

Back Stairs: Owls at the White House

By MERRIMAN SMITH
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Writer

Newport, R.I. — Back stairs at the vacation White House.

President and Mrs. Eisenhower got away from Washington just in time. The owls were beginning to close in on the White House.

A few days before the first family flew to Newport, several white owls commenced nightly raids on birds and small animals in the vicinity of the executive mansion.

The owls seemed to be based in the eaves of the old State Department building and emerged only at dusk, usually about 8 o'clock.

Their presence has one good

aspect. Favorite target for the owls seems to be the company of black starlings that meet in the late afternoon and early evening in the trees bordering the White House grounds and along convenient perches provided by the many nooks and crannies of the old state buildings.

The city fathers of Newport would be well advised not to push their civic pride so much that they attempt to pin down the President on how he likes New England lobster. He likes it; it doesn't like him.

A couple of years ago in Maine, Sen. Margaret Chase Smith arranged an elaborate lobster and clam supper for the President and his touring party.

But Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, the White House physician, found out about the menu and forwarded a tactful suggestion that the President would prefer steak. Most shellfish produce undesired reaction in Eisenhower.

The Maine lobster feast that turned into a steak fry for the President came to mind a few days ago when the White House began to receive numerous restaurant menus and letters from Rhode Island culinary experts, forecasting how much the President would enjoy their lobster.

The President's announced intention to fly back to Washington occasionally for important conferences may be due in part to a desire to avoid engulfing his vacation set-up with business visitors.

Even Cabinet members have a weakness about showing up at presidential vacation headquarters at times when their business really isn't of world-shaking importance.

As long as it is known that Eisenhower will be back in Washington periodically, at least for several hours each visit, it will cut down on the necessity of members of the government flocking to Newport.

One of Press Secretary Jim Hagerty's most pressing headaches these days is how to arrange press and picture coverage of the October visit of Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain without having mob scenes that might prove wearing on the dainty monarch.

There will be times during the royal visit when coverage will have to be reduced to a virtual pool-reporter basis because the Queen will be on display in areas so small that unlimited numbers of reporters and photographers would be out of the question.

Syrian Speakers Denounce America

Damascus, Spria. — Speakers screamed anti-American invective to a cheering crowd of 1,500 Wednesday night in the first public demonstration permitted since the U. S. was accused of "plotting" against Syria.

Police broke up an attempt by the demonstrators to stage an anti-American parade through the city.

The raucous, 75-minute demonstration was held in Damascus' Kurdish quarter, whose people elected the only avowed Communist member of Syria's Parliament. The pro-Communist organ Al Nur was the only publication in Damascus that reported plans for the demonstration.

The narrow, mud-walled streets of the quarter were festooned for the occasion with banners denouncing "American imperialist conspiracies" and urging support of Syria's Soviet-equipped army.

Youth Pedals 2,500 Miles To College

Grand Rapids, Mich. — Bernie Oordt, 17, Lynden, Wash., was ready to begin his studies today at Calvin College after pedaling 2,500 miles across 10 states to enroll as a freshman.

The well-tanned youth said he made the trip "to see the country more leisurely."

He left his farm home near Lynden July 31 and spent 26 days on the road. He did not pedal on Sundays.

Oordt's trip took him across highways in Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

The blond cyclist said the entire trip cost him only \$40, including payments for the repair of two blowouts and a front wheel bearing.

Bernie has a brother, Mart, who enrolled as a sophomore at Calvin. Mart came by car.

Jet Plane Blamed For Portland Noise

Portland — An F-102 jet was blamed Wednesday for the explosive noise over Portland Tuesday.

In a prepared statement from McChord Field, Wash., the public information officer said that the noise was caused from the plane passing through the sound barrier, presumably at a lower altitude than regulations specify.

Pilots are subject to disciplinary action for violating Air Force regulations, the public information officer said.

Air Force regulations specify that planes should not pass through the sound barrier over land at an altitude below 30,000 feet.

Steps were being taken to see that the incident does not occur again, officials said.

