

The News-Review

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RANDOM NOTES

By Charles V. Stanton

As I sit writing this column, radio and television are reporting the inauguration of President Eisenhower. Millions of people are viewing and hearing the pomp and ceremony which mark this event.

Here in the United States we go in for spectacular programs, probably as a result of the Hollywood influence. In Europe, where governments are older, similar events are surrounded with ritual and tradition, much of which seems foolish to us but which recalls to the people of those countries episodes of national history. Perhaps we will in time tend toward tradition, but I am inclined to believe we are more apt to seek bigger and better spectacles.

It is interesting to observe the ingenuity exercised by press media in reporting major events to the public.

Television viewers had occasional glimpses of the camera and sound trucks from which television, movie news and press cameras operated. Portable telephones carried commentary to radio and newspaper newsrooms. Wire services distributed to newspapers advance copies of the President's speech, and a running story poured off the wire descriptive of the inaugural. The miracle of communications has become so commonplace that few people stop to think that only a comparatively few years ago about the only information the general public had of a presidential inauguration was a sketchy story by a news reporter with, perhaps, a wood cut illustration in a feature yarn, all distributed by mail.

As president Eisenhower enters upon his second term he may anticipate some rugged experiences. Inasmuch as he will not again be a candidate, a great deal of political jockeying may be expected from all sides. Republicans will be endeavoring to build up a candidate of sufficient stature to win the next election. Democrats, too, must find themselves a new standard bearer. Being in control of Congress, Democrats will be in an advantageous position. They can favor their own candidate while using legislative majorities to embarrass Republicans and Republican leadership.

In spite of political angles, however, the President probably will get more of his program enacted than during his first term. His first term proposals drew opposition because of his candidacy. The opposition didn't want him to get credit for too much.

The President during this next term will be laboring under the handicap of a heart ailment restricting his physical activity.

Here in Oregon those of us in the newspaper profession are grieving the loss of two good friends and outstanding personalities recently removed from the earthly scene as a result of heart ailments.

Jack Bladine of the McMinnville News-Register, and Bernard Mainwaring of the Salem Capital Journal have been taken from careers of community service. Each of these publishers was a man of personal integrity, maintaining high ethical planes of editing their respective newspapers and burdening themselves with civic responsibility beyond physical capacity. The profession and the public have lost two grand men.

News wires report pending promotion in the Department of Interior for Arne Suomela, former director of fisheries for the State of Oregon.

It was Suomela who, while employed with the Oregon Fish Commission, set up the system of scientific research which that commission has since expanded. He was called into the Interior Department by Doug McKay immediately after his appointment as Secretary of Interior. Suomela was given the task of setting up regulations to conserve the dwindling salmon resource in Alaska. He is now recommended for promotion to the new job of commissioner of fish and wildlife in the Interior Department. In my opinion it would be hard to find a man better qualified for the job.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK — Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail:

That ladies seeking a husband may find the best hunting in the United States in the south. . . there, census figures show, five of six women of marriageable age already have landed a man, but one of every four men is still single.

That only half the nation's professional men — such as doctors, lawyers and architects — make a will before they die. . . do they hope to figure out a way to take it with them?

That soap is believed to have first come into infant use about the time of Christ. . . infant mortality today is lowest in countries having the largest per capita use of soap.

That the \$20 bill is the only one that has a picture of the white house on it. It also bears the portrait of Abigail Adams, a Democratic President, but Democrats complain only Republicans can afford to see it.

That among other souvenirs of her fabulous career Kate Smith has a \$100,000 collection of antiques.

That the mountain goat is perhaps the only horned mammal that regularly sits on its haunches. (This item, I know, will bring me 816 letters from secretaries saying, "how about the old goat I wrote for? He does nothing but sit on his haunches, and if he doesn't have horns, he ought to!")

That an easy way to take an unused stamp from an envelope is to dip the corner containing the stamp in boiling water for a moment. The stamp will slip off easily.

How New Is the New Freedom?



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON — (NEA)—President Eisenhower's State of the Union message to Congress was much more dramatic appeal for a new Middle East policy declaration, the regular speech got an unenthusiastic reception.

But the real reason why the congressional listeners mostly sat on their hands was that the President said little that was new.

To get the proper perspective on this latest State of the Union message, therefore, it's necessary to go back over the four previous Eisenhower opening messages to Congress and examine his pitching average.

IN THE PRESIDENT'S 1953 message he made the dramatic announcement that he was ordering the U.S. Seventh Fleet to stop guarding Red China against an attack by Chiang Kai-shek's forces on Formosa.

Formosa. So far, Formosa has not been attacked.

