

A Nichol's Worth of . . . Comment On This and That

By **HARMAN W. NICHOLS**
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — You might say that Allan Nelson literally runs his legs off to sell America.



Allan calls Berkeley, Calif., home. He is a diplomat of sorts, since his main job is to peddle the gospel of Uncle Sam across the back 40 acres of the world.

Since 1951 he has been working for the United States Information Agency, mostly shouting our cause, and also mostly running while shouting.

Always Finishes
This 39-year-old big hunk of man is a nut on marathon running. So what if he only finished 52nd in the famed 26-mile Boston Marathon race? What Boston winner can lay claim to having finished a 54-mile grind down in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The "running diplomat" did. Allan didn't win that one either.

but because of his stamina and hard talking in the interest of America he was invited to join up with a Johannesburg harriers club.

During an interview I had with him, Allan was proud to display a medal he got for finishing.

"Finishing, not winning, is the thing in South Africa," he said. Nelson is en route to California for a holiday with the folks. His next assignment will be as Public Affairs Officer in Göteborg, Sweden.

Learns by Trotting
"Wherever I go I trot," he said. "And when I was in training for things I didn't win I used to jog along 5, 10 or 15 miles before breakfast. And while I was jogging I liked to stop and talk to people. That is what I have been doing overseas. I get to learn the language of the people. Learn their way of life."

Allan said that when he was press officer in Helsinki he made the same run so often that folks called him by his front name and asked him to stop and spend the time of day.

"Marathoners never run out of wind," Allan said. "We are never in much of a hurry. We just jog along."

"Not only that, over in some of our friendly countries, you can get a free breakfast that way. They have wonderful breakfasts in South Africa and Finland. Wonder how they are in Sweden? Well, I'll find out."

Honor Causes Death Of Welfare Worker

Nagano, Japan — (U.P.) — The honor for which a veteran welfare worker strived for many years caused his death Wednesday.

Otosaburo Wakabayashi, 78, vice-chairman of the Nagano Association for the Rehabilitation of Ex-Convicts, died of shock when he heard over the radio that he had been awarded the government's order of merit.

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ADMITTING SERIES OF BURGLARIES, according to Van Nuys, Cal., police, Mrs. Doris King, 20, and companion, Gary Heigeland, 21, are in jail while her baby, Ronnie, six months, who accompanied pair on crime spree, is being cared for by her mother. They face 30 burglary charges. (International)



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Snake Charmer Charms Mayor of French Town

Bethune, France — (U.P.) — Mayor Henri Pad, true to the tradition of French gallantry, let a stranded lady snake charmer leave eight pythons and five crocodiles in the town hall basement here Wednesday night.

Snake charmer Rene Korniga, stranded when her car broke down here en route between shows, appealed to Pad because she feared the wintry cold might be fatal to her pets if they had to spend the night in the open.

Rare Cuvier Whale Discovered Near Catalina Island

Palos Verdes Estates, Calif. — (U.P.) — A rare Cuvier beaked whale, believed to be the only one in captivity, received "kid gloves" treatment here today from aquarium attendants who anxiously waited to find out what it likes to eat.

The 12-foot long whale was found tangled among kelp beds and rocks off Santa Catalina Island yesterday at a collecting boat of Marineland, a large oceanarium here.

"She's still in a state of shock," explained a Marineland spokesman. "We put her in the main tank and so far everything has been okay. But we don't know what she will do when she comes out of shock."

Attendants bottle-fed the whale trying to keep her alive. Other Fish in Tank

About 1,000 other fish were in the tank with the 200-pound whale, whose species was discovered about 1800 by Georges Cuvier, a French biologist.

Marineland said it believed only 20 Cuvier beak whales had been reported. And only one previously was captured, a spokesman said. It lived for six days before being eaten by porpoises in a marineland in Florida.

The whale, about three years old, is similar to the California gray whale except it has teeth instead of the bony ridge found in the gums of gray whales.

The Cuvier beaked whales which have been sighted previously were in the North Atlantic and North Pacific oceans. The whale here apparently became lost and tagged along with a group of migrating California gray whales en route to their breeding waters in Baja, California.

