYERS** and **HAROLD SILVERMAN**. Harold is assisting with behavioral observations of Cichlid fishes. Arthur and William are both working toward their Ph.D's at Columbia as well as assisting Dr. Helmut Adler on a bird project. Incidentally, the "birdmen" are currently investigating the spectral sensitivity curve, which (in case anybody doesn't know) is the threshold for different wave lengths of light.

**DR. DEAN AMADON** (Birds) was elected Chairman of the Nominating Committee of The American Ornithologists' Union at the meeting at Cape May, N. J. in September.

That proud young man with glasses and dark hair seen strutting around the Museum Shop these days is **PETER BUJARA**. The cause of his pride . . . daughter Lee Ann, born October 19th.

**BOB SEWELL**, formerly with the Preparation Department where he worked on several of the groups in North American Mammals Hall, has resigned his current job at the Exhibit Laboratory of the National Foundation for Junior Museums in Sacramento, Cal., to be Assistant Art Director of the Walt Disney Studios.

**ERIKA RAWITSCHER** was welcomed back to the Department of Public Instruction on November 15th. She has been on vacation and an extended leave of absence since June 10th.

We have just found out that **JOAN CONNELLY** who works in the Frick Lab is the daughter of a former employee in the Department of Living Invertebrates, Joseph Connelly, who was known outside the Museum for his athletic prowess in baseball and basketball, and inside for his genial disposition.

**DR. ERNST MAYR**, former curator in our Bird Department, has received the degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Upsala in Sweden.

That streak of white swooping down through the delivery entrance is **PAUL GOODHOUSE'S** new Thunderbird.

The three new members of the Department of Exhibition came to us with very interesting and varied backgrounds: **PHILLIP SCHMIDT** from Minneapolis with an M.A. in Art History,

taught at the University of Minnesota and Oswego College in New York State and is now a preparator. **ERICA CHILD**, fresh from working as an architectural draftsman in Philadelphia, is an assistant designer; and **PATRICK O'CONNELL**, with a three-year Navy hitch behind him, is general assistant.

The members of the Department of Animal Behavior were happy to hear that **MARIE LOU CAMPBELL**, formerly of that department had a boy, Jeffrey Dennis, weighing in at 8 pounds, 2 ounces.

**D. F. LEVETT BRADLEY**, a former employee, died on November 3rd of a heart attack. Miss Bradley came here during the days of WPA and became a regular employee in 1946. Her specialty was maps and charts and she did a great many of them for our scientists, especially Drs. Gregory, Brown, Weidenreich and Prof. Osborn. Recently she had been free-lancing.

**HARRY FARRAR** (Mason Shop) and his wife, Grace, toured New England about a month ago and stopped in to see Mr. Faunce in his hardware store in Stowe, Vermont. After inspecting the store, and reminiscing a bit, they went over to say hello to Mrs. Faunce. The Faunces sent their best regards to all their friends here.

We are all genuinely happy to learn that **DR. SIMPSON** (Geol. & Paleo.) is well enough to return to the Museum for a few hours one day a week.

**PRINCE SUDHI DISKUL** of Thailand was a visitor of the Museum for two weeks at the beginning of November. He toured the Museum with special emphasis on the Department of Anthropology. The Prince, who is a working curator in the Museum of Thailand, found many ideas of interest to carry back with him when he returns to his home.

On December 10th the Museum will receive His Majesty **KING MOHAMMED V** of Morocco, accompanied by two royal princes, his Prime Minister, members of his Cabinet and his personal court physician. His special interest is in the mammals of Africa. Also in the King's party will be Mr. Clement E. Conger, Assistant Chief of Protocol, State Department, and his staff.

If there was such a thing as firing a Grapevine reporter, **BARBARA DONAT**, secretary in the Photographic Division, would be out of a job. She neglected to tell us of her own marriage on Aug. 30th to **WILLIAM FARLEY** of Building Services. She's forgiven, and we wish them much happiness.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 4

JANUARY 1, 1958

## . . . Ring in the New

As 1957 turns into 1958, I look back over the past twelve months with pleasure and fond memories. My term of office has been a happy one, not the least rewarding aspect of which has been the opportunity it has given me to get to know so many of the wonderful people who work in our Museum. Perhaps that is the most important function of the Employees' Benefit Association.

So onward to the new year . . . and, speaking for the Officers and Directors of the EBA, let me express the hope that it will be a very happy one for all of you.

GORDON REEKIE, *President*

## AMNH, Publishers

Are you interested in a wage scale for museum personnel; or in the technical problems of planning a small temporary exhibition or a whole gallery; or in circulating people comfortably through the enormous maze that is the large city museum; or in any other professional aspect of museum administration? Then watch for the first issue of *CURATOR*, the newest of a long list of publishing enterprises of The American Museum of Natural History, which will appear in mid-January. The editors of this quarterly journal hope that the *CURATOR* will fill a need, long felt by natural history museums, for a place to air problems and to share solutions. It will deal with all aspects of running a museum, even on how to keep the public from going through doors marked "Not Open to the Public." The first issue is yours for the asking. Just call Ext. 212.

According to Ruth Tyler, Editor of Scientific Publications, The American Museum has been in the publishing business a long time, ever since 1881 when its first scientific report "containing three original papers on scientific subjects" and totaling 24 pages was published. It was called the *BULLETIN* and was the beginning of a huge mass of printed matter that has become more and more widely diversified over the years. Miss Tyler tells us that in 1907 the anthropological papers were separated from the other scientific

reports in the *Bulletin*, given their own series and a name: *ANTHROPOLOGICAL PAPERS*. At present the *Bulletin* is running into its 115th volume and the *Papers* into its 46th.

As our Museum grew, more scientists were added to the staff, more research developed and more papers were written. This created a bottle neck and in order to guarantee rapid publication for some of the shorter papers the *AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES* was launched. The title is derived from the Latin noun, *novitas*, meaning "new things." During 1921, its first year, 29 papers were printed, and sometime during 1958 the 2000th paper will go to press.

A small quarterly, originally called *THE MICROPALAEONTOLOGIST* and now just plain *MICROPALAEONTOLOGY*, was established by Dr. Brooks Ellis in 1947 to bring together in one publication information on both plant and animal micropaleontology, hitherto scattered among many periodicals. It has 38 correspondents all over the world and goes to 1000 subscribers, 48% of whom are outside the United States.

The *BULLETIN*, the *ANTHROPOLOGICAL PAPERS*, the *NOVITATES* and *MICROPALAEONTOLOGY* are the four still-active scientific serials bearing the American Museum imprint. However, another

serial publication, far more majestic in both size and scope, is the *MEMOIRS* which began in 1893 and closed in 1930. Of the 18 volumes in this massive quarto series, 13 were devoted to anthropology and of these, 11 constitute the reports of the Jesup North Pacific Expedition on the Indians of the northwest coast of North America.

From time to time other scientific works have been issued by the Museum such as the great monograph on the Proboscidea (mastodons and elephants) of the world by the late President Osborn; the Bashford Dean memorial volume on fossil fishes; and the reports of the various expeditions to Central Asia led by Roy Chapman Andrews during the 1920's.

So much for the formal avenues by which technical results of the research and exploration of our scientists reach the world. There is another side to our publishing efforts: a large group of "popular publications" for the layman. These are the handbooks, guides to the halls, reprints from *Natural History*, and the *General Guide*. The first of these, printed in 1882, was a short guide to the Geological Hall, and the next year guides to the Mammal Collections and the Bird Collections followed. The 1957 *General Guide* is a far cry from the little *Visitors' Guides* of the 1880's, and an obvious indication of the growth of our museum.

How many of us know that *NATURAL HISTORY* magazine started as *THE AMERICAN MUSEUM JOURNAL* in 1900? It was intended as a report to the members of the museum on the activities of the staff and the growth and development of exhibition halls. But by 1919 it had taken a prominent position in popularity and importance among semi-scientific publications, and that was the year its name was changed to *NATURAL HISTORY*. Today the magazine has departed from this limited definition of its character and from the restricted contributor's list. It is read by over 76,000 people.

As an outgrowth, *JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY* was started in 1936 as

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

## AMNH, Publishers—(continued)

a publication for children. It has proved so popular that over 83,000 readers have subscriptions, to say nothing of the inmates of San Quentin Prison!

The Planetarium has a monthly publication: SKY REPORTER, which started in 1949. It brings articles on astronomy, the current Planetarium show, and a map of the monthly night sky to over 10,000 subscribers.

All of our publications have world-wide distribution. The scientific papers are exchanged with libraries and sister institutions; the popular publications are sold over the counter and by mail; SKY REPORTER, MICROPALaeON-TOLOGY, NATURAL HISTORY and JUNIOR NATURAL HISTORY are by subscription (The Grapevine is free!).

And now in January 1958 we add one more name to our roster: CURATOR. We look forward with eagerness to the first issue, and wish it all success for a bright future and long publication.

## Assistant Curator of Mammals Goes on Safari

T. Donald Carter's knowledge of Africa, gleaned from five expeditions to the Dark Continent, has resulted in an invitation to join Mr. and Mrs. Newell J. Ward, Jr. when they leave on January 9th for Nairobi, Tanganyika, Kenya and Uganda to collect African game and to make motion pictures. Aside from advising, Mr. Carter will do some collecting of smaller animals, especially the rarely seen, and even more rarely captured, Abbott's duiker (a small antelope) which lives in the highland forests of Kilimanjaro. There are only three specimens of this species in the United States and not one of them belongs to us. He also plans to get a red forest duiker to add to the Black Rhino Group on the Akeley Balcony.

Mr. Carter is hoping for a quick trip to Ethiopia and an audience with His Excellency Haile Selassie, whose country he last visited in 1928.

We will be looking forward to Mr. Carter's return on March 22nd and a full account of the safari, including Addis Ababa and its changes.

## "Poor Boxes" Become Rich Boxes

Many museums, particularly those outside of New York City, have installed boxes or chests in their entrance halls in an appeal to the casual or out-of-town visitor who wishes to express his enjoyment of the museum in a monetary way.

In 1956 our Museum decided to experiment with the idea and boxes were installed at three of our entrances. Among ourselves, they were referred to as "poor boxes". Many of us thought that we would get more buttons, chewing gum and cigarette stubs than money. Instead, our so-called poor boxes have become a small but steady source of income. The average take is about \$200 a month, and for the year ending June 30, 1957 the total was \$2571.22 plus three tokens, a stick of Juicy Fruit gum and half a dozen bobby pins.

## Sports

The weekly bowling party, which was pushed aside by Christmas parties, shopping and the subway strike, will resume on Wednesday, January 8th. Same time, same place (Falcara's Bowling Alley at 181st Street and St. Nicholas Ave., at 6 p. m.).

## Discount Tickets

The Provincetown Playhouse, located at 133 McDougal Street in Greenwich Village, has kindly consented to allow Museum employees a discount on their regular admission prices. By showing your Museum Identification Card at the box office, you may purchase the \$2.50 admission for \$1.40, or the \$2.00 admission for \$1.15. "The Devil's Disciple" by George Bernard Shaw will be given from now until Jan. 9th. "Macbeth" opens on Jan. 10th. Performances are given Wednesday through Sunday evenings at 8:40.

Walter Abel stars in "Inherit the Wind" at the North Jersey Playhouse in Fort Lee from January 7th to 26th. We were fortunate in securing a limited number of tickets that will admit two persons for the price of one. Performances are given Tuesday through Thursday evenings at 8:40 and Sunday evenings at 7:30.

Discount tickets are available for the "Ice Follies of 1958" at Madison Square Garden for the evening performance on Jan. 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21 and 23.

Contact Larry Pintner, Ext. 263, for tickets or additional information.

## Camera Club

The ever-active Camera Club has two very instructive sessions planned for January. On January 7th members are asked to bring their cameras and high speed film to a meeting in the Photography Department. There will be a demonstration and experiment of available-light photography, as well as a discussion of available-light films and light meter reading.

On January 28th, after members have had a chance to reap the benefits of the January 7th discussions, there will be an exhibit of prints of available-light photos taken by club members. There will also be a symposium on dark room techniques, developers, papers, etc.

First prize in the raffle was won by Al Potenza (Bldg. Services); second prize by Philip Schmidt (Preparation Div.).

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



## The Vertebrate Paleontology Laboratory

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these, we are starting a series of which this article by Rachel Nichols is the first.—Editor.

The Vertebrate Paleontology Laboratory was established in the 1890's under the direction of Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, whose ambition was to collect and exhibit the finest lot of fossil vertebrates in the world. He was especially interested in the mounting of fossil skeletons, and throughout his lifetime encouraged the development of new methods. Dr. S. H. Chubb of the Mammal Department had already perfected the mounting of modern skeletons (some of his horses are among the finest examples in existence), but the problems of fossil skeletons are very different and more difficult. Fossil bones are usually both fragile and heavy. The iron or steel armatures must be self-supporting, and must also carry the weight of the specimen. As all fossil specimens are important for research, especially associated skeletons, the bones cannot be damaged in preparation, and missing parts must be restored.

Well over 200 skeletons of fossil amphibians, reptiles and mammals, as well as a few birds, have been mounted in this laboratory, not to mention the preparation by removal of the rock surrounding them of literally tons of fossil specimens not mounted. This includes a collection of thousands of fossil fishes.

In the old days, Adam Hermann, a rigid disciplinarian, directed the work, and did most of the iron work himself. Later, Charles Lang took over this part of the work, and a large part of the dinosaur collection in two halls was mounted under his direction. The 66-foot *Brontosaurus* skeleton took four years to prepare, from 1899–1903; restoration, casting and mounting took another two years, with a dozen men working under the supervision of Mr. Hermann, Professor Osborn and Dr. Matthew.

Other preparators who will long be remembered for their special skills were the brothers Charles and Otto Falkenbach. Charles (father of our Charles in the Frick Laboratory) died early, but Otto continued a long career of expert casting and fine preparation. Albert Thomson, who took over direction of the laboratory for several years, was known for his beautiful preparation of delicate

and fragile material, as well as for his collecting.

The laboratory force is now under the direction of Carl Sorensen, who has been here for over forty years. George Whitaker has taken over the iron work, and the laboratory has recently been reorganized and new equipment installed, to make this part of the work easier. Walter Sorensen (Carl's son), Martin Cassidy, and Gil Stucker, with Carl and George, are mostly engaged these days in working on exhibits for the new Giant Sloth Hall, but when this area is completed they will return to their usual work of collecting and preparing fossil specimens.

These men and many others have handed down a legacy of dedication to the business of preparing the strange creatures of the past so that the world may see and study them to the best advantage. It is thanks to them that this museum has five great halls devoted to fossil vertebrates.

## News from Florida

We had a nice letter from Howard Cleveland, one of our pensioners who worked for many years in Public Instruction. Howard and his wife are living in Venice, Fla. He writes:

"We still like it here and have managed to enjoy the beach and the fishing and the *quiet*. . . . There isn't any news I can give you from here but I can tell you about the colorful shrubs and flowers that are in full bloom at this time (Dec.). Right now we are having a real cold snap, with temperatures ranging from 45° to 70°. Really it feels like zero in N. Y. . . . Mrs. Ramsey (Dr. Grace F. Ramsey) may pass thru Venice this month and if she has time will stop to see us. I hope she does. . . . Please say hello for me to all my friends in the Museum."

We miss Howard but are pleased that he is living in such a lovely place.

## EBA CHRISTMAS PARTY

December was the month for parties (and we don't know anyone who likes a party better than a museumite) but the biggest and best one of all was the EBA Children's Christmas party, held on December 16th in the Planetarium. About 350 children of all ages and sizes enjoyed the Christmas show in the Dome, received a package of presents from Santa Claus (who else but Bill Burns?) and then filed down the stairs to the Copernican Room for hot dogs, orangeade and ice cream.

## 49th EBA ANNUAL MEETING and election of officers

Tuesday, January 14th

12—1 p. m.

Room 319

## You Take the High Road . . .

The subway strike which started on December 9th had some rather widespread and varied consequences. Mohammed V of Morocco, for example, had to cancel his scheduled visit to the Museum (whether he was appalled by the New York weather or the resulting traffic jams we'll never know). While most of the museum employees managed to wend their way to work, we doubt if many of them were as stalwart as Pam Scallan of Public Relations, who left her home in Queens at 4:30 a. m., arriving at the Museum at 6 a. m., all in order to get in a full day's work.

On Monday, the 9th, 1,323 hardy souls visited the Museum and 1,110 came on Tuesday. This was about half of the usual attendance for a weekday. Although the Camera Club cancelled its Christmas meeting, and the Mail Desk curtailed deliveries for two days, Public Instruction reported that its World We Live In Program for school children had very good attendance. Last, but not least, let's not forget to mention that the Museum closed at 4:30 to enable all of us to get a head start homeward.

## Fuertes Exhibit to Open January 10th

This Museum has in its possession over 380 field sketches by the late Louis Agassiz Fuertes, one of America's foremost painters of birds.

Fuertes went on many expeditions with the late Frank Chapman and the finished results were used as illustrations for Chapman's books, as well as backgrounds for some of the habitat groups in the old North American Bird Hall, notably the Flamingo Group.

The field sketches had never been catalogued until a year ago, when Mrs. W. Allston Flagg, whose father grew up with Fuertes, volunteered to do so. As a result of Mrs. Flagg's interest and enthusiasm, about 60 of these field sketches will be shown in the Corner Gallery from January 10th to February 23rd.

## Heard in Passing

As we go to press, KAREL SMETANA (Bldg. Services), who was taken ill while on duty, is off the critical list at Knickerbocker Hospital. We hope he'll be back on his feet soon.

A couple of fishing enthusiasts at the Planetarium, THOMAS D. NICHOLSON and JOHN TUMA, are busting their buttons over the feat of their protegee, 10-year old Lester Nicholson. Lester, Tom's son, has just been awarded the grand prize (\$25 worth of fishing tackle) for the largest fluke caught off southeastern Long Island during the 1957 season. The catch, which tipped the scales at 12 pounds and 7 ounces, was made last August when Tom and John took Lester (then 9 years old) out for his first fishing trip!

DR. AND MRS. JAMES P. CHAPIN (Assoc. Curator Emeritus of Birds) will leave Bukavu in the Kivu district of the Belgian Congo, where they have been living for several years, in the early spring. They plan to spend some time in Europe and then return to New York in May.

Public Relations seems to be having a veritable cultural exchange with la belle France. SUZANNE SHEPHERD has just left that office for a year in Paris, and JUDY SCHWARTZ returned in mid-December after a year spent in Europe. Judy and her husband, Danny, who is an artist, lived during most of their stay in a small town in the south of France. We expect some vivid descriptions of provincial life and full reports on the tangled French political scene. *Soyez bienvenue, Judy!*

SARITA VAN VLECK has transferred from the Bird Department and is now Scientific Researcher for the Department of Exhibition.

The Geology and Paleontology Department gave a wonderful and well-deserved party on December 3 for two members of its staff with 25 years or more of service to the AMNH: EDITH MARKS and EDWARD HAWKINS.

Besides the activity stirred up by rockets, satellites and the like, the Planetarium reports some secretarial staff transfers and additions. LOIS GOLDSMITH is now Tom Nicholson's secretary and JOAN NUSBAUM and MARIE TOBER are the new employees.

The new secretary in the Invertebrate Paleontology Dept. is MRS HELEN HARDY.

We want to thank the STAFF WIVES for giving their time so generously to decorate the Christmas tree in the Employers' Cafeteria. A very handsome job, indeed! And if you've wondered just why we haven't had a tree in Roosevelt Memorial or 77th St. Foyer just ask the Fire Department. They insist, and purely for our own safety, that keeping a tree in a public area is a fire hazard.

You will all be glad to know that the Protection Division is now supervised by a youthful grandfather. MIKE PAKALIK'S son and daughter-in-law have placed him in this enviable position.

The new girl working at that quiet(?) little corner, the 77th Street Sales Desk, is LUCILLE BENDINE. Lucille certainly possesses the stamina required for that job—she studied dance for six years with Martha Graham. PHYLLIS MORSE, who did work at the Desk, is now in the Graphic Arts Division working as an Illustrator.

One of our Trustees, JOHN J. THEOBALD, succeeds William Jansen as Supt. of New York City schools next Sept. 1.

Directly after Christmas JOHN ERLANDSEN of the Paint Shop, his mother and his son flew to Vancouver, B. C. to visit his sister.

Two new sets of proud parents: MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH CONNORS (Joe is Business Manager at the Planetarium) have a daughter and so do MR. AND MRS. HELMUT SOMMER (Helmut is in Bldg. Services).

MISS FARIDA WILEY (Public Instruction) spent part of the Christmas holidays at Coco-Rockledge, Florida taking the Annual Christmas Bird Census. This is a one-day bird count in which people from all over the U.S., Canada, and Mexico take part. Miss Wiley is part of Alan Cruickshank's team. Last year this team counted over 186 species which was the record number of all groups counting.

Have plunger, will travel—JOHN IGNATIEFF of the Power Plant now permanently stationed in the Plumbing Shop.

SAM MCDOWELL (Dept. of Amphibians & Reptiles) may now be formally addressed as "DR." McDowell. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University.

Our apologies to RUTH FINKELSTEIN. We didn't mean to omit her name when we were talking about the secretaries in Natural History Office.

It seems that in the Museum, at least, French is still the international language. DR. G. F. DEBETS, an anthropologist from the Soviet Union who is working on ancient Eskimo skeletal material in our Anthro. Department, communicates in French with the members of that department, as he does not speak English and no one there speaks Russian. Dr. Debets is going to be here for about six weeks.

DR. WESLEY LANYON is studying closely related species of birds, particularly meadowlarks and flycatchers. He is interested in their comparative behavior and is comparing their songs and calls. The sounds are being recorded on tape and analyzed by a sound spectrograph.

HERB LEWIS of Public Instruction leaves that department on January 15th. He and his wife (who'll be studying at Brandeis University) will be living in Cambridge, Mass.

Five new men were welcomed into the Building Services Division: DERMOTT T. MCDERMOTT, JOHN E. CREMIN, ALFRED O'BRIEN, VERNON VENNERS and MANDELL WITTIE.

TOM TWO ARROWS recently appeared at the North Jersey Playhouse in a special program of Indian folklore and dances. Tom, some years ago, was on the teaching staff in Public Instruction.

Although HARRY FARRAR (Mason Shop) spent quite a few days in Bronxville Hospital under observation and had 24 X-rays taken, the only thing the doctors could discover was that Harry had the Asian flu.

After January 2, LOUIS PENNA will leave his mail route to work in the Shipping Room. JOHN MALONEY will take his place carrying the mail.

Author! Author! JIM (Planetarium) PICKERING'S "One Thousand and One Questions Answered About Astronomy" will be published by Dodd, Mead in the spring and FRANK FORRESTER'S (formerly at the Planetarium) "One Thousand and One Questions Answered About the Weather" is selling very well. K. L. FRANKLYN'S (Planetarium) Daily Map of the paths of the satellites over the U. S. is receiving a big play by the wire services.

DICK REIDY, one of our favorite elevator men, underwent two operations in Huntington Hospital (L. I.) but is reported to be coming along nicely. We all hope to have him back with us soon.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 5

FEBRUARY 1, 1958

## Trustees, Then and Now

At 8 o'clock on Monday evening, February 1st, 1869, a group of civic-minded New Yorkers who had consented to act as Trustees met in the home of Mr. Adrian Iselin at 23 East 26th Street to draw up plans for a museum of natural history in New York City. They were Messrs. Robert L. Stuart, Robert Colgate, Benjamin H. Field, Adrian Iselin, Benjamin B. Sherman, William A. Haines, Theodore Roosevelt, Howard Potter, William Blodgett, D. Jackson Steward, A. G. Phelps Dodge, Charles A. Dana, Henry Parish, Morris K. Jesup, J. Pierpont Morgan, Joseph H. Choate and John David Wolfe, who at this meeting was elected President of the Board and who served until his death in 1872.

Most of these were business men but three of them were collectors as well. Mr. Haines owned the largest private collection of shells in the country; Mr. Steward's shell collection was smaller but very choice; and Mr. Stuart had a library of rare books, many beautiful mineral specimens and a shell collection, too. One, at least, was a lawyer, Mr. Joseph H. Choate, who drew up our Charter and Constitution.

We wonder whether Theodore Roosevelt, on that February night, thought that his son and three of his grandchildren would be Trustees in their own time, or whether Adrian Iselin and Anson Dodge had any idea that their sons and nephews would carry on where they left off.

These, then, were the men who, together with Albert Bickmore, raised \$44,550 the first year for the purchase of the specimens which formed the nucleus and foundation of our present vast collections. And these were the men who from time to time gave rare and interesting material to the Museum, such as "valuable donations of Mollusca," "organ-pipe coral, very large and fine," and an "albino crow and woodchuck." Later on great collections were purchased by an individual Trustee and given his name (such as the Jesup Collection of Woods) or not (as the "Tiffany Collection of Gems" given by J. Pierpont Morgan).

On May 4, 1869, four more names were added to the original list: Richard M. Blatchford, Henry G. Stebbins, Andrew H. Green and Moses H. Grinnell. Mr. Green was the Comptroller of the Central Park to whom those seventeen "civic-minded" men had addressed a request for a "home" and who responded by offering the Arsenal in Central Park.

At 7 o'clock on Monday evening, January 27th, 1958, another group of civic-minded men, this time not all New Yorkers, who had agreed to act as Trustees, met in the Sportsmen's Library to transact the business of The American Museum of Natural History and to welcome to the Board six new members: Mrs. B. Brewster Jennings, Messrs. Richard G. Croft, Peter M. Flanagan, Robert G. Goelet, Albert L. Nickerson and George A. Percy. Of these six, only two are in any way related to past Trustees. Mrs. Jennings' father-in-law, Mr. Oliver G. Jennings, was a Trustee from Jan. 3, 1927 until he resigned on Dec. 18, 1930, and her uncle-in-law, Mr. Frederick F. Brewster, served from Feb. 3, 1913 until he resigned on Jan. 9, 1933. Mr. Nickerson's father-in-law, who was Mr. James H. Perkins, was a Trustee from Jan. 3, 1927 until May 7, 1934.

Past connections or no, all of the new Trustees have been actively interested in the Museum in various ways. Mrs. Jennings has been a volunteer in the Bird Department ever since the winter of 1952 and one of her more obvious accomplishments has been the plan and design for the New York State Bird Exhibit, including the Nests and Eggs. Mr. Croft has been especially interested in the Hall of North American Forests and obtained the funds for the Forest Distribution Map. Messrs. Percy, Goelet and Flanagan have been extremely active on the Men's Fund Raising Committee for the past three years. And Mr. Nickerson is a Planetarium fan.

At the same meeting Mr. Cleveland E. Dodge was elected an Honorary Trustee in recognition of his 35 years of

service on the Board during which he served as 2nd Vice-President for three years, 1st Vice-President for thirteen years and a hard-working member of numerous committees. Mr. Dodge's love for the Museum probably came down to him from his great-grandfather, William Earl Dodge, who was the friend and backer of Albert Bickmore, the young man with a dream. It was Mr. Dodge's great-uncle, Anson Greene Phelps Dodge, who was one of our Founders and original Trustees.

Although the Comptroller of the Central Park was elected a Trustee in 1869, there was no formal provision for the City to be represented on the Board until the Constitution was amended on Nov. 9, 1908 to read: "... the Mayor, the Comptroller, and the President of the Department of Public Parks, of the City of New York, for the time being, *ex-officio*, shall be trustees. ..." Later a Representative of the Board of Education was added. Thus these four branches of the City Government were kept aware of the work and problems of our institution.

(continued on page 3)

## CURATOR Makes Debut

The trials and tribulations of launching a new magazine are over, and the editors are breathing freely once again—and we hope basking in the glory that is sure to come as a result of their beautiful publication, *CURATOR*, which made its debut on January 16th.

This new journal is intended for all members of the museum profession and the first number is being distributed gratis to libraries and museums throughout the world, and to AMNH employees who have requested it. If you have not seen a copy, call Bill Burns, Ext. 212.

Circumstances do not permit the free distribution of subsequent issues, even to American Museum employees, but it is hoped that many of you will subscribe to it. The yearly subscription is \$5.00, and there is an introductory offer of two years for \$7.50.

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

## GRAPEVINE STAFF

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GLORIA LOOMIS  
Associate Editor  
EDWARD A. BURNS  
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The Grapevine welcomes contributions  
from all Museum employees. Please  
address all communications to the editor.

## An Open Letter to Gordon Reekie

Dear Mr. Reekie:

As you begin your second term in office as President of the Employees' Benefit Association, we wish to express to you our deep appreciation for your able leadership during the past twelve months. You may be assured that those of us who will continue in office with you in the year ahead will give to the utmost of our abilities and energies to further the work of the EBA. Those of us who have just retired as officers and directors feel honored to have served with you and will continue, as EBA members, to support the Association's activities and programs throughout the Museum.

It is with confidence and pride in your leadership that we look forward to a successful year for the EBA in 1958.

Sincerely,

Officers and Directors for 1957  
Employees' Benefit Association

## The Genetics Laboratory

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Donald E. Rosen is the second.—Editor.

The Genetics Laboratory of the New York Aquarium was first unofficially established in the old aquarium at Battery Park in 1938. At this time Dr. Myron Gordon, who had come to the Aquarium from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, resumed his studies of the genetics of tropical freshwater fishes that were first begun during his post-graduate years at Cornell University in 1929. The Genetics Laboratory was then unofficial because it consisted entirely of a collection of 200 five-gallon aquaria that Dr. Gordon had installed behind the scenes in the old Aquarium. When, in 1941, the exhibits at Battery Park were disbanded, he moved his entire collection of tanks and fishes into the three rooms on the sixth floor of the Museum's Whitney Wing where the laboratory is at present located. This transfer was made possible through the courtesy of The American Museum and the Department of Birds. In his status as a guest of the Museum, Dr. Gordon has, I think, outdone all other guests who stayed to dinner. He has now been with the Museum for 17 years.

The Laboratory's official title was bestowed in 1945. At this time it became known, as it is today, as the Genetics Laboratory of the New York Zoological Society's New York Aquarium. Then, as today, every square inch of room space had been utilized to house no less than 700 aquaria, ranging in size from 5 to 100 gallons. In addition to the approximately 2000 living fishes maintained in these three rooms, the Laboratory houses over 30,000 preserved specimens. This constitutes the world's largest and most complete collection of a single family of fishes. More than half of the living and preserved fishes were obtained from nine expeditions personally conducted by Dr. Gordon to Middle America and Hawaii. Some strains derived from collections of live fish in 1939 are still being maintained, and at least one of them is in its 25th generation.

Though Dr. Gordon is making history with his studies of fish evolution and cancer, history had been written before in these three rooms, particularly on the walls, for our Laboratories at one

time were used by Dr. G. K. Noble as walk-in aviaries for several species of large—and very disorderly—aquatic birds. Martin Johnson, the famous collector and naturalist of African fame, had also at one time used one of our rooms as a temporary office.

Maintaining our animals in good health, and having the work of the Laboratory run smoothly in a coordinated fashion is no easy matter. The fact that it does operate as an efficient and well-integrated unit is due largely to the continuous efforts of two persons, Miss Pamela Alexander, the laboratory histologist and "everything-else-ologist," and Mr. "Charlie" Munic, the devoted caretaker of our animals, our carpenter and jack of all odd jobs.

In addition to the Laboratory's program of research—from inherited black cancers and thyroid malfunction to evolution and taxonomy in fishes—it has steadily, throughout its existence, undertaken the job of training students from high school to graduate school level. More than two dozen such students have worked under these skylit roofs and already many have become distinguished alumni. Recently the Genetics Laboratory, in connection with the Department of Animal Behavior, has inaugurated a program of providing materials and space for foreign post-doctoral research workers. Two, both from the University of Istanbul, have made use of this opportunity for continuing their studies in biology.

Although this is the end of Mr. Rosen's article, the editors would like to add that Don Rosen has been a very important part of the Genetics Lab for sixteen years and is at present working on his Ph.D. Mr. Rosen, now 30 years old, started in the Museum as a volunteer at the age of 8 in the School Nature League, a forerunner of the Natural Science Center, and is therefore an old museumite.

## Simpson Gives Up Chairmanship

Dr. George Gaylord Simpson has decided to relinquish his administrative duties as Chairman of the Department of Geology and Paleontology in order to concentrate on scientific research. Dr. Edwin H. Colbert has been appointed Chairman as of January 15, 1958.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



## EBA TREASURERS'S REPORT

January 15, 1957—January 14, 1958

### DEATH BENEFIT FUND (Savings Account)

#### INCOME:

Balance as of January 15, 1957.....	\$ 855.47	
Assessments:		
Payroll.....	\$997.00	
Personal.....	50.70	1,047.70
Interest.....	21.81	\$1,924.98

#### EXPENSES:

5 Death Claims @ \$200 each.....	1,000.00	
(Dr. John T. Zimmer, Aloysius Collins, Helene Booth, Willard Hegeman, Dr. Charles Russell)		
Balance as of January 14, 1958.....		\$ 924.98

### ACTIVITIES FUND (Checking Account)

#### INCOME:

Balance as of January 15, 1957.....	\$ 159.58	
Proceeds from two dances.....	409.15	
Mid-year contribution from Museum Administration.....	500.00	
	\$1,068.73	
Anticipated end-of-year contribution from Museum Administration.....	250.00	\$1,318.73

#### EXPENSES:

Expenses for two dances, etc.....	1,183.01	
Anticipated balance as of January 14, 1958.....		\$ 135.72

### RESTRICTED FUNDS (Bonds)

Balance as of January 15, 1957.....	\$ 700.00	
Expenses for pump & beer cooler.....	344.00	
Balance as of January 14, 1958.....		\$ 356.00

Henry Ruof  
Treasurer

### EBA Annual Meeting

The 49th Annual Meeting of the Employees' Benefit Association was held on January 14th in Room 319. The ballot box opened at 12 noon and at 12:35, with 21 members present, the meeting was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the 48th Annual Meeting and the reports of the Membership Chairman and of the Treasurer were read and accepted (see Treasurer's report above). The various activities of the past year were noted; suggestions were made for different kinds of social activities; a motion was made, seconded and carried that a committee be appointed to investigate the Constitution and By-Laws with an eye to possible revision; the President expressed a word of thanks to the Print Shop and Office Services for their fine cooperation; The Grapevine re-

ceived a pat on the back; the ballots were counted, all 141 of them, by Anne Montgomery and Henry Ruof; and the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p. m.

The result of the balloting is as follows:

President: Gordon Reekie—135
Vice-President: Thomas Hogan—130
Treasurer: Rudy Bonen—119
Secretary: Anne S. Keating—128
Directors: Marilyn Badaracco—85
Bailey Lewis—76
Philip Miller—95

### EBA Membership Grows and Grows

Eleven employees have been elected to membership in the Employees' Benefit Association since November. They are: Robert Carneiro, Anthro. Judith Zanger, Public Instruction; Eleanor Forbes, Man & Nature Publications; Frank Lombardi, Thomas Bradley and Leonard Perrone, Building Services; Harold Silverman, Animal Behavior; James Nugent, Micropaleontology; Patrick Breen and Joan Nusbaum, Planetarium. This brings the membership to an all-time high of 538 members, 94 of which are pensioners.

(continued from page 1)

Under a new system there will be, eventually, thirty-five elective Trustees, seven in each of five classes, to serve for five years and not to be re-elected until a year has elapsed. This, it is hoped, will allow room for new men and women, and at the same time retain the interest of those who retire.

While a goodly proportion of the Board is comprised of business men, it is interesting to note that there is an archeologist, a paleontologist, a publisher, a rancher, an educator, a brain surgeon, a retired diplomat, a realtor, an oceanographer, a retired antiquarian, two housewives and a sprinkling of lawyers.

We wonder whether any of the Trustees, on that January 1958 night, hoped that their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, in their own time, would love the Museum as much as they do, and would give their time and effort to its welfare and success. We hope so.

### Willard C. Hegeman Dies

Although Willard Hegeman retired long before many of us came to the Museum, there are still people here or on pension who will remember him and who will wish to extend sympathy to his wife, Frieda, because Bill Hegeman died of a stroke at the age of 78 in Mound Park Hospital, St. Petersburg, Florida, on Dec. 12, 1957.

Mr. Hegeman came here in 1906 as a clerical assistant in the Bursar's office, but when he retired in 1934 he was Personnel Director. He was called the "Museum Will Rogers" because of his dry and salty humor, and was much esteemed by everyone who knew him.

### Pension Board

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees in October the following people, upon the recommendation of Administration, were appointed employee members of the Pension Board: Edwin H. Colbert, Louis Ferry, Samuel C. Kuster and Walter F. Meister.

At the December meeting of the Pension Board, Walter Meister was elected Secretary of the Board and Adrian Ward was appointed Assistant Secretary.

#### WANTED

The EBA has a need for a piano (not a player piano, please) and will move it if the circumstances permit. If you have one, please call Phil Miller, Ext. 451.

## Heard in Passing

KATE SWIFT, one of the Public Relations gals, leaves on the "Italia" on Feb. 6th for a Caribbean cruise, not as a passenger but as a member of the cruise staff. Kate will edit the ship's daily newspaper in return for her passage. We hope she won't like the "Italia" better than the good ship "AMNH."

We recently paid a visit to the School Service Bldg. and were delighted to see that the stairwell has had its first fresh coat of paint in ten years. But something was missing. It was TOM TWO ARROWS' Southwest Indian Katchinas which were painted when Tom was the Staff artist for Temporary Exhibits. They were originally made for the exhibit called "Masks and Men" which was held in the area now used by "Men of the Montaña." After the exhibit was over, the Katchinas were hung in the stairwell to brighten an otherwise dreary area. The people in Public Instruction hope they will be back soon.

After a short stint in the N. Y. Fire Department and a longer one in the hospital, JIMMY DRAGO is back on the job in the Department of Public Instruction. We are glad to have him with us again.

After nearly six years in the Museum PRISCILLA KENNADAY PICK has decided to retire from her post as Manager of the Planetarium Book Corner and devote full time to being Mrs. Robert Pick. As of February 1st, LOIS GOLDSMITH, former secretary to Frank Forrester, Jim Pickering and Tom Nicholson, will be in charge of the Book Corner.

JOE GUERRY (Planning Department) is taking a two-month leave of absence to enable him to work as an artist-consultant on the IGY exhibit for the American Pavilion at the Brussels Fair. Mrs. Guerry is going along, too, and will spend her time sight-seeing, while Joe is furiously working. However, since this is their first trip abroad, Joe hopes to have a little time left over to see some of the great art museums. Bon Voyage!

Building Services has three new men to help with its myriad cleaning, patrolling and snow-cleaning jobs: THOMAS McGRATH, JOHN COLLINS and STEPHEN DIVEN. Welcome!

MRS. PATSY SERIKAWA, secretary in Dr. Parr's office, left at the end of January because her husband transferred his engineering studies from Columbia to the University of Michigan.

We hate to see Patsy go, but as the Book says, "Whither thou goest . . ."

Exhibits are moving about on the 4th floor these days. The dinosaur egg has moved out (new location: north end of Tyrannosaur Hall), a Viking axe moved in, and the mastadons are moving to the south side of the Hall of the Age of Man to make easier access to the Gem Hall and the new Library, if and when construction starts.

KAREL SMETANA (Bldg. Serv.) had nothing but good news for this issue. First, he asked us to extend to all of his friends in the Museum his thanks for the messages, cards and expressions of good will during his illness. (By the time you read this Karel will be back on duty.) Second, congratulations are in order because he became a U. S. citizen on January 14th. This on top of his recovery makes for a double celebration.

The scientists, including Dr. Parr, apparently don't believe in reading signs. After the last Scientific Council Meeting, held in the Planetarium classrooms, ten of them got in the Planetarium elevator (how we'll never know) and got stuck between floors. The sign in the elevator reads: Capacity —8, maximum weight—1250 lbs.!

