

White House Social Season Brings Stir of Memories

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WASHINGTON (UP) — Backstairs at the White House: The revival of the custom of a White House social season stirred up a lot of memories, to say nothing of a lot of social strategy on the part of Washington hostesses. The ladies of the social set would happily give up their last Dior gowns to be invited to one of the White House dinners, but then they'd probably run right out and buy replacements.

Social seasons of the past have produced tragedies, banner headlines, thousands of sore feet and much joy for some.

Tragedy: A handsome young military attaché of a foreign embassy was banished from his post and sent home in disgrace because of what happened at a

White House reception some years back. His spurs caught in the flimsy folds of the evening gown of a cabinet wife in the reception line and as he walked away, he unwittingly tore away a considerable portion of her costume.

Embarrassment: The nannies of a distinguished Washington lady came unanchored and dropped to the floor of the stately main hall of the White House as she was proceeding in full dignity toward the East Room for an after-dinner musicale. She realized she'd lost something, but didn't dare attempt a retrieve. An alert member of the house staff spotted the panties resting on the red carpet and quickly jammed them in his pocket.

Banner headlines: When the Franklin D. Roosevelts decided to serve beer at a reception shortly after repeal, temperance organizations howled in protest. But this did not deter the first family. Mrs. Roosevelt probably did more to warm up the archaic old mansion than any first lady in many years. She set the more dignified Washingtonians on their ears one night by leading a conga line—and well.

Sprague Sees UN as Facing Toughest Test

PORTLAND (UP) — The problem of bringing lasting peace to the Middle East may prove the toughest test ever to confront the United Nations, ex-Gov. Charles O. Sprague, a former UN delegate, said Wednesday.

He told the Portland League of Women Voters that the UN must resolve the basic differences between Israel and the Arab states which make the Middle East a "friction spot."

Guarantees of unrestricted passage through the Suez Canal also must be a basic part of any UN plan, Sprague said.

He added that in past crises in Korea and Kashmir, the world organization fell short of completing durable settlements.

President and Mrs. Eisenhower held no social season in the 1955-56 winter because of his health. But he must feel in top condition now since the White House has announced an active schedule of receptions and dinners extending into early March.

Although the dinners and receptions ostensibly are only for official figures in the government or the diplomatic corps, the Eisenhowers always include a few personal friends in each affair. These are the most treasured invitations in Washington and the gall of some people in attempting to get on an invitation list never fails to amaze some of the case-hardened personnel of the White House social office.

Officials Talk Juvenile Plan

PORTLAND (UP) — A list of suggestions for solving the problem of juvenile delinquency will be drawn up by Portland area public officials, they decided at a meeting Wednesday.

Judge Donald E. Long of the court of domestic relations said no quick or easy answers are expected, but an attempt will be made for a long-range solution.

Mayor Terry Schunk called the meeting in his office. Attending were 14 w enforcement officials, educators and court representatives.

The inauguration has helped the sale of formal clothing locally, but the social season will help even more. All of the White House affairs are strictly formal—white tie and tails for the men, long evening dresses for the women.

There'll be a scattering of high silk hats, but mostly black homburgs which the President helped popularize at his first inauguration. The homburg fits in much better with the current fashion of low-slung automobiles.

Limousine hire will pick up substantially on the nights of White House parties because it is not considered the height of fashion to drive one's own car to a social affair at the executive mansion. A doorman directs one's chauffeur where to park, or one may have his "man" return at a specified time—usually about 11 o'clock for the dinners, later for the receptions.

Taxis are quite acceptable, but many prefer to lay out \$18 plus tip for the use of a liveried chauffeur and freshly polished Cadillac for three hours.

Germ-Laden Air Top TB Source

BALTIMORE (UP) — New evidence has been uncovered that germ-laden air, rather than personal contact, is the No. 1 source of pulmonary tuberculosis.

A six-member research team, reporting its findings to a meeting of the Hopkins Society of Hygiene, also said that ultraviolet light is effective control against spreading the disease—by sweeping the air clean of germs.

The researchers were headed by Dr. Richard L. Hilley, associate professor of environmental medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

They used rabbits in their experiments, subjecting them to air sprayed with tuberculous germs and air exhaled from a ward of tubercular patients.

Salem Firm Gets Air Base Project

SEATTLE (UP) — A Salem firm was the low bidder at \$1,295,155 Wednesday for building four air-men's dormitories at the Fairchild Air Force Base near Spokane.

The bid came from the J. G. Watts Construction Co. There were eight other bidders. The government estimate for the job was \$1,296,025.

Texans Bomb Negro Areas

BEAUMONT, Tex. (UP) — An explosion shattered two front windows of a Negro family's home here last night in a mixed Negro and white neighborhood, but no one was hurt.

The blast also ripped a hole in the lawn in front of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Lee Myles.

An explosion Monday damaged the concrete sidewalk in front of the home of Dr. Ed Sprett, a Negro physician and a former official of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People.

EURATOM APPROVED STRASBOURG, France (UP) —

The European Consultative Assembly Thursday unanimously approved plans to set up a common atomic development program, called Euratom, and a common market for Western Europe. Treaties establishing the projects are being worked out in Brussels.



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