

WHEN HENRY'S UNCLE GRULLER GOT THE TEN-YEAR ALCATRAZ LEASE, HE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO RELATION WHATSOEVER...

HEY! HENRY! IS THIS TREMBLE-CHIN THEY PUT IN THE SNEEZER A RELATIVE OF YOURS?

NEVER HEARD OF HIM! HE'S PROBABLY USING OUR GOOD NAME AS AN ALIAS! IN THE WHOLE FAMILY TREE THERE'S NEVER BEEN A CROOKED BRANCH—OR A "Q" EITHER...



BUT WHEN HIS 32ND COUSIN XERXES (BY ADOPTION) MADE GOOD-YIKES! HOW THE SAP ON THE FAMILY TREE CONGEALED...

YES-SIR! HE'S MY FIRST COUSIN! AUNT MAMIE'S BOY! WE WERE RAISED TOGETHER! LITTLE X-IE! I REMEMBER I HANDLED HIS VERY FIRST ELECTION—PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL! DON'T BE SURPRISED IF I'M SUMMONED TO WASHINGTON...



Back Stairs: Ike's Pictures

By MERRIMAN SMITH
UP White House Writer
Washington — (U.P.) — Back stairs at the White House:

The White House inner circle is becoming increasingly sensitive about some of the recent news pictures of President Eisenhower.

Their complaints are valid to the extent that the circles under the President's eyes and the lines in his face are nowhere near as prominent or visible in person as they are in many news pictures, particularly photographs made at his news conferences.

The trouble is in the lighting in the conference room.

The President, when he meets with reporters, is bathed in strong floodlights, most of which bear down on him from overhead. This naturally accents shadows on his face.

The situation could be corrected by lowering some of the lights or changing the type of lights used. Still photographers are not permitted to use flashbulbs and must rely on the lighting set up for the newsreel and television film cameras.

The photographers are well aware of the lighting defects and talk about it constantly, but they say the White House is opposed to lighting which would blaze directly into the President's eyes.

Robert Montgomery may be consulted again to see what ideas he has about changing the set-up.

Mr. Eisenhower has his own

firm ideas against the use of camera make-up. His judgment point is right on the target, because he'd never hear the end of it if he walked into a press conference wearing some of the heavy television make-up he endured unwillingly several times during the 1952 campaign.

The late President Franklin D. Roosevelt during his third term caused his staff much concern by photographing poorly in the newsreels. Make-up was suggested and FDR hit the ceiling. He would have none of it.

Whereupon the White House imported one of Hollywood's top lighting and camera experts to see what could be done. The lines in Mr. Roosevelt's face were softened considerably by using lights of varied pastel colors, even though the pictures were made on black and white film.

News photography, conducted usually with great speed and a central, flat source of light, should not be expected to produce the pleasing results of more leisurely studio or portrait photography.

For this reason, 1956 campaign pictures of the President will not be taken from news-photo files, but probably selected from a batch of pictures made in his office recently with the well-balanced lighting necessary for color photographs.

Some of the Eisenhower aides also are baffled and a mite irritated about the speed with which some of the President's

recent secret "social" engagements reached reporters.

Last Thursday, for example, Mr. Eisenhower set up a highly private stag dinner for some of his most trusted political lieutenants. Not a word was to be said about it publicly.

But before the politicians even arrived at the White House, Ray Henley, pilot of the NBC radio "Three Star Extra," had a good chunk of the guest list on the air.

Maybe host Eisenhower forgot to tell at least one of his guests to keep quiet—at least, until he got his feet under the White House dinner table.

Six Men Try to Prove King Harold's Hike

Cirencester, England — (U.P.) — Six sturdy men in chain mail armor walked 18 miles Sunday to prove that King Harold did the same thing on a bigger scale in 1066.

The men, all members of the Surrey Walking club, walked the 18 miles of rutted grass track carrying shields and spears and wearing helmets to prove one of the most disputed points in British history.

Legend has it that King Harold walked his troops 200 miles in ten days, wearing the same armor, to fight and lose the Battle of Hastings to William the Conqueror in 1066.

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A Nichol's Worth of ...

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — When pretty, perky Mary Louise Ansberry of San Ardo, Calif., went to Uruguay on an international farm exchange project, she didn't know what she was getting into.

As a guest in Uruguay, she had an idea that she would put a pretty leg up on a horse, which she did. She also thought she might drive a truck. So she did. And she thought she would play the piano, like she can.

But never, never, on any kind of an exchange did she think she would have to look into the mouth of a sick cow and play dentist. But she did.

Mary, one of my pen pals, happens at age 24 to be a graduate of Lux Dental college in San Francisco. She told me in a letter received just how that she vowed on viewing the ailing bovine molar that the farm and not the office of the dentist was the life for her.