Anchorage, Alaska — The ashes of Lorenz Peter Freuchen, 72, well known Arctic explorer who died here Monday, will be dropped next week over Thule, Greenland, the land he called "The End of the World."

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Sales and Earnings May Rise or Hold During Second Half

By ELMER C. WALZER
United Press Financial Editor

New York — A sampling of opinion of business executives reveals that a majority expects sales and earnings for the second half to rise or hold steady.

This was brought out in a survey made by Sidney B. Lurie, research expert for Josephthal & Co., of 125 companies.

Of these 63 per cent looked for higher sales and 57 per cent for higher earnings in the second half. Ten per cent looked for lower sales and 27 per cent thought sales would be unchanged. Twenty six per cent looked for lower profits and 17 per cent held that the profit figure would be unchanged.

Second half capital expenditures centered on reductions with 47 per cent looking for that trend while 24 per cent said they would be higher and 29 per cent unchanged.

Of the group, 59 per cent said they were more concerned with profit margins in relation to the first six months while 10 per cent were less concerned and 31 per cent reported no change.

Lurie said best comparisons apparently will be recorded by the container, department store,

Engineers Due Increase in Wages

Chicago — The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers Wednesday night announced the signing of a supplemental agreement with the nation's railroads providing for wage boosts for engineers.

B. L. Gilbert, international president of the brotherhood, said the new pact supplements a three-year contract signed with the carriers last November.

The previous contract included a \$2.12 across the board increase and a cost of living clause under which five-day employees received \$2.40.

Under the supplemental pact, an increase of 50 cent per day was made retroactive to Nov. 1, 1956.

The settlement also gives an additional 49 cents per day to engineers in yard service on a five-day week over the life of the life of the contract, Gilbert said. Yard engineers on a six or seven day week will receive 31 cents per day additional, though freight engineers 38 cents per 100 miles and passenger engineers 6 cents per 100 miles, he said.

United Nations, N.Y. — Three postage stamp designers have accepted an invitation to design United Nations stamps to be issued in 1958, the U.N. postal administration announced today. They are Minoru Hisano, of Japan; S. L. Hartz, of the Netherlands, and Renato Ferrini, of Italy.

Thursday, September 5, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

Population Basis For Flu Vaccine

Washington — The six manufacturers of Asian flu vaccine have agreed to distribute vaccine supplies to the states on a population basis.

The Public Health Service announced Wednesday night the manufacturers accepted the distribution plan proposed several weeks ago by Surgeon General Leroy E. Burney.

The service also endorsed a proposal by state health officers to have states and communities create advisory committees to draw up priority plans for inoculations.

Dr. W. Palmer Dearing, acting head of the Health Service, said the PHS allocation system is "the most equitable way of distributing the vaccine geographically."

"Any one part of the nation is as vulnerable as another to a possible influenza epidemic," Dearing said. The plan could be dropped when vaccine supplies begin to catch up with demand, he added.

Shipments will be made according to each state's percentage of the total population. Thus New York would get 9.5 per cent of the vaccine as compared to 2 per cent for Delaware, Nevada, Vermont and Wyoming.

Las Vegas, Nev. — Atomic Energy Commission scientists today face the task of crowding at least five more nuclear blasts into the 1957 test schedule before the end of the summer Sept. 21.