We would like to use the Grapevine to send birthday greetings to one of our distinguished scientists, DR. BARNUM BROWN, curator emeritus of Fossil Reptiles, who will be 85 years old on February 12th. Meyer Berger recently wrote about Dr. Brown in his feature column, "About New York" which appeared in the N. Y. Times on Jan. 8th.

Like father, like daughter. . . . The new part-time Box Office Cashier at the Planetarium is EILEEN DUFFY, the daughter of Matt Duffy, Asst. Box Office Manager.

It seems that JOE SEDACCA, who has just been made Chief of Graphic Arts Division, has extra-curricular interests. One of Joe's paintings was exhibited in the "Art: USA: 58" show at Madison Square Garden during January. We hope this is only the beginning, and that there'll be many one-man shows to follow.

One of the nicest people we know resigned his post as Promotion Manager to take a new position in the same field with American Heritage. Our sincere best wishes accompany JOHN O'DONNELL.

E. THOMAS GILLIARD (Bird Department) received an honorary doctor of science degree from Wagner College

on Staten Island on January 26th. Congratulations, Dr. Tom!

We are glad to report that both VIC BADARACCO and DICK REIDY of Building Services are doing well after their illnesses. They are at home convalescing. They both wish to thank their Museum friends for cards, letters and gifts received.

We wonder if it was the excitement over the EBA elections that caused Electrician RUDY BONEN to fall off a ladder and break his leg?

ALEC WILLIAMS has been made assistant to Lothar Witteborg, Chief of Exhibition.

Distinguished Visitor Department: DR. PETER CROWCOFT of the British Museum (Natural History) was the guest of the Mammal Department for several days during which time he gave a lecture on the population growth of the house mouse.

Ex-chief of the Graphic Art Division, HARRY COONEY, visited the Museum during Christmas week and announced that as of January 2nd he would be Art Director of Reuter & Bragdon in Pittsburgh. We guess Pittsburgh smog has more of a lure than California sunshine.

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## Sports

Enough people turned out for bowling on Wednesday nights to enable the formation of the American Museum Bowling League consisting of four teams: the Indians, Fossils, Mummies and Headhunters. Each team has five members and is captained by a woman. On January 15th, the first playing of the League, the Fossils won 2 out of 3 games from the Indians, and the Mummies won 2 out of 3 games from the Headhunters.

## Ladies' Day

The Employees' Cafeteria will take on a new look when the Staff Wives' Arts and Crafts Exhibit opens on Feb. 14th. The walls will be brightened with paintings by Margaret Gilliard, Ella Parr, Janice Shapiro and Frances Zweifel, and it is hoped that many of those who have been hiding their lights under bushels will be represented, too. The craft section is, as yet, an unknown, but there is hope that Jean Gertsch will exhibit her china painting and Margaret Colbert her Jewelry. We look forward to viewing the unsung talents of these "powers behind the throne."



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PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 6

MARCH 1, 1958

## It's a Man's World

Half above ground and half below, smelling of sawdust, grease, turpentine and plaster, roaring with exhaust fans, rip saws, hammers and cuss words, the basement of Sections B, C and D is a man's world.

Seldom is the sanctity of this area invaded by the fairer sex, but when it is, like the talking drums of the jungle that telegraph the approach of a stranger, word is passed from one shop to another—"Lady coming through!" Its origin long lost in history, some say it was started by a genteel lady-like lady who found herself in this strange and awesome world of men.

Here carpenters, painters, sheet metal workers, plumbers, electricians, masons and machinists spend a good portion of their lives in the endless job of maintaining our buildings.

If, by chance or by intent, you find yourself in the basement of Section B, you will come first to the Electrical Shop—wired for sound. No WQXR here, but baseball (when in season), soap opera and the homier type of program. Paul Goodhouse, whose hobbies are Little Hog Island, boats and driving his gleaming white Thunderbird, is the boss. His twelve electricians, working in far corners of the building, keep him on the run. They are Al Boisson, Rudy Bonen, Andy Cordier, "Firpo" DeLuca, "Stitch" Krosche, Hughie Ohrnberger, Fred Pavone, Artie Scharf, George Shaw, Bill Stubbs, Eddie Trenholm, and Bill Vervoordt.

Next to the Electrical Shop, in what looks like a bachelor's housekeeping apartment, is Harry "Honeysuckle" Farrar, foreman of the Mason Shop, and his three men, Ed Collins, "Whitey" Payne and Walter Lennon.

Across the way and a little farther on is the Storeroom with Henry Pinter in charge. Try and get a ten-penny nail without a requisition. You can't!

Turn your head and you are looking into the Sheet Metal Shop, full of the sound of riveting and the sharp whang of metal and the smell of Foreman Fred Wernersbach's ever-present cigar. His

men—Fred "Land Baron" Bisso, Tom Busardo and Henry Lind—may be there or, in pleasant weather, on the roof where the view is somewhat better.

Just beyond, and hardly distinguishable except for the soft whir of pulleys and the slapping of belts, is the Machine Shop run by Herman Otto and his two capable men, Salvator Furnari and Bill Heslin.

Go on through the corridor and left into the Paint Shop where George "Touch-Up" Floegel heads a veritable League of Nations: an Estonian, Oscar Wantsy; a Swede, Al Hanson; a German, George himself; two Scots, John Erlandsen and Jack Greig; and an Irish-American, Jim Phalen. No "nyet" here, but peaceful harmony.

Hidden behind the Paint Shop and definitely "off limits" for women is the Bean Club. Years ago when money was only paper, each man in the shops paid \$1.25 a week which entitled him to a good hot meal each noon, served in this room. If Little Jake Stephens, chief cook and can opener, splurged at the beginning of the week, it was beans on Thursday and Friday. Hence the name—Bean Club. Times changed, or perhaps Jake got tired of cooking, because the best chop house on Columbus Avenue is no more.

On the corner near the entrance to the Paint Shop is the office of Superintendent Emil Kremer, his assistant George Tauber and HIS assistant Billy Graham. Like a mother hen, or a wet one depending on his mood, George answers phones, keeps records, hounds Emil, hounds Paul, hounds Louis and won't do a thing without a work order number.

On, then, into the Carpenter Shop where Louis "I-got-a-patent" Ferry oversees the work of ten men. Louis has been here exactly thirty-four years, but Little Jake Stephens, one-time skipper of a never-to-be-forgotten cat boat in Great South Bay and Louis' right hand, runs a close second with two weeks to spare. The carpenters are

Billy Barbieri, Ray Fuller, Ed Hoffman, Joe Jacob, Tommy Jacobsen, George Keeley, Jake Stephens, Arthur Schaefer and his brother Fred, and Henry VanDort. (Fred and Henry are the Piel Brothers of the Carpenter Shop.)

(continued on page 3)

## Arkansas, Arizona and Tobago

Dr. James Ford of the Anthropology Department leaves early in March on a joint expedition of the AMNH and the U. S. National Park Service. An excavation is planned at the site of what is thought to be a 275-year-old French fort near the mouth of the Arkansas River.

In an effort to forestall Spanish expansion in the Mississippi River Valley, the French explorer, LaSalle, was to have sailed up the River from the Gulf of Mexico and establish a fort near New Orleans. At the same time one of his lieutenants, Henri de Tonty, was to travel down the valley, establishing the rights of France. LaSalle and his party missed the mouth of the river and perished on the Texas coast, but de Tonty reached the mouth of the Arkansas River and there, in 1683, established the fort that is the object of the present excavation.

Further west, at the Research Station in Arizona, Dr. T. C. Schneirla of Animal Behavior, will investigate the colony behavior and related biological condition of certain army ants. Before going to Portal around March 10th, he will visit the Department of City and Regional Planning of the University of California at Berkeley.

The Caribbean Island of Tobago is the locale of the third Museum expedition. It was there that Sir William Ingram introduced a group of forty-four Greater Birds of Paradise from the New Guinea region between the years of 1909 and 1912. Dr. E. Thomas Gilliard of the Bird Department left late in February to study and photograph this unique breeding population.

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Class of '61  
MARILYN BADARACCO  
BAILEY LEWIS  
PHILIP MILLER

## Center Sport Players

Walter Fairservis of the Anthropology Department and his wife Jan helped to found an "off-Broadway" theatre group in Bronxville six years ago. This successful group, known as the Center Spot Players, is made up of both professional and amateur actors and theatre technicians. Five plays are presented annually between September and June in the parish house of a local church. Alex Williams of the Exhibition Department designs both sets and posters for the Players.

Coming this spring are "A Sound of Hunting" in March; a suspense play in May, and O'Casey's "Plough and the Stars" in June. If anyone is interested in seeing any of the plays, please contact Walter on ext. 474 or Alex on ext. 218. Tickets are \$1.20 and refreshments are served free at intermission!

Walter, by the way, comes from a theatre family and had a career as a professional actor before his conversion to archaeology.

Because some of our readers may not have seen The New York Times of Feb. 6th, we decided to reprint the following article by Murray Schumach, with special permission from him and from the above-mentioned newspaper.—Editors.

## Museum Songbird Trills Beethoven

A bird that whistles Beethoven—and even variations on Beethoven—is a backstage pet at the American Museum of Natural History.

The feathered musician occasionally ends concerts with such comments as "Hello, baby," "I love you, too," and "Very pretty."

The bird's forte, however, is whistling the first eight notes of the last movement of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony—on key and without a pitch pipe.

A sort of parakeet—the museum experts call him a *Melopsittacus undulatus*—he is mostly green, with a yellow head and blue-tinted tail feathers. He has a private cage in the museum's bird department.

Known in pet shops as a budgie, short for budgerigar, the bird is native to Queensland, Australia. His arrival at the museum—unlike the arrival of most specimens, living or stuffed—was unexpected.

One gray November afternoon in 1955, Mary Elizabeth Brock, who works in the museum's bird department, looked toward a window and saw the budgie beating his bill against the glass.

She sprinkled crumbs on the inside of the window sill and opened the window. Eventually, the bird entered to eat and Miss Brock closed the window behind him. Because of his manner of entry, the bird became known as Peter Pan, or Pete.

Pete indicated rather quickly that he had lived in the city—he loosed a few wolf whistles. This conveyed to Miss Brock, a former music teacher, that a bird could be taught to appreciate the finer points of music.

In January, 1956, she whistled to Pete the first three notes of the last movement of Beethoven's Fifth. After a few months, she extended the instruction.

Now Pete can introduce the theme and whistle variations. Sometimes while whistling he stares at himself in a shiny metal disk that he uses as a mirror.

Sometimes, too, he uses his beak to strike a bell that hangs from the top of his cage. "Not for the music," says Miss Brock, "I think it's to let out his aggression when he's interrupted while singing."

Coming—

25-YEAR DINNER

April 16, 1958

## The Trading Post

FOR SALE: Willys Station Wagon, 1951, two-toned gray; perfect operating condition, radio & heater, 5 blow-out-proof tires, 98cu.ft. storage space. \$300. Call Dr. Burns, Ext. 212.

## Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner has discount tickets for the 14th Annual National Antiques Show to be held in Madison Square Garden from March 10th through the 16th. Each ticket may be exchanged for two regular admission tickets with the payment of 95c per ticket. The regular price is \$1.55.

Mr. Pintner also has tickets for "The Long Gallery" by Ramsey Yelvington at the RNA Theatre, Broadway at 91st St., for \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50. This is the only off-Broadway Theatre on Broadway. Get your tickets by calling Ext. 263.

## Sports

A bulletin board has been installed on the 5th floor near the 77th Street elevators for the posting of Bowling League scores.

## 100 Books Famous In Science

AMNH-ites will be interested in an exhibition of 100 Books Famous in Science at The Grolier Club, 47 E. 60th Street. This exhibit includes such rarities as Copernicus' "De Revolutionibus," "Dialogo" by Galileo, Ptolemy's "Cosmographia," the first atlas, and proof sheets with handwritten notes by Darwin of "Origin of the Species." The A. M. Gorki Science Library in Moscow has sent five books, one of which, "Beginnings of Non-Euclidean Geometry" by N. I. Lobachevskii, is the only copy available in the world.

This exhibition is open daily from 10:30 a. m. to 6:30 p. m., admission free, and will remain on view through March 30th.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



(continued from page 1)

Exclusive beyond all belief are the plumbers. Their country club is reached only by those brave enough to follow a dark and winding path under pipes, beams, engines and cobwebs which ends, provided you make the right turn, under the Micropaleontology Lab. Here Walter Joyce, impressario of lady golfers, and his three helpers, John Ignatief, Ted Pedersen and Don Serret, plumb the maze of pipes, radiators and faucets of Manhattan Square.

Long before you and I turn off the alarm clock, many of these men are on their way to work, some of them driving long distances. George Keeley comes from Beacon, George Floegel from Holmes, Fred Wernersbach from East Moriches and Rudy Bonen from Staten Island, to sign in at 8 a. m. Left behind are the hobbies that fill leisure hours and characterize the man. These range from fish-farming and tree-farming to betting on the horses and collecting girlie pictures; from raising giant strawberries and a tiny Chihuahua to repairing antique furniture; from painting pictures to playing golf. Not only are these men expert in their jobs, but expert in their hobbies.

Without the carpenters, painters, masons, electricians, sheet metal workers, plumbers and machinists this huge plant of ours would be a shambles. With them, it is a safer, pleasanter place to work. And although it is a man's world, "Lady coming through" has an expectant ring.

### **The Anthropology Laboratories**

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Philip Gifford is the third.—Editor.

On the fifth floor of the museum, directly above the South Sea Natives, Asiatic Natives, Stone Age Cultures and the Plains Indians, are found two important workrooms, headquarters of the Preparators of the Department of Anthropology. These are the offices where Fred Scherer and Joe Nocera work with their secret formulas and methods, refurbishing specimens for the Archaeological, Ethnological and Physical-Anthropology sections of the department.

In the last ten years, Fred Scherer has run a gamut of restoration work from casting fossil jaws, through repair of Balinese musical instruments, to the

reconstruction of storage jars excavated in Baluchistan. These last were Ali Baba size, just a breath smaller than the office door. In addition, Fred has worked a good deal with display. He has made life-size figures and developed lighting and arrangements for exhibitions. Maintaining the exhibits is also a laboratory problem and Fred is often called to repair and retouch the large plaster monuments in the Mexican Hall or to replace arms and fingers of the occupants of the Haida ceremonial canoe in the Northwest Coast Hall, a favorite target of the curious younger visitor.

In the single year since Joe Nocera transferred to Anthropology, he has been required to use a diversity of skills in answer to the typical emergency calls: treat an Amazon house model infested with boring beetles; relax leather specimens from Coptic Egypt; cast a Maori house ornament with a latex and plaster mold; make up a solution to preserve grass skirts for the Little Andaman Island exhibit; repair an old shrunken head; and restore pottery panpipes from prehistoric Peru.

Cleaning and restoring incoming collections are routine, but in addition, there is the preparation and repair of the hundreds of specimens which are loaned each year to schools and special exhibits. A large order of this kind offered itself recently when a 12-ft. totem post was painted with a solution to harden the surface before it could be shipped to the World's Fair in Brussels. Maintaining the study collections in good condition may involve plastic impregnation, special mounting or development of new storage methods. Not long ago, all the tapa cloth in the collections was steam ironed and rolled on paper tubes for protection and easier handling.

Special projects claim attention from time to time, such as drilling samples from the Copper Man and various ancient wood specimens for a carbon dating study. An automatic earth-shaker and sorter was invented for archaeological work, and a machine was developed which hurled javelins down the hallway toward Invertebrates to test a theory concerning the prehistoric use of weights on atlatls.

The Department is fortunate in having two adaptable members who combine the best features of cabinet maker, sculptor, miniaturist, tinker and exterminator. If they didn't exist, we would have had to invent them.

### **Winter Weary?**

Some of you, tired of ice skating and skiing at Bear Mountain, may be heading south this month for fresher snow fields. If you are, be sure to stop and see some of our pensioners whose addresses are listed below.

#### **District of Columbia**

Lillian P. Utermehle  
1316 New Hampshire Ave.  
Washington 6, D. C.

#### **Virginia**

Robert H. Rockwell  
Jamesville

#### **South Carolina**

Florence S. Milligan  
16 Bee Street  
Charleston

Ethel L. Newman  
Campobello

#### **Georgia**

Addie H. Summerson  
71 Sheridan Drive, N.E.  
Atlanta

#### **Florida**

Anna K. Berger  
Pomona

Floyd Blair  
Williston

Albert E. Butler  
752 Palm Drive  
Orlando

Howard W. Cleveland  
901 Groveland Avenue  
Venice

Benjamin F. Connolly  
200 Adams Street  
Hollywood

Benjamin E. Edwards  
3901 Yardley Avenue, North  
St. Petersburg

Walter C. Jensen  
620 Wood Street  
Dunedin

Ernest A. Neilson  
Interlachen

Mrs. Alma L. O'Connor  
5640 47th Ave., North  
St. Petersburg

Joseph A. Orr  
42nd St. Harmony Hts.  
Fort Pierce

George Severn  
129 South Prospect Ave.  
Avon Park

Anthony Tumillo  
3831 29th Ave., North  
St. Petersburg

## Heard in Passing

MATTHEW KALMENOFF, noted AMNH artist, is lending his talents to Orchid Ridge for its exhibit at the Flower Show which opens on March 9th. He has painted a 10'x16' background for their orchid display.

When last seen, Electrician RUDY BONEN was striding around the Museum without so much as a limp. The Grapevine erroneously reported that Rudy suffered a broken leg, but apparently his fall from a ladder last month proved he is indestructible.

The husband of MARY ANN CARCIONE, who works in General Accounting, is a concert violinist and you might imagine she would object to listening to long hours of practicing. But she doesn't. Her husband has devised a means of keeping his violin silent. He washes his practice bow in soap and water, thereby softening it, and then lets it dry. The violin retains its perfect tone but the sound is hardly audible. All of these practice hours led Mr. Carcione to the position of first violinist with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D. C. last year. Mary Ann's only complaint is that she has to go to a concert to enjoy her husband's music.

We are happy to welcome back both DR. and MRS. NORMAN NEWELL (Invert. Paleo.), Dr. Newell from a post-operative convalescence and Mrs. Newell from a bout with American flu.

Those of us who are given to early morning televising may have seen a familiar face on the tiny screen. It was TOM (Planetarium) NICHOLSON who appeared on the Dave Garroway Show on Feb. 3 in an interview about cosmic radiation.

On Feb. 7th the Department of Exhibition gave a farewell tea for JAMES PERRY WILSON. On the following Monday Perry started work at the Peabody Museum at Yale where he has been commissioned to paint a background for their Rocky Mountain Sheep group.

How many of you know that the birthplace of the "Explorer," now whizzing around the earth, is the California Institute of Technology's Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Pasadena? It was just as much of a surprise to PALIE (Publ. Instr.) and BILL (Genl. Acct.) BAKER whose son George is a research engineer at JPL where he has been since his graduation from MIT in 1956. (It doesn't seem so long ago when George played his accordion in Tony Tumillo's orchestra at EBA dances.)

Friends of DR. ED WEYER, former editor of Natural History, will be glad to hear that he is Acting Director of the Museum of Anthropology at the University of California, and is teaching there as well.

The Planetarium is in the process of opening a library and CICELY BRESLIN who formerly worked in the Museum Shop is to be the librarian.

Building Services is glad to have VIC BADARACCO back on their team after a long illness. JOSEPH TORINO, who has been with that Department for over three years, resigned on February 4th.

BOB KANE, of black-light-mural fame, and TOM VOTER, who was the former head of the Art Department and is now director of the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers, have just finished a series of astronomical black light murals for a new planetarium in Flint, Michigan.

Interesting coincidence: In 1942, long before GORDON REEKIE (Manager of Exhibition and Construction) came to AMNH, he illustrated "The Star Gazer" by HENRY M. NEELY, a staff lecturer at the Planetarium.

Quite a few Museum employees are members of the Admiral Charles E. Plunkett Post 1129 of The American Legion which makes an annual distribution of cigarettes and other gifts to veterans' hospitals. In January of this year they visited the Kingsbridge Veterans Hospital in the Bronx. Some of the Museum members of the Post are: ALLAN O'CONNELL, HENRY LIND, RICHARD DUNNE, RICHARD PANKANIN, EDWARD DOSKOCIL, MICHAEL PAKALIK, ALBERT POTENZA, HUBERT OHRNBERGER, ROBERT MURRAY, CORNELIUS MUNIC, EDWARD MORTON and JAMES JORDAN.

The new Preparator in the Exhibition Dept., NEIL POTTER, was born in Milwaukee, went to the Univ. of Wisconsin, and Columbia Univ., and has been an Industrial and Graphic designer and teacher. He is a painter and sculptor as well.

DR. and MRS. ROBERT C. MURPHY returned early in February from a trip around the world, and Dr. Murphy immediately plunged into his fight against DDT.

March 10th will find MRS. JOSEPHINE KIMBALL (Pres. office) off for Italy with her architect husband. They will visit the American Military Cemetery at Anzio which Mr. Kimball designed, and will spend the rest of the time on architectural research.

## Word from the Deep South

We would like to pass on to you news of Miss Summerson, former Assistant Executive Secretary of the Museum, who retired a few years ago and is now living in Atlanta.

"My life here is complacent and rather full of social activities, but I am afraid my dear old Museum friends would find an account of it *too* monotonous to read. I read every word in the Grapevine, but so many of the names in it are new to me. The Museum has changed in the past years so much, but I still love it! I am afraid my old friends would not be interested in the life I now lead—baby sitting (for grandnieces and nephews); visiting; going to Agnes Scott where I was educated; associating with Dagmar and Art (Mr. Meister's daughter and her husband) when they are in Atlanta; watching television; doing keyring work; etc., but in many ways we are lucky . . . my dear old Museum friends are a very important part of my life. I love hearing from—and about—them."

Miss Florence Milligan wrote us, too. She was Secretary to President Osborn. "I was deeply interested in the opening article of your Nov. issue because it brought back my own very active days at the Museum." Miss Milligan also sent us some back issues of the Grapevine for which we are grateful.

## Word from Deepest Africa

Hobart Van Deusen of the Mammal Dept. recently received a long and happy letter from Don Carter who left in January on an expedition to Africa. (see Jan. issue), and who celebrated his 65th birthday in Nairobi recently.

Don tells of a most interesting example of how a goodwill gesture on the part of Hazel Gay made a firm and influential friend for the Museum. Major Swynnerton, head of the Game Department in Arusha, has a small museum and a well stocked library in his home. Several years ago the Major sent Miss Gay a large order for Museum publications; these were sent to him without charge because of his great interest in the game of Africa. Don had to get his permit to collect from the Major's office, but he got more than that. He was offered the pick of the Major's fine collection of small mammals and a promise to obtain for him a specimen of the prized Abbot's duiker.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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## Harold Anthony Retires

On Tuesday evening, March 25th, close to 200 employees of The American Museum of Natural History gathered in the Faunal Bird Hall to pay tribute to one of their most respected and revered colleagues—Harold Elmer Anthony.

Dr. Anthony is retiring after 46 years of dedicated service to the museum and to the employees in it, as well as to the Department of Mammals of which he has been Chairman since 1942.

A native of Oregon, Harold Anthony came out of the northwest in 1911 to begin his career in our museum as a cataloguer and general handyman in the Department of Mammals and Ornithology headed by Dr. James A. Allen, the eminent mammalogist.

From the time he was old enough to hold a gun, the young Harold trapped and hunted and loved the out-of-doors. Although his father was an outstanding Pacific coast ornithologist and collector, Anthony's main interest is, and always has been, mammals. Yet a lifetime of collecting has given him an awareness of everything in the natural world, birds not excluded. A freelance collector's life is not a lucrative one, and Harold might eventually have gone into a more financially rewarding business had it not been for the encouragement of a family friend who got him a summer job collecting for the Biological Survey, and if Dr. C. H. Townsend, acting Director of The American Museum of Natural History, had not needed a man for a collecting expedition off the coast of Mexico in the fall of 1911. Dr. Townsend was a friend of the elder Anthony and had, of course, heard of the abilities of the son. Harold was so competent in the field that Dr. Townsend asked him to work at this museum and at the same time finish his college work at Columbia University.

Anthony's salary was seventy-five dollars a month (the top curatorial salary in those days was \$3000.) but he managed to scrape along on 15c meals and a \$2.50 a week room until he entered the Army in 1917.

In 1911 the Department of Mammals and Ornithology consisted, besides Dr.

Allen, of Frank M. Chapman as Curator of Ornithology, Roy Chapman Andrews as Assistant Curator of Mammalogy, W. DeW. Miller as Assistant Curator of Ornithology, and two secretaries. Since Roy Andrews was concentrating on whales to the exclusion of other mammals, it fell to Anthony's lot to work closely with Dr. Allen, and it wasn't long before he was off on field trips. One of the first was to the Isthmus of Darien in Central America in 1914. And Central America, as well as the West Indies and South America, has been his favorite collecting ground ever since. A list of his expeditions would fill all of the pages of the Grapevine, but during his 46 years he and his colleagues have increased the collection of mammals 500%, until today there are over 170,000 specimens on exhibit and in storage.

Along came the first World War and enthusiastic patriotism. Harold Anthony helped to train a civilian platoon of Museum personnel who drilled by the hour on the tennis court which was located where the School Service building now stands. Anthony found, much to his consternation, that the men with the highest I.Q. had the most trouble telling their right hands from their left—sometimes with disastrous results, because the tennis court was surrounded by a deep ditch.

The tennis court was not only the drilling ground; it was the place where the young people gathered during lunch hour or after work. At that time there were only 200 employees, so everyone knew everyone. Whether it was around the tennis court that Harold Anthony's courtship of the beautiful, tall, blond Edith Demerell started, or whether it was on the back stairs which lead from the Mammal Department to the Geology Department, we do not know. But in April 1916 Edith Demerell became Mrs. Harold E. Anthony and Dr. E. O. Hovey, Curator of Geology and Invertebrate Paleontology, lost a secretary.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Anthony entered the Army and swiftly rose to the rank of Captain of Artillery. It was while he was stationed at Camp Dix

that Mrs. Anthony died, shortly after their son, Alfred Webster, was born. This was a blow to the young Captain, but the war was on and there was work to be done. Fortunately, four years later, Mr. Anthony met and married the equally beautiful Margaret Feldt who has done so much to make his life a rich and happy one. A son, Gilbert, and a daughter, Margery, were born to this marriage.

Anthony's salary as a Captain was so much more than he had been getting at the Museum that he seriously considered making the Army a career. However, the director came up with an attractive offer which changed his mind and he returned to the position of Associate Curator of Mammals. In 1921 when Dr. Allen died, he became acting head of the Department of Mammals which the year before had been separated from the Department of Birds.

In 1926 Harold Anthony was elected an employee member of the Pension Board and in due time became an active member of its Welfare Committee through which he came close to the hardships and tragedies of many employees. During his thirty-two years on this board, he worked diligently for the good of all museum employees. Mr. Anthony was particularly suited to this position because of his great interest in and knowledge of finance. Some people read the bridge column in the paper, some read the book reviews, others do the crossword puzzles, but Anthony always read the financial pages. He knew that a bear market wasn't always a place where grizzlies and kodiaks are sold, and that there are two kinds of bulls.

In 1936 Mr. Anthony, by now Dr. Anthony, helped to organize our Credit Union which became a model for similar organizations all over the country.

During his 46 years, Dr. Anthony has seen seven buildings added to our museum, one of which took over the old tennis court, and another the ball field, where every Saturday, weather permitting, he played ball with Ed Meyenberg, Ben Connolly, Jake Shrope and Fred Kessler—the Headhunters of another era. *(continued)*

# THE GRAPEVINE

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He has seen the completion of three mammal halls; South Asiatic, African and North American. And he has seen his own department grow from three members to fifteen. Although in his early years, Dr. Anthony devoted himself exclusively to systematic research, the problems of Conservation, especially in respect to mammals, and the building of the mammal halls took more and more time, but the results have been gratifying to say the least.

Of the dozen or so Scientific societies to which Dr. Anthony belongs—as well as being an officer in many of them—none are dearer to his heart than the Greater New York Orchid Society and the American Orchid Society. Early in his youth, Harold Anthony discovered flowers, and somewhere along the way, he also discovered that raising orchids was not necessarily a rich man's hobby; that you could have just as much fun without owning the expensive varieties; and that the satisfaction of watching green things growing cannot be surpassed.

Mrs. Anthony shares her husband's love of flowers and their garden in Englewood, New Jersey, while small, is beautiful, due, we are sure, to hard work and two green thumbs.

April will find Dr. and Mrs. Anthony in Palo Alto on Orchid Society business and we would like to think that the years to come will be devoted to such pleasant things as flowers, travel and photography (a life-long interest); but Childs Frick has asked Dr. Anthony to take over the management of the Frick Laboratory which is located on the 6th floor of Sections S & T, and whose work also involves mammals—the fossilized kind. It is nice to know that we will still see Harold Anthony about our halls. While years of field work in which a man often spends months alone in the wilderness have made Dr. Anthony a self-contained and self-sufficient person, he has been a friend to many of us and a tower of strength in time of trouble.

## Bees In His Bonnet!

George Goodwin, Assoc. Curator of Mammals, has had bees in his bonnet ever since he was fourteen years old. In the intervening years, these figurative bees have materialized into 125,000 very real and busy bees which he keeps in five hives.

These hives are the result of a single swarm that once inhabited a tree in the park along Columbus Avenue. One afternoon about ten years ago, Charlie Kerr in the Bursar's Office got a frantic call from the Parks Department. They didn't like bees and they wanted them out! Charlie knew that George Goodwin was the answer.

So the stalwart Mr. Goodwin climbed the tree, wrapped the bees in cheesecloth, put them in a box, and that evening transported them home via the Long Island Railroad. When several bees escaped from their uncomfortable temporary home and flitted through the car, Mr. Goodwin, acting as though his potentially dangerous package contained back issues of the N. Y. Times, looked as innocent as only Mr. Goodwin can.

The next day, being a man who is sensitive to the moods of bees, he noticed that his newly-acquired bees were restless, and on closer inspection discovered that the queen bee was missing. He promptly returned to the tree, found the queen, put her in a matchbox, and brought her home, this time in his pocket.

## The Trading Post

**FOR SALE:** 7 1/2 cu. ft. Westinghouse refrigerator, good condition \$25.—see R. Schrammel (Insect Dept.)

**FOR SALE:** Pure Honey—delicious—\$1.25 a Quart, call George Goodwin, Ext. 242.

**FOUND:** Bracelet, presumably silver, in Ladies' Room, 5th fl. Sect. 9—Call Ext. 484.

Since that day, the swarm has thrived. They have multiplied into five hives and produced some of the most succulent honey in New York State.

Mr. Goodwin is quite emphatic about the quality of natural honey vs. the commercial variety. The latter is heated, simply to clarify it, and thereby loses its true nature and flavor. Those interested in the real thing will, of course, buy Mr. Goodwin's brand.

This is not a paid advertisement—see Trading Post, above.

## Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner has discount tickets for Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus which opens in Madison Square Garden early in April. Call Ext. 263 or go in person to Office Services, 3rd fl.

## How's Bowling? Fine!

Wednesday nights cannot come quickly enough for that swell bunch of people who make up the AMNH Bowling League—a true cross-section of Museum personnel. The League joyfully welcomes Mary McKenna and Helen Jones. Dotty Bronson's first night proved her a "special" and she was then and there affectionately adopted.

They say fossils are dead, but not Hussey's Fossils. Their pace, if sustained, will take them clear out of the League (What education won't do!). Colahan's Mummies are still under wraps with three straight shellackings. Rest peacefully, Mummies, there is time without end. Pessino's yelling tribe of rampaging Indians really scared Marxhausen's curving Headhunters, clobbering them 2 out of 3 games. But beware! we understand the Headhunters have a technique for shrinking the heads of their tormentors.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



## A New Name for an Old Square

On March 10th at twelve noon Mayor Robert Wagner signed his name to a bill which changed the name of Manhattan Square to **THEODORE ROOSEVELT PARK** in recognition of the Theodore Roosevelt Centennial Year and of the contribution to the museum of the Roosevelts, father and son.

This event sent us scurrying to the library where we found the following information:

In 1807 when a Board of Commissioners was appointed to lay out the streets, roads and public parks "to such an extent as would seem to them to be conducive to the public good," they designated a portion of the estate of David Wagstaff, Esq., plus four lots belonging to one Joseph Nones which bordered 77th and 81st streets, as a public park. A quarter of a century later, the city purchased this land for the sum of \$54,657 (in 1900 it was valued at \$5,250,000).

In 1864 Manhattan Square was annexed to Central Park and put under the control of its Commissioners. Seven years later when that board was dissolved and a Department of Parks was established, it was still undeveloped. But this was the site which our Trustees chose for our museum. They were certainly men of vision because it was a dreary place. Albert Bickmore, the "father" of our institution, wrote in his unpublished autobiography (1908):

"The first time I visited the square it seemed an almost hopeless task that we were undertaking to make this place accessible and attractive to the masses of our citizens. There was at that time only a single horse-car line on Eighth Avenue, and the cars actually ran along just above the surface of the large pond in the square . . . within the boundaries of our area the prospect was most desolate and forbidding. There was a high hill at the north east corner, of which a remnant still remains in the Park . . . and in the north west corner another hill of solid rock rose much higher than the Elevated Railroad station, which now stands in its place. In the southern and central part of the square, just where the first section of our building was to be erected, was a third hill, whose crest rose as high as the ceiling of our present Hall of Birds. As I sat on the top of this rock, the surrounding view was dreary and my only companions were scores of goats. Only the temporary shanties of squatters could be seen on the north, except two or three small and cheap houses half way

between Eighth and Ninth Avenues. . . . On the west were only shanties perched on the rough rocks, and south of us there was no building near.

Our founders were a determined and hardy lot. In 1874 the corner stone was laid and Manhattan Square was on its way to becoming a cultural and green oasis.

## Fossil Invertebrate Laboratory

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Dr. Norman Newell is the fourth.—Editor.

The laboratories of invertebrate paleontology, newly situated between the library and the 77th Street elevators, illustrate the many changes and extraordinary development of the Museum since the Second World War. In 1946 the Museum's vast collection, one of the truly great collections of the country, was scattered through five floors at the rear of the old north wing, remote from any elevator and virtually inaccessible. In those days the laboratory was a poorly ventilated photographic darkroom in Dr. Newell's office, a room much too small for Bob Adlington's ample physique.

Today, in the new laboratories whose design is largely Bob's handiwork, about one half of the collection numbering uncouneted millions of specimens is accommodated. The remainder will follow soon when the transfer of the library makes available to invertebrate paleontology Miss Gay's present office and the reading room.

Here, under the Museum-Columbia University program of collaboration in paleontology, many advanced students have learned laboratory techniques from Bob and have carried on basic research under the guidance of the staff. At least 12 of these are now teaching at leading universities. Bob Adlington and Eddie Hawkins spend their days accessioning, cataloguing, photographing and organizing the collections. They clean and prepare specimens by many specialized techniques for study by Dr. Newell and Dr. Squires. The preparation of really good photographic illustrations of fossil invertebrates for publication is a highly specialized technique requiring much time and skill and the thousands of pictures made by these men are of outstanding quality.

Almost every summer one or more organized expeditions, requiring long preparation and thousands of pounds of equipment, have gone out from invertebrate paleontology to remote places such as the South Pacific, the Peruvian Andes, Guatemala and the Bahamas. Until recently, when Eddie joined the lab, much of the planning, purchase, assembly, and shipping of equipment was done by Bob.

Since 1950, the invertebrate paleontologists have been actively investigating coral reefs and animals of the sea floor. Bob has learned to dive with the scientists and to document observations by means of underwater equipment used in marine studies. He has also designed and built a number of instruments and machines used in the field.

In 1948 a chemical laboratory was installed in the basement for the purpose of extracting delicate fossil invertebrates of suitable preservation from rock matrix by chemical means. Between 25 and 30 tons of limestone blocks have been processed since that time.

## Camera Club News

Some of the best professional advice is available to you camera bugs, and it's all free! The savant dispensing these words of wisdom is none other than Lee Boltin who has been present at all of the past meetings of the Camera Club, and we understand he is extremely helpful. Lee has covered available light photography, new films, how to take portraits, and many other questions that trouble the amateur photographer.

At the next Camera Club meeting, to be held on Tuesday, April 8th, in the Photography Department Studio, all those attending are asked to bring their ten best slides for analysis by the experts. Please notify Barbara Farley, Ext. 447, if you plan to attend.

The Planetarium reports the completion of its new control rack in the Dome that will enable the lecturers to have twenty-five special effects at their finger tips. Some of the new things to be seen moving across the Planetarium sky: morning clouds and rising sun, a projected outline of the New York skyline, and the true colors of the rainbow.

**Coming—**

**25-YEAR DINNER**

**April 16, 1958**

## Heard in Passing

The shuffling and reshuffling noises recently heard on the fourth floor of the School Service Building were not a poker game in progress—they were merely the trudging footsteps of some of the fourth floor occupants, LESTER DANLEY and HENRY STEELMAN, Technicians in the Film Division, who now have a private room with a view. ELEANOR FORBES and PAT McHALE, who formerly occupied this office for Man and Nature Publications, have moved down to the Museum Shop.

Those people who worked on the Hall of North American Mammals will be distressed to hear of the tragic death of GEORGE BROWNE son of the late Belmore Browne who painted a number of the backgrounds for that hall. George helped his father and was well known to many people who worked here. He was accidentally shot on March 14th, while at the Annual Outing of the Camp Fire Club in the Adirondacks.

We are glad to hear that MRS. TINA ZWOBODA, who retired in 1947 after thirty-five years as matron in the Building Services Department, is well on the road to recovery after a serious illness. Tina is still very much interested in the Museum and we know that she would like to hear from her old friends here. She is convalescing at her home, 1892 Morris Avenue in the Bronx.

JOAN DUGGAN of Natural History Mag., whose engagement we reported earlier, will be married on April 19th. (She leaves the Museum the first week in April.) We hear that Joan's wedding dress is a knockout. It was made especially for her in Italy by designer Emilio Schuberth. About two months after her wedding Joan will leave for a second honeymoon in Northern Europe where her Navy husband will be on a cruise. Congratulations and Bon Voyage!

RACHEL NICHOLS (Osborn Library) and her husband called on MISS CLARA BEALE (Museum Publications) on February 22nd. Since the death of her brother last fall, she has stayed on in their comfortable small house at 62 Riverside Place, Walpole, Mass. She is well, but unable to get out at all and welcomes visitors. She has a pleasant and efficient companion during the day, and someone stays there at night, so she is never alone. She wishes to be remembered to all of her old friends at the Museum and would love to see anyone who can call on her.

DR. and MRS. MONT CAZIER (Insect Dept.) have returned to New York from Portal in the company of their five-month old daughter, Karen.

DR. FREDERICO LANE, who is studying at the Museum (in the Insect Department) on a grant from the Guggenheim Foundation has also returned to the Museum. He has been at the National Museum studying long horn beetles.

FRED BISSO of the Metal Shop has a most active extra-curricular life. Besides being one of the five judges on the Board of Adjustment of the Real Estate Zoning Board in New Brunswick, N. J. he attends Rutgers University three nights a week.

At the time of this writing March is behaving like the proverbial lion and snow is settling over Central Park so it can't be the weather but . . . ERICA CHILD, one of the latest and most attractive additions to the Exhibition Department, is engaged to Hector Prud'homme and will be married later in the spring.

Dinosaurs have joined the ranks of other do-it-yourself models, such as planes and boats, and our own GEORGE CRAWBUCK (Dept. of Public Instruction) is the da Vinci behind the well-made miniature Tyrannosaurus recently placed on the market by the Ideal Toy Company. George is now working frantically to complete a Stegosaurus and seems to be enjoying every moment of it. The models are composed of about fifty pieces and are about fifteen inches long. No mention of how long it takes to put one together!

