

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

DANNY THOMAS tells about the Texas oil magnate who marched into a "this year's Miami Beach hotel," rented an entire floor for \$3,000 a day, ordered the chorus of a night club to come up and entertain him privately for \$2,000, demanded \$1,500 worth of choice liquors and cigars, tipped the help \$500, and when stretched himself out on a couch, "This is living," he sighed appreciatively. "Who needs money?"



Help wanted ed in a Chicago paper, inserted by the owner of a fashionable Arizona dude ranch: "We need an experienced ranch hand immediately. Guitar player. Sideburns. Must have Southwest accent. We'll teach you to ride."

Sign in a Times Square tonorial parlor: "SIX BARBERS. CONTINUOUS DISCUSSION."

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Best Audience Said In 'Closed' Earp Show

Hollywood — **W** — Hugh O'Brian, star of the Wyatt Earp television series, says that some of his best audiences are those at his live, "closed circuit" shows.

These are the thousands of kids for whom Bachelor O'Brian puts on his own show — A serious discussion of the life and times of lawman Wyatt Earp, a demonstration of the slow draw and quick draws, sometimes, with two blanks actually being fired, and a final handshake for everyone. These shows are not for the general public. They're put on at places like orphanages, hospitals and schools.

O'Brian doesn't make any fuss about this side of his public life. He has a back-breaking schedule anyway but still fits in this kind of visit, often on a daily basis, particularly during the holiday season.

Tells About Guns

"I'm chairman of the safety committee of the National Rifle association," O'Brian said. "In that capacity I visit these places and tell the kids about Earp and his guns and how they should be used. I try to drive home the point that kids should not fool around with firearms. The fact that I'm Wyatt Earp on television means I'll get their attention."

O'Brian wears his Wyatt Earp costume and guns for his appearances before kid audiences. He said that there are several things which motivate his making these non-paying guest star

spots besides his rifle association work. "For one thing, I like kids," he said. "And because they respect Wyatt, they respect me and look up to me. They'll listen to me, and this means I can shoot little morals at them — nothing like a sermon. I tell them to be upstanding Americans — grow straight and tall like Wyatt. I often tell them that one of the best ways to grow up is to get down on your knees once a day and thank your God for your health and blessings."

Raised in Happy Family

"For another thing, I was fortunate enough to be raised in a happy family. I've never forgotten that, so if I can make a few kids in orphanages or hospitals a little happier, it's worth it. I also think that every time I visit a children's ward in a hospital I feel better, too."

O'Brian, a former Marine who was born in New York state and raised in Illinois, said the kids ask penetrating questions about the show, whether Earp really lived and about his two guns. However, right now he hopes most kids will be asleep when he appears in "Playhouse 90," (CBS-TV) Jan. 2 in modern attire as a lawyer instead of in Western dress as Marshal Earp.

O'Brian also scheduled to other current appearances but only on his "closed circuit" system — visits on Christmas to children's wards in local hospitals.

Well-Rounded Blonde Liked, Even By Dictator President

By VERNON SCOTT

Visited Brass Hollywood Writer Hollywood — **W** — Everybody likes a well-rounded blonde — even presidents.

Curvesome Connie Towers, sometimes known as the Eyeful Towers, found this to be true when she visited Cuba earlier this month and was invited to perform privately for President Fulgencio Batista.

Connie, a singer of popular songs, caught Batista's eye while warbling on a TV show in Havana.

The President dispatched his family physician and lawyer to Connie's hotel to invite her to the palace.

But womanlike, Connie's only thoughts were about what she would wear.

Chose Black Dress

"I settled for a long-sleeved black dress with a modest neckline," she said demurely. "I was thrilled to death, but I was apprehensive, too. A girl hears all sorts of things about dictators."

"A chauffeured limousine brought me to the palace which wasn't very impressive from the outside. I was met by a guard at the entrance."

"They're careful down there about strangers because of the revolution."

Still not knowing what to expect, Connie, a native of Whitefish, Flathead County, Mont., was conducted to an elevator and deposited on the second floor of the Cuban White House.

Instead of candlelight and wine, the blonde charmer was greeted by cabinet members who chatted with her about the weather and other mundane subjects. "Then a man in uniform told us we would be received by the President," she continued. "We entered an intimate library which is the President's study. As we came in he made his entrance from another door. It was electrifying."

An Exciting Man "There's an urgency and excitement about the man. The same excitement you feel at the start of a horse race. He was very impressive in his uniform and he spoke English beautifully."

Connie's eyes sparkled as she related Batista's story of how the palace elevator saved his life last winter when a mob of rebels invaded the building. "The elevator stuck on the fifth floor," Connie explained.

"And when the rebels trooped up the staircase, Mr. Batista's guard picked them off one at a time as they tried to reach his quarters."