National 4-H Club Deal
To date, Mary has ridden a horse, plucked the feathers off the chicken, gathered wood for the fire and helped to stir up a German Christmas dinner—all in Uruguay. She has lived with eight different families in the exchange of the National 4-H Club deal.

"I'm having a wonderful time," she wrote. "This family I spent Christmas with was wonderful. They had a poultry farm, with about 5000 birds. A flock of ducks. Getting ready for Christmas we worked as a team. Dressing the chickens. The night before, we put up a tree. I decorated it like we do back home and relatives kept coming in."

The next place Mary went to, the family had no ice box, but rented one in the next town. Our little California girl went down and "dragged out some of last year's apples and made a couple of pretty nice pies."

Mary, for sure, will make some lucky guy a nice bride. She has been busy like mad ever since she left these diggings, thinking up nice things to cook for her hosts.

Pies Baked California Way
"Nearly every day," she said, "I find time for the gathering of hen fruit and the like to stir up some pies and cakes and they all seem to like them—baked the California way."

One family she lived with on her tour, Mary said, had a little cherub named Cesar, aged two

and a half. The little tyke took a violent dislike to foreigners, but Mary finally made a lasting friendship when she stirred up some jam tarts.

Mary is a little worried about what the folks will say when she returns to America.

She has heard so much Spanish that her roommate jarred her off the pillow one night not long ago and said that she was "dreaming out loud in Spanish."

"Golly," she said, "I don't think my family would put up with that. None of them understand Spanish."

Contract Reached by Western Airlines

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — A new contract was reached between Western Airlines and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks early today to end a 63-day strike that stalled Western's operations in 12 Western states and Canada.

A company spokesman said the new contract provides for an average wage increase of \$30 a month. The union withdrew its demand for a union shop. The new contract remains in effect until Dec. 31, 1957.

Western said it plans to resume operations as soon as possible, but could give no definite time.

Some 850 members of the BRC walked out Jan. 9. As a result, the company was forced to close down its operations.

The company still is negotiating with its furloughed pilots and members of the International Association of Machinists.

Oregon Among States Easing Officials' Work

Chicago — (U.P.) — Three states have acted to free public officials from time-consuming paper work, according to the Municipal Finance Officers association.

The group said Louisiana, Oregon, and Texas legislatures have passed laws allowing the use of facsimile signatures or seals to execute public securities. Louisiana became the first state to adopt such a law when it did so last year. Oregon and Texas so acted this year.

The association in 1954 adopted a resolution approving the use of facsimiles of signatures or seals on bond issue of \$10,000,000 or more.

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Portland Chamber Proposes Sales Tax

Salem — (U.P.) — The Portland Chamber of Commerce proposed a state sales tax of 3 per cent on retail sales to the Legislature's Income Tax Study committee meeting here Saturday.

The plan, presented by Robert Hall, chairman of the chamber's tax committee, did not clearly stipulate whether foodstuffs should be exempted from the 3 per cent levy.

The proposal brought forth by the committee would repeal the 45 per cent surtax on the income tax levied by the last Legislature and repeal the state withholding tax law.

The state income tax would be revised under the proposed sales tax levy so that families with less than \$5000 annual income would be exempt from the income tax and those with higher than \$5000 income would have a reduced income tax payment.

Hall said that a blanket retail tax would bring the state \$120,000,000 additional revenue annually. A sales tax exempting foodstuffs would net \$90,000,000, he said.

Officers Investigate Truck Driver's Death

Oregon City — (U.P.) — Authorities today investigated the death of Taylor Comer, 47-year-old Estacada log truck driver whose body was found at the bottom of a 340-foot ravine five miles northwest of Estacada.

Sheriff's officers said the manner in which Comer fell to his death was a mystery. Coroner Leslie Peake ordered an autopsy.

Rescue workers last night brought the body up the face of Lookout point on the Clackamas river, using a basket stretcher.

Comer was reported to have disappeared from a tavern near the bluff Saturday night. He was last reported seen with two other men. Officers wanted to question them about Comer's movements.

Police said a 3½-foot high hurricane fence guarded the edge of the road alongside the bluff. Peake said evidence indicated that Comer may have scaled the fence to hide from someone and then fallen into the abyss.

Eugene — (U.P.) — Eugene and Springfield telephone numbers will switch to new seven-digit figures Saturday of this week, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company has announced.

Dallas Police Bitten More by People

Dallas — (U.P.) — Dallas police get the bite put on them more by people than by dogs, an annual report showed today.

Nine policemen were bitten by persons they arrested and one day's time from duty was lost. Dog bite totalled three with no time lost.

Immigration Official Approves Application

Chicago — (U.P.) — Immigration inspector Robert H. Robinson solved barber Domenico Stallone's problem Friday when he went to the first floor of the post

office building to approve the 61-year-old immigrant's application for citizenship.

Stallone has been in this country for 25 years but never applied for citizenship because he is afraid of high places and the Immigration department is on the upper floors of the building.



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