About ten months ago, CARLTON BEIL, (Circulating Collections) decided that the AMNH's traveling doll collection was too bedraggled to make another trip. The plight of the beloved but battered dolls became known to the Doll Collectors' Guild. This group, headed by Mrs. Julius Rassner, volunteered to repair our collection. Our dolls, which come from all over the world, were washed, painted, dry cleaned and generally spruced up until they were completely restored to their original beauty. The now shining collection will be kept in sets and exhibited in school corridors, continuing to give children a glimpse of the dress and customs of other lands.

TOM HOGAN (Building Services), the capable vice-president of the EBA, has resigned from that post. The Association is certainly sorry to lose him.

After the May issue the "Sky Reporter" will cease to be an independent publication and as of June 1st it will appear as a separate department in Natural History Magazine. HENRY M. NEELY will continue to supervise the material. Blessings on the new merger!

MRS. NINA DALEY (Museum Shop) leaves for a holiday in France on April 15th. She will join her daughter, son-in-law and grandson (whom Nina says was a frequent visitor to the Museum) in Paris.

FRED OKADA (Public Instruction) left on March 2nd for a year's research in Nepal. Working out of the capital city of Katmandu, he will be investigating the general area of social organization among some of the ten or twelve tribes which, he claims, still remain rather individual in character. He will be devoting particular attention to the Newars, the oldest ethnic group in central Nepal. Fred's wife, Else, will accompany him. She is a trained musician and plans to make extensive tape recordings of Nepalese music. Sounds like a fascinating journey, doesn't it?

It was a happy day for ROBERT DALY (Print Shop) when his wife and baby son Patrick returned from Ireland recently. We hope they are here to stay.

Word has been received of the death of ANNE MARIE RENAUD, age 86, who worked in the Preparation Department from 1916 to 1932.

The exhibit of the late LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES field sketches which were chosen from the AMNH's extensive collection and which was on view in our Corner Gallery for several months has gone to the N. Y. State Museum in Albany.

Building Services bid goodbye to GENE MORTON after twenty-one years of service. Monday mornings won't be the same without Gene's cheerful hello and armful of freshly-laundered, fragrant towels.

FRANCES ZWEIFEL left her post in the Art Department on March 14th. She and husband DICK (Amphibians and Reptiles) expected their baby in April but a 7 lb. son was born on Mar. 19th. Congratulations!

DR. C. M. BREDER (Fish Department) left on March 10th on an expedition to northwestern Florida where he will study the various features of fish reproduction and schooling of both freshwater and marine fish. He will be away about two months.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 8

MAY, 1958

## Another Part of the Forest

On Wednesday, May 14th, our new Hall of North American Forests, located in what was once Darwin Hall, will be opened to the public after ten long years of preparation.

This is a hall of which all of us may be proud. The exhibits are the acme of technical perfection and the scientific content has been carefully planned to show the diversity of forest communities in middle North America, as well as the internal functions of the forest, the relation between the forest and its environment, and the interrelation of man and the forest.

It has been made possible through the generosity of Messrs. Clarence L. Hay, Childs Frick, H. Nelson Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Sterling, The International Paper Company and The Great Northern Paper Company, and by the knowledge and skills of the scientists, artists, preparators and mechanics of The American Museum of Natural History.

Trees, and consequently forests, are such a basic part of our natural world that they have been an important part of our collections ever since 1870. Long before our museum had a building of its own, Gen. Charles W. le Gendre, the American Consul at Amoy, China, sent us a collection of woods from China. This was the first response to a circular issued by the State Department of the United States to all our ministers and consuls in foreign lands, asking for contributions to a very young museum. These woods, and many more that followed, led to the establishment of a department of Economic Botany, and eventually to a famous collection—the Jesup Collection of North American Woods.

One of the first steps taken by Morris K. Jesup after his election as President of the Museum in 1881 was toward the establishment—at his own expense and as a gift to the Museum—of a collection showing the natural history and economic features of all the trees in the United States that could be used for commercial purposes.

The year before (1880), Professor Charles Sprague Sargent of Harvard University, an arboriculturist of note and Director of the famous Arnold Arboretum in Brookline, Mass., had been appointed head of the newly formed Department of Economic Botany. At that time he was in the process of preparing a report for the Tenth Census of the United States on "The Forest Wealth of the United States," and therefore was particularly qualified to make such a collection.

By 1891 Professor Sargent had assembled 420 species and they were formally presented to the Museum. Although a number of species were missing, an expedition went out in the fall of that year and secured all but a very few unimportant ones. When the East Wing (Sect. U) was completed in 1894, the first floor was set aside for the Jesup Collection and there it remained from 1896 until 1949 when it was dismantled to make way for the Warburg Hall, or Nature Near New York as it is called today.

For those of you who never knew the old hall, we would like to quote from Guide Leaflet No. 32, "Trees and Forestry," published in 1910.

"The Morris K. Jesup Collection of North American Trees is designed for the student, artisan and forester, and for the man commercially interested in woods, as well as for those who enjoy familiarity with the woodland and wish to increase their enjoyment by extending their familiarity. . . . In its completeness and attractiveness, its scientific correctness and educational value, it is a splendid example of what he (Jesup) desired an exhibition in a scientific and educational institution to be. In its now practically perfected condition, it displays in related groups or families more than five hundred species of the trees of North America. Each tree is represented by a section of trunk 5 feet high, cut lengthwise radially 2 1/4 feet, the cut surface showing the color and graining of the quartered lumber in its natural and polished state. . . . One of the most

remarkable features of the collection lies in its accompanying models of tree leaves, flowers and fruits. So perfectly are the representations executed that it is often impossible to discover even by careful scrutiny how much may be original and how much reproduced. There are flowers of the decorative magnolias, of basswood interesting to bee keepers, curious fruits of sassafras, persimmon and Osage orange, autumn foliage of oak, sweet gum and sumach." There were also watercolor sketches by Mrs. Sargent which illustrated the foliage, flower and fruit of each species.

It was an extremely popular exhibition hall in its day and we know that the new hall will be even more so.

## Van Gelder Acting Chairman of Mammal Department

Following the retirement of Dr. Harold E. Anthony, Dr. Richard G. Van Gelder, Assistant Curator of Mammals, was made Acting Chairman of the Department of Mammals on April 5, 1958. Dr. Van Gelder, who has been a professional zoologist for more than half his 29 years, was graduated from the Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College and received his doctorate from the University of Illinois. His earliest experience as a mammalogist was at the Bronx Zoo where he worked while attending the Horace Mann School in New York City. Before joining the Museum staff in 1956, he was an instructor and research assistant in zoology at the Museum of Natural History of the University of Kansas. In 1953 and 1954 he worked on a research fellowship at the University of Illinois, teaching zoology as well as collecting specimens for the University's Museum of Natural History. During that period he made a 13,000-mile one-man expedition through Southwestern United States and Mexico, collecting numerous varieties of bats, snakes, turtles, rodents, rabbits and specimens of spotted skunks from previously unstudied areas. Dr. Van Gelder's specialty is mammalian taxonomy and evolution, and he has recently completed an evolutionary study of the spotted skunk. In 1957 he was married to the former Vera Ujhely of the Director's Office.

## THE GRAPEVINE

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EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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### Forever Young

The youngest and gayest group of people we have seen in a long time gathered in Roosevelt Hall on the evening of April 16th to be feted by the Trustees in honor of their twenty-five or more years of service to The American Museum of Natural History.

On hand to greet the ninety guests were three officers of the Board of Trustees: Mr. Frederick M. Eaton, First Vice-President, Mr. Robert G. Page, Second Vice-President and Mr. Frederick M. Warburg, Secretary, as well as Dr. Albert E. Parr, Director of the Museum, Mr. Walter F. Meister, Deputy-Director, and Mr. Edwin C. Meyenberg, Bursar.

We feel sorry for the eighty members that stayed at home, because they missed a wonderful party. There was a pianist, "refreshments," and a host of old acquaintances to greet. A delicious dinner, including breast of chicken mornay with ham and a strawberry tart (with other good things too numerous to mention), was served in Whitney Bird Hall.

At the head table sat seven of the eight new members of the Quarter Century Club: Marguerite Newgarden, Harry Farrar, Robert Fearman, James Flood, Edward Hawkins, George Petersen and Frederick Weir. Dr. Willis Gertsch, the eighth member, was not able to be present.

Although Mr. Warburg could not read his notes because he had forgotten his glasses and tried to use Mr. Eaton's, he made a delightful stand-in for Mr. White who was on, what Mr. Warburg termed, "a well undeserved rest" in Italy. Before welcoming the new members, he introduced three "distinguished" guests: Dr. Barnum Brown who came here in 1897 and "was the man behind the man (Prof. Osborn)," Ashton Littlefield who came in 1914 because "an English accent was needed at the front door," and Dr. Chester Reeds, class of 1912, who was "a geologist before there was geology." All three of these men are long since retired.

Mr. Warburg next introduced the "youngsters" who had made the party possible: Jean Marxhausen, Anna Montgomery, Margaret Johnston and Joe Abruzzo. Then the new members were presented and Mr. Meyenberg, Class of 1911, gave out the certificates of life membership and George Petersen, on behalf of the others, graciously acknowledged the tribute (after rehearsing his speech all during dinner, or so Mr. Warburg maintained).

In spite of not having his glasses, it did not escape the master of ceremonies' attention that out of the twenty women present, Harry Shapiro and Don Carter had managed to snag five good looking ones for their table. This, of course, upset the balance, with the result that there were three tables of woe-begone "bachelors."

After the ceremonies were over, a night cap was served in Roosevelt Hall and the pianist played for a spontaneous group of singers, consisting of Farrell Carney, Tony Cartossa, Artie Naylor, Harriet Walsh and Helen Jones—and for two lone dancers who couldn't keep their feet still, Jim Flood and Dotty Bronson.

Among the pensioners present were: Barnum Brown, Tony Cartossa, Fred Christman, Joe Connolly, Martin Dunne, Patrick Grady, Ida Grobe, Larry Hillyard, Avery Kimmel, John Larsen, Ashton Littlefield, Jim McKeon, Bob McMorran, Bernard Marshall, Chris Olsen, Grace Ramsey, Chester Reeds, Alcide Roche, May Sheehan, Oscar Shine, Jake Shrope, Dorothy Shuttlesworth, Ethel Timonier, Lilian Utermehle and Frank Vitolo.

Pictures taken at the 25 year dinner are on view in the Staff Cafeteria. Copies of these prints may be obtained from the Photographic Division for 20c each. Enlargements \$1.00 each.

### The Trading Post

**WANTED:** Old nylon stockings in any condition. Deliver to Joe Sedacca, Graphic Arts Dept. (My mother is crocheting a rug for me).

**FOR RENT:** 7 room house completely furnished. 3 minute walk to Spuyten Duyvil station—river view—children welcome. 12 months beginning July 1. \$150.00 a month. Tom Gilliard—Kingsbridge 8-3669.

### Blood Bank Program to be Held in Museum this Year

Dr. William Burns, Chairman of the Museum Blood Bank, announced that this year the annual collection of blood will be made in The American Museum of Natural History instead of the Metropolitan Museum of Art as has been the case in former years.

The date for donations of blood is Friday, June 27th. Notices will be sent to all employees of the Museum, together with pledges. The Blood Bank Committee met in April to discuss new regulations with respect to the issuance of blood and it is expected that, in order to maintain the same liberal policy that has been in force for years, it will be necessary for Museum employees who have not given blood to do so in order to protect themselves and their families. The Grapevine will carry an article on the history of the Blood Bank in the June issue.

### Sports

All in the month of April, the Museum of Modern Art lost a Monet and the American Museum Bowling League lost its home, three pairs of shoes and a ball as a result of fire. Falcaro's Alleys were burned out, but within a week the League had a new place to roll: Dyckman Bowling Alleys at 170 Dyckman St. The season will wind up soon with a dinner to be held this month at which time trophies will be awarded for the highest average and the highest team score. The ever-leading Fossils are still in first place and the Mummies are last. What! No booby prize?

The golf chairman, Arthur Naylor, has purchased some new clubs for practicing and hopes to start lessons right away. So if you are interested, please get in touch with him on Ext. 437.

### Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.



## **Osteology Laboratory and Tannery**

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Edward McGuire is the fifth.—Editor.

This laboratory, located on the third floor of the Power House, is better known throughout the museum as the Tannery and Bone Room. It was started in 1923 by Dr. James L. Clark, then Director of Preparation, as a necessary adjunct to the taxidermy for the groups in South Asiatic Mammal Hall. At that time the tannery was in the basement of Sec. U (where Paleontology's storeroom is) and the bone room was on the 6th floor of the North Wing. In 1943 this work was turned over to Dr. Harold E. Anthony, curator of Mammals, and later it came under my supervision.

Since the death of Oscar Grandstedt, the tannery has been manned by William Coull and Bob Carson. These two young men knew little or nothing about the method of museum tanning but were willing to learn. Consequently, today, they are good tanners. Proof of this is that other museums have sent their tanners here for assistance.

The method used for tanning museum specimens is quite different from the commercial process. Museums are more interested in retaining the natural color of skins for identification whereas this is not important to the fur trade because they usually dye their pelts.

The odors emanating from the tannery make this an unpopular place for visitors, but the smell in the bone room is even worse. This is caused by the processes that are performed there and is no reflection on Henry Ruof and Jimmy Turner whom you will find busy at work on skeletons and skulls of mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and even humans. At one table Henry may be either mounting a skeleton for some exhibition hall, or cleaning a skull which cannot be put into the dermestes beetle colony. They are specimens which have been treated in the field with either arsenic or formalin. If they were to be given to the beetles to clean, the poisons would kill off the colony and thereby create a serious situation, because it takes time to build up a colony of dermestes. These small beetles, commonly known as carpet beetles, eat away all the flesh and do a wonderful job on the very small skulls whose bones are so delicate that the human hand might damage them.

Larger specimens are better cleaned by maceration as it would take the beetles quite a while to do the job. If fatty tissue is left on the bones for too long a period, it stains them, making extra work for the preparators. Maceration is the decomposition of flesh through the use of bacteria and this is the process which causes visitors to run for air.

A few years ago we had quite an experience cleaning some 300 human cadavers for Physical Anthropology. Our first difficulty was to find some one who was willing to do the work, and we were fortunate in securing Jim Turner from the Custodian Department. It was a slow-moving project since all of these specimens had been injected with different preservatives. Before we were able to make any headway, it was necessary to find out what formulas had been used by the various institutions from whom we received the cadavers. Through the process of trial and error, we were able to set up maceration by means of temperature control. This did the job and now all of these specimens (which are in Anthropology's study collection) are a pleasure to look at—or at least as far as I am concerned.

Today you will find Jim Turner either working on small mammal skulls or on the large collection of reptile specimens which have to be prepared before the dermestes can work on them.

Biannually, this department handles another project—the North American Big Game Competition which is sponsored by the Boone-Crockett Club. In spite of the work, it is gratifying to see the interest created by these sportsmen from all over the country, and the records compiled are helpful in the study of mammals. This year's competitive trophies were on display in the First Floor Annex from Mar. 19—Apr. 19.

### **Harry Farrar Retires**

April was a busy month for Harry "Skippy" Farrar; he joined the Quarter Century Club and he retired from the Museum.

On Friday, April 25th, his friends (and he has hundreds of them) organized a testimonial dinner in Faunal Bird Hall. All of the foremen and their wives were there, as well as some of Harry's friends who used to work here—Dr. Lucy Clausen, Steve Murphy, Fred Christman, Tony Cartossa, Jake Shrope, Paddy Grady, Avery Kimmel, Tony Meyenberg, Tom Voter and Fred Mason. Many others were there, too.

The speeches were short but the sentiments were long as everyone gathered around to wish Harry and his Grace the best of luck and many chances to use his "going away" present of a set of handsome luggage.

Harry came here in 1932 as a plasterer on the African Hall and rose to foreman of the Mason's Shop three years later. He has held that position ever since.

We are all going to miss Skippy and hope that he will come in often to see us.

### **Tuesday, May 20th!**

Please drop whatever you're doing and mark this date on your calendar—May 20th; Time—5:30 p. m.; Place—Main Cafeteria; Event—(how can you ask when everyone has been waiting for it all through the long cold winter?)—the EBA Spring Get-Together.

There will be a delicious buffet supper, after which you may dance to the cool strains of Fred Nevins' four-piece orchestra, play ping-pong, or join in a bridge game (but not all at once). Two lucky people will win door prizes, and free beer will be on hand throughout the evening.

All of this is yours for the unbelievably low price of *one dollar*. Where else could you do as well? The Employees' Benefit Association representative in your department will come around soon with tickets. Have your dollar ready, mark your calendar and be prepared to have a bang-up time with your museum friends.

Note to bridge players: In order to set up a sufficient number of tables, the Entertainment Committee would like to know in advance how many will play bridge that evening. Whether you want to set up your own foursome, or are a lonely fourth looking for three other players, please phone Mildred Parmenter, Entertainment Chairman, at Ext. 429.

### **Are You a Frustrated Artist?**

Rudy Bonen is interested in starting a painting class for museum employees to be held in the building after hours. There are already six would-be artists interested and Rudy is hoping that more of you will want to join. It may even be possible to get an instructor. If you are interested, call Rudy at Ext. 378.

## Heard in Passing

In mid-April MALCOLM MACKAY, Chief Engineer of the Powerhouse, returned to the British Isles to see a brother and two sisters that he hadn't seen for thirty years. He traveled to his ancestral home in Scotland, visited London and went to the Brussels Fair. When asked how his family was expected to recognize him after all these years, Mr. Mackay answered, "I'll wear the family tartan cap, of course!"

The Planetarium and the Metropolitan Educational Television Association (META) have been sponsoring a co-operative effort that has added basic astronomy to the curriculum of television courses available to viewers in the New York area. The course, titled "Glimpse Into Space," began on April 21st and consists of four half-hour programs. The remaining sessions will be held on May 5th and 12th on Channel 11 at 11:30 a. m. JIM PICKERING is commentator-instructor on the program.

Four blessed events (all male) have been reported to us. Proud fathers are: TOM BRADLEY, JOSEPH AMENDOLARE and THOMAS HOGAN of Building Services and DON SERRET of the Plumbing Shop. That's an awful lot of cigars to be passed out!

CARLENE BAUSCH is the new, very attractive addition to the Natural History Magazine Office. She is replacing JOAN DUGGAN who left to become Joan Duggan Troy on April 19th.

HARRY LANGE (General Accounting) is at home convalescing and doing very well after his recent operation.

We're sure you all noticed, but we thought you might like to know just how crowded the Museum really was during Easter Week (April 6—12). Building Services tallied the attendance at close to 84,000 and MIKE PAKALIK's Protection Division reported that an average of ten lost kiddies a day were safely returned to anxious mothers. We think our Building Services Department rates a pat on the back for keeping things running so smoothly.

Resignations were received during April from JAMES NUGENT and DARWIN HEMER (Micropaleontology Department) (Darwin was one of our ablest Grapevine Reporters); LEWIS BROWN (Exhibition Department) and MADELINE COOPER (Animal Behavior).

DRS. HARRY SHAPIRO and EDWIN COLBERT attended the Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington the last of April. Dr. Shapiro conducted a symposium on "Science and Society."

If anyone can do it, WALTER (Plumbing Shop) JOYCE can. During the recent primaries Walter was nominated for Mayor of Ramsey, New Jersey, on the Democratic ticket. Ramsey has been a Republican stronghold for many years and between now and next November Walter will be busy trying to change all that.

We have received word of the death on March 28th of GEORGE (better known as "Red") ROWLAND, who was Assistant Director of Special Activities here in 1953.

A distinguished visitor to the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles during Easter Week was DR. NORMAN HARTWEG, who is Curator of Reptiles at the Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Hartweg made use of the department's turtle collection in connection with his long-term project on the systematics of musk turtles.

JOE GUERRY (Planning Department) is expected back around the first of May after spending two months in Europe. Half of his time was spent at the Brussels Fair grounds where "no artist worked under worse conditions," or so the report goes; the last half was spent touring Europe with his wife.

We were all glad to hear that DICK REIDY (Building Services) is recovering from his recent serious illness, and hope that he'll be back on the Roosevelt elevators soon.

On April 15th, LOTHAR WITTEBORG (Chief of Exhibition Department) left for a brief but thorough tour of the Brussels Fair and English and German museums. A busman's holiday, but it sounds like fun, too.

Building Services lost three able hands when THOMAS McGRATH, STEPHEN DIVEN and EUGENIE DAHLMANN resigned recently. Steve is now working at the Bronx Zoo. We wish them all well in their new undertakings.

DR. ANTHONY has moved his office to Room 101 on the Fifth Floor of the Asiatic Wing to be nearer the Frick Lab.

LOUIS FERRY, Foreman of the Carpenter Shop, spent two sleepless nights recently with a letter under his pillow announcing that his Sweepstakes ticket had drawn a horse, "Quare Times," and if it came in first he was due to win about \$150,000. However, when the race was run "Quare Times" was unplaced and all but \$1,584.80 flew out the window, along with his hopes for a new house, a boat and a Cadillac. But at least Louis is convinced that the tickets he has been buying for 34 years are not counterfeit.

As of the 17th of March GEORGE PETERSEN took over the duties of Technical Supervisor of the Exhibition Department.

Jo Barry (Public Instruction) tells us about an exciting letter received from FERD OKADA (formerly of Public Instruction) while he was in Kobe, Japan visiting his father. He and his wife had visited Kyoto for the Cherry Blossom Festival and were leaving for Nepal in mid-April.

PHYLLIS MORSE (Graphic Arts) has one of her paintings in the 3rd Annual Exhibition of Lower Eastside Independent Artists at St. Marks-in-the-Bouwerie on 2nd Avenue at 10th St., on view until May 18th.

MARION CARR, Editor of Junior Natural History, is sporting a beautiful tan to the envy of her friends. She spent a week in Florida this past month, researching for articles for Junior.

It is good to see GEORGE VAN NEST back on the Roosevelt elevators after his long illness in February and March.

Looking younger than ever, DR. GRACE RAMSEY, Curator Emeritus of School Relations, was in the museum recently. She is busy with civic work in the town of Brookfield (Conn.) where she lives and is particularly interested in the library where she is a member of the book committee and has the fun of choosing the science books for both adults and children.

ANGELINA MESSINA (Micropaleontology) left on the 21st of April for a leisurely vacation trek that will take her to New Orleans, Mexico City, Panama, Quito and Peru.

### Correction

The editors regret an error in the last issue of the Grapevine. It was Joe Connolly who played ball with Dr. Anthony, and not his brother Ben.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XV, No. 9

JUNE, 1958

## Your Museum Blood Bank

What is blood? The book says it is the fluid that circulates in the arteries and veins of animals, being, in man, of a red color and consisting of a pale yellow plasma containing semisolid corpuscles. But you and I know that blood is what comes out of a cut, streams from a punched nose, boils with anger in one's veins, or runs cold at a horror story.

We also know that blood in a glass bottle, suspended from a stand beside an operating table or a hospital bed, is the stuff that saves lives. In our Blood Bank files will be found name after name: John . . . . ., 2 pints, Lenox Hill Hospital; Mary . . . . ., 6 pints, Yonkers General; Richard . . . . ., 4 pints, Central Suffolk Hospital; Jane . . . . ., 2 pints, Roosevelt Hospital. These people, for the most part, are here with us today, still working in the Museum. What brought them back to health and to their families and to their jobs? That thin red stream, slipping through a tube inserted in a vein! It was your pint and his pint and her pint that saved their lives or the lives of their wives or children.

The Blood Bank of the American Museum has been in existence since 1950. Before we had the Blood Bank, we had a "blood panel" . . . a list of names of volunteers who could be called on to give blood when needed. This system was cumbersome and too many times people on the panel had to give blood two, three, or even four times a year because the panel was so small. When we first started the Red Cross Blood Bank, we gave our donations here, in the School Service Building's Duplex, and we had a good record of donations. Later we had to go over to the Metropolitan Museum to combine our bank with theirs, and the donations fell off. But you always saw the same faces in the line, waiting their turn to be examined. Year after year, you sat, after donating, drinking coffee or milk and eating crackers, talking to the same steadfast donors who thought enough of their families and their fellow employees to give, even when they hoped that they

or their families would never need to draw blood from the Bank.

It was in June 1951, that the Blood Bank Committee had to take stern measures to guarantee enough blood reserve for those who gave or pledged to give and were turned down. Getting sufficient blood had become increasingly difficult and the members of the Blood Bank Committee, the donors, and those who had pledged were dissatisfied with the old Bank policy. Many of them, donors of long standing, expressed the opinion that, unless a new policy was adopted, they would not continue to give for future Banks. Too many Museum employees were drawing from the Bank for themselves, their wives, or their children and never even signified the desire to pledge or to replace a pint after it had been used.

At a meeting on June 7th, 1951, the Committee and the donors present stated decisively that there must be "new blood" in the Bank in order for it to continue. They said that there must be a penalty attached for those who are physically fit to give blood but who do not. The following policy was passed and is still in force and will be observed for the coming year:

*"Only those who gave blood within the past two years or who were postponed during the same period, or those over fifty-nine, or who sign a pledge to replace pint for pint given blood within a four-month period after using it, will receive blood from the Museum Bank. The blood will be limited to the following groupings: the museum employee, his wife or her husband, their children, the mother or father of the museum employee (not the mother or father of the non-Museum-employed spouse), or brother or sister of the Museum employee. This means that aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, or the mother, father, brother or sister of the wife or husband of the Museum employee are not eligible to receive blood from the Museum Bank."*

Note: a Museum employee who has not given blood or pledged blood within the past two years may *still* obtain needed blood for his immediate family if he pledges to replace, pint for pint, any blood he may need.

This is still a much more liberal policy than that adopted by the hospitals, where every pint used must be replaced by two pints donated by family members and friends. The Museum employee benefits by being part of a mutually cooperative organization where the use of blood is virtually unlimited because of the foresight of those contributing to it.

For the sake of clarity and emphasis, let's put the facts in a table or listing:

(continued on page 3, col. 1)

## Hall of North American Forests Opens

May 12th and May 13th were red letter days on the Museum calendar because after ten long years, through many changes of personnel, the Hall of North American Forests was finally finished.

On May 12th a preview party was given by Dr. Parr for the people who have been most concerned with the hall, and for their wives, husbands and friends. Although no formal words were spoken, Dr. Parr is deeply grateful for the devotion and dedication which carried the work to completion. Not only were the exhibits finished on time, but the glass shone, the floors gleamed and not a vestige of sawdust remained, even in the corners.

May 13th was the formal opening for the Trustees, Donors and members of the Press. There were speeches by Mr. White, Dr. Parr, Dr. McCormick, John H. Hinman, Chairman of the Board of International Paper Company, and Richard E. McArdle, Chief of the United States Forest Service.

The following day, the New York Times carried three pictures on the split page and an editorial which said, "once more this museum, of such great expanse, brings New York a new exhilarating experience."

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## The Micropaleontology Laboratories

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Dick Charnatz is the sixth—Editor.

The Foraminifera Laboratory of the Department of Micropaleontology was established in 1949, primarily for the study of living foraminifera which are minute shelled organisms on the order of the amoeba. The early workers in this laboratory, graduate students in geology as well as Museum employees, developed many of the techniques still employed in growing, photographing and preparing these microscopic animals.

Since 1956, the laboratory has been partially converted into a Microforaminifera laboratory, wherein the nature and ecology of the ultra-minute forms are being studied, on a grant from the Jersey Producing Company (formerly the Carter Oil Company). Research Assistants Hans Behm and Robert Popper can be found in this compact lab, surrounded by temperature control devices, ultra-centrifuges, the ultimate in modern photographic and microscopic equipment, and an automatic still which

is alleged to be used for the distillation of water, exclusively. A mainstay of this lab is the 56-volume Catalogue of Foraminifera, compiled and edited by Dr. Brooks F. Ellis and Miss Angelina R. Messina.

The remainder of the laboratory is devoted to the study of more normal-sized foraminifera, the contract work for several oil companies which is in progress. It is not an uncommon sight to see Ray Chung, Dick Chiappetta, or Dick Charnatz working on an Aramco contract, side-by-side with workers for Carter Oil.

Immediately adjoining this laboratory, a Spore and Pollen Laboratory was set up in 1956 when Dr. L. R. Wilson joined the faculty of New York University. Primarily designed to provide facilities for work in spore and pollen analysis, this thoroughly equipped laboratory is also used in the study of related stratigraphic problems.

Contract work is carried on in this laboratory under the general supervision of Harry Cousminer. Again, it is not impossible to see Josephine Sperrazza, Gil Brenner and Tom Dimopoulos working within the same confines for three separate oil companies, any number of which have come to learn that many of their problems can be solved here at the Museum. It is here that modern facilities and techniques are available for the use of spores, pollen and foraminifera in the determination of possible oil reservoirs.

Both laboratories are open to the graduate students of NYU who are working in various phases of micropaleontology; among these is Ed Grekulinski, who is collaborating with Hans Behm on a study of Recent Brackish-water Foraminifera of Staten Island. Visits from foreign scientists are also encouraged, the latest in a long series being that of Dr. A. F. M. Mohensul Haque of Pakistan, who has spent several weeks employing this Department's facilities to follow his own particular line of research.

All of this work is under the direction of Dr. Brooks F. Ellis, Chairman and Curator of the Department of Micropaleontology.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Monday Tuesday and Thursday.

## The Trading Post

FOR SALE: Magic Chef gas stove (like new), 21"x21", 4 burners & oven. Bargain at \$30.00. Call Rudy Schrammel, Ext 365

FOR SALE: Evinrude outboard motor, reconditioned. 4.2 horsepower. Bargain at \$15.00. Call R. Schrammel.

FOR SALE: "The Anatomy of the Gorilla" by Harry Raven—\$3.66, originally \$15.00. "The Oceanic Birds of South America" by R. C. Murphy. 2 vol. boxed \$1.65, originally \$17.50. Museum Shop.

FOR SALE: 1955 Studebaker Commander, 4 dr. sedan, r & h, 37,000 miles, good condition—\$700.00. Call George Nelson, Ext. 419.

FOR SALE: Untanned cow hides—Angus, Holstein, Hereford, Guernsey—approx. 6'x8'—\$10. each. Bob Gartland, Ext. 275.

## Never Underestimate the Power of The Grapevine!

Joe Sedacca wishes to thank the twenty anonymous donors who so generously responded to his plea for used nylon stockings in last month's Grapevine. To be sure, a pair of old wool sox, size 14, found their way to his desk, but a friend who is hooking a wool rug confiscated those. Now Joe's mother can continue with her rug and if the supply does not run out again, will have it finished in time for Joe's birthday.

## Sports

The bowling season ended with a festive dinner meeting at Mayer's Parkway Restaurant at 613 E. 233rd St. Prizes were awarded to the first place team, the high individual average and the high individual game. A lot of credit goes to Don Serret for the fine work he did in organizing the teams and arranging for the alleys. The teams placed in the following order: Fossils, Headhunters, Mummies and Indians.

The Sports Club had its first salt water fishing trip of the season at East Moriches, L. I., and its members had their usual grand time with a good catch of flounders before the rains came. Six of the boys spent the night before at the home of Fred Wernersbach and were entertained royally by his wife, Marie.

Don't forget that Artie Naylor has new practice golf clubs and lessons may be arranged by calling him at Ext. 437.



(continued from page 1)

**Those Who May Get Blood**

- 1. Employees who gave blood at the last donation
- 2. Employees who gave blood within the past two years
- 3. Employees who pledged a pint and were turned down
- 4. Employees and pensioners over 59 years of age

The following relatives are covered by the Museum Blood Bank:

- The above employee's wife or husband
- His children
- His father or mother
- His sister or brother

The following relatives are definitely *not* covered by the Museum Blood Bank:

- Aunts
- Uncles
- Cousins
- Nieces
- Nephews

The relatives of the Museum employee's spouse (since the Bank is for the immediate family of the Museum Employee.)

This year we will once again give blood in our own Museum. The Blood Bank will be held in the Conference Room, second floor, Sect. K, on Friday, June 27th, from 9:45 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. You will soon receive in the mail your pledge form. Fill it out, pledge a pint to safeguard yourself, your family, and your fellow Museum employee who may not be able to give because of age or illness.

And please read this article again, particularly the Blood Bank policy. You can obtain needed blood *only* by complying with the regulations adopted by the Committee on June 7, 1951! Don't get left out in the cold when you need blood!

**A Well Deserved Thank You**

The Entertainment Committee of the Employees' Benefit Association wishes to express its warm appreciation of all who helped make the Spring Dance a success. We are particularly grateful to Globe Canteen for the delicious buffet supper.

P.S. In case you haven't already heard, Jean Marxhausen and Johnny Hackett won the door prizes.

**Old Home Week, or the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums**

The first of May found fifteen AMNH-ites in Charleston, S. C., enjoying the beautiful weather and (supposedly) improving their minds at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums. The first day was like old home week because so many of our former co-workers were there:

Dave Bigelow (one-time draftsman in our Planning Dept.), now Director of Education, Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences, Evansville, Ind.; Gardell Christensen (one-time taxidermist in our Preparation Dept.), now an artist with the Hagley Museum in Wilmington, Del.; Win Doyle (former member of our Education Dept.), now Curator of Education, Cleveland Health Museum, Cleveland, O.; Etta Falkner (also a former member of the Education Dept.), now Supervisor of Education at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute in Utica, N. Y.; Don Herold (another Education Dept. teacher), now Director of the Davenport Public Museum in Davenport, Iowa; Aalbert Heine (recently with our Education Dept.), now Director of the Corpus Christi Junior Museum, Corpus Christi, Texas; Ernie Neilsen (emeritus member of the Sports Club and incidentally one-time member of the Anthropology Dept.), now a technician at Florida State Museum in Gainesville, Fla.; Chris Olsen, retired and living in Nyack; Bill Schwarting, now Curator of Education at Fort Worth Children's Museum in Texas; and Tom Voter (former Chief of our Art Dept.), now Director of the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers. All of these people wanted to be remembered to their friends here.

The American Museum of Natural History was represented by the following: Catherine Barry, Carlton Beil, Katharine Beneker, William Burns, Edwin Colbert, Bruce Hunter, Isabel Mount, Ruth Norton, Mildred Parmenter, Albert Parr, Gordon Reekie, Rita Ross, John Saunders, Miriam Stryker, and Lothar Witteborg.

**New Trustees**

Mr. Osborn Elliott and Mr. Elbridge T. Gerry were elected to the Board of Trustees at the April meeting. Mr. Elliott is senior editor of business news at Newsweek Magazine and Mr. Gerry is a general partner of Brown Brothers, Harriman, and of Gerry Brothers and Company.

**Mammals Revisited**

On May 8th Robert Rockwell, who retired from our museum in 1942 after seventeen years as taxidermist in the Department of Preparation, revisited the museum and found it a gratifying experience.

The first thing he did was to call his old friend Ludie Ferraglio and together they toured the North American Mammal Hall which Mr. Rockwell had not seen since its completion, the Akeley African Hall which was his first project when he came in 1925, and the new Hall of North American Forests which he greatly admired, especially for the perfection of the ground work in the habitat groups. Mr. Rockwell was particularly interested to see how his work has stood the test of time, but there was nothing to worry about. The Alaskan Brown Bears, the giraffe in the Waterhole Group, and the Siberian tiger, to mention only a few, look as well today as when they were installed many years ago.

Since his retirement, Mr. Rockwell has been leading a busy life in Jamesville, Va. In 1953 he wrote "My Way of Becoming a Hunter", and he recently returned from a trip around the world with his wife. Although he no longer does taxidermy, he is still interested in animals, and spends a good part of each day doing ceramic sculpture. Mr. Rockwell and his wife sincerely hope that their museum friends will stop off in Jamesville.

**Over, Under the Bounding Main**

Late last July, the Department of Micropaleontology acquired a trim, sea-worthy, 100-foot vessel called the SEA OWL from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, originally valued at a quarter of a million dollars. The ship has just come out of drydock and is at present undergoing a series of modifications designed to convert her into a fully-equipped survey vessel. With captain and crew supplied by the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, diving equipment provided by Abercrombie & Fitch, and an intricate coring device designed by Dr. Brooks F. Ellis, it is expected that the SEA OWL will resume her sedimentation survey in Long Island Sound, in full-scale operation, by the first of June. Dr. Ellis has also designed and built a rig to operate the 300-pound coring device, which plunges to the ocean bottom and removes a core of sediment either six or twelve feet long. In addition to its survey of sedimentation, the Department will also study geophysics and branches of micropaleontology.

## Heard in Passing

DR. and MRS. MONT CAZIER returned to the Southwestern Research Station the middle of May to welcome the great influx of visiting scientists expected at the station this summer.

ERICA CHILD (Exh. Dept.) became Mrs. Hector Prud'homme on May 31st at her parent's home in Bucks County, Pa. This month she and her husband are honeymooning, but upon their return in July will make their home in Manhattan.

Pete, MARY ELIZABETH BROCK's whistling parakeet, was the star performer on the Garry Moore Show in late April. The Bird Department personnel present a pretty poor audience after the excitement of a nation-wide hook-up.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANG have moved from their home at 33 Park Circle North in East Farmingdale, L. I. to an apartment at 230 Grant Ave. in Farmingdale.

280 is no longer the extension on which to hear the cheery voice of GEORGE DECKER, Chief Accountant. George has changed his location to Mr. Meister's office and can be reached on Ext. 213.

Last month JOAN RUFF resigned as secretary to Drs. Bliss and Emerson (Invert.) and BARBARA ANNE MAY, formerly with the Accounting Dept., has taken her place.

MRS. JUDITH PRAVDA, secretary to Dr. Simpson (Geo. & Paleo.), left the museum at the end of May.

DR. and MRS. WILLIAM PHELPS of Caracas spent some time in the Bird Department recently. Dr. Phelps is a Research Associate in that department.

JULIAN KLASS is the new sales assistant at the 77th Street foyer sales desk of the Museum Shop. We hope he likes it here.

GLORIA LOOMIS, associate editor of The Grapevine and Guest Services' Girl Friday, will leave on June 13th with her husband Bob for a vacation in Europe. She will visit members of her family in Rome, and then move on to Naples, Florence, the Italian Riviera, Paris, London and home. The July issue of The Grapevine will not be up to its usual standard as a result of her absence.

LOU BENESH has been appointed Assistant to the Chief Accountant.

Congratulations are in order to DR. JAMES A. OLIVER, former Associate Curator in the Dept. of Amphibians and

Reptiles, and now Research Associate. Dr. Oliver has recently been appointed Assistant Director of the Bronx Zoo.

The HECHT FAMILY now number five—the recent addition being a son, Jason. The parents are Bessie, whom we all remember as former Scientific Assistant in the Dept. of Amphibians and Reptiles, and Max, Research Associate in the Dept. of Paleontology.

GRO BAGN (now Gro Bagn Robinson), who worked in our Museum Shop for a number of years, is librarian at the Brooklyn Children's Museum, and enjoying her work very much.

CHARLIE FALKENBACH of the Frick Lab left at the end of April for his 23rd summer in the field. He is spending some time in Lincoln, Nebraska and then goes on to Texas.

SKY REPORTER, after ten years of independent publication, will become a regular feature of Natural History magazine, starting with the June-July issue. Henry Neely will continue to supervise and, in a large part, produce Sky Reporter, and his name will be added to the masthead. The staff of Natural History are proud to welcome so professional an associate as Mr. Neely, and look forward to a long and happy association.

JOE SEDACCA'S last year's maiden trip to foreign lands was so successful that he is embarking, or rather emplaning, on June 14th for adventure across the ocean, namely in Lisbon, Madrid, Barcelona, Rome, Naples, Venice, Zurich, Berne, Paris and the Brussels Fair. He follows hot on the heels of the Loomises and somewhere along the way they are bound to meet. Joe returns on July 24th.

CAROLINE TURCO is the new addition to the secretarial staff of Micro-paleontology.

The third week in May our Director, DR. ALBERT E. PARR, gave the main address at the opening of the new Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

HELEN GUNZ, who so cheerfully helps us with our research problems whenever we visit the Library, underwent a serious operation the end of April but we are happy to report that she is well on the way to recovery. We look forward to her return and hope she will be back by the middle of June.

