

Threat of War Hangs Heavy Over Sweden; Residents' Characteristics, Habits Told

(Editor's note: The following is another article written by Leonard Carpenter, Veritas orchards, Medford, who with Mrs. Carpenter is now in Europe.)

By LEONARD CARPENTER

Stockholm, Sweden—Just how it happened that Sweden remained neutral in the last war is beyond my comprehension. That it did so remain was a great boon to the Swedes and to thousands of hunted fugitives who fled from surrounding countries. But even the demands of war and the quick profits to be made from war materials did not upset to any great degree the economy of the people. There are more growing trees today than before or during the war. Expansion in the manufacture of engines, ball bearings or other scarce things was not inflated enough to need deflation.

One hour by plane, or at most 90 minutes, is Russia. Just across the Baltic what six years ago were independent countries is Russia. The U.S. is far away. We are very alone here. Under the big rock hill with all those cooperative apartments over there is a bomb shelter for 10,000 people. "We hope we won't need it—or all the other ones."

Never Grows Dark

It never quite grows dark these nights, and so when I woke up at 3 a.m. and looked from my hotel window and saw the "big rock hill" and the thought came—who is to count the people entering in alarm and to tell the ten thousand one that she can enter but her husband is barred out? And who, far back in the blackness, will be the last to emerge into a ruined city—or after an alert or a false alarm, be behind nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine others? And will he or she ever-willingly go back into that awful rocky prison again?

To bring you up to date statistically I must quote my friend the taxi driver who had worked somewhere in England and who firmly tells me that there are more than half a million bicycles in Stockholm itself and another half million ridden in and out of the city each day. I will take his word for it as I did not try to count them.

Engineers Bought-After

Swedish engineers are very much sought-after in all countries and here is an interesting story told me one night when we dined with him and his wife at their apartment.

"I worked for four years for an American construction company, mostly in southern California, on bridges, buildings and dams. Finally, I was put in charge of preparing the way for the building of a great air base in Greenland. I was given my data by the Army and with the help of the FBI, I assembled 5,000 workers who were merely told that they were to work at their trades outside the country upon a 40-hour week with usual overtime and double-time pay. We embarked, everyone from higher up to lowest down, with not more than half a dozen knowing where we were going because it was top secret. So away we go to be joined by 5,000 soldiers, who immediately told all my workers exactly where we were going and what we were going to do. Nice wasn't it? But listen.

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Couldn't Land
"Owing to some miscalculation we found that we could not land at our destination because we remained on board, paying union wages, plus bonuses, plus overtime and double-time. And in the end the Senate committee charged my company with waste and extravagance to the tune of over \$3,000,000. Private business in America is so efficient that it is the despair of all other business and manufacturing nations, but as for the Army!—nothing in the whole world is more inefficient. The part of Greenland that I know best is almost a desert. Less than half an inch of precipitation per year. No snow except what is blown off the snow fields and the ice cap. Almost dark all day in the winter and with equally long hours of light in summer."

Swedes are tall and slender, seldom fat, with serious faces, and purposeful men. Even when loitering on a bridge watching the fishermen they seem full of purpose. Although one does not see beautiful women, he does see many nice-looking and charming ones. The "horse tail" style of hair-do is quite popular but "poodle cuts" are rare. The Hollywood "all like one and one like all" style of face make-up is entirely absent and every girl wears her own face, and we are all for that.

Men's Looks Average

As a whole, the men are above average in masculine looks. Here again each man does nothing to bring himself into a type. Many Swedish men and women who are going to hold executive positions are sent to England or the U.S.A. to learn our language and our methods. In one large department store where I had to buy some razor parts I was escorted by a very attractive and efficient girl interpreter who conducted me to the proper counter, made out a bill to show our custom officials, helped me pay for them and later when we bought other things, arranged for them to be sent by mail to Medford. She was training another girl who had just come back from America where she had worked for more than a year in a department store in Detroit and New York.

"Well, how about skiing? Did you do some of that in America?" "Oh, yes, but it is our national sport here. It is very different. In one place where the lift broke down none of the Americans knew how to climb up the slopes, while with us that is just as much a part of the fun of coming down. It was funny, I thought."

"Where do you ski, close to your home?" I ask. "Oh, it doesn't matter. We go where skiing is good. Last year my wife and I went north. When we left the train we skied 35 miles over the hills to the slope we wanted where there is a little ski hotel." "Thirty-five miles! In one day?" "No, in 1 1/4 days. We knew of a shed part way up. We had to carry all of our own food and blankets and clothing. Fortunately, there is fire wood and pots and pans at the hotellet." They have two children and are not young fry.

Sightseeing Different

Sightseeing here, as also in Denmark, is very different from the same thing in France or Italy. What is most enjoyable is the very beautiful countryside, especially with all the new greens of spring—trees and fields, fat red cattle, pigs and a deep earthy red paint on practically all farm buildings. The towns are picturesque rather than beautiful and the churches and castles interesting and impressive and not artistic or lovely.