In that first message, Congress was asked to pass a resolution saying that the United States would not recognize secret commitments made at Yalta and Potsdam. That resolution was side-tracked in Congress and never revived by the House.

The plea for a more liberalized foreign trade program was first made in 1953. It has been made every year since then.

The first Eisenhower message announced the ending of price and wage controls in August, 1953. One possible result is that every year since then the President has been able to report truthfully that the country has had unprecedented prosperity.

But this year the President urges labor to hold back on wage increases demands not justified by increased productivity. Business is likewise urged to hold down profits and curb price rises. The threat of inflation is back again for still here.

TO REMEDY IT, the President proposed, for one thing, another commission. This one would study monetary policy and credit.

A dozen of these long-range study groups have been named in the last four years to shape new policies on water resources, electric power, education, civil rights, transportation, government organization, relations with the states.

Somehow Congress never gets around to taking any definite action on such things.

All of President Eisenhower's messages to Congress have declared that the 1956 budget was balanced and it may show a surplus again in 1957, due to increased tax receipts. The Korean war budget of 74 billion dollars was cut by 10 billion. But the post-Korean war budgets have risen from 66 billion in 1955 to 69 billion in 1956, and may go higher in 1957.

IN THE 1954 State of the Union message, President Eisenhower boasted that the United States was "capturing the initiative" in foreign affairs. It has been somewhat on the loose since then, but the new Mid-East policy may be an attempt to recapture it.

The 1955 Eisenhower message to Congress was the most specific outline of his policies. He asked for more than 60 broad programs, said there were only two things requiring drastic attention — the depressed areas and the farm community. A revived auto industry has taken care of some of the worst depressed areas, but there's another special message coming this year to give more aid to the farmer. It's one of 13 such special messages still to come.

President Eisenhower's inaugural address was HEARD AND SEEN BY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. There are a few times when we can't help wondering whether the fantastic completeness of modern communications is good or bad.

In this case, it is ALL GOOD—because our fabulous modern communications system enables a great man and a great leader to appeal to all the world.

If all the good people in the world can be appealed to, they may be able to head off the wicked machinations of the BAD people.

Third Marine Is Killed In Atomic Maneuvers

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — A third Marine was dead Saturday in atomic war maneuvers here.

He was Pfc. William T. Duffie, 26, of St. Louis, Mo. His widow, Lela, and his mother, Mrs. Rose Thompson, live at St. Louis.

An autopsy report said cause of death was carbon monoxide poisoning. Duffie had gone to sleep on top of the tank near an auxiliary engine, which operated periodically during the night.

Two landing paratroopers were killed Thursday when their parachutes were caught by high wind. They were dragged and hurled against ground obstacles. Five other paratroopers were injured.

\$3 Million Dollar Job Set For Benson Hotel

PORTLAND — A three-million-dollar program for enlarging the Benson Hotel in downtown Portland is planned by Western Hotel, Inc.

The firm, which also operates the Multnomah Hotel, said it had acquired the quarter-block Oregon Hotel, adjoining the Benson, and will replace it with a 12-story building, adding some 200 rooms to the Benson.

Heart Surgery On 8-Year-Old Girl Postponed

DURHAM, N.C. — Surgeons at Duke Medical Hospital Monday postponed "for a week or more" the operation which would stop the heart of little Sarita Ann Rossell for about four minutes to completely renew her blood supply.

Sarita, a bright-eyed 8-year-old, had been scheduled to undergo surgery Monday morning. However, doctors said she developed "a sore throat" and postponed the operation.

Enough donors to supply about 21 pints of blood had been alerted for Monday's operation. They will be available, hospital sources said, when the operation is rescheduled.

Doctors planned to halt her heart for about four minutes during an operation to remove a growth from the heart and then seal off two heart chambers.

Only fresh blood can be used during the operation. Newspaper, radio and television appeals for donors went out all over North Carolina when it was found that the girl has the comparatively rare type O-Rh negative blood, ruling out the use of plasma and liquid blood from blood banks.

Hospital corridors outside the Duke Hospital's blood bank were crowded yesterday with volunteers. Several donors were picked from these and in addition 14 persons from Rocky Mount, N. C., Sarita Ann's home, were here to give blood.

Eight women stood by at Rocky Mount ready to come here to give their blood if needed.

Albert Taylor, her stepfather, said while her heart stops, an artificial heart-lung will be used to pump blood into her body.

Italy's Scandal In Death Of Girl Comes To Trial

VENICE — Italy's biggest postwar scandal, the explosive Montesi case, came to trial today in Venice. Starting news disclosures were expected.

