

Here's Play-by-Play of How Queen Bestows Knighthood

LONDON (INS) — Queen Elizabeth grips the giant sword in both hands, touches its shining blade to the shoulders of the kneeling figure, and another "parfit gentle knight" rolls off the assembly line.

A royal investiture begins at 10 a.m. when the relatives of the "recipients," looking scrubbed and proud, are herded through the great main entrance of the Palace, up thickly carpeted stairs and into a large reception room where they are ushered to seats.

The walls of the room are cream splashed with gilt. The carpet and the covers of the chairs are deep maroon and gold. From the high ceiling suspend six huge crystal chandeliers emitting the glow of pale roses.

Explains Rules

When all are seated a resplendent army officer appears before the assemblage and, in the manner of a radio announcer giving the studio audience its pre-program briefing, explains the rules. Unlike the radio announcer, however, the officer declares sternly that there will be no applause.

Five ancient yeomen warriors in blazing scarlet and gold uniforms, march on uncertain legs down the center aisle and onto the low platform in front, where they stand supporting themselves on their lances. They were mem-

bers of the Queen's personal body-guard, but one thinks woe on the queen should she ever have need to call on these stalwarts for protection.

Precisely at 11 a.m. two great doors swing open. Looking very small, very trim and very determined, Elizabeth almost strides in. The audience rises, the orchestra plays "God Save the Queen" and Her Majesty matter-of-factly bids her guests "Please be seated."

She stands on the platform beside a long table laden with trays of decorations. An upholstered stool reposes at her feet.

Three Paces Forward

The recipient files in from a side entrance and stops opposite the Queen. Turning to face her, he bows stiffly and awkwardly. Three paces forward brings him to the feet of his sovereign.

Grasping the single handle of the stool, he kneels with head bowed while Elizabeth silently touches the sword to his shoulders.

Then he rises and the Queen places the ribbon of the Order over his head, chatting lightly all the while.

She grasps his hands, and the famed Elizabeth smile lights her face. The newly-dubbed knight backs three paces, bows, turns and walks from the room.

Professor Studies Persons Confronted With Disaster

MADISON, Wis. (INS) — How people behave when faced with disaster can show what is needed to meet the next crisis, and Prof. John P. Gillin has become a world-roving trouble-shooter to collect data.

He feels man of the H-bomb era will do well to map out a plan of action in case of an emergency. So far, Gillin's studies of man-in-trouble have involved tornadoes, floods and accidental explosions.

Heads Committee

Gillin, a University of North Carolina professor of anthropology, heads the executive committee on disaster studies for the National Research Council. Funds come from the U. S. Defense Department which is vitally concerned with anticipating public reaction to calamity.

The professor, who taught summer courses at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, has carried away object lessons from some of the biggest disasters of history.

Last spring's floods in the Netherlands and Great Britain, tornadoes of Texas, Massachusetts and Michigan, and a Houston factory blast — all supplied Gillin's researchers with clues to cut down suffering in future catastrophes.

He said all information collected both in the U. S. and abroad will be made public as soon as it is analyzed. Concerning American tragedies, he said: "Panic is not the only problem

to be faced. One of the main problems which we have noted repeatedly can be boiled down to this: No one knows who has final authority."

On the scene during the Netherlands floods Gillin found the Dutch were "totally unprepared." He said:

"No warning system was in operation. After communications broke down, the flood areas were out of contact with the government. With no pattern of survival left, most people threw up their hands in despair."

He added:

"It's interesting to note the kind of informal leadership that arises. In some areas of Holland, groups of young men with Boy Scout training stepped in, mobilized boats, and got the population moving."

A problem he noted in England resulted from "dependent types of people resettled in new areas where everything was done for them."

Gillin said: "Considerable urging and prodding was necessary to get them started back to their homes to do the important work of reconstruction."

The professor credited the British with an "admirable ability to cut through red tape in a crisis." He said:

"The British have, in addition, an excellent civil defense system with paid leaders in each community, and a corps of people with blitz experience who know how to act promptly in emergency."