One of the nicest men we know, GORDON LORD, resigned as manager of Globe Canteen on May 14th, to become manager of Birchbrook Inn in Bronxville. He hopes his many friends here will stop in for a wonderful meal (not on the house!) and a personal greeting.

## EXPEDITION NEWS:

On May 15th GEORGE WHITAKER, GIL STUCKER, and MARTIN CASIDY left for Bloomfield, New Mexico, to continue the collecting, started in 1946, in the San Juan Basin. They will be joined in June by three graduate students and all of them will work under the supervision of Dr. Simpson, who has a home at nearby La Jara.

DR. BOBB SCHAEFFER and WALTER SORENSON left on May 25th for Denver, Bedrock, Big Indian Wash, Bear Lake Valley and Mule Creek Junction to collect fossil fishes—of all things.

DR. and MRS. EDWIN COLBERT will sail for Europe on June 28th to spend ten days touring Holland with the Dirk Hooijers. Dr. Hooijer, a paleontologist at the Rijksmuseum Van Natuurlijke Historie, Leyden, will be remembered by many of us as the charming Netherlander who spent a year in our museum not too long ago. The Colberts will also attend the International Zoological Congress and the Darwin Centennial in London.

DR. NORMAN NEWELL, also of Geology and Paleontology Dept., will attend the Zoological Congress where he will conduct a symposium on coral reefs. Upon his return, he is taking what he calls a vacation, which consists of staying at home in Leonia and trying to catch up on a backlog of writing.

DR. BRIAN MASON, Curator of Geology and Mineralogy, who has been away since last November, is at present doing field work in Ceylon. He goes from there to Norway and Sweden, and will meet the Colberts in London before returning to the Museum the end of July.

DR. JACK McCORMICK, (Veg. Studies) is off to the Chiricahua Mts. in Arizona, and in September to the State of Indiana, where he plans to study the vegetation of that area.

Not to be outdone by all the scientific expeditions, BRUCE HUNTER and KENNETH CHAMBERS of Public Instruction are at the Southwestern Research Station investigating the plant and animal life of Arizona for possible use in the Adult courses and by the Slide Library.

DRS. DEAN AMADON, CHARLES VAURIE, WESLEY LANYON and MR. EUGENE EISENMANN, all of the Bird Dept., have gone to the International Ornithological Congress in Helsinki.



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VOL. XV, No. 10

JULY, 1958

## Our Good Right Arm

The gross area of the American Museum and the Planetarium is approximately 23 acres. . . .

...There are 58 exhibition areas open to the public. . . .

...If all the glass in the cases were spread out flat, it would cover an area of 3½ acres. . . .

These are some of the facts about AMNH, facts that often cause visitors to be amazed and which led your editors to wonder about the men who, among other things, keep approximately 1,000,000 sq. feet of floor space clean and who patrol that vast area twenty-four hours a day. Their organization is as complex and skillfully coordinated as a well-run regiment. Phil Miller, the efficient chief of Building Services, and Ed Malley, his equally capable assistant, often call their office "Macy's Basement" because they are called on to do most anything and everything during the space of twenty-four hours—from moving a boa constrictor to supplying an ironing board. It is with considerable pride that they point out the fact that they rarely have to say "no" to a request for help.

The history of the Building Services Department parallels that of the Museum—as long as there has been an American Museum there has been a man, or men, to open its doors to visitors each day and keep the premises tidy. During the 1930's there were as many as 175 people in the department; in the 1940's when many of the Building Services men went to war, women (in some cases, wives) replaced men as attendants and elevator operators. At present there are 98 men and 6 women performing the myriad tasks of Building Services—cleaning, moving, patrolling and so on. They work a forty-hour week, whereas back in the 30's their week was longer by almost seven hours. In those days each hall was manned by the same attendant every day; he was responsible for its appearance and protection.

Today the labor force is pooled and assigned as it is needed, starting at 7 a. m. when Steve "Pappy" Knapp and

Al Potenza, Supervisors in charge of cleaning, put their squad to work cleaning offices and clearing away the debris from dinners or meetings held the evening before. At 8 a. m. the rest of the day force arrives. These men receive their assignments for cleaning the exhibition floors from Vic Badaracco and Bill Forbes, the Supervisors of the Exhibition Floors, so that after 8 a. m. the whole department is working to "shape up" the Museum and ready it for the onslaught of visitors, big and small, when the doors open at 10 a. m. At 9:45, the men return to the locker room for reassignment for the rest of the day. Some will patrol exhibition halls, some will continue cleaning and others will be delegated to special jobs. One of these special jobs is performed by the Moving Unit—Vic Freemantle, Howard Heffernan, Tom Hogan, Robert Jones, Frank Masavage, Jim Scally and Harry Tappen. They are the "Seven Brothers" of AMNH. Their greatest triumph was the successful relocation of tens of thousands of herpetological specimens in weighty glass jars when the Herpetology Department moved to new quarters. These men also set up dinners, meetings and special exhibits.

Since work ends for the day force at 5 p. m., the safety of the Museum until the following morning then becomes the responsibility of Gil Powers, Supervisor of the Watchforce, and his thirteen watchmen who are divided into two shifts. They are John Carew, John Collins, John Cremin, John Duffy, William Gibbons, Anthony Graffy, Charles Henderson, Maurice Kelly, Cornelius Lafferty, Walter Michalski, James Morgan, Leonard Perrone and Theodore Safranek. Each man is appointed a different route or "tour" which he covers several times throughout the night. On his first trip of the night, which takes about three hours, a man checks the security of the building and looks for any indication of things being amiss; on his last trip, around 5 a. m., he begins to open doors for the day men, who arrive at 7.

There you have the daily work cycle of the Building Services Department, but we scarcely have room here to enumerate their varied and seemingly endless tasks. There is, however, one man in the department who does know how many tasks have to be performed, how long each takes, and why; he is the "Man Friday" of the Building Services Office—Walter Lambert. He has been a clerk in this office since 1937 and the amount of record keeping and transcribing that he performs is staggering, as is his good nature and patience.

One of the facts about AMNH that is not available is the number of doors on the premises, but we do know that there are approximately 5,000 keys in existence. These keys, their filing and replacement are another of the jobs entrusted to Vic Badaracco and Bill Forbes. And speaking of doors, Vic and Bill are also in charge of the personnel at the five entrances to the Museum. Perhaps these are the faces with which

(Continued on page 2)

## Dinosaurs and More Dinosaurs

The new museum at Dinosaur National Monument at Vernal, Utah, is a must on anyone's western itinerary. Dr. Edwin Colbert, Chairman of Geology and Paleontology, represented our museum at the opening ceremonies on June 1st, and came back with glowing accounts of the fine job that the National Park Service has done. We think that some of the credit should go to Gil Stucker, now a member of Geology and Paleontology but at one time employed by the Park Service to work on the Monument, and to John Babyak, a former member of our Exhibition Dept. and now employed by the National Park Service. In fact, John was putting the finishing touches on some of the exhibits when Dr. Colbert arrived. (He sent his best to his friends at AMNH.) Dr. Colbert tells us that the museum is built over an outcrop of the Morrison Formation which contains a great number of large dinosaur bones (the kind to be found on the "island" in the Brontosaurus Hall). These bones are in the process of being uncovered and visitors may watch the preparators at work—a sight worth seeing.

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PHILIP MILLER

### Our Good Right Arm (Cont.)

we are most familiar, for Walter McGrath has been manning his permanent post at the second floor Roosevelt Entrance for twenty years, with Jimmy Philburn at the first floor Roosevelt and John Enright of the 77th Street Door following not far behind in years of service. Other men that say "good morning" and "good night" to us as we enter and leave are: Jim Farrell, Jim Fogarty, Jim Gallagher, Jim Jordan, John Killelea, Joe Nullet, Mike Sullivan and John Scott of the Yard Entrance.

The men that run the four public and three passenger-and-freight elevators also are permanently assigned to their jobs. They are Eugene Andreone, Sam D'Angelo, Jim Flood, Joseph Keegan, John Lambert, Tommy Leonard, Val McClure (whose pleasant tenor voice has been heard at so many EBA parties), Joseph Negron, Dick Reidy, John Ryan, William Schloer, Ed Tuohy and George Van Nest. (We should resist the temptation to say that although their work has its ups and downs, it is steady.)

As you have walked through the Museum on sultry summer days, have you ever thought how well-groomed our

floor men look? Well, the man who keeps them looking that way is Joe O'Neill. It is his job to have the men's floor and work uniforms dry cleaned and laundered and to have winter uniforms stored in summer and vice-versa. The Museum pays the cleaning bills. It is the job of the three Sergeants—Max Giraud, Jim Harris and Johnny Hoffman—who also post and change signs) to inspect the floor personnel and see that they maintain their reputation for good grooming. Joe O'Neill also dispenses some 600 hand towels a week throughout the museum. Surely this is the place to mention Sam Kuster and Ed Teller who dole out words of wisdom and pleasantries along with the 142 Guide-a-Phone units at the 77th Street Information Desk.

One of the more hazardous cleaning chores is handled by Jimmy Bourdonnay and Al Sable. They are responsible for washing all the glass in the sixteen buildings that comprise the AMNH, so if your office windows are not as clean as you might like them to be, remember that there are only two men covering a great deal of acreage. The Hall of North American Forests displays some of their finest handiwork, for up until a few minutes before the Hall opened they were washing and polishing away, satisfied only when the glass fairly sparkled.

To bring the number up to 98 strong, there are 36 attendants whose main work is patrolling the halls. They are Joseph Amendolare, Hal Bartlett, Robert Blake, Thomas Bradley, Donald Buckley (who fires the incinerator, too), Sam Castelli, August Corradini, Terence Dolan, Andrew Drago, James Duffy, Richard Dunne, Thomas Dunne, Walter Ehrlich, William Farley, James Ford, Frantisek Fort, Thomas Grady, Harold Hoagland, Henry Hundertpfund, Jesse Hundley, Leon Hrycak, August Kessler, Frank Lombardi, Edward Lyons, Michael Lyons, Albin Markowski, Joseph McCarthy, Dermot McDermott, John McHugh, Andrew Monte, James Mooney, Cornelius Munic, Edward Nullet, Karel Smetana, Helmut Sommer, William Stemkowski, Steve Tomka and Vernon Venners.

And last, but surely not least, are the six distaff members of the corps: Margaret Connolly, Mary Molloy, Betty Nullet and Nellie O'Reilly, who are attendants and fill relief posts, often at the Information Desk; and Katherine Hryack and Ernestine Vilusi who are matrons.

As we interviewed the members of the Building Services Division, it seemed to us that the watchwords of the men were

"cooperation" and "perseverance." We know we can always count on them, for it is their unobtrusive but ever-present willingness to lend a good right arm that deserves our most grateful thanks.

### Joint Retirement Party

On Tuesday, June 24th, the many friends of Betty Emery and Henry Ruof gathered in the Museum Cafeteria to honor them with a joint retirement dinner. Betty Emery, our Angel of Mercy and major domo of the First Aid Room, came to us in 1931 as our first full-time nurse, and has loved every minute of her 27 years. Henry Ruof, osteologist in the Mammal Dept., came in 1913 as a hat check boy. The Museum and the people in it have been his major interest for 44 years. He has not only done his job well but has been devoted to the EBA and all kinds of extra-curricular activities. He was the best ticket seller we ever knew! We will miss both of them and hope that the years ahead will be full of fun and good health.

### Over the Hills

For \$350 (if you move fast) you can have Jim Ford's 1951 Chevrolet station wagon—tires, seats, engine, mileage and scratches included. The eminent archeologist, his wife and his dog, are off for a year in Peru, leaving the station wagon behind (apparently Jim thinks his wife and his dog can take the uncharted desert wastes better than the Chevy.) Jim has a new Land Rover, an English Jeep, that will really make the expedition look like an expedition. We think he will need it because when Jim looks at his aerial photograph of the Sechera desert and spots a ruin over yonder, he's going to have to take off over the hills to reach it. There are no roads where he is going.

The Fords, the dog and the Land Rover sail on July 11th and will be away for a year, during which time, assisted by Fulbright colleague Paul Tolstoy, they will be digging away like terriers, hunting for the cultural chronology of that area which dates from 800 B.C. to 1540 A.D. when the Spaniards arrived.

In 1946-47 Jim made a similar survey about 400 miles to the south and recently another archeologist made a survey about 400 miles to the north. This time Jim hopes that what he finds will tie the two surveys together and add much to the knowledge of how people lived in that region so many years ago.



## Animal Behavior Laboratory, or Dig Those Crazy Cats

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 9 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we are running a series of which this article by Judith Elton is the seventh.—Editor

Man, what do you find after you've climbed that crazy staircase to Animal Behavior? A joint that's jumping, really jumping! In more scientific vernacular, and one which accords more respect to the hard-working, bespectacled (and un-bespectacled) scientists here, the following is what you will find.

First, in the greenhouse, that lovely, verdant sanctuary where it always feels like the sub-tropics, you find about 200 aquaria teeming with tropical fish collected in Africa by Dr. Lester R. Aronson, Chairman and Curator. Many of these fish are not the garden variety, though. They are the mouth-breeding kind which carry their eggs in their mouths during a two-week incubation period. This is the bailiwick of Dr. Aronson who, a short time ago, spent a year in Nigeria and on the Gold Coast studying a variety of West African mouth-breeding fish, including *Tilapia macrocephala*. At present, Dr. Aronson's assistants, Messrs. Harold Silverman and Alan Scharf, are studying courtship, and reproductive and parental behavior of these normal and castrated Cichlids.

Another part of the greenhouse is the domain of the Birdmen. No, these are not science-fiction creatures. They are Messrs. Arthur Snapper and William Ayers, who, under the supervision of Dr. Helmut Adler, are conducting a quantitative study of vision in birds. We are waiting for these gentlemen to tell us how birds find their way on migratory flights and they have assured us that it is more than just the guiding spirit.

A short time ago, in another little room next to the greenhouse, there were white mice which proliferated at an alarming rate, to the complete satisfaction of Dr. Ethel Tobach who used them to study the eccentric hopping behavior which occurs in young mice.

On the sixth floor of the Department is a room currently housing about 150 rats of two different strains. These animals are raised in different environments and their adjustment to various stresses, physical and psychological, are studied. Chief investigator is Dr. T. C. Schneirla whose crew of young college students is led by Dr. Tobach. Gerald Turkewitz, research assistant, is specifically interested in the behavior of the

young in relation to the broader aspects of the problem. (Dr. Schneirla's famous army ants are still on the march and Avahlee Shapiro is busy measuring them in the larval stage.)

In two other rooms there are more fish. In one, under the watchful eye of Dr. Arlene Tucker, a comparison of the mating behavior of a variety of Poeciliid fishes is being made. These fishes reproduce by means of internal fertilization and, with the exception of one species, bear living young. In the other room, Dr. Evelyn Shaw has just begun an experimental project in which the schooling of young *Acaras* is being analyzed.

When he is not picking up a stray North Jersey radio program, Dr. William Tavalga is studying sound production by undersea animals, and its relation to pre-spawning, or "courtship", behavior. Playbacks of some of these tapes sound not a little like E. Presley in one of his more benign moments.

Recently cats were used for two experiments. In one, a study was made by Dr. Jay Rosenblatt of the sex behavior of normal and altered male cats with varying amounts of previous sexual experience. In a second, Mrs. Madeline Cooper studied the role of the adrenal glands with respect to sexual behavior. In a more recent experiment, kittens were raised in isolation away from the mother, and the effect of this separation on their later development was studied. This is why we were trying to persuade people to adopt kittens.

None of these experiments would have been possible were it not for the loving care that John Polo, Richard Pankanin and Harry Mirollo bestow on the fish, cats, birds and whatever else is around. It is their job to keep the tanks full of water and the animals healthy.

The Department of Animal Behavior has played host to herons, alligators, rabbits, frogs, hamsters, ring doves, ants and bees from the time it was founded by Dr. G. Kingsley Noble, back in the 1920's. The visitor may soon forget the vertigo produced by the ascent of that crazy staircase, but he will never forget what he has seen in the laboratories, nor will he forget the staircase—by now a trademark of the Department of Animal Behavior.

### NO BLOOD BANK

Only 21 Museum employees pledged a pint of blood for our Blood Bank donation on June 27th. This is not enough to justify the Red Cross's coming to the Museum to collect. We are therefore without the protection of our Blood Bank for the coming year.

## The Trading Post

WANTED: Copies of any Catholic Publications to be sent to Missions in India & E. Africa. Send to Mrs. Hogan, Slide Room.

FOR RENT: Single room in priv. apt.—Jackson Heights. Kit. privileges. Excellent transportation. Reasonable. Call Mon., Tues., Wed., Ext. 247—Ruby Macdonald

FOR SALE: High-riser. Can be made into double bed or 2 singles. 2 wonderful mattresses. Reasonable. Call Mon., Tues., Wed., Ext. 247—Ruby Macdonald.

FOR SALE: 4x5 Speed Graphic & Flash Gun. Also other photo equipment. Mort Yourow, Ext. 447.

FOR SALE: 2 mos. old Miniature Dachshunds AKC reg. 1 male, 1 female. Dr. Adler, Ext. 267, 488, 489 or OLYmpia 8-5812.

FOR SALE: If you are in the market for awnings, storm windows and doors (with screens), jalousies, venetian blinds or air conditioners, get in touch with Tom Smith, Ext. 418. Tom is a part-time representative of Custom Distributors in Merrick, L. I. and will be glad to see that you get a discount and a guarantee!

## Museum Art Club Organized

Ever since the Employees' Art Exhibit the museum has been fairly over-run with people who wanted to know how to paint. In response to a notice in the May Grapevine, twelve would-be artists organized themselves into the Art Club with Bill Burns as President, Al Deluca as Treasurer and Mabel Colahan as Secretary. On June 4th Matthew Kalmenoff, who has painted so many of the habitat backgrounds, gave a demonstration of the basic principles of landscape painting. At the next June meeting the "students" applied these principles to their own canvases and came up with some surprising results. The Club will not meet again until next Fall and it is hoped that more employees will join at that time.

## Sports

Too late for last month's Grapevine was the list of Bowling League trophy winners, so here they are:

1st Place Team: The Fossils, consisting of Lois Hussey, Capt., Arthur Naylor, Farrell Carney, Lester Danley, and William Guerra.

High Aver. for Women: Catherine Pessino

High Aver. for Men: John O'Donnell

High Indiv. Score for Women: C. Pessino

High Indiv. Score for Men: J. O'Donnell

Four sets of Bowling League book ends were awarded to: Mabel Colahan, Jean Marxhausen, Lois Hussey and Catherine Pessino.

The Bowling League hopes that next year there will be a bigger and better turn-out. Get yourself in condition this summer and let's go!



## Heard in Passing

Congratulations go to DR. KEN FRANKLIN, Asst. Astronomer in the Planetarium. On May 18th Ken was married to Charlotte Windmuller of Washington, D. C.

FARIDA WILEY left on June 6th for her 14th summer of teaching at the Audubon Camp of Maine.

Building Services lost one of their matrons when KAY SANDERS resigned on May 31st.

RICHARD BOTHNER (Amph. & Rept.) resigned on June 6th to accept a position as Assistant Professor of Ecology, Anatomy and Physiology at St. Bonaventure University in Olean, New York. We wish him all success.

In August WALTER KOENIG (Planning Dept.) and his wife are flying to Vienna where the parents of both of them live. It has been 6 years since they have been home and Walter is eager to see not only his family and friends but what Vienna looks like with skyscrapers and a new Opera House.

The new attendant in Building Services is JESSE HUNDLEY. Welcome!

PAUL MARONE (Publ. Instr.) is leaving on Aug. 1st after 8 years in the museum. Next fall Paul will be teaching science in the Isaac Young Junior High School in New Rochelle. Good luck, Paul, but we will miss you!

CARL HERMANN was recently welcomed into the Dept. of Amphibians and Reptiles where he has taken over the work of Dick Bothner.

GEORGE WEHNER (Accounting) announces with pride that his 21-year-old son, Joseph Wehner, U.S.N., who has been attending the Naval Academy Training School at Bainbridge, Md., was accepted for the Naval Academy at Annapolis and entered as a midshipman this June.

GLADYS SERRILLE of the Library spent two weeks of her vacation in the West Indies. While the girls in the Library had nothing but cobwebs and dust in their hair, Gladys reported she was wearing a hibiscus in hers!

GORDON REEKIE, General Manager of Exhibition and Construction, and ALEC WILLIAMS, Assistant in the Exhibition Dept., left on June 20 to attend the 8th International Design Conference in Aspen, Colo. Before returning on July 9th, they will visit the Southwestern Research Station in Portal, Arizona.

The pretty new face in Public Relations is LAURA GAINES. We wager more men than ever will be finding excuses to visit that office.

KAY HENDERSON, once known around these parts as Kay Schlemmer, was welcomed back to the Dept. of Public Instruction on May 19th, after a leave of absence. It is good to have her with us again.

MRS. JAQUELINE VAN TIL MILLER is back again, but not permanently, alas. She is helping out with cataloging in the Library during the vacation period.

DR. WILLIAM TAVOLGA (An. Beh.) is spending practically the whole summer in Florida where he will be researching at the Cape Haze Marine Laboratory.

The May issue of Natural History contains an article, "Coming of the Alewives," by John Hay who is the son of CLARENCE HAY, Research Associate in Anthropology and trustee of the museum since 1924.

Early in July, LOTHAR WITTEBORG, Chief of Exhibition, will leave for New Delhi, India, where he will assist in the planning of the new National Museum and will organize an Exhibits Department. On his way to India, he will stop in Milan, Rome and Istanbul. After about four months in New Delhi, Mr. Witteborg goes to Japan for a month before returning in December.

Hot off the press is JOHN SAUNDERS' (Chairman of Public Instruction) fascinating book, "Golden Book of Nature Crafts". It's a great buy for \$1.35 (employees' price) and the Book Shop has it.

One of the eighteen recipients of honorary degrees bestowed by Harvard University this year was none other than AMNH's President, ALEXANDER M. WHITE. Congratulations, Doctor White!

DR. LESTER ARONSON, Chairman of Animal Behavior, left in June for Bimini where he is studying the ecology and behavior of pearl fish. Lee Boltin went along to take photographs for a future Natural History article.

PAULA GOLDWASSER (Nature Center) and MARGUERITE NEWGARDEN (Pub. Instr.) spent the last two weeks in June at the Audubon Camp of Maine on a scholarship provided by Mrs. Lewis Thompson.

WILLIAM CLIFFORD, freshman at Fordham University, is working on the Mail Desk for the summer.

ELINOR WEEKS has returned for a second summer in the Natural Science Center. And JUDY ZANGER resigned to do graduate work at the University of Iowa.

Seen around the museum recently was ALBERT BUTLER, one-time Assoc. Chief of the Exhibition Dept. Mr. Butler is in fine shape for his 77 years which may be due to Florida's climate or to the hard work he puts into his flower garden. "You couldn't pay me to come North," says he.

Back from five years in Africa is that ever-youthful, ever-vigorous and ever fun-loving bird man, DR. JAMES CHAPIN. We hope he is here to stay for a while, and we think he is because there are twenty cases of specimens in his office to be unpacked and catalogued. Dr. Chapin has been a member of the Bird Department ever since 1905.

It isn't every man who can claim fifty years of happy married life, so we think that congratulations are in order for CHARLIE LANG and his bride of fifty years when, on June 30th, they celebrate their wedding anniversary. Charlie, who came here in 1903 and retired in 1949, was head of Paleontology Lab and largely responsible for mounting the big dinosaurs now on exhibit.

15-year-old HENRY PLIMACK is, as far as we know, the youngest employee of the Planetarium. From 4:30—6, five days a week, he decodes the teletype reports from the IGY Center at Fort Belvoir for Dr. Franklin. At present, Henry is a student at Bronx High School of Science but he wants to become an astronomer. Though his eyes are on the stars most of the time, they spotted two young girls drowning in the waters off Randall Island last summer. Henry saved them and as a result has been awarded eight medals to date, to say nothing of scrolls, citations, etc.

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### Joseph A. Orr Dies

We are sorry to report the death of one of our pensioners, Joseph A. Orr, who passed away on May 7th in Fort Pierce, Florida, at the age of 81 years. Mr. Orr, one of the jolliest of fellows, came here in 1907 as a plumber, in fact our only plumber for many years. His trademark was a small Stillson wrench which he carried with him everywhere he went throughout the building. Mr. Orr retired in 1944 and lived with his sister who is his sole survivor.









# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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OCTOBER, 1958

## While You Were Away

The sun came up each morning and went down each night (except that too often it was hidden by fog and rain); alarm clocks went off on schedule; subway trains rumbled along their tracks with the same old clickety-clack; and those of us not on vacation came to work—sleepy-eyed and hot—while you were away.

While you were away a host of Jehovah's Witnesses descended upon New York and our museum, increasing the attendance for the month of July by nearly 20,000. They were everywhere.

Seen about the halls, too, was our old friend Gene Morton who since his retirement has been tanning in Florida's sunshine. He brought his little granddaughter to see what she called the "dinnyosaurs." And another former employee to bring his family back to his old haunts was Jimmy Quinlan, one-time designer in the Planning Department. Jimmy now lives in Detroit, has a wife and two children, and designs interiors for the Ford Motor Company (if Paul Goodhouse has any complaints about the interior of his Thunderbird, Jimmy is the man to see).

While you were away, new lights were installed in the Main Cafeteria and the painters were busy with their brushes in the Children's cafeteria, the Employees' cafeteria and the Natural Science Center. A section of the Giant Sloth Hall was finished and the screens taken away; some of the jade carvings from the William Boyce Thompson collection were installed in the Gem Hall; the Hall of Oil Geology was renovated and new lighting added; and the installation of the New York State Butterflies was started.

While you were away, the Exhibition Department gave a farewell luncheon at the Alden for Dr. George Childs who retired on July 11th after 35 years with AMNH. For 22 of those years Dr. Childs was a scientific assistant and preparator, and later temporary Chair-

man, of the Department of Living Invertebrates. In 1945 he became Staff Assistant in the Department of Arts and Preparation, a position he held until his retirement. It was a gay party, but sad, too.

And while you were away, Dr. Brian Mason, Curator of Mineralogy, returned from a nine-month field trip with tales of harrowing experiences amid torrential rains—once 12 inches in 12 hours—but with a fine collection of minerals. Many of the curators were out on field trips of a shorter duration. To name a few: Dr. Wesley Lanyon trapped meadow-larks in Wisconsin; Dr. Frederick Rindge, assisted by his wife and daughter, collected butterflies in Utah; Dr. William Emerson hunted for invertebrates in California; Dr. Willis Gertsch and his son spent three months looking for spiders in Mexico and southwestern United States; Dr. Charles Bogert, Mrs. Bogert and Patricia tape-recorded their way across the United States and down the west coast into Mexico collecting mating calls (and other sounds) of amphibians; Dr. and Mrs. Richard Zweifel collected toads and frogs in preparation for a research project at the Southwestern Research Station; and five members of a paleontology field trip collected five extraordinary beards.

Economy was the watchword and, while you were away, the distribution of hand towels and ice was discontinued, thus saving the museum almost \$2400.

Sometime in late August a sales desk was moved into Roosevelt Memorial Hall and Mrs. Nina Daly from the Museum Shop is the attractive woman you see there.

While you were away, Jennifer Chatfield, Catherine Pessino, Erika Rawitscher and Midge Stryker, to name a few members of the Department of Public Instruction, were away also. Jennifer returned to Nativitas, Mexico, to renew acquaintance with the villagers she had worked with a few years ago as a member of the American Friends

Service Committee. Catherine joined her for a while. Erika was an instructor for the children of the teaching staff at the Oceanographic Institute at Woods Hole, and Midge Stryker had a wonderful 46-day trip aboard Hudson's Bay Company's "Rupertsland."

While you were away, Don Squires' living corals from Bimini, which he had so carefully nurtured, refused to live in the heat of New York, and died on the Fourth of July. Better able to withstand the rigors of our city (because they were already dead) were three specimens of the very rare Japanese serow which the Mammal Department acquired about that time.

Two field trips went out to collect material for habitat groups to be located in the North American Mammal Hall Corridor. Don Carter, Ray DeLucia and Matthew Kalmenoff went to Cohocton, New York, for the Woodchuck group. And later Don Carter, Perry Wilson and Tom Newbery went to Mt. Katahdin in Maine for weasels and to Algonquin Park in Ontario, for otter.

We have brought you up to date on what went on while you were away, but from now on we are depending on you to bring us up to date on news of the coming season.

### Gilliard Leaves for New Britain

New Britain, off the coast of New Guinea in the Pacific, is the scene of Dr. E. Thomas Gilliard's (Bird Dept.) latest expedition. The objective is to make the first survey of the high mountain region of the island by collecting and photographing the hitherto unknown flora and fauna.

Dr. Gilliard and his wife Margaret (who will make field sketches) left New York on September 12th for New Guinea, where they were met by a team of Sepik natives trained by Gilliard on earlier trips. Proceeding to Kandrain, the group will climb to the summit of the Whiteman Range. They will make camp for three months at 6,000 feet. The Gilliards expect to return some time in June 1959.

# THE GRAPEVINE

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Another source of danger is the dump. Too many injuries have resulted from digging around in the debris—possibly in hopes of finding a cache of gold or diamonds but more probably because museum workers are pack rats. Nothing you find there will be worth a missing finger or a nasty cut. Recently one of our men was badly burned when he picked up a bottle which had only a drop of liquid in it, but that liquid was acid, and now it's a question of whether he will have a finger or not.

So remember, it's SAFETY—First, last and always.

## All This, and the Heavens Too

Few of us enter the Planetarium by the "front door," but try it some day, because you will be rewarded by a sparkling new exhibit on the wall opposite the entrance. It is called "Computers in Astronomy" and was designed and built by International Business Machines Corporation with the cooperation of our Planetarium astronomers.

Be sure to wait until 1:15 when the lights go on and the exhibits are really "working." This is an animated display which includes a rotating model of the earth, an earth satellite moving in orbit, a film strip and miscellaneous moving lights.

Upstairs in the east corridor is another dazzling exhibit, "You in the Space Age," which was loaned to the Planetarium by Republic Aviation Corporation of Farmingdale, L.I. Featured is a 6-foot model of a manned hypersonic space ship with a pilot at the control panels. But far more informative is the model of the earth with the orbits of the seven successfully launched satellites, as well as the possible path of some future moon probe—all in 3-D and color!

## Sportsmen's Club

Kingfish Louis Ferry stated at the last meeting of the Sportsmen's Club that this has been a very successful year for the Club and that in order to share the fun with others, membership is now open.

One fishing trip out of Greenport netted a 12-1/2 lb. fluke for Paul Goodhouse and a 10-1/2 lb. fluke for Walter Joyce. On another trip Emil Kremer caught a 10-1/2 lb. blue, six 2 lb. bass and three 2 lb. fluke. And once Paul Goodhouse got a 9 lb. bass. Rudi Bonen caught a 1/4 lb. flounder!

## The Trading Post

**FOR SALE:** 2 Bernz-O-Matic Propane 12 oz. cylinders for use with torch, camp stoves or lantern. Never used. Dorothy Bronson, Ext. 240, Office Services.

**FOR RENT:** Furnished 9-room house in Leonia, N. J. Feb. thru Nov. 1959. Reasonable. Don Squires, Ext. 446.

**FOR SALE:** 1951 Willys Station Wagon, 6 cyl., r & h., 23 miles to gallon. Must sell because of second car. \$300. Call Bill Burns, Ext. 212.

## ATTENTION HOME OWNERS!

Quality shower & tub enclosures, awnings, storm windows & doors, jalousies. Discount prices. Call Tom Smith, Ext. 418. Tom is part-time representative of Custom Distributors in Merrick, L.I. and will be glad to see that you get a discount and a guarantee.

**FREE!** Terraria, Aquaria. Animal Behavior Dept. has heavy stone tanks, glass sides, wt. 60 lbs, size 30"x12". Can be used as terraria. Also have a number of fish tanks. All in poor condition but Free. Call John Polo, Ext. 488.

## Discount Tickets

Discount tickets are available for the Oct. 1, 2, 7, 9 & 12 evening performances and the Oct. 1 & 3 matinee performances of the 1958 World's Champion Rodeo at Madison Square Garden. Call Larry Pintner, Ext. 263.

## Two for One

Last summer Rose Adlington of the Insect Department was suddenly rushed to the hospital for an emergency operation. Her condition was critical and she was in desperate need of blood. The Museum has no Blood Bank, but fortunately 18 of her fellow employees offered their blood. To these Rose sends the following letter:

"Until I can thank each individual personally, I wish to say 'thank you' to all who were so kind and thoughtful during my recent illness. It was heartwarming to have such a wonderful response for blood donors to help us pay back the 20 pints we owed the hospital."

Rose Adlington

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that last Spring we did not receive enough pledges to have our own Blood Bank. So when Rose needed blood, she had to find two donors for every pint she received

## First, Last and Always

We would like to remind you once again about smoking, especially in the public halls. More and more visitors are seen smoking in the building and we cannot expect them to stop when we do the same thing. So watch yourself. We don't want a fire, big or little.

Within the last few months there have been several near-accidents which only chance prevented. Some one threw old ammunition into a wastebasket which was destined for the incinerator. Just by chance, the ammunition was spotted as it was about to go into the fire. If it hadn't been seen, the stoker might have been badly maimed or even killed.

Capped bottles, cans or containers will explode when they hit the fire and recently that is exactly what happened, and one of our men was cut. NEVER throw ammunition, old or new, into waste baskets and always leave the caps off bottles, cans and containers.



from the hospital. Had we had our own Bank, we would have allocated pint for pint, not *two for one*. Let us keep this in mind for next year when we may have another chance to bring the Bloodmobile to the American Museum.

Meanwhile Rose is getting stronger every day, thanks to her fellow workers. And we hope she will be back soon.

## Art Club

Starting on Tuesday, October 7th, the Art Club will meet every second Tuesday from 5—7 p. m. in Room 129. Members and all others interested in learning to paint are urged to come to this meeting. Bring your painting materials and any pictures you may have done during the summer. Matthew Kalmenoff is the instructor and will be glad to criticize your summer work. For additional information, call Mabel Colahan, Ext. 319.

## Party for Jacob K. Stephens

On March 17, 1924, a shy, conscientious young man began work in the carpenter shop of The American Museum of Natural History with never a thought of the party his many friends would be giving him thirty-four years later. But on Sept. 26, 1958 over ninety people gathered to honor "Little Jake."

A committee headed by Louis Ferry dreamed up a most successful party, and some of Jake's old friends came in especially for it. Tony Cartossa, Harry Farrar, Frank Vitolo, Guy Cree, Henry Ruof, Jake Shrope, Steve Murphy and Tony Meyenberg were among those present, as well as Jake's wife Anna and his son and daughter and their respective spouses. Dr. Harold Anthony was the guest speaker and Louis Ferry presented Jake with a beautiful movie camera.

We wish Jake the best for the years ahead and may they be many.

**CORRECTION:** We apologize to Charles H. Falkenbach for a slight error of 12 years in the June Grapevine. He has not spent a summer in New York since 1923.

## Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

## Heard in Passing

**JIM PICKERING** (Planetarium) spent six weeks this summer making thirteen half-hour television programs on basic astronomy for the Educational Radio and Television Center. The series, in which Jim serves as on-camera instructor, was produced on film here in New York by the Metropolitan Educational Television Association and will be circulated to educational TV channels throughout the country.

During the week of October 13th, the American Ornithologists' Union will hold some of its 75th Anniversary meetings here at the Museum. A number of European scientists are planning to attend.

Slides, Films and Photography are once again under the aegis of **JOHN SAUNDERS** (Chairman, Department of Public Instruction).

**EVELYN SHAW** (Animal Behavior Dept.) left, on September 19th, for a tour of biological labs in France, Monaco and Italy.

Birds of the World Hall has long had space for one more habitat group and at last that space is going to be used. **GEORGE PETERSEN** (Exhibition) left on September 26th for Japan where he will collect material in the Hakon National Park which will form the setting for a pair of spectacular Japanese Copper Pheasants, as well as many smaller birds. **MATTHEW KALMENOFF** will paint the background from photographs brought back by Mr. Petersen. Mrs. Robert Sterling is the donor.

Building Services welcomed four new helping hands over the summer: **GEORGE DE ABREO**, **TERRENCE DOLAN**, **AUGUST KESSLER** and **HAROLD HOAGLAND**.

**ED HAWKINS**, who had worked for many years in the Paleo. Lab and before that in the Comparative Anatomy Department, recently transferred to Mammalogy. He is working on the priceless collections that were given to the Mammal Department when the Comparative Anatomy Department ceased to exist.

**DR. E. THOMAS GILLIARD** will be in New Britain when his book, *Living Birds of the World* is published by Doubleday in October. The book contains 400 photographs, 217 of them in color and it is said that they consti-

tute the finest collection of bird photographs ever assembled. Copies will be available through the Museum Shop.

**VERA VAN GELDER** (Dr. Parr's secretary) resigned late in August and in mid-September she accompanied her husband, **RICHARD VAN GELDER** (Mammalogy) on an expedition to the Southwestern Research Station in Portal, Arizona, where he will investigate the environmental adaptations of desert and boreal rodents in and around the Chiricahua Mountains. The Van Gelders will return the first of November. Vera's many friends will miss her keen sense of humor and warmth. All hope that she will return to visit us often.

The Planetarium's impressive roster of fourteen courses includes among its star lecturers, **WALTER SULLIVAN**, of the New York Times. Mr. Sullivan will give special lectures on the IGY.

After a long absence from the museum due to serious injuries sustained on an expedition, **DR. GEORGE G. SIMPSON** has returned to his office. We are genuinely happy to have him back.

Natural History Magazine has a new Girl Friday in the Art and Production Office. She is native New Yorker **NANCY HANSSON** who attended the Tyler School of Fine Arts of Temple University. Nancy replaces **CARLENE BAUSCH**, who resigned in August.

The American Museum Bowling Club has been issued a group invitation to attend the October 11th wedding of **JEAN MARXHAUSEN** (Mr. Meister's office) and **JOHN O'DONNELL** (former Promotion Manager). After all, that was where the romance started. The O'Donnells will honeymoon in Bermuda and live in Whitestone, L.I. when they return.

Animal Behavior has three new members who are working on the Stress-Tension Project with Doctors Schneirla and Tobach. They are: **LEO VROMAN**, **JOSEPHINE BROUSSEAU** and **RUTH MILLER**.

**OLGA WITIAZ** is replacing **LORRAINE SHEINER** as secretary to Doctors Branley and Franklin at the Planetarium.

**HOBART VAN DEUSEN** (Mammalogy) had two very good bits of news for us. He has been made Assistant Curator, Archbold Collections and Expeditions, and his son, Hobart D., was married in August.

DR. CHARLES MOOK, who was Associate Curator in Geology and Paleontology from 1912-1938 and head of the Geology Department at Brooklyn College from 1938-1958, is back in his old office on the 5th floor of the Museum, busily at work on the revision of the crocodilia which he started twenty years ago.

Seen lunching at the Alden with some of the ladies from the fifth floor were MRS. VIOLA RECKERT, once the guardian of the General Files and MRS. ISOBEL SONNTAG LIBERT, secretary to Mr. Meister before her retirement. Mrs. Reckert and her husband are moving to Florida.

GEORGE GOODWIN (Mammalogy) spent last summer studying at the British Museum in London.

MISS BARBARA SEGELKEN, Dr. Parr's new secretary and Assistant Executive Secretary of the Museum, comes to us from Morristown, New Jersey. She was graduated from Bucknell University. Barbara worked at the Bell Telephone Laboratories and spent two years with the American Embassy in Mexico City. MISS BLANCHE J. SCHEIB, who has been a secretary in the Director's Office since March 1958, left the Museum on September 23, to continue her graduate work at Fordham University. Blanche is going to join the "cool-hand-that-soothes-the-fevered-brow" corps and obtain her Master of Science degree in medical social work. Welcome, Barbara, and good luck, Blanche.

