

Comment On This and That

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
United Press Feature Writer

Washington — (U.P.) — What's new in Washington:

Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic hopeful for the presidency, already has traveled 15,000



miles since his nomination. He started out in January to get the nod and traveled 50,000 miles ahead of time. Right now, he makes several stops a day, whistle-stop, and in the dark of night he works on speeches for the next day, en route. Can't make the same speech every day, with TV and all. Sometimes it adds up to a 23-hour day.

You may have heard of the GOP elephant cookie cutter. Also recipes by Mamie and some other Republican ladies. But have you heard of the jelly cookie recipe suggested by Mrs. Sinclair Weeks, wife of the secretary of commerce?

It involves 1 cup butter, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 1/2 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 2 teaspoons vanilla. Cream butter, add sugar, gradually, then combine with other ingredients. Roll dough and cut with cookie cutter, shape of an elephant, of course. Make deep indentation for elephant's eye and fill with currant jelly. Bake in 350 degree oven until light brown. If it turns out looking like a donkey you're supposed to garbage it.

The machinist magazine, under the heading of "Wanted Recipes" says:

"From Mrs. Robert J. Archer, Tacoma, Wash., who would dearly like to have a cookie recipe using caraway seeds. Address the 'Machinist' and not me."

Lt. Col. Hal D. Stewart, new head of the community relations branch of the Pentagon, fresh home from Germany, bought a \$35,000 home in McLean, Va. The colonel didn't mind paying that kind of dough. What he did mind was the fact that the first time he went in to take a bath, he discovered the former tenant had swiped the hook off the bathroom door, commonly reserved for a man's bathrobe. Something that could be bought in most dime stores for a dime.

A fishing magazine I receive would like us to know that it has, at last, a real fish story. A Marie Fish, 28, and a James Bass, 31, are about to get married in Angier, N.C. The magazine is going to finance the honeymoon. The publisher offered them "a whale of a time." The happy couple could do nothing but accept. Both Fish and Bass are "fishermen."

According to some hat people from Texas, the best-hatted man in the annual hat makers poll is President Eisenhower. He won over John Wayne, Frank Sinatra, Stan Musial, of the St. Louis Cardinals, and even Red Skelton, who had no regard for expensive hats except to crunch 'em in his act.

Seriously, folks, 38 million American kids are running back to school. And I would like to repeat the words of one of our



POSING WITH A HUGE BAG of seed "for the White House lawn," is Adlai Stevenson, Democratic candidate for President, and James Carey, president of the I.U.E., an Adlai supporter. Picture taken in Washington. (International)

CATTLE CENSUS

Washington — (U.P.) — Cattle and calves on U. S. farms in 1954 numbered 95,027,041, the Federal Census Bureau revealed. Cherry County, Neb., was the leading county in number of cattle and calves on farms with 285,296.

automotive organizations: "Our duty, as alert and interested citizens, is to remember: 'School's open, drive carefully.'"

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ARRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO, U. S. S. Thetis Bay, world's first helicopter, gives demonstration at Long Beach, Cal., of landings and take-offs from its huge and all-covering flight deck. (International Soundphoto)

Proposed Increase in Phone Rate Discussed At Chamber Meeting

Jack Creager, Medford manager of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company, discussed the proposed telephone rate increase in Oregon at the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Roundtable luncheon yesterday at the Jackson hotel.

Creager used several graphs in showing how company expansion since 1953 has caused earnings to dwindle. He cited as examples of expansion that Pacific Telephone had stopped toll charges on some Jacksonville exchanges, spent \$60,000 in Sams Valley to provide suburban telephone service and that it is planned to remove toll charges on Medford to Ashland and Medford to Gold Hill calls.

Expansion Discussed

Since 1953, he said, the number of telephones in Jackson county have increased 17 per cent. Expansion costs money, Creager pointed out, and taxes have gone up while intra-state earnings have gone down.

Earnings for the company in 1955 were "unreasonably low," according to Creager, in comparison with other businesses. He stated that Pacific Telephone averaged 5.6 per cent profits last year while electric utilities averaged 6.3 per cent earnings, banks 9.2 per cent and industrials 12.4 per cent. He added that the telephone company pays the highest taxes in the state among utilities.

Other examples of growth by Pacific Telephone Creager cited were the number of company employees has increased from 81 in 1945 to 242 in 1956; telephones in Jackson county have increased from 5,000 in 1945 to 13,000 in 1956; increase in number of calls made per business day has risen 119 per cent since 1945; and increase of investment by the company in Jackson county has risen 415 per cent since 1945.

Expected Growth

To keep pace with growth in industry in this area, he explained, the company plans on spending \$30,000,000 in this area in 1956, which is an 80 per cent increase over 1953 investments. The key to future growth, he added, is earnings.

In explaining why company expenses have increased, Creager pointed out that wages comprise 62 per cent of the expenses, a 28 per cent increase over 1953; taxes paid annually have increased 40 per cent since 1953; and equipment behind each telephone costs more.

He said the new rates will range from a 20 cents per phone increase in lower rent districts to a \$2 per phone increase in business districts. Average increase of rates will be about 45 cents per phone in the county, he said.

The Public Utilities commission will hold hearings and make studies on the proposed rate increase, he pointed out. Creager told the roundtable that he did not know when a decision would be handed down by

PSC Enrollment Prediction Revised

Portland — (U.P.) — Officials at Portland State college today scaled downward somewhat their predictions for the enrollment figure at the school this year.

As of the fourth day of registration, a total of 2226 had completed registration and paid their college fees, compared to 2247 for an equal period a year ago. School officials said that it appeared more likely that enrollment would reach 3000 this fall rather than the 3200 that had been originally forecast. Total enrollment a year ago was 2800.

Eisenhower Said Not Losing Appeal In Midwest States

Washington — (U.P.) — Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson says he sees no evidence President Eisenhower is losing his voter appeal in the normally Republican Midwest farm belt.

Benson told a news conference Monday he has talked with "thousands of farmers" and has seen no sign they will switch to the Democratic column this fall. He also hit back at Adlai E. Stevenson's charge that there is a "farm depression." And he accused the Democratic controlled 84th Congress of dragging its feet on some of President Eisenhower's farm programs.

Support Increased

Benson said farmer support for Mr. Eisenhower's agricultural programs has "increased substantially" and now is the highest since the chief executive first unveiled his new flexible farm price support system in 1954.

He made the statement in response to questions about recent public opinion polls indicating a shift toward the Democrats in such farm belt states as Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Both Mr. Eisenhower and Stevenson, his Democratic rival for the White House, are wooing farm voters in these states since they will have an important and perhaps a key role in deciding the November election.

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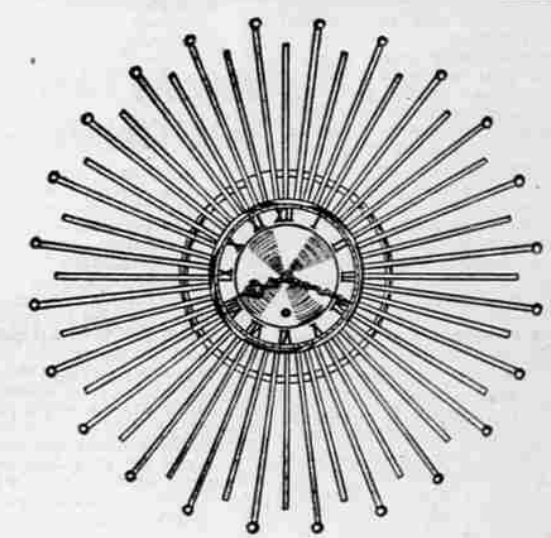
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