Gremlins Play Havoc With Power Lines

ELKHORN CITY, Ky. (AP) — Fiery gremlins skipping across power lines gave the Little Beaver Creek community a shock it will long remember. Unexplained electrical disturbances caused this havoc:

Herby Sloane's furnace caught fire from the electrical circuit and Sibane needed hospital care for burns suffered when he tried to turn off the stoker.

Luther Salyers' television set broke out in flames. He put them out, helped Cloane with his difficulties and then learned his own furnace had caught fire.

A store building was ignited by the mysterious hot wires.

Fluorescent fires shot up around the utility pole ground wires.

Later, everything was all right, but residents were reluctant to touch anything electrical for several hours.

Master Uses His Bald Eagle As Watchdog

BURNABY, B. C. (AP) — A bald eagle that's about half-a-century old is regarded by its master, George Clark, as fine watching.

He's known simply as "eagle," and all the dogs in this neighborhood give him a wide berth, because he can be fierce at times. At other times he seems as gentle as a kitten.

"When I hear his scream," said Clark, "I know there is someone strange around. The bird is the finest watchdog there is. No dog around here can stand up to him, and he's torn several cats to pieces."

RECORD ENTRY

MEXICO CITY (INS) — Pan American race officials said recently they expect a record 150 entries—some even predicted 200—for the fourth running of the world's fastest stock car race Nov. 19. Famous racers from Europe and the U. S. piloting almost every type of sports and standard car, will thunder along 1,911 miles of highway through soaring mountains and deserts from southeastern Mexico to the northern border at Juarez.

180 Feet of Silk Found on Ear of Corn

BOSTON (AP) — The Massachusetts Department of Agriculture says there are about 180 feet of silk on an ear of corn—or about 300 miles per acre of corn.

It seems a bit silly to lay all the corn silks now growing in New England end to end, but if you do—the department says—they'd make a cord nearly eight millions miles long. Wait a minute, there's more.

That cord would be long enough to encircle the earth at the equator more than 250 times.

Two Rings for Hurricanes, Claims Official

ORLEANS, Mass. (AP) — When Herb Fuller calls 'em — hurricanes, that is — he calls them right, according to his Cape Cod followers.

Herb is the Cape's unofficial weather forecaster. His word is law with many. He said the recent hurricane B-for-Barbara wouldn't hit the Cape and it didn't.

Herb says there has to be two rings around the sun before a hurricane strikes — at least in Massachusetts. That happened in 1938 and 1944 when hurricanes hit the state. B-for-Barbara drew one ring, which Fuller says brings heavy rain and high winds, but no hurricane.

Phony Law Investigated

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Speaking of "secret government," someone slipped a fake law over on the legislature here.

During its recent session the legislature passed a bill allowing plumbers at Tampa to work in newly-annexed areas without an examination.

When the new law reached Secretary of State R. A. Gray, a bill the legislature never heard of had been substituted. It provided for stiff examinations before plumbers could work in the new sections.

Attorney General Richard Ervin ordered a complete investigation with findings to be placed before a grand jury.

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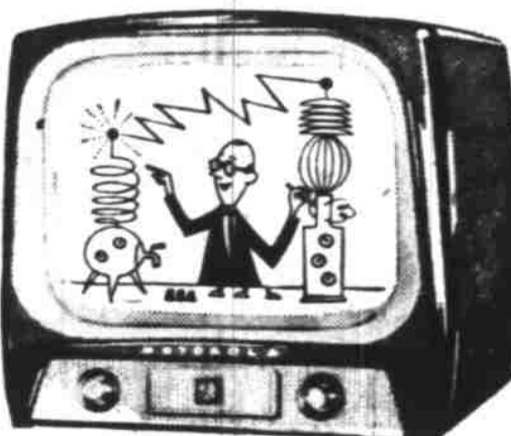
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