The Fall Series of Member Lectures' will be held at the Hotel Diplomat, on West 43rd Street, and the Adventurer Series will be given in the Hall of Ocean Life since the renovation of the Main Auditorium is incomplete.

MARY MCKENNA (General Accounting) and DOROTHY FULTON (Slides) left on a pilgrimage tour to Lourdes, France on September 10th. They will visit Switzerland and Italy, too, where they will have an audience with the Pope.

DOCTORS AMADON, LANYON and VAURIE, and MR. EUGENE EISENMANN, all of the Bird Department, attended the meetings of the International Ornithological Congress in Helsinki in June.

IRENE RUIBAL, former secretary in the Department of Amphibians and Reptiles, recently visited old friends in

the museum while her husband, on the staff of the University of California, was doing research in the department.

TONY LA RUFFA (Public Instruction) who recently returned from a field trip to Puerto Rico, reports that his trip was a profitable one. He intends using the information he gathered as an aid to the better understanding of Puerto Rican students visiting the museum and in his work on the World We Live In Program.

EUGENE EISENMANN (Bird Dept.) spent September in Panama participating in the festivities accompanying his nephew's wedding.

ALICE GRAY (Insect Department), accompanied by two Siamese cats, left in September for the University of California at Berkeley. Miss Gray has a year's leave of absence in which to complete work on her doctorate.

LEONARD BRASS (Mammalogy) who spends most of his time at the Archbold Station in Florida returned there after a two month stay in New York. He was completing a summary of the 1956 expedition to New Guinea.

On a trip to Mexico over a year ago, MR. CHARLES BOGERT (Amphibians and Reptiles) and his wife taped some rarely-heard folk music. The Bogerts originally planned to record only frog and toad songs, but in the process they found themselves irresistibly drawn to the lively human sounds around them. The record of folk songs, "Tarascan and Other Music of Mexico," is available at the Museum Shop.

ERNIE NEILSON, formerly of the Anthropology Department, and now living in Interlaken, Florida, writes that he would like very much to have museum friends visit him.

MIRIAM STRYKER (Public Instruction), we venture, spent the coolest summer of all. She went on a 46-day trip, leaving Montreal on June 26th, in a Hudson's Bay Company boat that closely followed Henry Hudson's route to Baffin Island, Sugluk, Port Harrison and Cape Churchill, stopping several days at each place. On the way to Frobisher Bay from Lake Harbor the ship was icebound for ten days. Midge collected some fine Eskimo handcrafts on the trip. Lots of the photographs and information she gathered will be used in courses to be given this fall.

DR. IRENE ZOLOTAREVSKAYA, a Russian ethnologist from the Ethnographical Institute in Moscow whose

specialty is the American Indian, is spending a few weeks studying our Indian collection.

Those two familiar faces seen in George Tanier's ad in recent issues of the *New Yorker* belong to PHILIPP HEMMINGSEN, Designer in the Exhibition Department and OTTO STII, formerly in the Planning Department.

Late word has been received from two other northern vacationers. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN and THOMAS NICHOLSON (Planetarium) spent six and eight weeks respectively, doing preliminary astronomical work for the extension of the Dew Line at Sondrestrom Air Force Base in West Greenland.

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It is with sorrow that we report the deaths of three of our pensioners during the past summer. Those of us who knew them have many pleasant memories of the years spent working together, and our sympathy goes to the families of:

#### **Mrs. Clara Meadowcroft**

Mrs. Meadowcroft passed away in Mukwonago, Wisconsin, on July 13th in her 79th year. She will be remembered by many of us as the delightful white-haired lady who was secretary to Dr. Gregory for 25 years. Mrs. Meadowcroft retired in 1946 and went back to teaching in the same private school in Mukwonago where she had taught before coming to the museum.

#### **John Schmitt**

John Schmitt, who retired in 1942 after 26 years in Building Services, died on July 23rd at the age of 86. Mr. Schmitt was not only an attendant but a humorous poet who could come up with a verse for any occasion and on the spur of the moment, too. He was the father of Joseph Schmitt, who is a technical assistant in the Fish Department.

#### **Frank W. Hennessy**

Mr. Hennessy, who retired from the museum in 1953, passed away at his home in Brooklyn on August 26th at the age of 71. He had been an attendant since 1930 and was stationed in the Reptile Hall for many years. Mr. Hennessy was widely known for his beautiful tenor voice which brought pleasure to many museum parties, as well as outside organizations. He sang with a quartette that was in great demand, especially on St. Patrick's Day night.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

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NOVEMBER, 1958

## No Room in the Ark

Now that schools have opened again, the Department of Public Instruction, with its staff of teachers, is embarking on another year of stimulating the budding interest of young New Yorkers in the world around them, and of correcting misconceptions. No longer will fourth-grade Johnny think that dinosaurs are extinct because "there wasn't room in the Ark."

Many of you have seen our teachers with classes in the halls, going to or from the Children's Cafeteria, or filing out of the Auditorium or the check-in area. Perhaps some of you have seen teachers pushing carts laden with African drums, shields, spears, Eskimo parkas and mukluks, birds, fossils or even live animals. Some of you have met the teachers studying and researching in the halls, in the library, in the field. And all of you have been aware of throngs of children throughout the exhibition halls.

Remember back in May how crowded the Museum was? How many school children were in and how many buses were parked around the Museum (72 buses were counted on one particular Friday)? The Museum was host to 23,000 more visitors in May 1958 than in the same month a year ago, and a large part of these came for the programs conducted by the Department of Public Instruction. But not all of the children who came to the museum that day could join the program because of the limited space and teaching staff. On top of that an even larger number were in "on their own," drawn by the dinosaurs, the whales and the Indians.

The basic program is The World We Live In, for New York City schools, Grades 3 to 9. All of the teachers are assigned to this program. One of them may teach a third grade class about North American Indians on Monday, a fifth grade class about the American West on Tuesday, World Cultures on Wednesday to a group of seventh graders, Primitive Arts and Crafts to sixth graders on Thursday, and then teach a class of eight graders about Pre-historic Life on Friday. The museum teacher must be proficient in the subject,

be familiar with the museum exhibits, as well as with the school curricula and courses of study—for our teaching is designed to tie in with what the classes are studying in school.

On The World We Live In program, the arriving class is met by a Museum teacher, and, after checking wraps and lunches, is taken into the exhibition halls for an hour or more. Lunch follows; then another period in the halls, and finally, an auditorium program with other classes that have been studying the same topic. Here the children have the opportunity to share the knowledge gained in the halls, and to participate in activities planned to supplement the hall instruction. It is here that the children are given a chance to try on, play, use and handle the clothing, musical instruments, toys and tools, animals, fossils, etc., which you saw being trundled through the halls.

An interesting section of this same program is that for special classes—deaf, blind, mute, orthopedic, non-English speaking, and retarded. Many of these children do not attend regular schools, but are home-bound. For them, especially, a Museum visit is a treat.

A visit to the Natural Science Center is also offered to school groups, Grades 3 to 9. In the Center, classes learn about the geology, botany and zoology of New York City. Many city children know little or nothing about the natural things to be found in the five boroughs. The teacher, in the hour and

a half which she spends with a group, acquaints these children with some of the things to be found, encourages their interest in keeping pets, starting collections, and setting up science corners in their schools. Some groups that visit the Center have a working knowledge of natural history and therefore the teacher is able to stress conservation, ecology or taxonomy.

Another program is the High School Science Program for senior high school students of biology. Groups are taken behind the scenes in the Department of Animal Behavior and the Genetics Laboratory. During the two-hour study tour, the students observe the scientific methods employed in experimental work. This program supplements and illustrates work done in the schools, as well as augmenting vocational guidance. Groups of students also come to the museum for a two-hour period of instruction in paleontology, during which they visit exhibit halls, are shown a film, and handle specimens. This section of the High School Science Program was tried experimentally last year and proved so popular that it is being offered this year on a regular basis.

These three programs are not all that the Department of Public Instruction does, nor even all that the teachers do, but it is one of the reasons why the exhibition halls are overflowing with excited and interested children. Some days it may seem too crowded for comfort, but never let it be said that "there wasn't room in **our** ark."

LOIS HUSSEY

Don't forget . . . it will soon be

### EBA FALL GET-TOGETHER TIME

Tuesday, November 25 at 5:30 p. m.

Main Cafeteria

Admission only ONE DOLLAR

Music—Dinner—Dancing—2 Door Prizes

AND

Grand Turkey Raffle—5 prizes of \$10.00 each.

Raffle books of 5 tickets \$1.00 each—Single tickets 25c

Drawing for prizes on the night of the Get-Together





# THE GRAPEVINE

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The American Museum of Natural History

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## Haul Out

Micropaleontology's Research Vessel, the Sea Owl, has concluded her sampling program for the 1958 season and Dr. Brooks Ellis reports that this year's activities were a resounding success, with enough samples gathered to provide ample research material throughout the winter months.

The Sea Owl has been engaged in the collection of samples of the bottom of Long Island Sound, using a coring device which yields cores from 6 to 12 feet long. This device, designed and constructed by Dr. Ellis, allows research workers to study the sediments of the Sound in relatively undisturbed vertical sequence, much the same as layers of rock are often exposed in road-cuts.

All materials collected during the past season are to be processed in the laboratories of this Department, and it is expected that their examination will continue through the winter and will be completed by the time coring operations begin again, early next spring.

## Museum Art Club

The Art Club held its second session on October 22nd. Matt Kalmenoff, the instructor, after seeing the results of the first lesson, decided that everybody had better begin at the beginning. So the group sketched two still lifes: one a cigar box, turpentine bottle and a camp coffee pot; the other a mounted squirrel on a log with a background of grass and branches.

Everyone was busy comparing his work with his neighbor's—to see which was worse! But Kal's purpose is to have the members draw and sketch, no matter how bad the results, in order to get rid of their tightness and tension. He moved around constantly, helping one person with a line, another with faulty perspective, and recommending to a third a different approach to the subject.

Present at that session were Dorothy Bronson, Anna Ferry, Al DeLuca, Mabel Colahan, Bill and Adelaide Burns, Art Naylor, Trudy Mosler, Florence Brauner, Bill Mussig, Ed Hoffman, Rudy Bonen, Dick Gaygan and Oscar Wanty.

Now is the time to join the Museum Art Club. You need paper, pencils or charcoal, a big eraser, and the willingness to start at the very beginning with all the rest. The next meeting is on Nov. 5th, from 5 to 7, in Room 319.

## Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner, Ext. 263, has a limited number of discount tickets for the following:

New York Rangers: Nov. 19, 29; Dec. 3 and 10.

New York Knickerbockers: Nov. 16, 22, 25, 29; Dec. 9, 12, 21; Jan. 6 and 11.

Fifth Avenue Cinema: "Pather Panchai"

## The Trading Post

FOR SALE: Used Solar 120 Enlarger with 2 lenses. Old but works. \$20. Call Judie Schwartz, Ext. 444.

FOR SALE: Accordion—Rani—125 bass, 2 stops (organ and clarinet). Carrying case. Good Condition. \$85. Call Florence Brauner, Ext. 247.

FOR SALE: Pure Honey—delicious—\$1.25 a quart. Call George Goodwin, Ext. 242.

FOR SALE: Edelson Hi-Fidelity Speakers 4-inch Tweeter, up to 20,000 cps.—\$1.70. 8-inch Full Range, 40-14,000 cps.—\$5.00 7x11-inch Oval, 40-14,000 cps.—\$5.80 12-inch Coaxial, 30-20,000 cps.—\$20.00 Call B. Lewis, Ext. 499.

FREE for the carting. Huge sofa. 9' long, 3' wide. In poor condition. Call Phil Miller, Ext. 451.

## EBA Membership

The Employees' Benefit Association welcomed thirteen new members during September and October. They are: Anthony La Ruffa and Christopher Shubert, Public Instruction; August Corradini, August Kessler and George DeAbreo, Building Services; Sybil Blaufeld, Fossil Invertebrates; Laura Gaines, Public Relations; William Husch and Joseph Trupia, Power Plant; Josephine Brosseau, Animal Behavior; Evan Palmer, Frick Laboratory; Patrick O'Connell, Exhibition; and Gertrude Mosler, General Accounting.

## Christmas is coming!

The December Grapevine will carry Christmas shopping news, but we would like to remind you before it is too late that Christmas book purchase orders must be in the Museum Shop by Nov. 15th.

## Your son or daughter can WIN A TRUMPET

in the EBA Christmas Contest for children of all Museum employees.

Here's how: To enter the contest, each applicant (age limit, 14) should write an essay of about 200 words, entitled: WHY I WANT TO PLAY THE TRUMPET. Send this essay, signed, with age given, and signature of the parent, to Miss Katharine Beneker, Editor, The Grapevine, no later than Friday, December 12.

THE PRIZE: A.C.G. Conn silver and gold quadruple plated trumpet, in A-1 condition, substantial case, Arban Instruction Book, 1 professional-type metal mute, and a music rack.

The winner of the contest will be announced, and the prize given, at the Annual Children's Christmas Party, date to be announced in the next Grapevine.



## Fish & Invertebrate Laboratory

Tucked away in out-of-the-way corners of our building are 8 laboratories whose personnel go quietly and unobtrusively about their work. To acquaint you with each of these labs, we have been running a series of which this article by Dr. Charles Breder is the last.

As research in any field twists and turns along its tortuous course the needs of the particular problems under study vary with both the subject matter and the talents of the persons involved. Thus it came to be that the fifth floor offices of what were formerly two separate departments, the Department of Ichthyology and the Department of Lower Invertebrates, became inadequate for the work which was being undertaken. This work, involving the interests of both old and new staff members, managed to progress, but inadequately, in the office spaces plus some laboratory room loaned by the Department of Animal Behavior and the Department of Birds through the kindness of Dr. Frank Beach and Dr. R. C. Murphy, who were the respective Chairmen. This condition existed until 1952 when a suite of thirteen rooms on the second floor of Section F was provided by the Administration. These facilities consist of three dark rooms—two biological and one for combined photographic and biological work—two aquarium rooms, used for the maintenance of both experimental fishes and invertebrates, one operating room, one sterilization room, one chemical and analytical room, four individual rooms for the use of persons working on various projects and one large general purpose laboratory room. These are all suitably equipped to cover most of the needs of the workers.

The type of work which has been carried on in these quarters may be best classified as ecological, often running into such fields as physiology, embryology and endocrinology. Excursions into these and other fields are necessary for a proper understanding of the observed ecological relationships as well as forming ground for the development of more general theory.

Besides the members of the departmental staff who find need of such laboratory facilities, others who have used the laboratory for varying lengths of time include visiting students, both domestic and foreign, master's and doctoral candidates and various assistants, part or full time—a total of 39 persons.

A wide variety of projects has been studied in these quarters, sometimes taxing them to capacity. At the present time the following projects are in

various stages of progress. In all of them the general help of Museum assistants Joe Schmitt and James Trudell has been of great aid.

The oldest project, still under active study in the laboratories, antedates the present quarters by a number of years, and had its inception in a field trip to certain caves of Mexico in 1940 under the aegis of the old New York Aquarium. This instigated researches into the nature of the evolutionary processes leading to loss of pigmentation and to blindness in fishes which have established themselves in caves. A considerable number of papers have been written on the subject, mostly reports of work carried on here. Expected soon is a manuscript from Dr. Perihan Sadoglu of the University of Istanbul, who worked on the genetics of the blind cavefish from the State of San Luis Potosi. Those who knew her while she was here will be interested to learn that she hopes to return soon and continue those studies. In the meantime another cavefish, of a very different type, has been obtained from the State of Tabasco, being related to the "guppy" and producing live young, while the other form, familiar to aquarium hobbyists, is one of the "tetras" which lays eggs. The new form is being studied by Miss Lisa Hamilton, who is comparing its reactions to light and darkness with those of the former and is trying to determine how it manages its reproduction, which obviously must be different.

One of the newer projects necessitated the development of a small system of circulating sea water. Its primary purpose was to make it possible to study the sargassum fish in long range terms, which was not feasible in the field because of the pressure of other matters which made such long field trips impracticable for most of us. The sargassum fish is only found in the drifting seaweed of that name. Studies preceding the present ones were undertaken at the Lerner Marine Laboratory at Bimini where the necessary basic data was worked out for turning these most peculiar fishes into "laboratory animals." Currently the interest is centered about certain features of the development of the eggs. Dr. Phyllis Cahn, a Research Fellow, who performed both her master's and doctoral work in the laboratory, is studying details of the embryology from a standpoint of their physiochemical requirements. Dr. Paul Zahl, also a Research Associate, is concerned with the physiochemical requirements of the newly-hatched larval fish. Dr. Vladimir

Walters is considering the possible chemical influence of a spawning female on the release of eggs of others.

Land crabs have an ever present problem of desiccation, which clearly concerns the mode of evolution which they took in leaving the sea for life on land. This is a distinct problem in ecological adaptation involving the physiology of the whole organism, the source of their water, its utilization and conservation. In a larger way it bears on the whole problem of water balance in animals generally. This problem is being tackled by Dr. Dorothy Bliss, who brought it with her when she joined the Department Staff. She is assisted by Miss Jane Rouillion. It is in part supported by the National Science Foundation. Because of this study one of the aquarium rooms currently houses almost 200 red-clawed land crabs from Bermuda and Bimini.

Vladimir Walters' project is on the subject of the efficiency of the propulsive activity of fishes, which is being supported in part by the Office of Naval Research. While it is directed toward a better understanding of the locomotor efficiency of fast, oceanic, highly streamlined fishes, the present phase of his activity concerns the resting and swimming metabolic rate of fishes. To this end we have acquired two devices constructed by the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation which may be considered aquatic counterparts of wind tunnels, in which fishes swim against a flow of known rate.

A study of the schooling habits of fishes, primarily a field study, has had the support of laboratory experiments when needed to clarify some of the less understandable observations made in the field. This project has reached a point where a report has just been submitted for publication in the Museum Bulletin and for the present is considered closed.

(Although this is the end of Dr. Breder's article, the editors would like to add that most of these projects are an outgrowth of long-time projects of Dr. Breder and that he still takes an active part in their progress.)

### Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, except pay days.

## Heard in Passing

NBC's "WISDOM," a program of televised interviews with outstanding personalities of the 20th century, was in the Museum during the last month filming a visit with DR. MARGARET MEAD (Anthropology Department, who is the youngest person to appear in this series. We will keep you informed about the telecast.

LEW BROWN, formerly of the Exhibition Department, will be head of the Preparation Department at the Fort Worth Children's Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, as of November 1st.

RICHARD VAN GELDER (Mammalogy) and his wife, Vera, returned to New York on November 1st after a profitable six-weeks stay at the Research Station at Portal, Arizona.

A new trustee was elected for a five year period at the October 20th meeting of the Board. He is PETER R. GIMBEL, whose interest in skin diving led him to make some spectacular photographs of the Andrea Doria, after she sank off Nantucket Island two years ago.

BETTY TUDOR is Nancy Keating's new assistant in the Promotion Office. She comes from Connecticut and had been Girl Friday to illustrator Rudy Freund, who once worked on some of the African Mammal Hall Groups.

The Department of Geology and Paleontology has several new members—Dr. Norman Newell's secretary is SYBIL BLAUFELD and EUNICE LUGO is replacing Judith Pravda as Dr. Simpson's secretary.

DR. NICHOLAS OBRAZTSOV of the Insect Department is on a three month tour of European museums, studying moths, and DR. FREDERICO LANE will leave in December for Brazil and then go to Europe where he will study the long horn beetle.

MARILYN SCOTT of the Membership Office was married on August 26th. She is now Mrs. Donald Strohm. Her husband is in the Navy.

Don't fail to see the most attractive new exhibit on Manhattan Square, now Theodore Roosevelt Park, in the entrance way at the First Floor Roosevelt. It is a photographic display showing the physical changes in the Square and the Museum from its beginnings in the 19th century to the present. It commemorates T.R.'s birthday and Centennial year.

After spending the summer as a ballerina in a summer stock ballet company, KATHLEEN CARIOLA returned to

her job as a preparator in the Insect Department on October 1st.

Building Services welcomed former Sergeant OTTO ECKHOLM on a recent visit to the Museum. Otto now lives in Lake Worth, Florida and is employed by a night club as their handyman. Quite a change of pace!

KATE SWIFT (Public Relations) left on October 23rd to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Forestry Association in Tucson, Arizona and the dedication of the Watershed Conservation Laboratory at the Sonora Desert Museum.

CLARE MOYNIHAN replaced LOIS GOLDSMITH as Manager of the Planetarium Book Corner last month when Lois resigned to move to Atlanta, Georgia. Clare has been on the Book Corner sales staff since 1955.

We have two interesting newcomers from overseas—MARIA WIMMER, whom we hear is a first-rate scientific illustrator, comes to us from Vienna; and ROGER SANDALL, a teacher in Public Instruction, comes from New Zealand via Fiji, Hawaii and Vancouver. Roger is an anthropology student who has been in the U. S. about a year. He had a fellowship at Columbia University and is now working on his Master's thesis.

Building Services' HAL BARTLETT resigned to become a landscape gardener. WILLIAM GIBBONS, a watchman, also resigned.

DOCTORS COLBERT and ARONSON and MR. BOGERT left the last week in October to participate in the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the University of Texas.

Recent additions to the Animal Behavior Department, IRWIN SIEGEL, IRVING GOLDBERG and JAMES NAZARRO are working with Doctor Adler on sensory factors in bird navigation.

A new series of scientific treatises on astronomy and related subjects was launched with the publication of *Contributions of The American Museum-Hayden Planetarium* on October 13th. This first book, which was edited by FRANKLYN BRANLEY (Associate Astronomer), is a collection of reports presented at the IGY symposium at the Planetarium in September 1957.

We are happy to report that GIL POWERS, head night watchman, is improving after a heart attack suffered more than a month ago. Gil hopes to be back before too long, and we hope so, too.

## Grapevine Reporters

To help your editors (who already have full-time jobs) get out the GRAPEVINE each month (which in itself is a full-time job) the following people have graciously agreed to be "reporters." If you have any news will you please get in touch with the reporter in your department.

### ANTHROPOLOGY

Helen Kenyon, Fred Scherer

### PALEONTOLOGY

Louis Monaco, Rachel Nichols, Mary Patsuris

### AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

Margaret Shaw

### NATURAL HISTORY AND JUNIOR

Marion Carr

### BUILDING SERVICES

Vic Badaracco, Ed Malley

### PLANETARIUM

Ann Giraud

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Kate Swift

### ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

Judith Elton

### MUSEUM SHOP

Alice Pollack

### SPORTS

Walter Joyce

### POWERHOUSE

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William Burns

### OFFICE SERVICES

Dotty Bronson

### MEMBERSHIP

Bill Somerville

### MAMMALOGY

Mabel Colahan, Hobart Van Deusen

### INSECTS AND SPIDERS

Marilyn Badaracco

### BIRDS

Connie Sherman, Mary Elizabeth Brock

### FISHES

Dorothy Bliss, Vladimir Walters

### PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Marjorie McKenzie

### MICROPALEONTOLOGY

Dick Charmatz

### LIBRARY

Gladys Serrille

### EXHIBITION

Thelma Pollick

### GENERAL ACCOUNTING

Mary McKenna

### SHOPS

Paul Goodhouse, Louis Ferry, Walter Joyce, George Floegel

### SLIDES, FILMS, PHOTOGRAPHY

Barbara Farley

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## Eugene A. Andreone

It is with sorrow that we report the sudden death of one of our favorite elevator operators, Eugene A. Andreone, who passed away on Saturday, October 25th, at the age of 48. Eugene, a widower who lived in Brooklyn, leaves four children, the youngest a twelve year old daughter.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XVI, No. 3

DECEMBER, 1958

## A THOUGHT AT CHRISTMAS

As the year grows older and Christmas approaches, we are wont to dwell upon the riches of this world. Foremost, and valuable above all price, is friendship. Without it, life would be lonely and barren; with it, life is worth living.

We were reminded of this a few weeks ago when we saw, in one of our vast halls, two little children—too pale and undernourished, too poorly dressed for protection from the cold, and too young to be very far from home. We were moved to ask if they were alone. And the answer came, with the timelessness of age-old wisdom and of love, "I'm not alone . . . I'm with *her*."

For Christmas—this year and all the years to come—we would like to suggest a gift that all of us can afford—the gift of friendship.

The Grapevine Staff

## The Osborn Library . . . BY RACHEL NICHOLS

In the southeast corner of the Fifth Floor is a gracious room with book-lined walls and a balcony, and a magnificent view across the park. It is decorated with busts and portraits of famous paleontologists, and mementos such as the desk and geology pick used by Cope, the pioneer paleontologist of Philadelphia. Visitors are often drawn inside by a fanciful painting depicting "The Youthful Darwin" (with a tiny tail) which hangs just inside the door.

The importance of this room lies in the fact that it contains the largest single collection of publications on the subject of vertebrate paleontology and its related sciences. It has as its nucleus the private library of Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn, for many years President of the Museum, and Chairman of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. When he formally presented his library to the Museum in 1908 "to remain as a separate departmental library," it was named The Osborn Library of Vertebrate Paleontology. It then had an estimated value of \$12,000; its present value could not be guessed. Dr. William K. Gregory, then Professor Osborn's assistant, helped greatly with the index and the subject catalogue; and from 1912 until 1940,

Miss Jannette M. Lucas, who will be remembered by many of the older employees, was in charge as a full-time librarian. When Miss Lucas retired in 1940, I was asked to be librarian in addition to my other duties as Scientific Assistant in the Department of Geology and Paleontology.

Throughout his life, Professor Osborn was actively interested in the library and continued to buy rare books for it, such as the first edition of Cuvier's "Recherches sur les Ossements Fossiles," de Blainville's "Osteographie" with its remarkable folio plates, and many others. In addition to the nearly 10,000 books and pamphlets, there is a collection of about 15,000 "separates" or reprints, and about 50 sets of periodicals on paleontology. Most libraries cannot bother with reprints, but Professor Osborn felt strongly that such a collection is one of the most valuable parts of a departmental library, and he exchanged his own publications for those of other authors all over the world. Since his death in 1935, papers have continued to come in from most of the paleontologists of this and many other countries, including Russia and China, addressed to The Osborn Library. As a result, we have the virtually complete

published works in this subject of all the leading paleontologists of the world. All current books and periodicals on the subject are regularly added by Miss Gay, from the General Library which also pays for binding—a considerable item.

Useful but little known is the subject catalogue, containing some 80,000 cards filed under about 600 subjects. It is kept up-to-date by weekly scrutiny of all periodicals received by the General Library. This has been going on for forty years and the sight of me trundling my typewriter on a truck to the other library on Wednesday mornings is familiar to many of you. That is where I search the publications for articles on vertebrate paleontology and related subjects, and made a card for each.

This library is also a haven for artists with assignments on prehistoric life—and there are many these days. (Dinosaurs were never so popular!) Most of the restorations ever made of fossil animals are to be found here, and there is an alphabetical index of them.

Like the General Library, it is open to both staff and public and is widely used by both. Many distinguished visiting scientists have found it of great use—men such as Dr. Friedrich von Huene of Tubingen, Dr. Chung Chien Young of

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### GRAPEVINE STAFF

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Peking, Dr. Bernhard Peyer of Zurich, Dr. Johannes Jurzeler (of *Oreopithecus* fame) from Basel, and the late Dr. Robert Broom from South Africa. It is used by the staffs of several departments to such an extent that there are seldom fewer than 300 items charged out to various offices at one time. Columbia University graduate students in paleontology find it invaluable, and in our own department it is probably the most valuable tool for research that we have.

The very fact that such a library could be built up, and maintained for so many years, is remarkable in a country as young as America and in a subject as young as paleontology. The Osborn Library has contributed to the high reputation for scholarship and scientific attainment with which the Department of Geology and Paleontology, and consequently The American Museum of Natural History, is regarded throughout the world. We hope the rest of the Museum is as proud of it as we are.

## John T. Nichols Dies

To the outside world he was known as John Treadwell Nichols, eminent ichthyologist, author of "The Fresh-water Fishes of China," founder and first editor of "Copeia," and founder of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. But to most of us, he was Mr. Nichols, the man who always had time to listen to our problems, both personal and scientific; who always supported our raffles and our parties, although he never came; whose courtly manner made us feel important; and whose dry sense of humor made our day.

On Monday, November 10, 1958, John Treadwell Nichols died in his sleep at the age of 75. But Mr. Nichols is still with us in the countless kindnesses, the amusing witticisms, and the wise counselling which all of us remember in one way or another. His tall, angular figure is preserved in the man holding the oxen's yoke painted in the background of the Sugar Maple Group in the Hall of North American Forests.

Mr. Nichols came to the Museum in September 1909 as Assistant Curator in the newly-formed department of Ichthyology and Herpetology headed by Bashford Dean. For almost half a century he devoted himself to the exactitudes of his science, but he wrote poetry, too, and privately published some of them. We would like to quote one of his poems which was read at his Memorial Service held on November 13th in Cold Spring Harbor. It is called "Smoke"

A ship rides out,  
Her iron funnels there  
Loosing a trail of smoke  
Into the air.

A day rides out,  
Quickly it dims and fades  
As does a trail of smoke  
Into the shades.

A life rides out,  
Long may its memory last  
Trailing astern like smoke  
Into the past.

### Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The Hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, except pay days.

## The Trading Post

Alex Williams of the Department of Exhibition is a partner in "Pine Tree Cards", which this year is putting out a unique line of Christmas cards on hand-made Japanese paper. Prices are 25 and 15c without imprint. 40% discount to Museum personnel. The cards may be seen in the Exhibition Office, 4th Floor of the Powerhouse.

**FOR SALE:** Child's Violin, including carrying case and bow. Good condition. Call Florence Brauner, Ext. 247.

**FOR SALE:** Edelton Hi-Fidelity Speaker 4-inch Tweeter, up to 20,000 cps.—\$1.70. 8-inch Full Range, 40-14,000 cps.—\$5.00 7x11-inch Oval, 40-14,000 cps.—\$5.80 12-inch Coaxial, 30-20,000 cps.—\$27.50 Call B. Lewis, Ext. 499.

**FREE** for the carting. Huge sofa. 9, long, 3' wide. In poor condition. Call Phil Miller, Ext. 451.

And herewith a testimonial from one of our satisfied Grapevine advertisers: Mrs. Schwartz of Manhattan says, "I sold my Solar faster through an ad in the EBA Grapevine."

## Camera Club

After being dormant for some months, the Camera Club is finally coming to life and with Bill Mussig as Acting President it should soon be quite lively. Since the old files seem to have been misplaced, will all those who have been members, and all those who would like to become members, please notify the Secretary, Barbara Farley. A lunch-hour meeting is planned for early in December, and Mrs. Farley wants to be sure that all of you are notified.

## Summer Institute Announced

Bruce Hunter, in charge of the Museum's Adult Education Program, announces that a five-week Summer Institute for New York City High School biology teachers has been made possible through a grant from the National Science Foundation. This program will be held at the Museum and at the Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid, Florida. Courses in zoology and botany will be given by the Department of Public Instruction.



# Christmas Shopping News

As surely as there is a Christmas, so are there satellites and space travel. The three go together, especially in The Planetarium Book Corner, where we found many wonderful books for both adults and children.

"Exploring the Planets" (\$2.95), "Exploring the Sun" (\$2.50), and "Exploring the Universe" (\$2.95), all by Roy A. Gallant, are the latest in the "Exploring" series. "All about Satellites and Space Ships" by David Dietz (\$1.95) is the latest in the "All About" series. And "Let's Go to a Planetarium" by Louis Wolfe (\$1.95) is the latest in *that* series.

Dr. Frank Branley of our own Planetarium staff has a new book, "The Nine Planets" (\$3.00) which is as handsome as it is informative. And the deluxe edition of "Atlas of the Heavens" (\$9.75) is the answer for that proverbial "man who has everything." Well, maybe not the only answer, because there is also a quite large and impressive one-of-a-kind meteorite for \$13.00.

For those on your Christmas list who, like ourselves, cannot tell one star from another, or a Sputnik from an Explorer, there is a helpful "Modern Star Guide" of non-breakable material (metal and plastic, we think) which sells for \$2.50, and "Satellite Pathfinder" designed by Dr. Kenneth Franklin, who guarantees that it will show you how to determine the path of all present and future satellites, whatever their nationality. This is a bargain at \$1.95.

For the playroom, den or office, or even for your lordship's chamber, there is a handsome full color map of the northern heavens (\$2.00), highly recommended by the entire Planetarium staff. And for the Christmas stocking, what could be more fun than a miniature pair of opera glasses containing 18 views of planets and other celestial wonders? This is called "18-Scene Viewer" and sells for \$1.00.

Christmas has come to The Museum Shop, too. There the choice of gifts is more varied, but books again are in the limelight. Foremost among them is Dr. E. T. Gilliard's "Living Birds of the World" (\$12.50) which describes 1500 species, and contains 217 full color illustrations and as many in black and white. Whether you like birds or not, it is just plain beautiful to look at.

Not as beautiful, but very practical — at least for aspiring herpetologists—is

the long awaited "Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern North America" by Roger Conant (\$3.95), the latest addition in the Peterson Field Guide Series.

To keep idle hands out of mischief there are four do-it-yourself kits with unusual and delightful results. The American Bald Eagle kit (\$2.50) produces a most impressive eagle with a 21" wing spread; an oriole or bluebird kit (\$1.00) needs no glue because the pieces snap together (paint and a perch are included); a dinosaur kit, designed by our own George Crawbuck, offers Stegosaurus for \$1.80 or Tyrannosaurus rex for \$2.00; and "Plant Science" (\$1.00) for the youthful indoor gardener contains seeds, growing cups, chemicals, blotting paper, plant food and an instruction book.

For the young scientist there is a 100, 200 and 300-power Turret microscope with cabinet and drawer containing six prepared slides (\$7.50), or a smaller 150-power microscope for \$3.00. Additional slides come 12 in a box (\$1.00) and cover such subjects as plants, vegetables, insects and animals.

Of course there are dolls—lots of them—but we particularly liked the little Hopi kachinas (\$1.00) and the wooden hand-painted Portuguese dolls, some with movable arms (\$4.00).

There is a wide range of jewelry (all subject to 10% Federal Tax) much too extensive for us to list. However, an unusual addition to the collection are beaded necklaces made by the Bantu of South Africa. They sell for \$1.75 and \$2.25, but are worth much more in conversation, anytime, anywhere.

We could go on and on about our two shops, but enough is enough, and we think we have given you a pretty good idea of how to fill your Christmas needs.

All prices quoted on books are subject to a cost plus 10% discount and on other items a 20% discount—for employees only.

## After the Ball

The recent meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union held at the Museum was a great success. And one of the results has been the number of attending scientists who have remained to work with our Bird Department's study collection which, as we all know, is one of the most outstanding in the world. The visiting ornithologists are: Dr. Jean Dorst of the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris; Dr. J. D. Macdonald of the British Museum (Natural History) in London; Dr. Maria Koepeke of San Marcos University, Lima, Peru; Dr. Finn Salomonsen of the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen; Dr. Erwin Stresemann of the Zoological Museum in Berlin; Dr. Ernst Sutter of the Museum of Natural History in Basel; Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes of the Carnegie Museum; Dr. Kenneth E. Stager of the Los Angeles County Museum; and Mr. Melvin A. Traylor of the Chicago Natural History Museum.

We are pleased and proud to have all of these men with us and hope that they will come again.

## Something New Has Been Added

Our valuable African ethnology collections, on view in the African Ethnology Hall, are slowly being refurbished and cleaned, reports Philip Gifford of the Anthropology Department. Besides cleaning the existing exhibits, new material has been added from the Cameroons, Liberia and West Africa, including a group of brass figures from the ancient kingdom of Dahomey. Some of these figures represent a chief of Dahomey and his entourage. In addition, the casts of the beautiful sculptured heads from the sacred city of Ife in Nigeria, which were on temporary exhibit in the first floor Roosevelt Hall last January, have been placed in the Hall.

**DON'T FORGET . . . . .** it will soon be time for the

**E. B. A. CHRISTMAS PARTY**

for Children of Employees

Monday, December 22nd at 5 p. m.

Roosevelt Memorial Lecture Room, 5th Floor

## Heard in Passing

DONALD BUCKLEY, who has been in the Building Services Division for seven years, transferred to the Sheet Metal Shop as helper on November 1st.

DR. J. C. B. CHOUDHURI of Agra, India, is visiting the Insects and Spiders Dept. for about a month. Dr. Choudhuri, who has been doing research at the Forest Biology Laboratory in New Brunswick, Canada, is studying the ecology of boreal forest spiders.

We are glad to report that MAX HECHT, a Research Associate in Geology and Paleontology, has been released from the hospital and is recovering nicely after a sudden serious illness.

JOE CHAMBERLAIN AND TOM NICHOLSON (Planetarium) were hosts recently to the crew members of the C-123 aircraft who provided them with transport and supply on their trip to Greenland last summer. In mid-November this same crew made the dramatic rescue of the IGY scientists marooned on an arctic ice floe.

TERRY CURTIN (Amphibians and Reptiles) has announced her engagement to Robert V. McKnight, who is a physicist for the Army Signal Corps at Ft. Monmouth, N. J.

In an earlier issue we announced that WALTER JOYCE (Plumbing Shop) was running for mayor of Ramsey, N. J. on the Democratic slate. Well, ever since Election Day, Walter has been strangely silent and we can only infer one thing. . . .

The name of DR. FRED C. HESS, a chemistry professor at New York State Maritime College, has been added to the roster of Planetarium special lecturers.

MR. THOMAS BLAKEMORE, an American lawyer living in Tokyo, visited the Museum in November to see the rare goat-antelope which his expedition in Japan collected and sent to the Dept. of Mammals earlier this year. Colonel Robert Bruce White, who accompanied Mr. Blakemore on this expedition, is now working up the details of a second expedition in the Japanese archipelago to take place in 1959.

New additions to the Building Services Department are JULIUS MARSH, JAMES MORAN and ANTHONY POLO. Anthony is the son of JOHN POLO of the Animal Behavior Department.

MRS. RITA KELLER is the new secretary in the Natural History Magazine Office. She is replacing RUTH FINKELSTEIN, who left the end of September.

On Election Day, Leopold III of Belgium paid a visit to the A.M.N.H. and to DR. JAMES P. CHAPIN, Associate Curator Emeritus of Birds, in particular. It was not the first time that Leopold has been here. Shortly after the first World War he came, as Prince Leopold, with his father and mother. This time BILL FORBES and his men laid out the welcome mat and accompanied Dr. and Mrs. Chapin, and Leopold and his party, on a tour through the Akeley African Hall, Birds of the World, Montana, Asiatic Mammals and Whitney Bird Halls. The Belgians have been interested in our Museum for over 50 years. In 1908 Leopold II, this Leopold's uncle, presented to the Museum four large collections of ethnological material from the Congo.

Warburg Hall and Forestry Hall will be closed for some time because of the in-coming AC current.

New faces in the Natural Science Center are MICHAEL HACKSHAW who is finishing his schooling at night; SHIRLEY GRABER and JUDY LESER, N. Y. U. student teachers; and TONI ALPERS, a student teacher at Mills College.

ROGER CONANT, the author of the recent "A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern North America", is a research associate in our own Department of Amphibians and Reptiles. This excellent book (which may be purchased in our Shop) contains over 1100 illustrations, 400 of them in color,

which were done by the author's wife, Isabelle Hunt Conant.

MARY ANN CARCIONE (General Accounting) will leave her job in the Museum on December 15th and move to Washington, D. C. where her husband is with the National Symphony Orchestra. The Carciones also expect a baby in June. Best Wishes!

Latest word from the Musical Chairs Department: FRANK LOMBARDI has transferred from Building Services to Fossil Invertebrates, where he will fill the post of Ed Hawkins who is now in Mammalogy.

