

## Announcements

The **National Association of Manufacturers** (NAM) has begun a program of awards for people in industrial research and development who have made significant contributions to the improvement of living standards. Nominations

for the "Modern Pioneers in Creative Industry" awards are invited from industrial organizations, whether or not they are members of NAM. Individuals or teams may be nominated for work on a project that meets at least one of the following criteria: satisfies human needs, increases employment, provides

a new article of commerce or service, or significantly improves the quality or reduces the cost of an existing product. Nominations will be judged by a committee chaired by Frederick L. Hovde, president of Purdue University. The award medals and scrolls will be presented during the NAM congress of

### International Gathering to Mark Smithsonian Bicentennial

One of the great ceremonial occasions of the international scholarly community will take place 16–18 September in Washington when some 3000 persons from 90 countries take part in the bicentennial celebration of the birth of James Smithson, founder of the Smithsonian Institution.

The celebration will open Thursday afternoon, with the Smithsonian regents leading an academic procession of some 500 robed participants, starting from the century-old Smithsonian Building and concluding at the Museum of Natural History across the Mall. The procession will be led by Chief Justice Earl Warren, who is chancellor of the Institution, and Vice President Hubert Humphrey, who is a member of the board of regents. President Johnson has been invited, but it is not certain whether he will be able to participate. Major addresses at the opening ceremonies will be given by the Chief Justice and by Leonard Carmichael, immediate past secretary of the Smithsonian. A reception will follow in the pavilions to be constructed on the Mall.

During Friday and Saturday, the guests—and the public as far as seats are available—will attend scholarly sessions where participants from the United States, Canada, and Europe will read papers and lead discussions centered around the bicentennial theme, the unity of knowledge.

Among those who will speak are Fred Lawrence Whipple, director, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory; Claude Lévi-Strauss, professor, Collège de France, and director, Institut d'Ethnologie, University of Paris; Ian McTaggart Cowan, dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of British Columbia; J. Robert Oppenheimer, professor of physics, and director, Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton; Herbert Butterfield, master of Peterhouse, regius professor of modern history, Cambridge University; and Lewis Mumford, author of numerous articles and books on urban problems and president, American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Also included will be G. Evelyn Hutchinson, Starling professor of zoology, Yale University; Sir Kenneth Clark, former director of the National Gallery, London, and former chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain; Arthur Koestler, author of *Darkness at Noon*, *The Act of Creation*, and other works; Jerome S. Bruner, professor of psychology, and director, Center for Cognitive Studies, Harvard; and Stephen E. Toulmin, professor of the history of ideas in philosophy, Brandeis University.

A newly established award, the Smithson Medal, will

be presented at the closing dinner meeting, in recognition of outstanding contributions in science, technology, history, and art. The Hodgkins Medal for outstanding contributions to the knowledge of the nature and properties of atmospheric air also will be given. Addresses will be made by Thomas Boylston Adams, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and by S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian.

History is somewhat vague about the origins of James Smithson. It is believed that he was born in France in 1765, the illegitimate son of Elizabeth Keate Macie and Hugh Smithson, who later became Duke of Northumberland. Smithson was brought to England for his education and was naturalized. He was graduated from Pembroke College, Oxford, with an M.A. in 1786 and admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Society of London the next year. He first used the Smithson name in 1794 (8 years after his father's death) in a paper to the Royal Society. The next record of James Smithson is a paper written by him in Paris. Historians gather that Smithson lived the rest of his life in Paris, though he died in Genoa and was buried there in the little English cemetery on the heights of San Benigne. (In 1900 it was learned that city authorities intended to abolish the cemetery, and early in 1904 Smithson's remains were removed to Washington, where they now lie in a small mortuary chapel in the entrance of the old Smithsonian building.)

Upon his death in 1829, it was found that he had bequeathed his property "to the United States of America to found at Washington under the name of the Smithsonian Institution an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

It wasn't until 1846, and after years of debate, that Congress accepted the bequest and created the Smithsonian Institution as a private research and educational corporation administered by a board of regents composed of six private citizens, three senators, three representatives, the Chief Justice, and the Vice President of the United States.

Apart from its scholarly aspects, the bicentennial celebration will include special showings of the museum collections, lunch at the National Zoological Park (which is a part of the Smithsonian), and a White House reception. The Institution will also provide buffet luncheons—as well as the reception on opening night—on the Mall in four giant, colorful pavilions that will be raised near the Museum of History and Technology.

—J. A.