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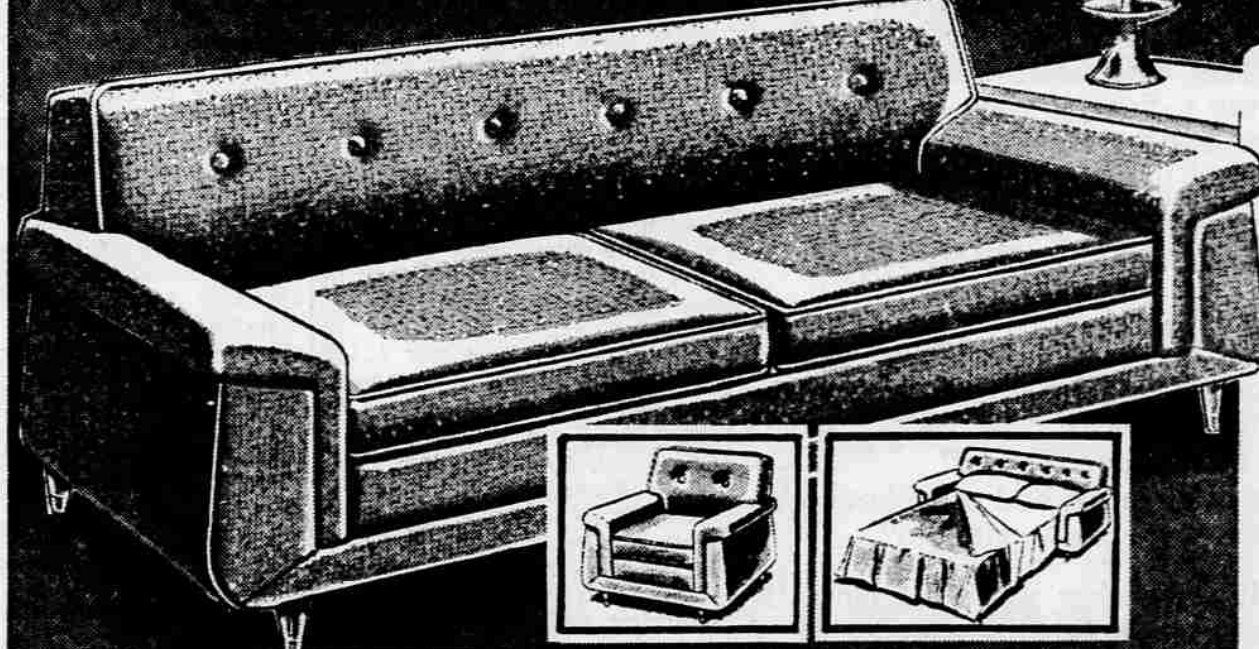
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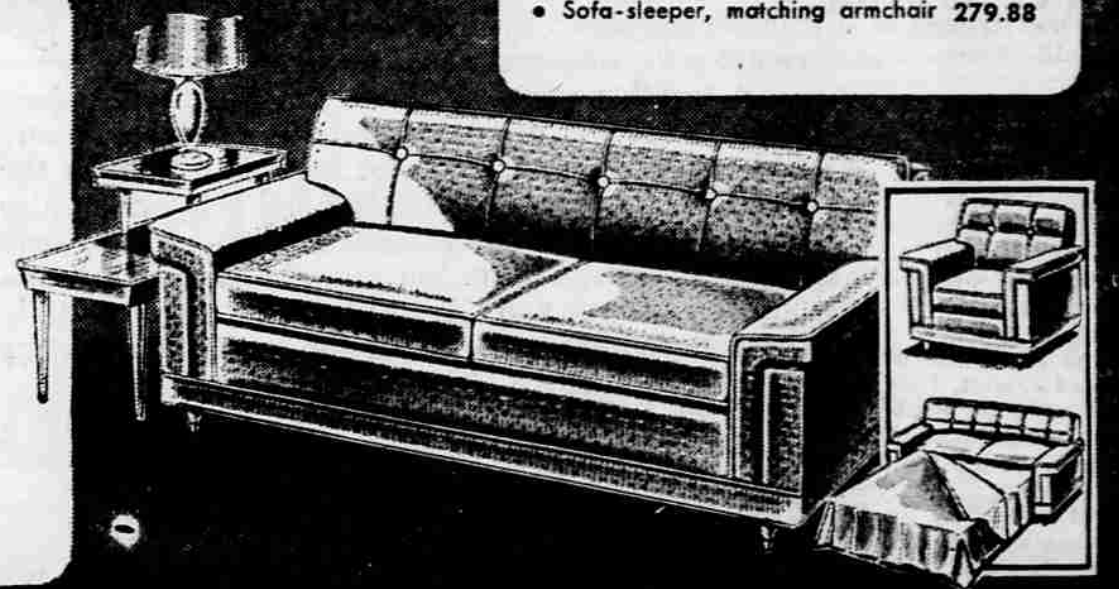
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