From the point of view of humanity and of the people who live here or there the odds are all for here. Here one feels no strain of severe competition. One delightful guide we had gave up the job of managing a big city transportation company because, he said, he was too old to work that hard any more. He enjoyed guiding and had plenty of jobs doing so and meeting nice traveling foreigners. He talked perfect Oxford English and had been for several years in Hollywood in executive positions in the movies and an assistant director in some movies made in Italy. I suppose he is about 55 years old.

Appreciate Own Country

People are very conscious of the beauties of their country. Whenever any excuse offers they get into buses or little cars or on bicycles and go to the country. Every day, on every road, and in every place we have been we see school children being escorted to castle, manorhouse, museum or other places of interest. Yesterday on a half-hour boat trip to an island where there

are two historic churches, we were accompanied by some 50 16-year-old girls. They sucked peppermint sticks, giggled and sang songs and they all ate a hearty lunch, but I don't know if they saw any churches.

The Swedes are very clean and healthy, and when they laugh the chandeliers tremble. They are hardworking, honest and glad to help, and they are individualists. You can not help liking them and why should you try not to? I take my bet off to them.

Long Meals

It is seldom possible to order, be served and finally pay for the simple lunch under an hour, while for dinner from two to two and a half hours are required. We have solved the mystery but few others have. If you order a fish, a fresh one is caught and cooked. If veal, a calf must be obtained and prepared. If soup, a consultation by the keeper of the ice box, the vegetable man and the chef is called and the order is made to specifications. The results are worth the time spent in watching the other guests waiting for their soup.

Only in the department of eggs for breakfast is speed used. Here all eggs are cooked for a various number of minutes, very soft, medium, hard or stoney hard, and placed in a common basket. Upon receiving an order for medium-boiled, the special breakfast-egg-cook picks up an egg, eyes it carefully and then places it in a pan of comfortably warm water just for the number of seconds needed to warm the shell and so fool or satisfy the customer.

Well, after all what is the use of travel except to show us foreign customs and broaden our points of view—and even, in some cases, make one more contented with home?

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New Fluorescent Dyes To Replace Bluing

New York—The ancient bluing technique in laundering is on the way out, says the 1952 Encyclopedia Americana Annual. Fluorescent dyes which will mask a slightly stained or discolored fabric and make it seem a brighter white are already in use and gaining favor rapidly.

NEGRO HONORED

Newbury, Mass.—(U.P.)—Julian D. Steele of West Newbury is the first Negro ever elected moderator of a Congressional Christian association in Massachusetts. Steele was moderator of the 123rd annual meeting of the Essex North association of Congregational Christian churches.



TAKEN PRIOR TO FATHER'S DEATH, this portrait study of Queen Elizabeth II and husband, Duke of Edinburgh, was withheld during period of court mourning. She is wearing smoke gray tulle and lace ball dress. He is in Royal Navy uniform. (International)

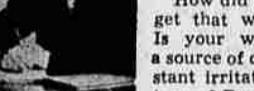
As We Live

By ELIZABETH HURLOCK, PH.D.

CHECK-UP IS IN ORDER IF YOU ARE ALWAYS TENSE

Do things get on your nerves to the point where you feel like screaming? And does everyone and everything irritate you?

If so, beware. You will soon be a nervous wreck. How did you get that way? Is your work a source of constant irritation to you? Do you find it dull and boring or are your fellow-workers responsible for letting your job get on your nerves?



Dr. Hurlock

And what about your home life? Is there too much monotony in it or do the other members of the family, especially the children, irritate you when you come home after a hard day of work?

Once the ball gets rolling, it's hard to stop it. That's why you must find out what is at the basis of this vicious circle of irritations and stop it immediately. First, have a complete medical check-up. There may be a calcium deficiency in your system that can be corrected if you follow your doctor's orders. Or you may not be getting the right type of food or enough sleep for the kind of work you are doing.

Tom-Boy: "Are some girls just natural 'tom-boys' or how do they become such? My 12-year-old daughter seems to have no really feminine characteristics."

Are You Happy in Job? Then analyze your job. Are you really happy in it or do you keep it just because you are afraid to make a change? If so, start looking for another job at once. There are plenty of jobs available now and if one doesn't suit you, try another. It has a very bad psychological effect on anyone to spend the major part of the day in an environment that gets on his nerves.

And what are your ambitions? Are you aiming too high for your abilities? Nothing will cause disappointment and disillusion more quickly than to feel that you are constantly getting nowhere.

Examine Family Life

Finally, examine your family life. Are you disillusioned about the person you selected as your mate? Does family life seem like a terrific let-down from the excitement of your courtship days? Or are you expecting your children to act like adults instead of children? If you can take things in your stride, accept the bad with the good, and add a touch of humor, you will be surprised at how quickly you will get over your irritations.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Pick-ups: "Does a man ever have the right respect for a girl when he meets her through a pick-up?" (A) Pick-ups are somewhat dangerous. They may turn out

well but they are more likely not to. If a man really wants to meet a girl, he can usually arrange for an introduction somehow. If he knows no one who knows her, he can always find out where she goes to church and ask her minister to introduce them. The attitude of a man toward a girl whom he meets through a "pick-up" is likely to be that she is an easy mark and this will not encourage a real respect for her.