Chief defendants in the case are Gianpiero Piccioni, 36-year-old jazz pianist son of former Foreign Minister Alcide De Gasperi; former Rome Police Chief Savino Polito; and Ugo Montagna, prominent Rome man-about-town and friend of influential Italians.

Nine others were accused of giving false testimony during 16 months of preliminary investigation which jarred Italian politics and Rome society.

The trial was shifted to Venice because the hearing was running high in Rome.

Some 200 witnesses were called, including high officers of the Carabinieri national police, three former police chiefs and an Italian movie actress.

The court's task was to try to find how the 20-year-old Montesi girl died in 1953 and who if anyone tried to hide the truth.

Dope-Sex Orgy Rumored

Wilma's body was found on a black-sand beach near Ostia, the seaside playground near Rome. Police listed her death as an accidental drowning. Scandal erupted when a young magazine editor, Silvano Muto, wrote that she had died at a high society dope and sex orgy.

The younger Piccioni is charged with contributing to the black-haired party girl's death by "abandoning her, believing her already dead," at the edge of the sea. His father, now an adviser to Italy's U.N. delegation, resigned as foreign minister to help his son prepare his defense.

Montagna and Polito both are accused of aiding and abetting the crime by trying to help Piccioni escape punishment.

ADJUDGED FATHER

LOS ANGELES — Peruvian composer-dancer Jose Vivanco has been adjudged the father of a 13-year-old Venetian daughter, Miss Maureen Shea, 24, former secretary to his wife, singer Yma Sumac.

Superior Judge Jesse J. Frampson said Miss Shea presented a "very strong case, and, conversely, the evidence of the defendant was weak and not convincing."

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

HERE AND THERE

By Bill Jenkins

In The Klamath Falls Herald & News

Shakespeare has it. "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players; they have their exits and their entrances, and one man in his time plays many parts." The bard never spoke a truer word. There are countless little dramas going on around us all the time, if we'll take the trouble and the occasional time-out to watch and listen.

And of all these little plays in life, I think probably one of the most comic is watching some poor fellow trying to answer a telephone when there is no one on the other end. This usually occurs on a long distance call when your phone jingles, you pick it up and get a polite request from the operator to "hold on just a minute, sir." From here on the dialogue is limited usually to the single word "hello."

But the variations on this simple theme are manifold indeed. The average gamut of emotions ranging from a business like approach to curiosity to irritation and finally to a frenzied sort of anger that quite frequently ends up with the telephone being banged back on the hook and another day ruined for the poor recipient of the call.

As far as I know, there is no remedy for this situation. When that horrid but inevitable day comes when the magic of television is hooked up to your telephone, I can't even say that that will relieve the tension. In other words, I'm not in a position to say whether shouting into an empty mouthpiece is more or less annoying than shouting into a screen which pictures nothing but a telephone.

Apparently what happens is that Mr. A places a long distance call for Mr. B. The operator puts through the call, gets Mr. B on the line and then rings back A only to find that he has left his office for an indefinite period. This may range from a 30 second trip to the water cooler to a 30 day vacation in South America.

While I have not carried on exhaustive research, I imagine that these phone entanglements are responsible for a greater number of peptic ulcers than any other single source. There is still some dis-

agreement among that cult of people who investigate these matters as to who caused the greatest clamor in the modern world, Adolph Sax, the inventor of the saxhorn and later the saxophone, or Alexander Graham Bell, with his peace and quiet shattering instrument, the telephone.

Oh, well. I suppose it all works out in the end. If all the world's a stage and people are the players, we are at least as well supplied with critics, a double role for humanity but still one that most of us assume with ease.

Of course, I suppose in the long run when visual telephones are on the market that a good deal of the annoyance of that instrument will be removed. I say this because of the great possibilities of time killing via the telephone which will naturally tie up the wires for long periods of time and prevent many calls from being made at all due to busy lines.

Just think of it. When one woman calls another to ask her advice on making cookies, the adviser can say I'll show you, take the telephone into the kitchen, and put on a 45 minute program on cookie making. I foresee a vast upsurge in the number of chess and checker games played via the telephone, too. At one time this was quite a popular national, if not international pastime. You made your move, then called your opponent, perhaps several hundred miles away, and told him what you had done. He then hung up the phone, studied the board, made his move and called you back.

Now they'll have a way of checking on each other's honesty, and particularly in the case of chess it will take a great interval of time to make the move. Then of course women, and men as well, can show off their new wardrobes, new techniques in the current fashions, and give advice and criticism regarding new hairdoes, and all the million and one other little to-sequential that use up so much of our time.

I suppose, carried out to its ultimate, the visual telephone will reach the apex when we have technicolor gossip.

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