STEPHEN BAILEY and FRANCIS M. HAYNES are new members of the Planetarium's staff—Mr. Bailey is working at the Planetarium Book Corner and Mr. Haynes is an Attendant.

CAROLINE COLLINS is Dr. Margaret Mead's new secretary, replacing JULIA CRANE who left the end of October.

Congratulations are extended to JOHN TUMA, Chief Technician at the Planetarium, who recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary and to STEVEN RYAN, Assistant to Mr. Tuma, who celebrated his 23rd wedding anniversary on November 9th.

We have learned that one of our Grapevine reporters, BARBARA FARLEY (Photography Division) has been hiding her light under a bushel. Barbara, was a children's librarian for thirteen years before coming to the Museum and had two children's books published. At present she is writing and illustrating two more children's books as well as teaching two library courses at Douglas College in New Brunswick, N. J.

### LAST CALL!

#### Your son or daughter can WIN A TRUMPET

in the EBA Christmas Contest for children of all Museum employees.

Here's how: To enter the contest, each applicant (age limit, 14) should write an essay of about 200 words, entitled: WHY I WANT TO PLAY THE TRUMPET. Send this essay, signed, with age given, and signature of the parent, to Miss Katharine Beneker, Editor, The Grapevine, no later than Friday, December 12.

**THE PRIZE:** A.C.G. Conn silver and gold quadruple plated trumpet, in A-1 condition, substantial case, Arban Instruction Book, 1 professional-type metal mute, and a music rack.

The winner of the contest will be announced, and the prize given, at the Annual Children's Christmas Party, date to be announced in the next Grapevine.



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VOL. XVI, No. 4

JANUARY, 1959

## 50th EBA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Employees' Benefit Association of The American Museum of Natural History, the annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13th, at 12:30 p. m. The meeting will be held in Room 419, and the ballot box will be open between 12:00 and 1:00 p. m.

"A ballot with numbered stub listing the names of all candidates will be mailed to all members at least five days in advance of the election. This stub will be detachable so that the ballot remains secret. Member will place the ballot in the box and hand signed stub to the teller. Proxy ballots must be countersigned by the member presenting the ballot."

To acquaint you with the candidates, we present a thumb-nail sketch of each.

**MILDRED PARMENTER:** Executive Assistant of the Contributors Program, whose office is located on the second floor in the southeast tower. Miss Parmenter has been employed by the Museum since 1947. She was appointed Vice-President of the EBA upon the resignation of Tom Hogan last year, and has been Entertainment Chairman for the 1958 Spring and Fall Get-togethers.

**JUNIUS BIRD:** Curator of South American Archeology, whose office is in the Anthropology Department on the fifth floor, west wing. Mr. Bird has been connected with the Museum since 1928, first as a volunteer doing field work, and then as an employee attached to the Scientific Staff.

**GEORGE FLOEGEL:** Foreman Painter, whose workshop is in the southwest corner of the basement. Mr. Floegel came to the Museum in 1951 as a painter, and upon the promotion of Emil Kremer assumed the position of foreman.

**ANNE KEATING:** Supervisor of Advertising and Direct Mail Promotion for Junior and Senior Natural History magazines, whose office is on the north

side of Roosevelt main entrance. Miss Keating came to the Museum in February 1956. She has held the post of EBA Secretary for the past year.

**JOSEPH CONNORS:** Business Manager of the Planetarium, whose office is to the west of the main entrance to the Planetarium. Mr. Connors has been at the Box Office since 1935 and was made Business Manager in July 1957.

**BRUCE HUNTER:** Supervisor of Adult Education in the Department of Public Instruction, whose office is on the third floor of the School Service Building. Mr. Hunter came as an instructor in 1952 and has held his present position since July 1955.

**WALTER KOENIG:** Architectural Designer in the Planning Department, whose room is on the second floor, Section 15. Mr. Koenig has been with the Museum since March 1956.

**MARY MCKENNA:** Bookkeeper in the General Accounting Division whose offices are on the third floor of Building 1A. Miss McKenna has held that position for sixteen years. During that time she served as Entertainment Chairman of the EBA, and as Secretary of the Museum Camera Club.

**THELMA POLLICK:** Secretary in the Exhibition Department, whose office is on the fourth floor of the Power House. Mrs. Pollick has been with the Museum since 1951, first in the Department of Public Instruction, and in her present position since 1953.

**GORDON REEKIE:** General Manager of Exhibition and Construction, whose office is on the second floor of Section 15. Mr. Reekie came in June 1953 as Staff Artist, became Chief of Art and Exhibition in 1954, and upon the resignation of Mr. M. F. Harty in December of that year, assumed the office of Manager of Exhibition and Construction. He has been President of the EBA for the past two years.

### Candidates for EBA offices—1959

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#### *President (vote for one)*

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Mildred Parmenter

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#### *Vice-President (vote for one)*

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Junius Bird

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#### *Treasurer (vote for one)*

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George Floegel

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#### *Secretary (vote for one)*

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Anne Keating

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#### *Board of Directors (vote for three)*

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Joseph Connors

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Bruce Hunter

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Walter Koenig

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Mary McKenna

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Thelma Pollick

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Gordon Reekie

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### 50th EBA ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Tuesday, January 13th

12:30—1:00 p. m.

Room 419

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DOROTHY FULTON  
ALBERT C. POTENZA

Class of '61

MARILYN BADARACCO  
BAILEY LEWIS  
PHILIP MILLER

### Travel Notes from Abroad

George Petersen, Technical Supervisor in the Department of Exhibition, is back from his trip to Japan where he went to collect material for a new bird group for the Faunal Bird Hall. He collected the material all right, but there was so much red tape in getting it out of Japan and into this country, that he isn't sure, until it is safely in the Museum, whether or not it was a successful trip.

However, Mr. Petersen had an interesting time and we thought that you might like to hear a little bit about it. He flew from here to Los Angeles, from Los Angeles to Hawaii, from Hawaii to Wake Island and on to Tokyo. On the plane to Hawaii he sat next to Edmund O'Brien, the movie and TV actor, who was going to Fiji to make a film. Since Pete had spent several months in Fiji collecting, and O'Brien had never been there, the hours passed quickly in spirited conversation.

Also on the plane was an important looking Japanese who shared the Pan American limousine which took Mr. Petersen on a tour of Hawaii. But it wasn't until they were back on the plane for Tokyo that Pete discovered that his traveling companion was none other than Sessue Hayakawa, the Japanese general in the movie, "Bridge on the River Kwai," and more recently, a star in TV's "Wagon Train." In fact, Hayakawa had just finished making "Wagon Train" and was returning home. When they arrived in Tokyo, the Hayakawa fan club and the news-reel cameras were out in full force to greet the distinguished actor.

In Tokyo, Mr. Petersen picked up his interpreter, Mr. Yoshii, a young ornithologist from the Yamashima Ornithological Institute of Tokyo, and set off for the Mt. Fuji area, about 75 miles outside the city. There he stayed in a summer resort hotel which had no heat and no hot water. It was October weather—cold, raw and damp. The food was unappetizing to put it mildly (Pete never did care for live raw lobster dipped in raw egg). Apparently there weren't any cigars there, either, because that was the first thing Mr. Petersen wanted when he got back to Tokyo; ice cream was the second; and we never did find out what the third was.

After the collecting was finished, Mr. Petersen returned to Tokyo and spent four days trying to cut the tape that prevented his shipment from leaving Japan. But during that time, he had a chance to visit the natural history museum, where he saw some of the most beautiful botanical specimens and some of the worst taxidermy he had ever seen. And he had a chance, too, to look up an old friend who now lives in Japan, but who once was shipwrecked with Pete on the Great Barrier Reef during an expedition for the Whitney Hall. Although eighteen years had elapsed, they were delighted to see each other.

Fortunately, there weren't any notables on the plane coming home, because Mr. Petersen was too busy with his seat belt—the typhoon season had started—to be sociable. It was a great trip, but he is glad to be home and to a more comfortable way of life—with less rice and less formality.

### Credit Union Hours

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, except pay days.

### The Trading Post

**APARTMENT WANTED:** 1 large room with kitchenette, unfurnished, near Museum or in Village, for occupancy by March 1. Kate Swift, Ext. 311.

**WANTED:** One room with kitchenette, preferably near Museum. About \$75. Or will exchange charming one room apartment, E. 71st and Park. \$125. Call Lisa Hamilton, Ext. 250.

**WANTED:** House to sublease or rent. Dr. William F. Barr, Prof. of Entomology at the Univ. of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, will be working in the Dept. of Insects and Spiders from Sept. 15, 1959 to June 1, 1960. He would like to rent a house during this period for his family of five, perhaps outside of the city. Please contact Dr. Mont A. Cazier, Ext. 241.

**FOR SALE:** Apex Cannister-type Vacuum Cleaner, excellent condition, used, all attachments. \$25. Call Gloria Loomis, Ext. 416.

**FOR SALE:** Violin, with carrying case and bow. Good condition. \$10. Call Florence Brauner, Ext. 247.

### Greater New York Fund

The 1958 fund raising drive for the Greater New York Fund, of which John Saunders was chairman, collected approximately \$600.

### Discount Tickets

Larry Pintner, Ext. 263, has discount tickets for the following:

New York Rangers: Jan. 7, 28 and Feb. 25.

Ice Follies of 1959: Jan. 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, and 22.

"A Journey with Strangers" at Greenwich Mews Theatre.

"King Lear" at Players Theatre, 115 MacDougal Street.

Roller Derby, 9th Regiment Armory on 14th Street, Thurs. & Fri. evenings and Sunday afternoons.

### Calling All New Employees!

If you came to the Museum as a new employee during 1958, and have not yet joined the Employees' Benefit Association, you are still eligible to become a member. According to the EBA's By-Laws, employees may join the Association at any time during their first twelve months at the Museum, but not thereafter.

If you would like to know more about the EBA, and are eligible for membership, call the Membership Chairman, Kate Swift, at extension 444.



## **Kalbfleisch Field Station Established**

For almost twenty years Augusta S. Kalbfleisch watched with interest the goings and comings of the birds, deer and small mammals around her 94-acre estate in Huntington, Long Island. Augusta Kalbfleisch also watched with interest, but with dismay, the city encroaching on the potato fields and woodlands of Long Island. To preserve a green oasis for wildlife became her great desire.

And so with the death of Miss Kalbfleisch on March 20, 1956, The American Museum of Natural History inherited Blyenbeck Farm, with the understanding that it be used as a wildlife sanctuary, in memory of her father, Franklin H. Kalbfleisch, one-time Mayor of Brooklyn. The estate contained on its 94 acres, a main house, caretaker's house, cow barn, horse and hay barn, 3-car garage, chicken house, meadows, hills, woods and a pond.

The "Kalbfleisch Field Station and Wildlife Sanctuary" is now a reality. Dr. Wesley Lanyon, Assistant Curator in the Bird Department, is the Staff Member in Residence and Chairman of the Committee on Research, which consists of Messrs. Aronson, Bogert, Franklin, McCormick, Saunders and Van Gelder, and which is responsible for the coordination of the utilization of the Station.

Already a number of projects are in process: Dr. Franklin has installed his electronic equipment in the garage and is studying radiation from Jupiter; Dr. Lanyon has instituted a bird banding project which will enable him to study the habits and nature of the winter bird population; and Dr. McCormick is planning a controlled experiment on the vegetation of the area. The Department of Public Instruction plans to use the Station for field trips next Spring and Summer; and the Department of Animal Behavior intends to use it as a natural laboratory when the need arises for experiments under field conditions. Dr. Zweifel plans a survey of the amphibian and reptile life when the weather is warmer.

Already inquiries have been received from biology teachers in local colleges, as to its use for class work, indicating that the Kalbfleisch Field Station and Wildlife Sanctuary is much needed in the New York area, and, as Augusta Kalbfleisch desired, it is indeed a green oasis.

## **Down, Fido!**

Until the other day, we thought that our own Dr. Dorothy Bliss, Assistant Curator in the Department of Fishes, was interested only in crabs. But you can't hide your light under a bushel for very long, especially when it is a bright one.

We have learned that Dorothy is a wonder at training dogs, both for show and for obedience. In fact, she is now directing the recently formed High Tor Dog Training Club in Congers, New York. This is the first time that Rockland County has had such an opportunity, and it all started when Dorothy settled in West Nyack with two Golden Retrievers. Neighbors saw her training her dogs, and asked if she would help them with theirs. This was fine until too many successful graduates spread the news, and it was necessary to find more space. The High Tor Dog Training Club is the result.

To quote Virginia Dreyfus in the Rockland County Journal-News: "This is the club that started as a backyard get-together for those who wanted to train their dogs, and by public demand it has grown into a much needed community project . . . Classes are under the direction of Miss Dorothy Bliss, who has had 15 years of experience in obedience training for the home and for show. In addition, Miss Bliss has also finished champions in bench show competition so she is well equipped to handle the problems for both the show dog, obedience trial dogs, and the house pet that wants to become a better fellow to live with . . . So our hats off to Dorothy Bliss who has made it all possible."

If you live in Rockland County and have a dog, we strongly urge you to join the High Tor Dog Training Club.

## **Correction**

Our apologies to Otto Eckholm: With all due respect to the veracity of our Grapevine reporter, Mr. Eckholm does not work in a night club; he works "in a private respectable Club—one of the oldest millionaire's clubs in Palm Beach. Its name is Sailfish Yacht and Beach Club of Palm Beach." Mr. Eckholm sent us this fisherman's prayer:

"Lord, give me grace to catch a fish  
So big that even I,  
When talking of it afterwards,  
Will never have to lie."

## **Expedition to Leave in March**

Archbold Expeditions has received a generous grant from The National Science Foundation towards the Sixth Archbold Expedition to New Guinea. Mr. Leonard J. Brass, Associate Curator of the Archbold Collections, is at present organizing the trip, and will be its leader and botanist. Mr. Hobart Van Deusen, Assistant Curator of the Archbold Collections, will accompany the expedition as mammalogist. The Explorers Club has made a grant to Mr. Van Deusen to further the objectives of this trip. The expedition will leave in March and will be in the field for about seven months, with its base at Lae in Northeast New Guinea. This is the seventh expedition since 1932 to be sponsored by Mr. Richard Archbold, Research Associate of the Museum.

## **Report on The Southwestern Research Station**

During its third year of operation (July 1, 1957 to June 30, 1958) the Southwestern Research Station has enjoyed increased popularity. A total of 471 scientists, or specialists, representing various colleges, universities, museums, research foundations, one government agency, and some individual workers, carried on research in many phases of natural history, as well as in education, photography, and exhibition.

Nine AMNH departments had resident workers busily involved with research projects at the Station during this period. In addition to the resident workers, it was estimated that about 800 visitors were shown through the installation, surely a sign that it is becoming an Arizona landmark.

A much needed wing was added to the Osborn Memorial Lab, and the dining room was enlarged to accommodate 80 people. Additions were made to the reference collections, library facilities and technical publications, as well as to the livestock housed at the Station.

Station membership now totals 75, and it is hoped that it will continue to increase. From all indications, it would seem that the Southwestern Research Station was what many scientific workers have been looking for—an area in the southwest with enough diversified fauna and flora to satisfactorily carry through almost any type of research.

## Should Chimpanzees be Allowed to Work in Factorles?

Judy Elton, Secretary in the Department of Animal Behavior, poses that fascinating question in a report from her department.

Strangers call the Department of Animal Behavior from time to time, asking for information about the oddest things: "Is there a kinship between American religion and electricity?" "How does a Ouija board work?" "Will you explain the digestive system of the cat?" (The last was a long distance call and the caller could be heard telling the operator to "Please let me know when 3 minutes are up.")

One of the strangest calls of all came on November 25th at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Dr. Aronson, Chairman of the Department, took the call and answered all the questions with his usual aplomb. But after he had hung up, his laughter could be heard echoing down the hall. When he finally stopped laughing, we found out what the call was about.

It seemed that the caller had a brother who owned a rug factory and he wanted to know if a chimpanzee could be trained to pick up rugs. When Dr. Aronson asked why, the man replied that his brother was thinking about employing chimpanzees, because he had heard of a factory in England where nine chimps were currently employed. Did Dr. Aronson think that this was at all possible? And did he think that humans would mind working with chimpanzees? (He should have asked the animal behaviorist whether the chimps would want to work with humans.)

After everyone had had a good laugh, some one raised the question of unions. What would happen if there was a strike? Would it be all right for the chimps to cross the picket lines and keep production rolling? At that point, Dr. Aronson's secretary informed him that she knew of a chimpanzee who could type 65 w.p.m., and if he was interested, well . . .

## EBA Membership

Ten employees were elected to membership in the Employees' Benefit Association during November and December. They are John Collins, Building Services; Rita Keller and Frances Wells, Natural History Magazine; Gladys Schroeder, First Aid; Iris Dowsey, Frick Laboratory; Eunice Lugo, Geology and Paleontology; James Trudell, Fishes and Aquatic Biology; Ruth T. Chapin, Library; Roger Sandall, Public Instruction; and Francis Hayes, Planetarium.

## Heard in Passing

REGINALD SAYRE, for twelve years a preparator in the Exhibition Department, takes up his new position of Exhibition Specialist at the Smithsonian in Washington D. C., on January 5th. Mr. Sayre, known to most of us as Buddy, will be greatly missed, but we wish him all success in his new job.

JANE ROUILLION, who works in Dr. Breder's laboratory, has returned from a three months' trip to Europe. She is now hard at work caring for 150 land crabs.

DR. LIBBIE HYMAN (Fish Department) completed Volume 5 of her treatise, "The Invertebrata", late last spring and the volume is now in press. Dr. Hyman has just been elected President of the Society of Systematic Zoology.

Newcomers to the Frick Lab include IRIS DOWSEY, department secretary, EVAN PALMER, who has joined the lab as artist, and STEVE TOMKA, formerly in the Building Services Department.

January 20th is publication day for the Colbert family. The book: "Millions of Years Ago", written by DR. EDWIN COLBERT and illustrated by his wife, Margaret. It is recommended for children between the ages of eleven and fifteen.

FRED JALAYER, of the Department of Preparation, obtained his final American citizenship papers on November 24th. Congratulations, Freddy!

RUSSELL F. PETERSON of the Mammal Department (formerly at the Frick Lab), is organizing an expedition to northern Queensland, Australia. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Philip Spalding, the sponsor of the expedition, will leave in March for Australia. They plan to collect mammals, and will be in the field for about five months.

DR. WILLIAM K. EMERSON has received a research grant from the National Science Foundation to be used for the reorganization of the mollusk collection.

Recent additions to the Building Services roster include THOMAS O'SULLIVAN, JOHN VITALE and CHARLES LASALA, who had been working in the Department of Preparation.

Talk about the luck of the Irish. . . . JAMES FARRELL of Building Services recently won \$500 in a church benefit raffle.

The January 4th issue of "This Week" Magazine will be enhanced by a cover photograph of LISA HAMILTON, Scientific Assistant in the Fish Department. The magazine has a story about Miss Hamilton's work with Mexican cave fish.

GLADYS SERRILE of the Library resigned the end of November to await the arrival of an heir. Our best wishes accompany Gladys. MRS. JAMES CHAPIN recently joined the Library staff. Welcome!

GLADYS SCHROEDER, the new nurse in our First Aid Room, is a graduate of the Mount Sinai Hospital of Nursing, worked for three years at the Yale University Institute of Human Relations and served with the Columbia University Unit for four years in the ETO during World War II. It sounds as though Miss Schroeder could handle any emergency!

JOHN JOSEPH TIERNEY, brother-in-law of Dermot McDermott of Building Services, has replaced Charles LaSala in the Department of Preparation. Mr. Tierney's former job was switchman with the New York Central Railroad.

Many months after his arrival we wish to welcome the "new" manager of Globe Canteen, GEORGE OBERLIES. At the same time we would like to thank Globe for its part in making both EBA social functions the great success that they were. They performed above and beyond the call of duty!

DR. EDWIN COLBERT (Chairman, Geology and Paleontology) leaves on the third of January for Brazil where he will study at the National Museum and lecture at the universities in Rio and Sao Paulo. He will do field work in Rio Grande do Sul and expects to return the end of March. Mrs. Colbert will be with him part of the time.

FRANKLYN M. BRANLEY (Planetarium) is the author of the recently published "Book of Satellites for You", a book for beginning readers. It has illustrations by Leonard Kessler and sells for three dollars.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN (Chairman of the Planetarium) would like to remind all employees that they are admitted free to any show at the Planetarium upon presentation of their AMNH identification card. One guest is admitted free, too. However, the Planetarium will be closed from January 5th through 10th as the Dome is being repainted.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XVI, No. 5

FEBRUARY, 1959

## TWO HAPPY YEARS

All good things must come to an end; the show must go on; the King is dead; long live the King; etc.

So, under the protective covering of giant cliches, I bid the EBA Presidency a fond farewell after two happy years—two years during which I really got to know well a wonderful group of people by working with them. Thank you, all my co-directors and officers.

And now, long live the King—or Queen, I should say. My successor needs no introduction, and her claims to your loyalty need no pressing. I wish Miss Mildred Parmenter all the best, and am sure that her presidency will be a notable one.

Gordon Reekie

## The Main Library . . . BY HELEN GUNZ

Located on the fifth floor of Section B is one of the world's outstanding natural history libraries, containing well over 140,000 volumes.

From the very beginning of The American Museum of Natural History, a library was intended to be an important and integral part of the museum. The Charter written in 1869 provided for a "Museum and Library of Natural History," and books were among the first contributions to this new organization. In fact, the very first book, and for several years the only book, was "Reisen im Ostendischen Archipel in den Jahren 1865 and 1866" by Albert E. Bickmore, a recently published travel book by our founding father. It could hardly be called a library, but it was a beginning.

Fourteen years later, 950 volumes and 750 pamphlets had been received and it was found necessary to employ a librarian (the Annual Report for 1883 lists "A. Woodward, librarian"). By 1902 the development of the library necessitated additional personnel. A. Woodward was made Curator of Maps and Charts, and Dr. Ralph Winfred Tower, a professor of physiology at Brown University, was called to be librarian. Dr. Tower's title was most impressive—Curator of Books and Publications.

At that time the library had little systematic order in the shelving of books

and no all-over plan for its development. Many of the books had been obtained from gifts or bequests and much of the material was not at all pertinent to the interests of this museum, as, for instance, bound sets of Harpers and Century Magazines, books of poetry, etc. I must hasten to add that together with these books of doubtful value to natural history, there was a treasure trove of old and rare works which to this day are among our most valued items.

Shortly after Dr. Tower came, he had the good fortune to acquire as his assistant, Miss Ida Richardson Hood who in 1926, after the sudden death of Dr. Tower, became Librarian. How did Dr. Tower and Miss Hood tackle this Herculean task of sorting the wheat from the chaff? We are told that they took all the books from the shelves and piled them in the large room, part of which is the present reading room. Then slowly, day by day, they sorted out the good, the bad and the may-be's.

Dr. Tower, after much study, adopted the classification system of the Concilium Bibliographicum for the zoological section. The Dewey system covered most of the other needs, with the exception of the section on Anthropology, a science which at that time was still in its infancy. Here, Dr. Tower, with the assistance of the Department of Anthropology, evolved a system which has served well over the years.

From then on, the library took form, and additions by gift, purchase and exchange, rounded out the more serious gaps. Shortly thereafter, the museum accepted the custodianship of the library of The New York Academy of Sciences. This library even after many vicissitudes and much moving represents a very fine addition to the museum's collections. It contained many old and rare items which had come to the Academy in its younger days and its early files of scientific periodicals form the foundation of many of the museum's fine series today.

In the early 1920's Dr. Tower, realizing that it was essential to the life's blood of our library to keep permanently the now thoroughly integrated Academy library, was able through the generosity of Mr. Ogden Mills, to offer The New York Academy of Sciences a sizeable sum for the purchase of its library. This transaction was completed to the great satisfaction of all, just before Dr. Tower succumbed to pneumonia on January 26, 1926. The library and the museum lost one of the all-time greats in the history of the museum. A loveable and sunny personality, a trusted friend and advisor and a fine librarian, his name will always be remembered as that of the builder of one of the finest natural history libraries in this country, even in the whole world.

It is impossible here to trace all the steps of progress and to mention the many benefactors who, by gifts of their own scientific libraries or by sums of

(Continued on page 3, column 3)

# THE GRAPEVINE

Published by the  
EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOC.  
The American Museum of Natural History

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## To the Other Side of the World

Early in February Dr. Gordon Ekholm, Curator of Mexican Archeology, and Mr. Junius Bird, Curator of South American Archeology, left for Okinawa to make a preliminary investigation of reported archeological finds. They will be away for three weeks or a month.

February also finds Dr. Donald Squires, Assistant Curator of Fossil Invertebrates, off on a much longer trip. This one for a year or more. Dr. Squires has received a Fulbright Grant to do field work in New Zealand where he will be connected with the New Zealand Geological Survey outside of Wellington. Next fall Dr. Squires hopes to spend a month on the Great Barrier Reef, a month on Lord Howe Island, and possibly join a Smithsonian expedition to Southeast Pacific. Mrs. Squires and their two children will accompany Dr. Squires to New Zealand.

## Sweetly Does It on the Golden Road to Health

George Goodwin is Associate Curator of Mammals and a \$64 man when it comes to questions about our four-legged friends. But ever since he fell heir to a hive of bees, he has become not only enamored of those fuzzy little six-legged creatures but a veritable walking encyclopedia on the subject of honey.

Mr. Goodwin reports that honey contains minerals—iron, copper, manganese, silica, chlorine, calcium, potassium, sodium, phosphorus, aluminum and magnesium—and two kinds of sugar—levulose and dextrose. Honey also contains all of the vitamins considered necessary for good health (besides being much pleasanter to take than pills). It is better than "PERK-UP," "PICK-UP," "SNAP-BACK," or what have you, as a source of quick energy, because it takes only twenty minutes for that smooth, golden nectar to get into the blood stream. The honey has already been digested by the bee and there is no need for our system to digest it all over again.

On the other hand, honey acts as a sedative to the nervous system. For insomnia, Mr. Goodwin recommends two teaspoonsful, before bedtime, of a mixture composed of 3 teaspoons of apple cider vinegar added to a cup of honey.

Mr. Goodwin even claims that honey will relieve pain in arthritis, help to prevent migraine headaches, lower blood pressure, and relieve nasal congestion, hay fever and coughs.

When we read all this, we rushed to the fifth floor, plunked our money on the table and grabbed a jar of honey, lingering just long enough to ask how his supply was holding out. Rest assured, all you long-suffering people, Mr. Goodwin has plenty of honey left at \$1.25 for a good-sized quart.

This is not a paid advertisement, but the result of Mr. Goodwin's enthusiasm and the teaspoonful of honey we took twenty minutes ago.

## NOTICE

This will be the last issue of The Grapevine until such time as a new Staff can be appointed.

## THE MAIN LIBRARY—(cont.)

money, helped in the acquisition of rare and useful volumes. Surely the bulk of our periodical material comes from the almost one thousand exchanges which this museum maintains throughout the world; our own very fine series of publications make exchange offers welcome everywhere.

In 1934 Miss Hood, who had continued to build and fashion our library with great dedication, retired and Miss Hazel Gay took over. She, too, having worked with Dr. Tower, felt a strong personal interest in continuing the work which her two predecessors had carried on with such distinction. Not only has she put heart and soul into improving and increasing the collections but has been determined to serve both the Staff and the public in every possible way. Helping Miss Gay to achieve these aims are Mary Wissler, Jeanne Lyons, Ruth Chapin, Olga Smith, George Schneider, Henry Stone, and from time to time, Jacqueline VanTil Miller.

That Miss Gay and her staff have succeeded is testified to by many former scientists who declare that no matter how happy they may be in their new surroundings, they have never found a library to equal that of The American Museum of Natural History.

## What Happened?

Although the ballot box opened at 12 noon and closed at 1:02 p. m., the 59th Annual Meeting of the Employees' Benefit Association failed to materialize because not enough members showed up to provide a quorum. The President, Treasurer and Secretary, together with a handful of faithful members waited patiently until the ballots had been counted by tellers Marilyn Badaracco and Kate Swift. Although there were a number of write-in votes, the following officers were elected:

**President:** Mildred E. Parmenter—91

**Vice-Pres.** Junius Bird—148

**Treasurer:** George Floegel—152

**Secretary:** Anne S. Keating—148

**Directors:** Joseph Connors—104  
Mary McKenna—125  
Gordon Reekie—75

Apparently the number of votes cast was approximately the same as the previous year, but those voting were not willing to give up a half hour of the lunch period to stay for a meeting. What happened?



American Museum of Natural History, N. Y.

Employees' Federal Credit Union

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 1958

ASSETS

Loans to Members.....	\$121,471.48
Cash—First National City Bank.....	6,241.07
Cash—Central Savings Bank.....	5,500.00
Investments—Federal Savings and Loan Assns....	25,000.00
Petty Cash.....	10.00
Office Furniture, Equipment.....	250.63

**Total Assets.....**\$158,473.18

LIABILITIES

Members Shares.....	\$141,973.27
Reserve for Bad Loans.....	11,177.11
Undivided Earnings.....	5,300.32
Accounts Payable.....	22.48

**Total Liabilities.....**\$158,473.18

Harry L. Lange, *Treasurer*

**Credit Union**

The Annual Meeting of The American Museum of Natural History Employees' Federal Credit Union was held on Friday, January 23, 1959, at 12:15 with fifty members present.

After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been read by the Secretary, Mr. Lange circulated the Treasurer's report (which will appear in the March Grapevine), and announced that we now have \$11,177.11 in the Reserve Fund for Bad Loans. When that reserve reaches 10% of the share holdings (which are at present \$141,973.27) it will not be necessary to continue adding to that fund, and the money hitherto set aside for this purpose may be used to reduce the interest rate on loans. It was voted to accept the recommendation of the Board of Directors to pay a dividend of 4.2%.

Rudy Schrammel reported that the Credit Committee has passed on 429 loans during the past year.

Louis Benesh reported that the Supervisory Committee is now making its final audit and that during the past year 60% of the balance accounts were verified. He also urged all members to keep their passbooks up to date.

The following slate was elected:

**Directors:**

John Saunders  
Dorothy Bronson  
Marguerite Ross  
Anna Montgomery

**Credit Committee:**

Albert Potenza  
Edward A. Burns

**Supervisory Committee:**

Louis Benesh  
Catherine Pessino  
Lambert Pintner

**Educational Committee:\***

Kate Swift

(\*This is a new office created to acquaint museum employees with their Credit Union.)

Following the Annual Meeting a special meeting of the seven Directors was held for the election of officers. The following were elected:

**President:**

Dorothy Bronson

**Vice-President:**

Philip Miller

**Treasurer:**

Harry Lange

**Secretary:**

Constance D. Sherman

Josephine Barry continues to serve as Assistant Treasurer and Marie W. Lange continues as Bookkeeper for the Credit Union.

During the past year, your Credit Union did a business amounting to \$265,087. Since this organization was established in 1936, it has made loans totaling over two and a half million dollars, and out of this less than \$300 has been lost from bad loans.

Your Credit Union is considered one of the finest in the entire country and you should be proud to own and run such an organization.

**Thank You!**

Ann Miller in Public Instruction, wishes to thank everyone who contributed the cellophane strips from cigarette packages for the little blind girl. The amount turned over to Nancy was the largest single contribution she received. Miss Miller understands that Nancy is to receive her seeing-eye dog shortly.

**WANTED**

The EBA Library, located in Room B-49 Roosevelt Basement, is in need of books, both bound and paperback. If you have any to spare, please put them in an inter-office envelope addressed to Office Services.

**Credit Union Hours**

The Credit Union is in Room B-49, Roosevelt Basement. The hours are 12:00 to 1:00 P. M., Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, except pay days.

## Heard in Passing

CICELY BRESLIN (Planetarium Library) is having a one-man show at the Artists' Gallery, 851 Lexington Avenue, near 64th Street, from January 31st to February 20th. Her paintings, all oils, are mostly landscapes and still-lives, many of them done in Peru where she spent a year and a half after she left her job at the Museum Shop in 1956. In January '58 Cicely returned from Peru and took the Planetarium library job. This is her second one-man show.

The Slide Division and its neighboring departments on the fourth floor of the School Service Building will miss the friendly face and personality of LUCILLE PUZA who resigned on December 31st to take a better job—tending her home and children.

The Center Spot Players of Bronxville employed the talents of several AMNH staff members in its recent production of "Murder in the Cathedral": WALTER FAIRSERVIS (Anthropology Department) directed the play and appeared in the part of Thomas, the Archbishop, GEORGE NELSON (Planning Department) played the role of First Priest, WALTER KOENIG (Planning Department) painted sets and ALEC WILLIAMS (Exhibition Department) designed the handsome posters seen around the Museum. Maybe somebody should start an AMNH Players group and utilize our distinguished thespians. . . .

On January 11th, Harper's published "*The Living Forest*" by JACK McCORMICK (Vegetation Studies Department), which deals with essentially the same material as our Hall of North American Forests. We hear it's very good reading.

DR. JAMES R. MACDONALD, a visiting scientist from Idaho to our Geology and Paleontology Department, has an unusual location for his office. Dr. MacDonald is to be found in one of the alcoves of the Fossil Mammals Hall on the fourth floor. DR. MAX HECHT's office is now located near the Tyrannosaur Hall, and he can be reached on extension 296.

The January issue of New Jersey Nature News has an article by ED MCGUIRE

(Mammal Department) titled, "Two of our Common Insectivores."

After an absence of nearly seven years JOHN F. COOK has rejoined the General Accounting staff. John is ALMA (Bursar's Office) COOK's husband.

The new handyman in the Exhibition Department is JOHN J. TIERNEY. Welcome, Mr. Tierney!

DR. ELEANOR S. SALMON, Assistant Curator of the Department of Micropaleontology, will leave the Museum on February 15th, to take a position with the American Petroleum Institute. Dr. Salmon will continue her work as Assistant Editor of this Department's quarterly, *Micropaleontology*, for the time being. CAROL A. TURCO, formerly Department secretary, and RICHARD CHARMATZ will jointly assume Dr. Salmon's duties on the other publications of the Department. MARY STORM replaces Miss Turco as secretary.

We have two proud new fathers on the premises: SIDNEY BERMAN of the Museum Shop is the father of Zoe Elizabeth born on December 29th, and ARTHUR SCHAEFER of the Carpenters Shop greeted daughter, Kim Elizabeth on January 15th. Congratulations!

FRANTISEK FORT resigned from Building Services on January 1st. Good luck in your new endeavor!

Through the generous contribution of five individuals the Lepidoptera collection of the late Otto Buchholz, a well known collector in this field, has been purchased for the Museum. The collection numbers about 125,000 specimens, and is one of the most complete private collections of North American Lepidoptera. Its addition to our present material gives the Museum perhaps the best collection of butterflies and macro-moths in existence for North America, north of Mexico.

DOROTHY FULTON (Slides Division) and MARY McKENNA (General Accounting) showed slides of their European pilgrimage to quite a few Museum friends on January 14th. If

anyone else cares to see the slides Mary and Dorothy will gladly schedule a second showing.

After completing her research work on the Sanford Hall of the Biology of Birds for the Department of Exhibition, SARITA VAN VLECK resigned on January 23rd.

PROFESSOR ROGER HEIM, eminent mycologist and Director of the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, and MR. R. GORDON WASSON were our Museum's honored guests at a reception and preview of the Corner Gallery Exhibit, "Quest for the Divine Mushroom: An Ancient Rite Rediscovered," on January 29th. The exhibit presents, in color photographs, text and sound recordings, the discovery of an ancient Mexican mushroom rite by the late Dr. Valentina Wasson and her husband, R. Gordon Wasson, who for thirty years have studied the history of man's use and knowledge of mushrooms.

On January 15th ERIKA RAWITSCHER left the Department of Public Instruction to spend a year at the University of California at Berkeley where she will do post graduate work in botany while being part-time consultant for our Vegetation Studies Department. Erika will also help in the planning of our proposed Hall of Plant Sciences.

General Accounting welcomed a new bookkeeper on January 21st. She is JOHANNA MARKS who previously worked for the Electrolux Company.

The Boulevard Hospital in Astoria is playing host to two of our favorite attendants—JOE NULLET & JIMMY FARRELL. We're sure they would be happy to hear from all their AMNH friends.

ELLA RANSOM, Secretary to our former President, Trubee Davison, writes that she is spending "a lazy month" at Anna Marea in Florida. Mrs. Ransom says hello to "all who remember me."

LOUISE FEDERBEDOT, a mainstay of the Slide Division and the life of many a museum party, recently underwent a major operation. Her many friends throughout the museum wish her a speedy recovery.



# THE GRAPEVINE

PUBLISHED BY THE EMPLOYEES' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION FOR  
EMPLOYEES OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XVI, No. 6

JUNE, 1959

## NEW LAB FOR DR. PARR

The racket that has been emanating from the southeast tower of the fifth floor may sound like hammers and saws to you, but it's music to the ears of the Director. Under construction is the new laboratory where Dr. Parr will be able to work on his research full time once his successor takes over. As to who the successor will be, President A. M. White reports that no selection has yet been made. AMNHers will, of course, learn who their new boss is before any public announcement is made, Mr. White said. (The next director, incidentally, will inherit Dr. Simpson's office on the fifth floor.)

Dr. Parr flies to Europe on June 20th to attend the International Museums Conference in Stockholm, Sweden, and then to vacation with his family. During his absence, Walter Meister, Deputy Director, will be in charge.

PLEASE READ THIS, if you have a family contract (arranged through the Museum) for health or hospital insurance. When a child of yours reaches the age of 19, he or she is no longer eligible for benefits under the family contract. If you wish to arrange continued coverage for him or her, be sure to consult Adrian Ward in the Personnel Department a month before the child's 19th birthday.

## DR. SIMPSON TO HARVARD

George Gaylord Simpson will be leaving us on July 1st to spend most of the summer in the southwest and then, as of September 1st, to take up his new duties as Alexander Agassiz Professor of Vertebrate Paleontology at Harvard University. Dr. Simpson, who resigned from the Chairmanship of the Department of Geology and Paleontology last year, has been associated with the Museum since 1924 when he was a summer field assistant. He joined the staff in 1927 and is today one of the world's leading authorities on fossil animals and evolutionary theory. "I will be very sad to leave my many pleasant associations here," he told The Grapevine, "but I hope to keep in contact by frequent visits to the Museum." We will miss him very much but we are lucky that we have known him, and will continue to know him, as a friend.

## 25-YEAR DINNER

Seventy-two members of the Quarter Century Club met for dinner on April 8th in Roosevelt Memorial to welcome four new members to their midst: Jim Gallagher and John Scott (Bldg. Svcs.); Charlotte Stove (Gen. Files); and Bob Adlington (Geo. & Paleo.) The Quarter Century Club is now 10 years old and boasts 169 members. Of these, 83 are pensioners - only 19 of whom returned this year. We hope it wasn't illness that kept the others away and that they are all as hale and hearty as those who came. Kay Beneker, covering the event for The Grapevine, saw Tony Cartossa, James Chapin, George Childs, Fred Christman, Betty Emery, Ashton Littlefield, Jim McKeon, Bob McMorran, Bernard Marshall, Grace Ramsey, Joe Rooney, Henry Ruof, May Sheehan, Oscar Shine, Jake Shrope, Dorothy Shuttlesworth, Jake Stephens, Ethel Timonier, and Lilian Uternehle.

On hand to greet the guests were A. E. Parr (Dir.), Fredrick Eaton (1st V.P.), and Ella Ransom and Trubee Davison. We aren't sure who was greeting whom because everyone - and we mean everyone - was greeting Mr. Davison. It has been three years since he and Mrs. Ransom had been to a gathering of AMNHers and it was heart-warming to see the affection with which Mr. Davison greeted his old friends. In a brief talk after dinner he assured the assembled guests that even though he had many new friends, he still preferred his old ones. He reminded the group that the real contribution of 25 years of service cannot be measured in dollars and cents, nor can it ever be taken away. He also brought a message from his mother: "Peacock Point is still there. Come on out!" -- which immediately brought down the house with such vibrations that the feathers fluttered on the birds in the Whitney Wing.