Spring Fever: "Is there such a thing as 'spring fever' and, if so, what is the cure for it?" (A) There is no physical disease called "spring fever". It is a state of mind or a "psychological state" of a person which consists of restlessness, boredom, and a desire for a change. Because of this unfavorable psychological state, it is hard for a person to do good work. The best cure for "spring fever" is a change. That does not necessarily mean going off on a trip. A change can be obtained from getting some new clothes or a new hairstyle, from fixing up the home in its summer slip covers, or from taking a restful week-end trip in the country. The important thing is to break the monotony that comes from the routine schedule of the winter.

Tom-Boy: "Are some girls just natural 'tom-boys' or how do they become such? My 12-year-old daughter seems to have no really feminine characteristics."

(A) "Tom-boys" are made, not born. They are generally the result of parental desires for a boy which have been thwarted when a daughter was born and the consequent treatment of the girl which makes her feel that she would be more loved if she were a boy. Hence, she tries to behave like one. If you try to impress upon your daughter the belief that being a woman is not such a bad lot after all, I believe you will find her becoming more feminine in her looks and behavior.

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Philadelphia To Have City Summer Theater

Philadelphia — Philadelphia will have the first municipal summer theater in the country this year. The arena-type stage will be in Fairmount Park under a tent which will hold about 1,000 seats.

Theron Bamberger, who runs the Bucks County Playhouse in the summers at New Hope, Pa., will be managing director and producer of the new enterprise. Attractions will be changed weekly.

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood—(U.P.)—A crisis occurred in the juke box world, only the bobby-soxers didn't know it. Frankie Laine almost lost his voice for keeps he revealed last week.

Laine struggled for 17 years to reach the top. But his incredible story nearly turned to tragedy.

At the peak of his career, his voice conked out from overwork and laryngitis.

For six weeks he couldn't speak or even whisper, under a doctor's orders. It wasn't until the singer opened his mouth at the end of 42 days that he found out he still sang like Frankie Laine, after all.

"Sure, I was worried," he said. "I already was figurin' other ways to earn a livin'. I would have written songs, gone into personal management, stayed in show business some way."

Voice Began to Fall

Frankie's voice began to fall last September after he'd recuperated for seven weeks following an operation.

"I went on a tour, and you can't do five shows a day after laying off that long. I strained my voice."

"In Buffalo I could feel the hoarseness coming on. I worked Pittsburgh on Friday and Sunday I couldn't talk."

"I tried to get out of the engagements, but the theaters would not let me. I somehow did the shows. When you push hard enough you can force it. A doctor got me through one show by oiling my vocal chords. It's like when you break a leg. The doctor tells you not to walk, but if you have to, you do, anyway."

Contact Ulcers Found

Finally he got to a throat specialist to discover he had "contact ulcers" on his vocal chords from straining them.

"One doctor wanted to operate. I might have come out like Ezio Pinza or Baby LeRoy," he grinned. "Another doctor decided to treat the wounds with silver nitrate and I couldn't talk for six weeks."

"It was a strain on my wife. She'd say, 'I'm lonesome.' I had to write everything down. We made a game out of it and played charades."

The voice chords healed, and Frankie took breathing lessons so he wouldn't strain his voice again. It was a tense moment when he arrived at a recording studio to sing with his retreated pipes.

"Everybody was waitin' to hear what would come out," he said. "I hit that E right on the nose, nice and round and flat."

Laine is back on his regular singing schedule, and opens at the Coconut Grove here Thursday.

"I have a wider tone range now," he beamed. "That teacher said if she'd gotten me when I was 15 or 16 I'd be in opera."

Two newly elected officers of the grand encampment of the IOOF were visitors at the Table Rock encampment No. 10 at the Medford IOOF hall Thursday evening. They were Hugh Lewis, Yamhill, Ore., grand patriarch, and H. M. Munsell, Klamath Falls, grand senior warden.

The officers spoke at the well-attended meeting, reporting that a number of special meetings have been planned for the encampment this summer.

The encampment at Eugene will hold a Beersheba meeting early in August, and a meeting for all encampments will be held at Klamath Falls in September.

Kostelanetz Returns From Tour of England

New York—Andre Kostelanetz has returned from England, where he conducted the Royal Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra on a tour of the British Isles and in London.

In programs of works by Mozart, Rossini, Debussy, Ravel and Prokofieff, Kostelanetz found that the British reception to Gershwin's "An American in

Paris" which he included in all concerts, often outstripped America's enthusiasm for the work. In such cities as Bristol, Newport, Cardiff and Birmingham, he reported that audiences and critics are extremely responsive to our American works.

Kostelanetz will conduct many outdoor concerts at home this summer, including two Lewishohn Stadium concerts in New York, in Philadelphia at the Robin Hood Dell and on the summer series of the Connecticut Symphony.

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