

# FIELD BRIEFS

## NSF Grant for Summer Anthropology Course

High school students must complete application forms by April 6 for this year's college-level, tuition-free anthropology course (June 25 through August 3, 1979) at Field Museum of Natural History. A \$25 field trip fee is required for bus charters. The program is open to 27 high-ability high school students (priority given to juniors) who have the academic ability and interest in an intensive six weeks of anthropology.

Students are selected on the basis of academic achievement, teachers' recommendation, and personal interviews. Application forms are available from high school officials or may be obtained from Miss Harriet Smith, director of the N.S.F. Summer Anthropology Program, Department of Education, Field Museum of Natural History (922-9410, X-361).

Now in its fourteenth year, this program has been the only National Science Foundation-funded program in the U.S. that introduces all fields of anthropology for the career choice of high school students.

Monday-through-Friday sessions (9:15-3:00) involve students in concepts of man's relationship to his environment and his fellow man, with varied activities that include individual research projects, workshops, the study of museum specimens, and lectures by visiting professors and museum staff anthropologists. Representative of program and faculty are *Today's Careers in Anthropology*, by Phillip H. Lewis, chairman, Department of Anthropology, Field Museum; *Fossil Man*, by Ronald Singer, physical anthropologist, University of Chicago; *Midwestern Archaeology*, by Stuart Struever, archeologist, Northwestern University; *Environmental Life of American Indians*, by Merwyn Garbarino, ethnologist, University of Illinois at Circle Campus; *Africa—Tradition and Change*, by Peter Knauss, political scientist, University of Illinois at Circle Campus; *China, Longest Continuum*, by Kenneth Starr, director, Milwaukee Public Museum; *With the Gypsies in Pakistan*, by Joseph Berland, cultural anthropologist, Northwestern University; *Chicago's Ethnic History*, by William Adelman, labor relations program, University of Illinois at Circle Campus; and *Behind-the-Scenes Demonstration of Anthropology Exhibits in Production at Field Museum*, by James A. VanStone, curator, Department of Anthropology, Field Museum.

A week of archeological field work at a

local site provides application of the previous weeks of study. The excavation is under the direction of David Keene, S.J., historical archeologist, University of Wisconsin-Madison, with the cooperation of Edward Lace, naturalist-historian, Cook County Forest Preserves. Past participants have discovered abundant prehistoric and historic artifacts at this purported site of an 1828-32 fur-trading post.

## Christopher Legge 1905-1979

Christopher Legge, custodian of Field Museum's anthropology collection from 1962 to 1974, died on January 24, 1979. He will be long remembered for his dedication to the Museum and for his scrupulous devotion to the collection.



Christopher Legge

Chris Legge was an extraordinary man. His coming to Field Museum after a career in the British Foreign Service was in itself remarkable—as well as a stroke of very good luck for the Museum. But the event was hardly fortuitous. Chris's grandfather, James Legge (1815-97), was an orientalist, famed for his translations of Chinese classics, and Chris seemingly inherited his grandfather's own love and fascination for the Orient.

Born in Chelsea, England, in 1905, he graduated in 1928 from King's College, Cambridge, where he was an honors student and an outstanding athlete. Following graduation, Chris took a post with the Nigerian government, remaining in Africa for six years. He then—characteristically—did the unexpected, by going to Denmark

for a year to study physical education. For the next two years he was a grammar school instructor in Australia. In 1938 he joined the British Foreign Service and was assigned to the Fiji Islands as district commissioner. He remained there until 1961, then retired.

When Chris applied for a position at Field Museum, he noted on his application form a special interest in "Oceanic archaeology and ethnology," never dreaming that in a few short months his responsibility would be one of the finest collections of such material in the world. So, at age 57, he embarked on an exciting new career—perhaps the one for which he was best suited.

The union of Chris Legge with the Field Museum was a perfect match. The collection of half a million artifacts required the attention of someone who was entirely devoted; and that devotion was embodied in Chris Legge. Colleagues in the Department of Anthropology would remark, half seriously, that Chris knew every single piece in the vast collection. But if he was respected for his dedication and knowledgeability, he was equally loved for his manner. His pleasant charm, his gentle ways, and his desire to accommodate endeared him to everyone.

After his retirement in 1974, Chris continued to frequent his beloved Museum as he pursued the various projects that appealed to his far-ranging intellect. Just before his death he completed a short biography of Richard Parkinson, an early explorer of the southwest Pacific.

To have known and worked with Chris Legge was a rare privilege. Field Museum was immeasurably enriched by his presence.—Ed.

## Anthropology Department Receives National Science Foundation Award

The National Science Foundation in Washington D.C. has awarded the Department of Anthropology a grant of \$38,579 for the first of two years in support of systematic collections in anthropology (Phillip H. Lewis, principal investigator). This grant is for preventive and technical conservation of the Museum's outstanding textile holdings, numbering over 12,000 specimens from around the world, which have been described by one leading authority recently as "an incredibly rich resource."

Impetus behind Lewis's successful proposal to the NSF came from three directions. First, the Department of Anthropology has declared development of its conservation





1979. "Christopher Legge 1905-1979." *Field Museum of Natural History bulletin* 50(3), 3-3.

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