John Saunders (Pub. Inst.) introduced the four new members, cited highlights of their careers, and presented each with a certificate of life membership. Later there were nightcaps and piano melodies, and the meeting adjourned until next year.

## NEW ERA MEMBERS

The Employees' Benefit Association elected 8 new members this spring. They are William Johnson (Pow. Plant); John Tierney (Exhib.); Judith Haviland (Birds); Antony Gahan (An. Behav.); John Scrimenti (Bldg. Svcs.); Lawrence Kassan & James Lee (Plan.) and Alan Bloem (Fishes.)





## INSIDE THE GRAPEVINE

## HEARD IN PASSING

If this issue of The Grapevine looks a little pale in comparison with former issues, it is not because the Print Shop refused to print it. As far as we know, the Print Shop has never refused anybody anything, and it is for that very reason that the current issue comes to you through the good offices of Mr. Vincent Amodio and his mimeo machine. For it is high time that The Grapevine made a few personal remarks about Mr. Edward A. Burns and his staff -- Messrs. Nick Caggana, Farrell Carney, Robert Daly, Philip Duffy, and Bailey Lewis -- without their advance knowledge. Their superb production of this publication over the years has evoked high praise, not only from members of the AMNH family, but from people in many other organizations which also publish house organs. No matter how busy they are, however swamped with rush orders from every department of the Museum, our printers have always found time to get out The Grapevine (which brings no revenue to their coffers) and to make it as handsome as any employees' publication we have ever seen. In the printing business, men who handle type are called "printer's devils." At AMNH that designation has got to be changed for a more accurate one - "angels" will do fine.

This final issue of the season also provides an opportunity to present giant bouquets to Kay Beneker for her splendid work as editor for the past two years, and to Gloria Loomis for her able assistance as associate editor. Kay is now on vacation in Europe, and Gloria is about to leave us to become a mama (she and husband Bob having just moved to a new apartment to accomodate the new arrival.)

The current issue owes most of its content to half a dozen people (notably Paul Goodhouse) who responded to our plea for news. Special thanks to Jimmy Drago who designed the masthead.

It is hoped that plans can be worked out to continue The Grapevine next fall. Just as a test of general interest, we would like to ask everyone who has any feeling for or against The Grapevine to send a note to EBA President Mildred Parmenter. Criticisms and suggestions for future issues will help a lot.

Kate Swift  
Editor

For the June Graduate --

BUY YOUR GIFT AT THE MUSEUM SHOP

It will be rice, confetti, and old shoes on July 25th for EBA President Mildred Parmenter (Contrib. Prog.) and John Paul Randino (who, incidentally, is a cousin of Paul Marone, formerly of Pub. Inst., now teaching high school science in New Rochelle.) Dot Madsen and Joan Governale (Contrib. Prog.) hosted a surprise shower for Hil on May 20th. The Randinos will have a Caribbean honeymoon. Much happiness to them and may all their troubles be little ones...More wedding bells: Louise Boisson, daughter of Irene and Al Boisson (Elect. Shop), goes to the altar in June. And when Winifred Joyce's boy, James, marches down the aisle with his bride on May 22nd, it marks a first in the younger generation of the Walter Joyce (Plumb. Shop) family.

Fountain of Youth Department: Betty Nullet (Bldg. Svcs.) will be a grandmother for the third time this summer...Betty recently saw Alma O'Connor who retired a few years ago after 25 years in Building Services. Mrs. O'Connor was north for a visit from her home in St. Petersburg, Fla. Her many Museum friends will be saddened to learn of her husband's death last month.

Attention, Jesevites: Dr. Parr received a letter of congratulations on our 90th anniversary from U.S. Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr...Good news from the Power Plant: Zoltan Battery, affectionately known as "Assault and Battery," is back on the job after recovering from a fluke accident. He was walking on the sidewalk when a car climbed the curb and hit him...Public Instruction had a visit the other day from Howard Cleveland who was in the department for many years. He's living in Venice, Fla. ...Brian Mason (Geo. & Paleo.) is sporting a fine tan after his very successful collecting trip through Ariz., Calif., and Colorado...Jimmy Lee is a long way from Tipperary these days. After a 6-months sojourn in Ireland, he's happy to be back with his Planetarium family...Chuck Bogert and Dick Zweifel (Amphs.&Reps.) are headed for the west to record more frog voices and attend scientific meetings. Later, Chuck will go on to Mexico with two students to continue recording and collecting.

A scholarly and highly readable book called "The Origins of Oriental Civilization" by Walter Fairservis, Jr. (Anthro.) came off the presses in April. It's available for 50¢ in a Mentor paperback edition...Platter fans will be happy to know that the song-writing vocalist team of Ruby MacDonald (Nat. Hist. Mag.) and her twin sister Ruth have just released a new record, a delightful Italian novelty number titled "Bacia-Ba-Loo," sung by The Pixies (Ruby and Ruth, to you), on a Doe label.





## THE BOWLERS

## CAMERA CLUB IS 20 YEARS OLD

The 16 members of the AMNH Bowling League turned out full force for their second annual trophy dinner on May 19th and no less than 20 trophies were awarded amid much good-natured ribbing and continuous applause. This affair rang down the curtain on a highly successful season for the League. Final team standings were:

1st Place - Indians

Mabel Colahan, Capt.  
Mary McKenna, Sec.  
Bill Forbes  
Don Serret

2nd Place - Mummies

Trudy Mosler, Capt. & Sec.  
Louis Ferry  
Farrell Carney  
Lester Danley

3rd Place - Fossils

Catherine Pessino, Capt.  
Catherine Mahoney, Sec.  
Paul Goodhouse  
Bob Adlington

4th Place - Headhunters

Lois Mussey, Capt.  
Bill Sherman, Sec.  
Hubert Ohrnberger  
Arthur Naylor

An interesting oddity is that although the Fossils wound up in next-to-last place, their Captain, Kay Pessino, showed high game for women with a 200, and their anchor man, Bob Adlington, high scored for the men with 246.

The bowlers wish to express special thanks to Don Serret whose enthusiasm and hard work were key factors in the founding and success of the League. Thanks also to Farrell Carney who served as treasurer.

This year the League met weekly for 17 weeks, and preparations are already under-way for a bigger and better season next year. All AMNHers are invited to join the group. If you're a real kegler, here's your chance for fame; and if you're a beginner, you'll have plenty of company. Either way, you'll get to know some highly congenial people and have an awful lot of fun. The cafeteria bulletin board will carry meeting notices in the fall.

## SALUTE TO MR. JOYCE

There was one hundred percent attendance of Museum foremen, Mechanical Division, at a surprise dinner given for Walter Joyce (Plumb. Shop) at the Ramsey, N.J. Country Club on April 28th. Speeches were few and brief and everything else was plentiful, the participants report. Among those present was former EBA President Harry Farrar who retired from the Mason Shop a couple of years ago.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the American Museum Employees' Camera Club.

The founders - Walter Meister, Louis Monaco, John Saunders, Tom Gilliard, and several associates no longer here - met on Feb. 15, 1939, to organize the doings. The constitution and by-laws were adopted in March of that year and Walter Meister was elected as the first president. Among the other charter members still at the Museum are Jim Williamson, Harry Lange, Bill Baker, Ed Burns, Joe Guerrey, Farida Wiley, and Phil Duffy.

Emil Berg and Lucy Clausen edited the club's photographic magazine Musecam, which was considered of such great merit that it is still kept on file in the N.Y. Public Library at 42nd St. The general speed-up of living and extra-curricular activities that beset us after the war left little free time, thus the abandonment of Musecam. Lou Monaco has a complete file of the magazine in his office.

From its inception and throughout most of its life, the club has been considered one of the outstanding groups of its kind in the country. Its black and white shows were judged by internationally-known judges and visitors from other clubs rarely missed a show. Winning prints from one show were displayed in the lobby of the Beacon Theater at 74th St. (Continued on page 4)

## MORE HEARD IN PASSING

Jean O'Donnell (Cont. Off.) departs these premises soon to become a full-time housewife. Her husband, John O'D. (formerly in Promo.) is very happy with his new post in an advertising firm. The O'Donnells, by the way, are a source of great pride to the Bowling League, under whose auspices they got acquainted... Helmut Wimmer (Planet.) and his wife Francie have bought a new home in Bergenfield, N.J., into which they will move any day now. They will be neighbors of Pat O'Dwyer (Planet.) and his wife, who are this month celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary... Otto Lambert (Off. Svcs.) and the Mrs. are celebrating 27 years of marital bliss.

Missing Stars Department: Sophie Milkowska, recovering from an operation in the hospital 3 weeks ago, received an ingenious get well card signed by all her colleagues in the Planetarium. Created by Ann Ayvaliotis (Planet.), it showed the Zeiss projector in action with the message "A Star Is Missing!" ... Jane Orttung (Anthro.) is making a good recovery from injuries suffered in a bad fall on the subway steps in April... Thelma Pollick (Exhib.) and Frank Gonzalez (Pow. Plant) are both hospitalized. Speedy recuperations to all of them. They are much missed.





## CAMERA CLUB (continued)

## EBA PARTY SCRAPBOOK

Early programs included such colorful events as the annual trip to the Zoo, a photo safari, auto picnics, sailing around Manhattan Island, and a lens-eye view of the Fulton Fish Market. (A body who was there reports that the fish had fun too, watching the shutterbugs - with one eye!) The annual dinners were gala occasions. The first included a trip to the circus after dinner. Then there was the dinner in Chinatown when a lady member insisted that the cook never removed the nails from the "horse-shoe duck." There was the Gay Nineties dinner, after which a gent member took a snooze in a Bowery doorway. Waking up to go home, he placed his hat on his head and discovered several pennies, nickles, and dimes in it! And who will ever forget the pizzeria at Coney Island where the rain came through the ceiling, from the antipasto to the spumoni!

In the early years the members worked with equipment borrowed from the Photography Division. 1948 saw funds for a darkroom materialize through a raffle and the undaunted efforts of Lou Monaco. Equipment was purchased and everything made ready to go, but unfortunately the darkroom has not been used to any great degree. Because the rigors of our present world leave little time for the things we really want to do, the club has languished somewhat in the past year or so. In recent months, however, there has been a reshaping of the program to meet the scheme of the times under the leadership of Bill Mussig and his able committee. (The club was especially sorry to lose its excellent secretary, Barbara Farley, who resigned from the Photo Division recently to take a position with Cornell University.)

At the April meeting, held in the Photo Division studio, models included not only members but also a magnificent golden retriever, Bruce, brought for the occasion by his owner, Dorothy Bliss. Members viewed the fine results of this session at their May meeting.

Information and suggestions, gleaned from the questionnaires circulated to all employees last January, are serving as the basis for next fall's plans. Among the events scheduled is an outing at Bear Mountain while the leaves are turning.

Camera Club membership is open to all AMNHers, and non-members are always welcome at meetings. Watch the cafeteria bulletin board for program announcements.

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 REMINDER

All Museum employees are welcome to visit the Planetarium at no charge. Your employee identification card serves as a ticket of admission for you and 1 guest.

Good cheer, good music, and good food at the EBA Spring Get-Together of May 7th... "Smashing success!" one colleague exclaimed as he dropped his beer glass... Another colleague, whose friends have complained of his taciturnity, tried to improve the situation by eating 13 slices of tongue... The barmaid tradition seems to be firmly established... Our Terpsichores on the dance floor get more graceful each year... Someone (male) remarked that the wolf pack is thinning out, but a quick poll of those who would know (females) disclosed the general consensus that the modern techniques of wolfery are merely subtler and more refined than they used to be.

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 A GENTLE HUMOR

The gentle humor of John Schmitt is well remembered by all who knew him during his 26 years in Building Services. A little while before he died, a year ago this July, Mr. Schmitt wrote a poem and gave it to his son, Joseph Schmitt of the Department of Fishes and Aquatic Biology. So many people have asked Joe for copies that we requested permission to reprint it here:

The very day I pass away  
 I'll bid you all good-bye.  
 I hope you do not weep for me,  
 I hate to see you cry.  
 And when I reach the Golden Gate  
 Saint Peter will reply,  
 "Why you belong way down below.  
 Why did you fly so high?"

-- John Schmitt

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 CONVERSATIONALS

Somebody said recently that since the place has gotten so big, there isn't as much informal communication as there used to be. Here are some suggested conversation openers: Ask Charlie Kerr (Burs. Off.) about the time he worked for Mae West... Ask Fred Wernersbach (Tin. Shop) about that fine power lawn mower of his that does such a good job of slicing off prize pear trees at the roots... Ask Oscar Wantsy (Paint Shop) why he calls his dog "Lutty" and what it means in Lithuanian... Ask Julie McDaniel (Empl. Cafe.) if you can trade some money with her -- she's an amateur numismaticist... Ask Bella Weitzner (Anthro.) about her clairvoyant dream that led to the rediscovery of some lost paintings... Ask Tom Nicholson (Planet.) about the time he wound up a sky show with "the sun slowly stinking in the west," and Jim Pickering (Planet.) about the time he told the audience that Andromeda was "naked to the visible eye."

"No," said the centipede, crossing her legs. "A hundred times, no!"

-- from The Grapevine, Spring, '53

the first of these, which was the most  
important, was the establishment of a  
new system of taxation, which was  
designed to increase the revenue of the  
crown, and to provide for the needs of  
the state. This system was based on  
the principle of a fixed rate of tax  
on all property, and was intended to  
be a permanent and equitable system.

THE HISTORY OF THE  
REIGN OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST

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## FOR THE NON-VACATIONERS

Those of us who, for one reason or another, will not be taking vacations during the forthcoming dog days will have at least one consolation -- the summer exhibit in the Corner Gallery. The show, which begins July 3, is called "Museum Treasure Hunt" and it will provide a fascinating memory game for employees who think they know the exhibit halls pretty well. Photographs will show some of the least obvious but most interesting treasures displayed here. The point of the game is to match the objects with their locations in the Museum. (Answers will be provided for the folks who wear blinders as they walk thru the halls.)

## PVEO MEMBERS GET PROGRESS REPORT

The Professional and Vocational Employees' Organization has been working hard recently on problems connected with appeals of job classifications of City-line Museum employees. At the same time, a PVEO committee has been exploring the possibility of liberalizing the pension plan for those with more than 25 years of service. At their May meeting, the members heard progress reports on these matters and enjoyed a luncheon of sandwiches and coffee. The membership also approved a move to revise the organization's by-laws in two respects: (1) Extend the terms of office of elected officers, and (2) Extend membership to employees who are not qualified to join under the present by-laws. President Edward McGuire appointed Dorothy Bronson to fill out the present term as Secretary, the post being vacated by Jean O'Donnell. Charlotte Stove was appointed Assistant Secretary.

## TRADING POST

Small house in country with large living room.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of field and woodland with breath-taking view of mountains and valley. 3 hours drive from N.Y.C. Call Joan Gordan, ext. 272.

Brand new Hermes Rocket typewriter with carrying case. Been used only ten times. In perfect condition. List price \$54.94. Will sell for appreciable cut. Call Ellen Forsythe, ext. 372.

Greenwich Village apartment available for sub-let June 12 or 15 for 3 months. 4 rooms, furnished, ideal for 1 person. Near subways. \$75 a month including utilities. Call Ann Ayvaliotis, ext. 343, from 12-4.

Opel Rekord automobile, 1958, turquoise, with radio and heater. Deluxe and very clean. \$1895. Call Dan Krochak, ext. 521.

## MORE HEARD IN PASSING

Building Services' loss will be a gain for the Mammal Department when Helmut Sommer transfers to the Tannery. His fellow-custodians wish him all luck in his forthcoming job...The handsome visage of Ed McGuire (Mamms.) appeared in the May issue of Outdoor Life magazine. He was shown measuring the world's record mule deer which has been submitted for the Boone & Crockett Club contest...Don Carter (Mamms.), Ray deLucia and Matthew Kalmenoff (both Exhib.) are back from a two-month collecting trip in Texas, California and South Dakota where they did field work for 4 new groups in the North American Mammal Hall corridor.

Louis Ferry (Carp. Shop) recently made a quick trip to Florida to visit Ernest Neilson (formerly of Anthro.) Lou reports that Ernie is well and happy and sends his love to all his friends here...Joe Negron (Bldg. Svcs.) attended the ceremonies last month for his daughter's reception into the Roman Catholic Church as Sister Mary Norma. Val McClure (Bldg. Svcs.) accompanied the Negrons at this beautiful and inspiring service...Congratulations to Rudy Bonen (Elect. Shop) who just completed 29 years as a Boy Scout, and we're not kidding! Rudy does a terrific job as a leader in the Scout movement on Staten Island.

## SCME LOCALS FORM NEW COMMITTEE

The three AMNH locals of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees have formed a joint policy committee to better coordinate relationships between the union and the administration. The newest of the three - the clerical, technical, and professional workers local - has been in existence since the first of the year and now has approximately 40 members. The unit, of which Louis Monaco is President, recently received its charter making it local 1559. The other two SCME locals in the Museum are 1504 - foremen, supervisors, and managers - of which Walter Joyce is President, and 1306 - representing primarily attendants - with Edward Teller as President.

It is with sorrow that we report the deaths this spring of three former employees. Patrick Pryor, who retired 3 years ago after a quarter of a century in Building Services, passed away on April 20. Willard G. Van Name, Associate Curator Emeritus of Recent Invertebrates, who retired in 1942 after 25 years of active service, died on April 25. Richard H. Cooke, Business Manager at the Planetarium until his retirement in 1949, died on May 8.





## MORE HEARD IN PASSING

Bob Murray (Off. Svcs.) and his wife Josephine are comfortably settled in their new apartment. They are both very appreciative of the efforts and interest of all their Museum friends during the difficult period they underwent a few months back. Everyone is happy to see Bob's cheerful smile these days, an indication that he is feeling like his old self again.

Ken Chambers and Betty and Bob Hellman (Pub. Inst.) leave shortly for Florida where they will give the teacher training program at the Archbold Biological Station. The Hellmans will be adding to the population come late September.

Gadabouts on The Continent: Nan Keating (Promo.) is vacationing in Turkey and the Aegean islands, among other points east... Isabel Mount (Pub. Rel.) and her husband Marshall will tour Europe this summer by car - a red Dauphine complete with town and country horns and three balloons in red, white, and blue... Gwynne - Whitey, to you - Payne (Mason Shop) is sailing for England with his 16-year old daughter, Virginia, who will see her 84-year old grandmother (Whitey's mother) in Wales for the first time. Later, they'll take in Paris, Rome, and parts of Switzerland and Germany. The Payne youngsters, 7 of them, drew straws to see who would accompany papa, and Virginia won. (We should say "grandpapa," as one of the other 6 has just given Whitey a grandson)... Fred Parone (Elect. Shop) and his wife fly to Germany in July to attend the wedding of their son Pat.

Blue Booties Department: George and Marion Crawbuck (Pub. Inst., and formerly Geo. & Paleo., respectively) gave their daughter a baby brother, John Fournier Crawbuck, on May 3rd... Tommy Bradley (Bldg. Svcs.) is building a family football team. He and his wife Winifred had a second son, Kevin Michael Bradley, on May 16.

Katia Magid (Micro.) served as interpreter for Dr. V. V. Bazykin, Director of the Moscow Planetarium, during the International Planetarium Executives Conference at the AMNH in May. Katia accompanied the delegates on their field trips to Boston and Philadelphia in order to translate for the Soviet scientist... Judy Elton (An. Behav.) left us to get married last month. We hear she's going to live in South America... Philipp Hemmingsen resigned from Exhibition to become director of design for the Gorham Company in Providence, R.I., world-famous makers of silver and gold ware... Alvina, the charming chipmunk which Jack McCormick (Veg. Stu.) raised from babyhood, is thriving in the Mammal Department where Jack left her when he departed for his summer field work at the Southwestern Research Station. Alvina especially likes the avocados which Josephine Koenig brings in for her lunch.

## FROM THE MUSEUM MAIL BAG

The following letter, recently received by the Mammal Department, was forwarded to us by Mabel Colahan:

We would deeply appreciate it if you would take a look at our tooth. We don't know if it's a tooth or not. We found it in our back yard. Cindy has two dogs and two cats so it might be anything. We don't think it is anything but please tell us what it is.

P.S. We are ten. Cindy and I go halvesies on everything.

## SPORTS CLUB FISHERMEN

At 6 A.M. on May 2nd, 12 sturdy members of the Museum Sports Club Fishermen headed out into Moriches Bay to test their skill on the elusive flounders. The poor fish never had a chance against our anglers, mostly from the Mechanical Shops, Protection, and Projection. There is very little that can upset the equilibrium of these hearty souls; however, there was one embarrassing incident from which they have not yet completely recovered. Four club members had been fishing expertly from their boat for several hours when a couple of young lads hove to in a rowboat. Looking at our fishermen, one of the youngsters shouted to the other above the roar of the outboard motor, "Let's fish out here near the old men!"

Aside from the fishing, the excursion was highlighted by the splendid hospitality of that delightful hostess, Marie Wernersbach (wife of Fred W., Tin. Shop) whose home served as the base of operations. The end of May finds the club members casting from a chartered boat off Gardiner's Island, Little Gull Island, or the Race - as their whims may dictate. Headquarters on this trip is the Paul Goodhouse (Elect. Shop) manse in Cutchogue.

## COMPARISONS INVITED

The AMNH Credit Union invites you to compare its rate of interest on a personal loan with that of any bank you want to name.

A folder circulated recently by a large commercial bank in N.Y. gave the following figures: You sign a note for \$312. You receive \$298.74. You repay 12 monthly payments of \$26. (Your rate of interest is 4 1/4% deducted from the amount of your total loan before you start to repay it.)

At the Credit Union: You sign a note for \$300. You receive \$300. You repay 12 monthly payments of \$26. (Your rate of interest is 2/3 of 1%, deducted from the unpaid balance while you are repaying.)

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## MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION TO MEET

Several AMNH representatives will attend the 54th annual meeting of the American Association of Museums in Pittsburgh, June 3 through 6. The program includes discussion on such varied topics as "Creating A Museums Profession," "The Future of Science in Relation to Museums -- What We Can Expect to See in the Year 2000," "Moving Museum Pieces By Express," "Tailor-Made Telephone Service for Museums," and "Will Architects And Museum Directors Ever Understand Each Other?" William H. Carr, formerly of AMNH and now Assistant to the President of the Charles Lathrop Pack Forestry Foundation, will speak about his recent work in founding living natural history museums in Arizona and New Mexico. Preceding the conference there will be a special meeting in Washington of museum shop managers in which Alice Pollak, American Museum Shop Manager, will participate.

## BRIEFS FROM RECENT PRESS RELEASES

"Folk Art From Rumania," the first major exhibit of its kind to be shown in this country, opened at the Museum on May 6. Made up entirely of materials borrowed from museums and collections in Rumania, it includes outstanding examples of costumes, textiles, rugs, and decorative carvings. It is being shown here in exchange for an American exhibit sent to Rumania last year under the East-West Cultural Exchange Program of the U.S. State Department.

A new program for college students, being initiated this summer by AMNH with the support of the National Science Foundation, will give selected undergraduates a chance to participate directly in research projects being conducted by Museum scientists. Lester Aronson will direct the program which includes studies in animal behavior, herpetology, physical anthropology, ornithology, radio astronomy and mammalogy.

The Planetarium played host to the International Conference of Planetarium Executives from May 11 through 16th. Delegates attended from Brazil, England, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, the Soviet Union, the United States, and Uruguay.

(cut off here)

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
SPECIAL EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT TICKET

Guy Lombardo and Leonard Ruskin  
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Musical Extravaganza

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Beach Marine Theatre

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(Reg. \$4.80)      (Reg. \$3.80) No. of  
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For the performance of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate dates 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

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(Enclose stamped, addressed envelope)

Regular Prices	Discount Prices
\$4.80	\$3.40
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THIS ORDER FORM IS GOOD FOR  
THE FOLLOWING PERFORMANCES:  
June 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.  
July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,  
9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,  
16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23,  
24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31.  
August 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10,  
11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19,  
20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30,  
31. Sept. 1, 2, 3, 7.

MAIL THIS TICKET WITH CHECK  
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MARINE THEATRE  
Jones Beach, Wantagh, L.I.



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DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637  
U.S.A.  
1968

RESEARCH REPORT

RESEARCH REPORT  
ON THE  
STRUCTURE AND  
PROPERTIES OF  
POLYMER  
SOLIDS  
BY  
J. E. GUZMAN  
AND  
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# GRAPEVINE

OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XVI, NO. 7

DECEMBER 1959

## THE GRAPEVINE 1937 - 1959

With this issue, the "Grapevine" embarks on a new era of publication. Sponsored for 22 years by the Employees' Benefit Association for all employees of the Museum, the publication has kept us up to date on Museum developments and plans, has reported major and minor events in the lives of our colleagues, and has served as a channel of communication for announcements, notices and other information of general interest to all of us. As founder and publisher of our only employee newspaper, the EBA performed an invaluable service. It is a measure of the "Grapevine's" effectiveness over the years that the Publications Committee of the Museum recently requested that it be made the official internal house organ of the Museum. The new "Grapevine," sponsored by the Administration in order to insure its continued and regular publication, will assume all the functions and services of its honored predecessor.

The "Grapevine" was born in February, 1937, without a name -- just a great big question mark and a number: Vol. I, No. I. However, when Vol. I, No. 2 appeared in March, it had been christened the "Grapevine," and by none other than Agnes Saunders (Mrs. John R. Saunders) who was then Staff Assistant in the Department of Education. For submitting the winning name, Agnes received two tickets to "the great South Sea Island night," and we hope she shared the prize with John.

Dr. Irene Cypher, then Registrar in the Department of Education and now Associate Professor in the Department of Communications at New York University, was the first editor and held that position until March, 1942 -- longer than any subsequent editor. During that period, the "Grapevine"

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

For each of us the Christmas Holiday season has a different meaning. For some it is a time of family reunions, presents, bountiful feasts and Christmas carols. For others it is a time of deep spiritual reflection and gratitude. For still others it may be a matter of holidays and gay parties. Christmas is observed in many ways. However you choose to celebrate this Christmas Season, I wish you and your family the Merriest of Christmases. And I sincerely hope the spirit of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill toward Men" will be with each of you throughout the New Year.

JAMES A. OLIVER, Director

was published 25 times. It was usually four pages, occasionally six.

The next editor was Walter Grotyohan (Superintendent's Office). He was succeeded, first by "everybody" for three issues, and then by Dr. C. Howard Curran (Insects). In 1944, the publication became a quarterly under Sam C. Kuster (Bldg. Services). Subsequently, the editorship passed to Edward A. Burns (Print Shop), Dr. William A. Burns (Administration), Paula Hutchison (Art), John R. Saunders (Education), John McDermott (Superintendent's Office), John Stoutenburgh (Education), Betty Downes ("Natural History"), and Paul Goodhouse (Electrical Shop). In 1953, the "Grapevine" forgot to be a quarterly, skipped a year, and lost its serial number. Between the winter of 1955 and the spring of 1957 it appeared only three times -- a victim of the increasing amounts of work in our regular jobs. Then  
(continued on page 2)





GRAPEVINE STAFF

## MUSEUM-CITY RELATIONS

Editor: Kate Swift  
 Production Assistant: Pamela Scallan  
 Reporters: Accounting, Payroll, Personnel,  
 Purchasing - Catherine V. Mahoney; Amphibians & Reptiles - Margaret S. Shaw; Animal Behavior - Evelyn Shaw; Anthropology - James A. Ford; Birds - Constance D. Sherman; Building Services & Protection - Victor J. Bedaracco, Edward T. Malley, Albert C. Potenza; Exhibition & Graphic Arts - Katharine Beneker; Fishes & Aquatic Biology - Dorothy E. Bliss; Frick Laboratory - George Krochak; Geology & Paleontology - G. Robert Adlington; Insects & Spiders - Rudolph J. Schrammel; Library - Jeanne Lyons; Mammals - T. Donald Carter; Membership - William F. Somerville; Micropaleontology - Mary A. McKenna; Museum Shop - Peter Bujara; Natural History & Jr. Natural History - Helene J. Jordan; Office Services - Robert E. Murray; Planetarium - James S. Pickering; Power Plant - Malcolm Mackay; Print Shop - Edward A. Burns; Public Instruction - George A. Crawbuck; Shops & Shipping - John Erlandsen, Rudolf Bonen, Arthur R. Schaefer; Slides, Films, Photography, Projection & Sound - Helen B. Jones.

(THE GRAPEVINE, cont'd. from p. 1)

in April, 1957, Katharine Beneker (Exhibition) took on the editorship, and for the two years following we were back on schedule with a lively up-to-date monthly. The final issue of the "Grapevine" that was sponsored by the EBA was assembled by Kate Swift and appeared last June.

A grapevine calls to mind the informal exchange of news among people who know one another personally and are interested in one another's activities. In this respect, the "Grapevine" will continue to be informal as it has been in the past. The departmental reporters listed on this page are volunteers and each has a full-time job. In order to report your news, they need your cooperation. The message that appeared on Page 1 of the first Grapevine in 1937 is still true in 1959: "Don't forget, the Grapevine is your paper."

The Planetarium will be closed to the public January 4 to 29 while the new Zeiss projector is being installed.

The Administration reports that the Museum, in concerted action with the other cultural institutions in the city, has recently forwarded a summary of unresolved cases of appeal or recommendations for upgrading to the Parks Commissioner, requesting him to intercede in behalf of Museum employees with the Budget Director, in order to obtain speedy action. In addition, Director James A. Oliver, Controller Walter F. Meister and Bursar Edwin C. Meyenberg met with the Chief Budget Examiner to discuss various Museum matters.

The total number of Museum positions under the Career and Salary Plan is 256. There has been a great deal of confusion following the release of desk audits because of differential treatment of the various position titles. Position Classification Questionnaires covering our city schedule were submitted by the Museum as requested by the Career and Salary Board beginning as early as April 27, 1956 and continuing through June 30, 1958, according to titles.

The Administration also tells us that many requests made by the Museum and by individuals to the Career and Salary Board are still pending. These will have to await the Board's final decision. There are still numerous recommendations and requests made by the Museum through Salary Allocation Appeals and Position Evaluation that remain unanswered. It is hoped that some, at least, will be cleared up through action by the Parks Commissioner as well as by the continuing efforts of the Museum Administration. Messrs. Meyenberg and Kerr are keeping in constant touch with the city departments in an effort to resolve our pending problems.

On December 3, 1959 the titles of Assistant Accountant and Staff Nurse were upgraded to Grade 9, effective January 1, 1960.

As a result of a recent hearing before the Career and Salary Appeals Board six titles were upgraded one grade. These are Clerk, Senior Clerk, Senior Stenographer, Senior Telephone Operator, Senior Building Custodian and Motor Vehicle Operator.

Action on the titles of Supervising Clerk and Administrative Assistant was held over until after January 1st.

(continued on page 3)





In addition to the above-mentioned titles action is pending on many others. "You may be sure that as soon as information is forthcoming from the Board regarding other titles your department head will be notified", Mr. Meyenberg said.

Any individual wishing to check on his City Career and Salary status should ask his department head, who can obtain the information at the Bursar's Office.

#### PLANT OPERATIONS REORGANIZED

The establishment of a new staff post of Plant Manager, effective January 1, 1960, has been announced by Director James A. Oliver. The Plant Manager will coordinate and supervise the work of the departments of Planning, Building Construction and Maintenance, and Building Services.

Mr. Paul Henry Grouleff, presently a captain in the United States Navy, has been appointed to head the plant operations unit and will take office on January 4, following his retirement from military service. An Annapolis graduate, Mr. Grouleff has been on active duty in the Navy since 1932, serving as an engineer, submarine commander, and administrator. He and his wife and four daughters live in Teaneck, New Jersey.

#### TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY

All employees are earnestly requested to report to the Protection Division, on extension 306 or 222, any disorderly acts, regardless of how trivial these acts may appear. Be sure to state the specific location of the trouble before hanging up. This will enable the Protection Division to dispatch a uniformed patrolman or plainclothesman without delay. If acts of vandalism or disorderly conduct are not reported at once, the discovery of the culprit and the recovery of the property are made much more difficult.

It is also suggested that all employees lock their offices when leaving them unattended for any reason, to prevent thefts of Museum and personal property.

Your cooperation is urgently needed to safeguard visitors, employees and property.

The Museum's oil derrick stopped drilling for oil this month and will resume operations in the late spring. An outside firm has contracted to remove the dome in preparation for the new Hall of North American Birds on the third floor balcony overlooking the Hall of Oil Geology. All the panels in the Oil Hall will be covered to prevent damage and the derrick will wear a special scaffolding to safeguard its frame from flying plaster.

The Oil Hall has already been closed to the public, and by mid-January demolition activities will have reached the point where it will have to be closed to everyone, including Museum personnel. A protected passageway will be installed temporarily to permit access to the Fish Laboratory.

The Museum's original North American Bird Hall, begun in 1898, was the first hall to be entirely devoted to habitat groups. It is hoped that the Hall will be reopened, with new and completely renovated exhibits and a new floor in 1963.

#### SCIENCE CENTER SCHEDULE CURTAILED BY TAR & FEATHERS

The current activities in the halls of Oil Geology and North American Birds have necessitated the closing of the Natural Science Center for Young People on weekends during January, February, and March. Because its main approach will be closed to the public, the Center will be accessible only by way of the Education Building stairway from the first floor -- a narrow passage that might well take on the aspects of Thermopylae if opened to the public on Saturday and Sunday.

#### BLOOD BANK REPLENISHED

Sixty-nine red-blooded AMNHers rolled up their sleeves last Monday on behalf of their fellow employees, themselves, and their families, Dr. William A. Burns, Blood Bank Chairman, reports. The occasion was the first Museum visit in nine years of the Red Cross Mobile Blood Unit, and 46 pints were collected for the Museum's Blood Bank. This blood will save lives -- maybe yours. If you did not offer to donate on Monday, you may still do so and have your donation credited to the Museum Blood Bank. Call Nurse Margaret Johnston for an appointment with the Red Cross.





## EBA MEMBERS TO CONVENE

Coffee and doughnuts will await members of the Employees' Benefit Association at the EBA Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 12 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 419, Roosevelt Building. All members are urged to attend this important conclave at which ballots will be cast for the organization's 1960 officers. President Mildred Parmenter Randino will speak on the past year's activities; Secretary Anne Keating and Treasurer George Floegel will give reports; and the membership will elect from the following slate prepared by the Nominations Committee under the chairmanship of Philip C. Miller:

President Raymond de Lucia  
Catherine Pessino

Vice-President Katharine Beneker  
Junius Bird

Treasurer George Floegel

Secretary Marie Praitano

Directors (vote for three)  
Charles Falkenbach  
Dorothy Fulton  
Anne Keating  
Albert Potenza  
Mildred Parmenter Randino

Ballots will be distributed in advance of the meeting, and members who are unable to attend may vote by proxy, but attendance-in-person is strongly urged. Make a note of it on your calendar now!

It is with sorrow that we report the death, in recent months, of five former employees of the Museum. They were Andrew F. Arnaudo, Mason Shop, who retired in 1942 after 31 years of service; Clara M. Beale, Administration, who came to the Museum in 1901 and retired in 1938; Anna K. Berger, "Natural History" magazine, from 1915 to 1936; Henriette A. Neuhaus, Archbold Expeditions, from 1939 to 1957; and George M. Pindar, Registrar, who served the Museum from 1900 until his retirement in 1935.

## GOINGS AND COMINGS

Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy (Birds) is headed for the Antarctic where he will serve as chief zoologist with the U.S. Government's Operation Deep Freeze. He's now participating in a symposium in London and will fly next month to New Zealand, hopping-off point for his journey to the bottom of the world. Other Bird Department flights: Dr. Dean Amadon is just back from Argentina where he and Donald Eckelberry travelled extensively, making bird collections and observations with the help of Dr. William Partridge, Argentina's foremost ornithologist and a recent visiting scientist at AMNH...Dr. Wesley Lanyon returned in September from an expedition to Mexico and Central America. He brought back a number of interesting live birds...Stuart Keith and his wife Ronnie will soon take off on an expedition to Cambodia. He took part in the field studies for the Japanese habitat group now nearing completion in the Birds of the World Hall.

Dr. Max Hecht (Geo. & Paleo.) left for Europe with his family last month. He'll spend 10 months doing research, mostly at the Paris Museum...Dr. Charles M. Breder (Fishes) returns this week from Florida where he has been doing field work on the west coast...Joseph M. Chamberlain and Thomas D. Nicholson (Planet.) flew to Oberkochen, West Germany, in October to check on the new Zeiss projector during the final stages of construction. The new instrument arrives by ship this week and will be installed in the Planetarium next month.

## SCME LOCALS ELECT

Two Museum locals of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees held annual elections early this month. Officers for the coming year in Local 1504 - the supervisors' unit - are Walter Joyce, President; Fred Wernersbach, Vice-President; Helen Jones, Secretary; Rita Ross, Treasurer; and George Tauber, Shop Steward. Members of Local 1306 - representing attendants and technicians - elected Richard Pankanin, President; Harry Tappen, Vice-President; James Jordan, Secretary; and Thomas Hogan, Treasurer.

(continued on page 5)





Andrew Monte, Victor Freemantle, and Charles La Salla were elected to the Executive Committee of 1306.

Local 1559 - composed of clerical, technical, and professional employees - will hold its annual election meeting on December 28, it has been announced by Louis Monaco, President.

The employees' art class, organized by Rudy Bonen and instructed by Matthew Kalmenoff, will get underway again early in January, meeting on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. Beginners are especially welcome. Watch the cafeteria bulletin board for a notice of time and place.

### NEW FACES

This issue of the "Grapevine" provides our first opportunity to say welcome to our new Director and to 37 others who have joined the Museum family since we temporarily suspended publication last June. In addition to Dr. Oliver, here are our new colleagues as of December 10:

Amphibians & Reptiles: George W. Foley; Animal Behavior: John Gianutsos and Betty K. Kopf; Anthropology: Colin M. Turnbull; Birds: Lisbeth Cohen, Carol S. Lutz, and Paul Slud; Building Services: Salvatore Di Bella; Controller's Office: Lucille M. Despathy; Director's Office: Ruth Delaney; Exhibition: Elinor L. White, Erica Satzinger, and Anthony F. Di Simone; Film Division: William Rickert; Fishes: Morris Altman and Adrien Gagesteyn; Frick Laboratory: Caroline J. Hedlund and Raymond L. Gooris.

General Accounting: Teresa Caleca, Florence A. Koerner, and Dorothy D. Gauthier; Graphic Arts: Gaetano Di Palma; Insects: Patricia A. Bumstead; Membership: Jeanne F. Stein, Bernice Attard; Micropaleontology: Florence D. Wood; Museum Shop: Catherine T. Phelan and Joann Geschlecht; "Natural History": Paul Mason Tilden and Jacqueline S. Riseman; Planetarium: Daniel Berlitz, David Quinn, Mitchell A. Kaufman, and Charles Tucker; Photography: Marie McDonald; Public Instruction: Keena Kondo; Public Relations: Kay Kennedy.

Mary McKenna has moved from General Accounting to Micropaleontology. Marilyn Badaracco switched from Insects to Guest Services. Hans Behm went from Micropaleontology to Photography. And Jamie Jordan, formerly with Public Relations, has joined the staff of "Natural History" magazine.

Eleanor Forbes has taken over the duties of assistant book buyer for the Museum Shop and is the person to see regarding employees' discount orders. Incidentally, the Shop is now servicing the Guide-a-Phone rental desks, formerly manned (and womanned) by Building Services.

Relocations in Geology and Paleontology: Dr. Bobb Schaeffer and Mary Patsuris have moved to new offices on the east corridor of the fifth floor.