Swivel Chair Milker Tends Herd of Cows

Mingo, Okla. — (U.P.) — Armchair executives haven't got a thing on Ed Hale, who runs a dairy farm 10 miles northwest of here. He milks his herd of cows while sitting in a swivel chair.

Hale is the only such dairyman in the state, although Oklahoma A.&M. college at Stillwater, Okla., has been experimenting along those lines. Hale says he finds the swivel chair is most effective for dairymen who operate on a small scale.

"I think it's going to work fine for me," he says. "It isn't so tough to milk the cows anymore after a hard day's work."

Rolling back and forth between two milking stations, Hale handles the feeding, adjusts the electric milking machine and opens and closes doors, all from a sitting position.

He said it takes him less than a half hour to milk his dozen cows.

Union Awaits Word On Proposal To WAL

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — The striking Brotherhood of Railway Clerks awaited word from Western Airlines officials today whether the union's new counter-proposal to end the walkout is acceptable.

At the same time, both sides in the seven-week-old strike awaited arrival from Washington of Leverett Edwards, chairman of the National Mediation Board, to assist in future negotiations.

The new counter-offer calls for \$25 to \$35 monthly wage increases for all 850 striking clerks in 12 Western states and Canada. The rejected company offer was for the same boosts, but applied only to 70 per cent of the strikers.

Western also is in negotiations for new contracts with the Air Line Pilots association, and the International Association of Mechanics.

West Berlin Approves Jewish Claim Payment

Berlin — (U.P.) — West Berlin's City Council announced today it has earmarked \$60,000,000 this year for the payment of Jewish restitution claims.

Councilman Joachim Lipschitz said he is endeavoring to streamline restitution procedure to speed action on some 220,000 claims filed from all over the world.

Grange Sams Valley Grange

At the last meeting of the Sams Valley Grange, Master Herma Priem appointed the following committees: Agriculture, Albert Straus, Elwood Abbott and Lester James; legislation, Donna Straus, Emmett Nealon, Rosie Abbott; school activities, Gilbert Mack, Lester James, youth chairman, Doreen Straus; good of order, Rosie Abbott, Rosella Duggan; publicity, Gilbert Mack, Emmett Nealon; reception committee, Meletta Priem, Gertrude Miller, Bob Galloway; roads, Emmett Nealon, Al Straus; maintenance, Walter Miller, Vic Brown; ways and means, Elwood and Rosie Abbott.

Al Straus reporting on agriculture stated that all money allotted by the federal government for the use of farmers was spoken for due to the large number of irrigation ditches that needed replacing. He further stated that the prospects for seed crops looked good for the coming year with prices somewhat better. Lester James said it looked as if a sales tax hooked to education will be brought before the people and this should help alleviate the high property taxes that everyone is now paying.

It was brought out by several members that many roads were getting very rough, and that most had many dangerous potholes that made driving to Medford, if not hazardous, extremely hard on tires.

Tower of Pisa Has Nothing on Lighthouse

Amherstburg, Ont. — (U.P.) — The famous tower of Pisa has nothing on the leaning lighthouse of Livingstone Channel.

Built three years ago near the mouth of the Detroit river, the lighthouse already has a marked list. Federal engineers have called for tenders to put it back on solid footing.

The vital light has been plagued with bad luck since a freighter sideswiped it in a fog three years ago and tipped the previous building and its keeper into the river in a fog.

The old lighthouse was then blown up and replaced by the new, smaller structure, the light being operated by remote control from a nearby shore station.

Observers say limestone used for the footings and that water erosion, the pull of the current and the wash of passing ships have undermined it. They say the contractor is not at fault since he followed the specifications of the government's marine architects.

Brother William Howes, State Grange overseer, gave a short talk. The penny drill was for the benefit of the March of Dimes. The lecturer's hour consisted of a colored film entitled "Power Behind the Nation." Refreshments were served in the banquet room.

Next Grange will be Saturday, Feb. 25.

Coos Bay-North Bend Voies Fluoride Use

Coos Bay — (U.P.) — Another city in Oregon has voted to add fluoride to its water supply.

The Coos Bay-North Bend water board has unanimously voted to add the chemical to the water supply that serves the two coastal cities. The board hopes to have the equipment installed and operating within six weeks.

A poll taken by the board last year, showed 3850 water users favored the fluoridation of the water supply by about a 4 to 1 ratio.

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