### FAREWELLS

Four recently retired employees head the list of those who will be sorely missed hereabouts. In the past six months we have said goodbye to Mr. Richard Reidy (Bldg. Serv.) who came to the Museum in 1927, Mr. Michael Sullivan (Bldg. Serv.) who started in 1938, Mr. Frank Gonzalez (Pow. Plant) who has been with us since 1943, and Mr. Lawrence Claflin (Planet.) who has also served since 1943. We hope they are enjoying their leisure and will come back to see us often.

The Museum Shop lost Miss Natalie Palidwor (Mrs. Sonnevitsky since last June) when she joined the staff of the Barnard College Library in September. Miss Maria Wimmer returned to her native Vienna in November after a year with the Graphic Arts Department. In Exhibition, Mr. Julius Perlmutter resigned to do free-lance work. And Photography lost Mr. Morton Yourow to a firm where he will do industrial photography.

Over in the Natural Science Center for Young People, the voices of the turtle, the frog, the skunk, and many another a small animal were raised in a sad chorus of farewell to Mrs. Paula Goldwasser (Pub. Inst.) who resigned in November. At a party celebrating the Center's fifth birthday, employees joined with several dozen boys and girls, who have become "regulars" at the Center, to express their fond appreciation to Mrs. Goldwasser.

(continued on page 6)

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Early this month, Building Services tendered best wishes to two departing colleagues: Mr. Robert Allen went to Western Union to take up his new job as teletype repair man, and Mr. Robert Strom moved down to 53rd Street where he joins the art staff at the Museum of Modern Art.

And by the time you read this, Mrs. Richard A. Kimball (Pres. Off.) will be in Italy where her husband is assuming his new duties as Director of the American Academy in Rome. Just to keep Mrs. Kimball reminded of the Museum and of her many friends here, fellow employees presented her with a unique picture book titled "Kimballabilia" -- an affectionate record, in the light vein, of her seven years with us.

Camera Club President William Mussig reports that something new has been added to the Club's activities. In the very near future classes will begin on the techniques of developing, printing, enlarging, etc. The Club darkroom is equipped with all the necessary facilities. Detailed information will be forthcoming later.

#### WEDDING BELLS

Recent marriages: Nancy Hansson ("Nat. Hist.") to Antony Gahan (An.Behav.)... Josephine Koenig (Mammals) to Eric Andrew Peters, an artist...Terry Curtin (Amphs. & Rept.) to Robert McKnight, a physicist...Jerry Lanes ("Nat. Hist.") to Selma Gordon, a writer.

Engagements announced: Lisa Hamilton (Fishes) to Vladimir Walters (Fishes)... Jane Rouillion (Fishes) to Jack Boyer, a lawyer...Elinor White (Exhib.) to George Montgomery, a Research Assistant at Harvard School of Business Administration.

#### NEW BABIES

A boy, Glen C. Nicholson, Aug. 28 - to Tom Nicholson (Planet.) and wife Branca... A girl, Karen Marie Schuberth, Aug. 29 - to Chris Schuberth (Pub. Inst.) and wife Pat...A boy, Kenneth Paul Zweifel, Sept. 12 - to Dick Zweifel (Amphs. & Rept.) and wife Fran (formerly Graph. Arts)...A girl,

Barbara Lee Henderson, Sept. 26 - to Kay Henderson (Pub. Inst.) and husband Stewart...A boy, Robert Walter Hellman, Sept. 26 - to Bob Hellman (Pub. Inst.) and wife Betty (formerly Pub. Inst.)...A boy, Raj Witteborg, Oct. 27 - to Lothar Witteborg (Exhib.) and wife Eugenia. We're happy to report that Raj, who weighed just 2½ pounds at his premature birth, is now doing splendidly.

#### HEARD IN PASSING

Museum electricians turned out full force for a party honoring Paul Goodhouse (Elec. Shop) on the occasion of his 60th birthday in November...Welcome back to Louise Pederberdot (Films) and Margaret Hogan (Slides); both underwent major operations last winter and now look in the pink of health...We hope Jim Morgan (Bldg. Serv.) will be off the sick list and back with us soon.

A suggested Christmas present for the small fry of your acquaintance: "The Golden Book of Sea and Shore" by Marion Carr ("Jr. Nat. Hist."), published this fall and available at the Museum Shop...For more advanced readers, a major scientific work "Birds of The Palearctic Fauna" by Charles Vaurie (Birds) was recently published in London.

If you're thinking about a vacation in Mexico, talk with Helen Jones (Films). Since her recent visit there, she has become a one-woman chamber of commerce for Acapulco.

Many people had a hand in the preparation of the beautiful Christmas tree that graces the staff cafeteria these days. Henry Van Dort (Carp. Shop) set it up; Jim Bourdonnay and Albert Sable (Bldg. Serv.) did the decoration; and Fred Pavone and Hugh Ohrnberger (Elec. Shop) handled the lighting.

John Coalter, for many, many years one of the mainstays of the attendant force at the Planetarium, has just celebrated his 31st wedding anniversary with the co-operation, of course, of Mrs. Coalter... Sam Kuster (Bldg. Serv.) became a 32nd Degree Mason this month.

(continued on p. 7)





Bob Murray (Off. Serv.), our most peripatetic man-about-town, reports praise for the beauty and comfort of the new auditorium from all quarters he visits.

Our deepest sympathy to Walter Michalski (Bldg. Serv.) on the loss of his wife in November, and to James Scally (Bldg. Serv.) whose sister died this month.

#### FLY TO EUROPE AT LOW COST

The usual round trip fare for an economy flight to Europe is about \$500. Next summer you may be able to make the trip for only \$235.

The Museums Council of New York City is planning to sponsor a low cost group flight through KLM airlines for employees of its member museums and persons in their immediate families. However, the flight can be scheduled only if 79 people sign up for it. Tentative dates are: departure, August 10; return, September 17.

Next month's "Grapevine" will carry further details. Meanwhile, why not start planning for a vacation in Europe next summer.

Have you recently moved, married, had a baby? Be sure to notify the Personnel Department at once of any change of home address, change of beneficiary for your insurance and pension, or change of number of exemptions for tax withholding purposes.

This is no time of year to be short of cash. Don't lie awake at night worrying about how you're going to pay your Christmas bills. Get a loan from the Credit Union instead. Just come to the CU office, Roosevelt basement, any Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday between 12 noon and 1 p.m. If you can't come in person, call extension 519 during these hours; or address a note to Harry Lange, Credit Union, and he will get in touch with you. (Please don't go to his office on Credit Union business during Museum working hours.)

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#### IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

To the man or woman who has everything, give a subscription to "Natural History" magazine -- the new expanded publication incorporating "Nature" magazine. Employees' rate is still only \$4 a year.

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#### TRADING POST

Items for sale:

Snow tires, used, Goodyear Suburbanites, 7:10 x 15, white wall, tubeless. Reasonable. Call Bob Adlington, ext. 516

Binoculars, 20 x 50, like new, coated optics, with case. \$45. Call Frank Lombardi, ext. 516

4-inch Reflecting Telescope, brand new. Fecker Celestar as advertised in "Sky & Telescope." Electric motor clock drive. Barlow lens with 2 eyepieces. Call Frank Lombardi, ext. 516

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IN SENATE, JANUARY 10, 1910

REPORT OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF THE  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
FOR THE YEAR 1909  
PUBLISHED BY THE  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON: 1910

RECEIVED  
JAN 11 1910  
U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR  
GENERAL LAND OFFICE

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE  
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GENERAL LAND OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.





# GRAPEVINE

OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. XVI, NO. 8

JANUARY 1960

## NEW PROJECTOR FOR THE PLANETARIUM

Crews from the Carl Zeiss Company and from the Museum are working 24 hours a day to install the new Planetarium projector. Replacing the old instrument which performed almost daily for more than 24 years, the new projector will have much greater fidelity and range of motion, permitting easy and accurate setting of the more active heavenly bodies, such as the Sun, Moon and visible planets. There will be individual projectors for the 42 brighter stars and for three typical variable stars. The new fiber gears, which make possible the complicated motions, will be silent. In short, the new instrument represents the greatest advance in design and construction since the first Zeiss projector was completed in 1919.

Both in the Dome and in the Copernican Room, new flooring and seating is being installed, enhancing the appearance of the Planetarium as well as adding to capacity. The new seats will have tilting backs - to eliminate stiff necks.

The Planetarium will reopen on Saturday, January 30. The first sky show, planned to demonstrate the capabilities of the new projector, is called "New Skies for New York." Your Museum identification card will admit you and a guest to any regularly scheduled Planetarium demonstration. Come and see the new baby!

## EMPLOYEES BENEFIT ASSOCIATION ELECTS

Newly-elected EBA officers are: Pres.-Catherine Pessino; Vice-Pres.-Katharine Beneker; Treas.-George Floegel; Secty.-Marie Praitano; Dirs.-Mildred Randino, Dorothy Fulton, Albert Potenza. Retiring Pres. Randino's year-end report will appear in the February "Grapevine."

## SPECIAL REPORT - MUSEUMS IN THE U.S.S.R.

People who work in museums, when they travel, are generally inveterate museum visitors. In addition to a particular interest in science, art, or history, each of us has a natural inclination to compare facilities, techniques, and methods of operation in foreign museums with those of our own institution. When we learned that Dr. Lester R. Aronson, Chairman of the Department of Animal Behavior, and his wife had spent 25 days in the Soviet Union during their recent trip abroad, we felt sure that they would have some interesting observations about Russian museums to share with other "Grapevine" readers.

Among the natural history museums, the Aronsons found the Biological Museum in Moscow the most interesting and impressive. A small, two-story structure that might once have been a private residence, it is a museum of ideas, rather than things. "It presents biological principles, somewhat as our Warburg Hall presents ecological principles," Dr. Aronson said. Working models demonstrate various aspects of anatomy, physiology, ecology and botany, as well as applied biology, but the push-button operation of these models is done by guides rather than by visitors. Each room contains chairs where visitors sit to watch the demonstrations. The museum staff includes 35 scientists, many of whom serve as guides.

In sharp contrast to the Biological Museum is Moscow's Zoological Museum, a building roughly the size of the Whitney Wing. Typical of old-fashioned European museums, with row upon row of labeled specimens, it is unexciting from a display viewpoint. It has extensive and valuable collections, however, which contain much material from the United States.

(continued on page 2)





# G R A P E V I N E S T A F F

Editor: Kate Swift - Production Assistant: Pamela Scallan

Reporters: Accounting, Payroll, Personnel, Purchasing - Catherine V. Mahoney

Amphibians and Reptiles - Margaret S. Shaw

Animal Behavior - Evelyn Shaw

Anthropology - James A. Ford

Birds - Constance D. Sherman

Building Services and Protection - Victor J. Badaracco, Edward T. Malley  
Albert C. Potenza

Exhibition and Graphic Arts - Katharine Beneker

Fishes and Aquatic Biology - Dorothy E. Bliss

Frick Laboratory - George Krochak

Geology and Paleontology - G. Robert Adlington

Insects and Spiders - Rudolph J. Schrammel

Library - Jeanne Lyons

Mammals - T. Donald Carter

Membership - William F. Somerville

Micropaleontology - Mary A. McKenna

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Natural History - Helene J. Jordan

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Planetarium - James S. Pickering

Power Plant - Malcolm Mackay

Print Shop - Edward A. Burns

Public Instruction - George A. Crawbuck

Shops and Shipping - John Erlandsen, Rudolf Bonen, Arthur R. Schaefer

Slides, Films, Photography, Projection and Sound - Helen B. Jones

(SPECIAL REPORT, cont'd. from p. 1)

A third natural history museum in Moscow held a special interest for Dr. Aronson. For many years he had looked forward to meeting Dr. Nadjiezhd's Ladigina-Kots, a noted psychologist who had done important early studies on chimpanzee behavior. He found her, a great lady now in her 70's, working at the Darwin State Museum. This institution is in bad disrepair and has been closed to the public since the war. However, its excellent collections for the study of evolution are used extensively by scientists and students.

The Zoological Museum at Kiev, like the Darwin State, is also closed to the public but remains active as a center for study and research. Its building was almost completely destroyed during the war. The invading army, having begun to transport the entire collection to Germany, dumped it piecemeal along the retreat route. Fortunately, much of it has been retrieved. But, as is so often the case elsewhere, natural history museums in Russia are usually the last to

receive attention and funds for restoration, Dr. Aronson observed. New buildings for the valuable zoological collections at Kiev and Moscow now in temporary housing, are still several years away.

Art and memorabilia museums in the Soviet Union, on the other hand, are much better off. The fabulous personal treasures of the Czars and royalty are magnificently displayed in the Kremlin museums. These three-dimensional exhibits show, as no written history can, the unbelievable wealth of Russia's former rulers. In the Kremlin museums, visitors must wear soft cloth slippers over their shoes to protect the parquet floors.

"The Russians are fundamentally a religious people," Dr. Aronson said. "Today the objects of their worship are their national heroes." At the house of Ivan Pavlov in Koltushi, the mementoes of the world-famous physiologist and pioneer animal behaviorist are displayed with great sentimentality. His home and laboratory, now a memorabilia museum, contain -- in

(continued on page 3)





(SPECIAL REPORT, cont'd. from p. 2)

addition to exhibits about his work -- a clock that stopped at the hour he died and the last letter he wrote, a letter addressed to the Russian working people.

The decline of formal religion in the Soviet Union has resulted in a new kind of museum, virtually unknown outside the communist countries -- the cathedral or church museum. Built as centers of worship before the revolution, these structures are now popular attractions in a class with museums of art, history, and memorabilia. Dr. Aronson was amazed at the great number of church and cathedral museums (at least one in every good-sized city and three in the Kremlin alone) as well as at the care that has been given to their restoration and maintenance.

On Russian museums in general, these are some of the Aronsons' impressions and observations: They are cleaner than New York museums (including ours); industry has been largely decentralized in the Soviet Union, consequently there is less precipitation from smoke; in addition, they seem to have larger cleaning forces than ours in proportion to their size. Museum attendants are mostly women, middle-aged to elderly; never, even in the Kremlin museums, were attendants seen to carry arms. All museums charge a small admission fee; hours are usually 10 to 6 during a six-day week; the closed day is a weekday, varying with different museums. (The Aronsons missed seeing Russia's biggest natural history museum, the Zoological Museum in Leningrad, because their guide was misinformed as to its closing day). While it apparently is permissible for visitors to go through museums on their own, nearly all museum visiting is done in groups, with a guide assigned to each group. Visitors are not permitted to wear topcoats or overshoes (for sanitary reasons, it was explained.) Fortunately, all museums have free and efficient checking service.

One final observation: Dr. Aronson reports that museum visitors in Russia are very well behaved; school children deport themselves with great decorum; there is no running or shouting; one does not see cigarette butts, candy wrappers, or gum on the floor. Discipline or respect? Perhaps a combination. Anyway, it must make for a pleasant museum atmosphere.

## MUSEUM-CITY RELATIONS

The Administration reports that during 1959, contract appropriations approved by the Board of Estimate for improvements and additions to AMNH buildings and equipment totaled \$396,588. Work is underway on most of these projects which include the new Library, new terrazzo flooring on the 4th floor, blocking and weather-proofing of windows, rehabilitation of the control equipment for the 77th Street elevators, and interior reconstruction for the new Hall of the Biology of Man.

Projects totaling another \$274,400 have been submitted to the Park Department for approval and forwarding to the Board of Estimate. These include demolition of the Library's present obsolete bookracks and replacement with a new mezzanine containing fumigating and storage rooms, alterations to the Bursar's office, construction of a small laboratory building for Animal Behavior, pigeon-proofing of the Central Park West facade, pointing up of exterior stone-work, and purchase of new specimen storage cases.

The Museum's 1960 Capital Budget program which went into effect this month calls for various improvements and additions amounting to \$125,000. Projects in this category are new lighting and ceiling alterations in the children's cafeteria, improvements to the exhibit corridor between the African Hall and the auditorium, a new lounge and exhibit area outside the auditorium, new public and staff lavatories, and continued pointing of the Museum's exterior stone-work. Also included in the 1960 budget are the following projects with the allocations indicated: alterations to electrical and heating systems - \$577,600 from City funds and \$64,700 from Museum funds; reconstruction of roofs - \$33,700; interior reconstruction to include new exhibition hall of Woodlands and Plains Indians - \$10,300 for design (\$160,800 for construction work in this hall will be included in the 1961 budget); and reconstruction of the parking field - \$28,000 each from City and Museum funds.

The City, as landlord of the Museum, is obligated to maintain our buildings in good condition. Its financial contribution toward this end is therefore included in the Capital Budget.

(continued on page 4)

The first of these is the fact that the  
university has a long history of  
excellence in the field of  
education. It has been a leader in  
the development of the modern  
university system, and its  
influence is felt throughout the  
world. The university has a  
rich tradition of scholarship and  
research, and its graduates are  
well-known for their high  
achievements in various fields.

The second of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
social responsibility. It has been  
active in promoting social justice  
and equality, and its graduates  
are often involved in community  
service projects. The university  
has a long history of supporting  
the development of the local  
community, and its influence is  
felt throughout the region.

The third of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
academic excellence. It has a high  
level of academic standards, and its  
graduates are well-known for their  
high achievements in various fields.  
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the world. The university has a  
rich tradition of scholarship and  
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well-known for their high  
achievements in various fields.

The fourth of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
international relations. It has a long  
history of promoting international  
understanding and cooperation, and  
its graduates are often involved in  
international projects. The university  
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academic excellence, and its  
graduates are well-known for their  
high achievements in various fields.  
The university has a rich tradition  
of scholarship and research, and its  
influence is felt throughout the  
world. The university has a strong  
commitment to social responsibility,  
and its graduates are often involved  
in community service projects.

The fifth of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
environmental sustainability. It has a  
long history of promoting  
environmental protection and  
conservation, and its graduates are  
often involved in environmental  
projects. The university has a  
strong commitment to academic  
excellence, and its graduates are  
well-known for their high  
achievements in various fields.  
The university has a rich tradition  
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influence is felt throughout the  
world. The university has a strong  
commitment to social responsibility,  
and its graduates are often involved  
in community service projects.

The sixth of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
cultural diversity. It has a long  
history of promoting cultural  
understanding and appreciation, and  
its graduates are often involved in  
cultural projects. The university  
has a strong commitment to  
academic excellence, and its  
graduates are well-known for their  
high achievements in various fields.  
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world. The university has a strong  
commitment to social responsibility,  
and its graduates are often involved  
in community service projects.

The seventh of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
public service. It has a long history  
of promoting public service and  
community development, and its  
graduates are often involved in  
public service projects. The  
university has a strong commitment  
to academic excellence, and its  
graduates are well-known for their  
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and its graduates are often involved  
in community service projects.

The eighth of these is the fact that the  
university has a strong commitment to  
innovation and entrepreneurship. It has  
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innovation projects. The university  
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and its graduates are often involved  
in community service projects.



The City, as landlord of the Museum, is obligated to maintain our buildings in good condition. Its financial contribution toward this end is therefore included in the Capital Budget.

Director James A. Oliver pointed out that the City has been generous in its allocations to the Museum during the past year. He commended Bursar Edwin C. Meyenberg and Assistant Bursar Charles J. Kerr for their successful handling of this important aspect of Museum-City relations.

The Administration was pleased to be able to release news of salary increases to five City-line employees during the holiday period. This was accomplished through approval by the Career and Salary Board and receipt of a Modification of the 1959-60 City Budget by the Budget Director. At the same time, approval certificates to modify this budget were also received for our carpenters, and painters and their respective shop foremen. This adjustment was based on a determination by the City Comptroller establishing higher fixed hourly rates in these trades.

#### NEW OFFICERS FOR LOCAL 1559

AMNH Local 1559 of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees elected the following officers for the coming year at its December 28th meeting: President - Kenneth Chambers; Vice-President - Henry Seelman; Treasurer - Mary McKenna; and Secretary - Mabel Colahan. Louis Monaco, retiring President, was elected to the Executive Board of the Local, which is composed of clerical, technical, and professional employees.

The largest single day's attendance at the Museum during the recent Christmas-New Years holiday period occurred on Tuesday, December 29, with 14,149 visitors, Building Services reports. The usual crop of lost children were returned to their anxious parents.

Dr. C. Howard Curran will retire from his curatorial position in the Insect Department after 31 years of service with the Museum. On December 28 his colleagues gathered at the Sportsmen's Library for a tea in his honor and all were advised by Dr. Curran to be sure and bring insect-collecting nets when stopping to see him at his Leesburg, Florida, home. His retirement is effective June 30, 1960, but he will be on terminal leave as of January 1, 1960.

Dr. Curran, an authority on Diptera (an order of winged insects that include flies, gnats, and mosquitoes), is probably best known to the public for his investigations into the legend that the "woolly bear" caterpillar is a weather prophet. In 1956 he announced that his findings over the years proved conclusively that the legend is unfounded. We will all miss Dr. Curran a lot, but we will be sure to pack a collecting net the next time we go to Florida.

#### WEDDING BELLS

Newly married: Patrick J. O'Connell (Exhibit to Mary Bernadette McEvaddy on Dec. 26 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Astoria. The O'Connells are living in Astoria... Joseph Gitlin (An. Behav.) to Henriette Toledano on Dec. 27. Mrs. Gitlin, who hails from Morocco, is employed here by the French Government.

Engaged: George Deabreo (Bldg. Serv.) to Verna Vrooman. Mr. Deabreo gave his fiancée an engagement ring at just one minute past midnight of Christmas Eve, or to be exact, at 00:01 on December 25.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

Drs. Jay Rosenblatt, Evelyn Shaw, and Ethel Tobach (all An. Behav.) attended the AAAS meeting in Chicago during Christmas week and spoke at a symposium titled "The Roots of Behavior..." "Natural History" Editor John Purcell was also present at the Triple-A-S gathering to receive the magazine award mentioned elsewhere in this issue... Philip Spalding and William Hosme (field associates in Amphs. & Repts.) are setting out on a collecting expedition this month in the Kimberley region of western Australia.





FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

Dr. Mont A. Cazier (Insects) leaves shortly for Portal, Arizona, where he will head up the activities of the Museum's Southwestern Research Station on a year round basis as Resident Director. In addition, Dr. Cazier will do research on the tiger beetles of Mexico...Catherine Pessino (Pub. Inst.) will be in charge of the Natural Science Center for Young People beginning February 1. During the past five years, while carrying regular teaching assignments, she has devoted considerable time to the Center and the preparation of its exhibits...Louis A. Benesh (Gen. Account.) was appointed Chief Accountant as of December 23. He has been a member of the Department since 1954.

To My Museum Friends:

I would like to express my deep and sincere appreciation to all my friends in the Museum who have been so thoughtful, kind and understanding in extending their sympathy to me on the passing of my beloved daughter Carole. There are not enough words to convey what I feel toward all of you who have sent me cards and letters of condolence, mass cards, flowers and the beautiful Memoriam in the New York Times on Carole's 21st Birthday.

Mr. D'Orsi joins me in saying  
THANK YOU.

Josephine D'Orsi

ANTHROPOLOGISTS TO TEACH MUSEUM COURSE

Drs. Colin Turnbull (Anthro.), Edward Weyer (formerly "Nat.Hist.") and Gertrude Dole, instructor in anthropology at Columbia, will be the lecturers in a new Museum course "Primitive Peoples Today," starting February 17. The course is part of the Evening School for Adults, supervised by C. Bruce Hunter (Pub. Inst.) Dr. Dole, incidentally, is the wife of Dr. Robert Carneiro (Anthro.)

CHEERS FOR PERSONNEL!

Congratulations and much appreciation to Personnel Officer Adrian Ward and his able staff for providing our 1959 Withholding Tax Statements so early.

"NATURAL HISTORY" HONORED

"Natural History" magazine was honored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science last month when two of its authors received honorable mention citations for excellence in science reporting. The citations, presented Dec. 27 at the AAAS meetings in Chicago, went to George Zappler, a Columbia University Fellow who is doing research here under Dr. Edwin H. Colbert, for his article "Darwin's Worms" in the Nov., 1958, issue of "Natural History"; and to Walter Sullivan, New York Times science writer, for his article "Geophysical Year Ends" in the Jan., 1959, issue. The science writing awards are jointly sponsored by the AAAS and the Westinghouse Educational Foundation.

HEARD IN PASSING

Welcome back to two colleagues in Building Services: Tom Dunne who has returned after recovering from an operation, and George Van Nest who is back on the job at the Roosevelt elevators after several weeks' illness....We all miss the smiling face of Henry Hundertpfund (Bldg. Serv.) who has been confined to his home with a heart condition for several months.

Dr. Leo Vroman, physiologist in the Department of Animal Behavior, is also a celebrated poet in his native Netherlands. He was recently commissioned to write a ballad for the Dutch Government.

Ruth Norton (Pub. Rel.) stopped to visit former Vice Director Wayne Faunce in Stowe, Vt., recently. Mr. Faunce sends his best to all his friends in the Museum and looks forward to seeing some of them now that the skiing season is here.

Elizabeth McKenzie, former Library secretary who is now living in Florida, paid a pre-Christmas visit to New York and renewed old friendships at the Museum. During her stay the Library gave a tea at which he was guest of honor....Another Florida resident, Ernie Neilson, formerly with Anthropology, sends New Years greetings to all his Museum friends. He'd like to hear from them. Address: Box 205, Interlachen, Florida.

Word of two former colleagues in Fishes: Alan Bloom is studying medicine at the University of Paris, and James Trudell is working for an animal importer.

(continued on page 6)





(HEARD IN PASSING, cont'd. from p. 5)

Sharp-eyed efficiency in Lost & Found: On one of our busiest days during the Christmas week, Sam D'Angelo (Bldg. Serv.) spotted a woman's handbag on the floor of the North American Mammal Hall. Found to contain an unusually large amount of money, it was returned to its owner the same day.

Congratulations to Sam Kuster (Bldg. Serv.) and his wife Goldie who will celebrate their 30th year of wedded bliss on Jan. 21.

Joseph L. Wehner of the United States Naval Academy and son of George Wehner, Jr. (Gen. Account.) was a welcome visitor at the Museum during the Christmas holidays....Carol Lutz (Birds), back from a holiday in the California sunshine, has nothing against Columbus, Ohio -- except that she had to spend a good part of her vacation there, grounded by heavy fog.

#### ALLEY CATS ARE HEP

The AMNH Bowling League got off to a fine start in October, and enthusiasm as well as competition is running at fever pitch after 30 games. Present standing of the four teams is as follows: First place - Indians (Catherine Pessino, Catherine Mahoney, William Forbes, Arthur Naylor.) Second place - Fossils (Lois Hussey, Mary McKenna, Robert Allen, Albert Potenza.) Third place - Headhunters (Trudy Mosler, Paul Goodhouse, Farrell Carney, Don Serret.) And bringing up the rear - Mummies (Irene Nagyhazi, Murray Altman, Hugh Ohrnberger, Robert Adlington.) High scorer among the men thus far is Bill Forbes with 217; for the women, Trudy Mosler with 187. Highest averages to date are held by Al Potenza with 158 and Kay Pessino on the distaff side with 124. Four late starters - Nick Amorosi, Sal Di Bella, Joe Krosche, and Micky Nagyhazi - have been added to the above teams, and there's still room for more. Bowling skill is not a requirement for League membership. The only prerequisites are enthusiasm and the desire to relax and have fun. Those who don't like exercise are invited to come anyway and

join the cheering section. The League bowls every Wednesday night at 6 at Manhattan Lanes, 197th Street and Broadway.

#### ATTENTION, CREDIT UNION MEMBERS

The rate of the year-end dividend declared by the AMNH Credit Union will be announced at the organization's annual meeting and election to be held Friday, Jan. 22, at 12:15 in Rm. 426, Roosevelt Bldg. All CU members are urged to attend and hear reports from President Dorothy Bronson and Treasurer Harry Lange. The following slate of officers has been proposed by the Nominating Committee under the chairmanship of Edward A. Burns, and additional nominations may be made from the floor:

Board of Directors: Harry Lange  
Philip Miller  
Constance D. Sherman

Members of the Credit Committee:  
Rudolph Schrammel (re-election)  
Robert Adlington (to fill an unexpired term)

One other important item: there will be plenty of coffee and doughnuts for all, Secretary Constance Sherman reports.

#### FAREWELLS AND WELCOMES

In the Planetarium guest relations department, Joan Nusbaum, ("right hand and most of the right arm of your correspondent," says Grapevine reporter James S. Pickering,) has left to raise a family. The weeping and wailing were pitiful to see and hear. We wish Joan all the good luck and happiness in the world and we can hardly wait until she turns up for a Planetarium performance with her family in tow. In the same breath, we extend a hearty welcome to Sherrill Baehler, who replaces Mrs. Nusbaum....Jack Beame, for many years the capable assistant in the same department left a while back to go into business for himself. His place has been ably taken by Mitchell Kaufman, whose progress through the murky corridors of the Planetarium is lighted by the ruddy glow of his hair.... Taking over for Larry Claflin, Planetarium who retired recently, is David Quinn, a Major in the Air National Guard and a resident of Nanuet, New York.

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## (FAREWELLS AND WELCOMES, cont'd. p. 6)

Dr. Malcolm C. McKenna, formerly of the University of California, has been appointed Assistant Curator of Fossil Mammals in the Department of Geology and Paleontology, and began active service on Jan. 4. He assumes the departmental assignment left open when Dr. George Gaylord Simpson went to Harvard last spring as Agassiz Professor of Vertebrate Paleontology.

Public Instruction bade a fond farewell last month to Anthony La Ruffa who starts active duty in the Army on Jan. 17.... Jennifer Chatfield, now on leave of absence, is completing her graduate work in anthropology at Columbia.... Three new members of the department are Marilyn Mangus, Vassar '57, now doing graduate work in geology at Columbia; Reena Kondo, U. of Ill. '56, M.S. from City College, and until recently a biology teacher in N.Y.C. high schools; and Mary M. Balladares, Hunter '54, a major in anthropology and Spanish language and literature who lived in Puerto Rico for six years.

The Insect Department welcomes two new people -- Patricia Bumpstead who is assisting Dr. Willis Gertsch in the Arachnid Division, and Dr. William Barr who is with us for a year on a National Science Foundation grant.

Three new colleagues in Membership are Helen Rampert, Gertrude Fausel, and Frances Giloth. In Building Services, William Dempsey, Edward McCormick, and Joseph Rubino have joined the watch force. Welcome, also, to Herve Le Nestour in Mammals and Marian Adiv in Vegetation Studies -- and a very belated, but warm, welcome back to Lili Ronai whose return to Micropaleontology last May, after four years with a research company in Oklahoma, fell between "Grapevines".

GOING TO EUROPE NEXT SUMMER?

Quite a few people have expressed interest in the proposed low-cost group flight to Europe next summer that was announced in last month's "Grapevine". The round-trip fare would be about \$235 for Museum employees and members of their

families, as opposed to about \$500 for the regular economy flight. However, the flight can be scheduled only if 79 people sign up for it very soon. Tentative dates are: departure, Aug. 10; return, Sept. 17.

The flight is being sponsored by the Museums Council of New York and arrangements are being handled by Dr. Stephen Kayser, Curator of the Jewish Museum (telephone SA 2-2482.) If you plan to make the trip, please call Dr. Kayser as soon as possible to help assure the scheduling of the group flight.

TRADING POST

Tired subway rider desires to split transportation cost with driver from Forest Hills. Please call Marcia Haberberg, ext. 335 or 438.

## Items for sale:

Albert Pan-Head Tripod, large, sturdy. \$5. Lou Monaco, ext. 224.

Hooked rug frame (used), adjustable to 36 inches wide. \$2. Kay Beneker, ext. 353.

1953 Chevy convertible, standard shift, new top, new snow tires. Trudy Mosler, ext. 292.

PASS SYSTEM EFFECTIVE FEB. 1

A revised pass system, designed to further safeguard Museum property, will go into effect February 1. The passes have been printed and will be distributed to all departments within the next few days. Under the system, visitors calling on Administrative, Scientific, or Business offices, and carrying packages or brief cases, will be issued a yellow pass as they enter the Museum. This pass will be surrendered at the destination point. Visitors leaving Museum offices with packages or brief cases will be issued a white pass signed by the Department Head (or Secretary where authorized) and this pass will be surrendered to the Entrance Attendant. All surrendered passes will be held, for record purposes, by the Protection Division.

As in the past, all other Museum visitors will be asked to check packages and brief cases as they enter the building.

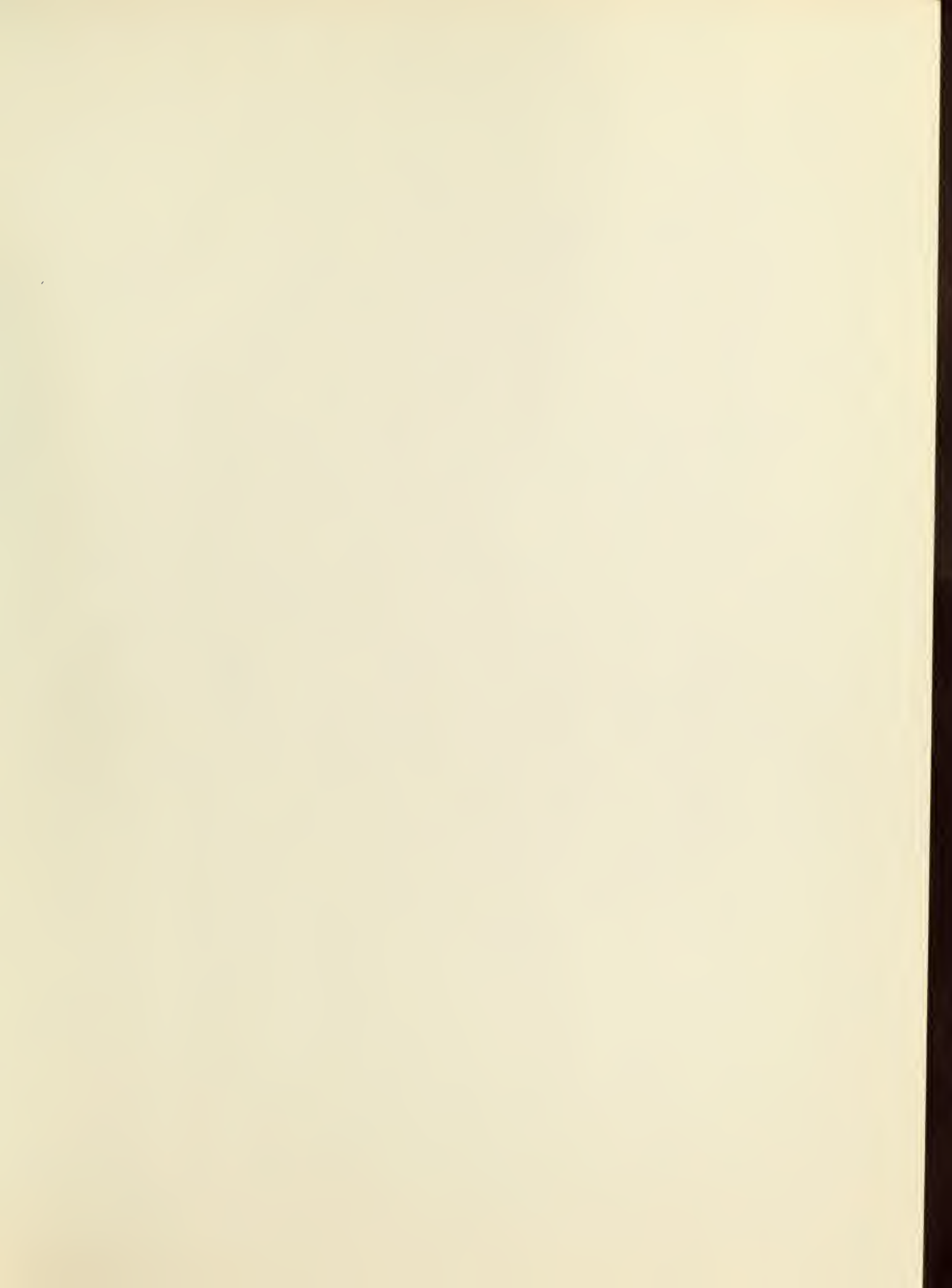


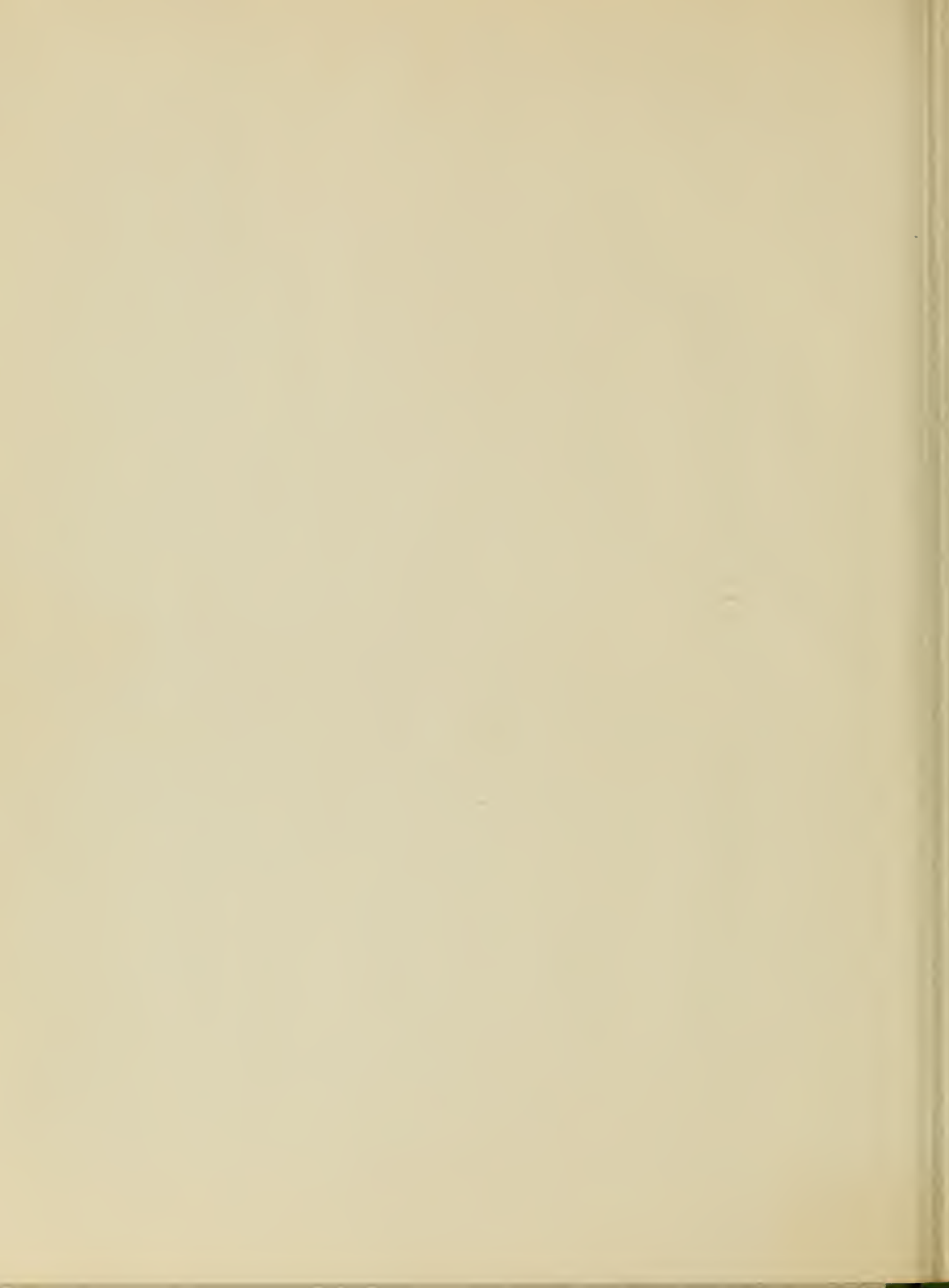
















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AMNH LIBRARY



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