When the small talk was over Connie sang "Quere me mucho" without accompaniment.

"I realize there is a lot of controversy about Batista, but I was interested in him as a man, not a politician," Connie says. "Before I left he told me that when I return to Cuba in six months for a singing engagement he would hold a command performance for me."

Melodrama? "Mrs. Batista was there too," Connie said. "She's a very sweet person."

Bend Corporation Named Subsidiary

Boise — **W** — Formation of the Cascade Pumice corporation at Bend, as a wholly owned subsidiary of Boise Cascade corporation has been announced by President Robert V. Hansberger of Boise Cascade.

Hansberger said the parent firm has acquired the Lloyd Williamson pumice properties near Bend. Williamson will be president and manager of the new corporation.



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Oregon Not Sharing in the National Economic Growth, Neuberger Declares

By SEN. RICHARD NEUBERGER

Portland — (Special) — In mid-December of last year, I submitted a statement to the press analyzing why I feared 1957 would be a period of economic adversity for Oregon. Certain business leaders disagreed with my reasoning. Some of these people even predicted a boom year during 1957 for our state. Unfortunately, they were wrong and I was right.

I make no claim to infallibility in this field. I have much to learn. I am not a trained economist, much as I wish that I were. But it seems to me that

certain hard and stern facts regarding Oregon are as easy to see as is Mount Hood or Mount Jefferson on a bright, clear day.

One Per Cent Gain

Looking either North or South, Oregon residents are confronted with neighboring states where the per capita income is gaining more than the national average. In the State of Washington the estimated 1957 percentage gain is 5.7, and in California it is 4.5 per cent. Yet, in spite of inflation and neighboring prosperity the per capita income of Oregon residents gained but one per cent.

Numerous other statistics add conclusive evidence to the disheartening realization that our state is not sharing in the national economic growth. From 1947 when per capita income in the state was \$202 above the national average, it has tobogganed to some \$15 below the national average. When the wage earner suffers, business naturally follows suit. September of this year found 56 business failures as compared to 22 for the same month of 1956. Not only were the people of Oregon hesitant to give their inflation devastated income to the businessman, but also they were forced to curtail or limit their saving habits. U.S. Savings Bonds sales through Aug. 31, 1957 dropped to \$25,237,145 from \$29,181,571 in the same period of 1956. With October lay-offs breaking all post-war records with 15,000 initial claims

reported from local employment offices and over 19,000 asking weekly compensation, Oregonians were obviously more concerned with basic subsistence than long-range saving.

Severeness Underscored

Despite favorable Fall weather, employment has not risen. Instead, the severeness of the job situation was underscored by the State Unemployment Commission's recent announcement that estimated unemployment has reached between five and six per cent of the total labor force. However, the many people throughout our state who are part of these rapidly rising unemployment totals do not need statistics to impress upon them the reality of the present economic "readjustment." I am confident that they will agree that the time has arrived for Oregon citizens to close ranks and assault for correcting the three malevolent conditions which are restraining our state's economic progress.

The factors which are as devastating to Oregon's prosperity as the scourge wrought by the Horseman of Apocalypse are:

1. The high-interest tight money policies which curtailed new home construction and reduced output in Oregon's lumber industry.

2. Choking off of new supplies of low cost power needed to attract new industry and new payrolls.

3. Steadily advancing railroad rates which place a competitive burden on Oregon producers and throttle ability to sell Oregon goods and produce in major Eastern markets.

Chain Reaction

Because Oregon's business life is closely geared to prosperity in the lumber industry, the Administration's tight money policy which chokes off housing construction started a chain reaction which has spread from forest and mills to the main street of our state's communities. This policy was adopted four years ago by the Administration when it was believed necessary to trim

By UNITED PRESS

Washington — President Eisenhower was reported prepared to urge Congress when it convenes next month to act swiftly in earmarking money for ballistic missile bases in strategic NATO countries.

San Diego — **W** — Rear Adm. Leon J. Huffman, former commander of Pacific fleet submarine forces and currently a member of the Pacific coast section of inspection and survey, said Saturday he would retire from duty Dec. 31.

Increased prices for U.S. autos have outdistanced many consumers, according to average wage figures, who bought 1954-55-56 models.

American Motors corp. President George Romney, admitting his firm barely survived its years of readjustment to compact and small cars, this week gleefully needed the "big three" and said they will now have the same tortuous change to meet the new market.

Foreign car imports, laughed at by the heads of the big U.S. firms only some 18 months ago as fads, will top 200,000 in sales this year and may go to 350,000—or near 6 per cent of the market next year, Ward's said.

Chrysler corp. is expected to announce in the first half of 1958 plans to either buy a foreign car plant or build a plant abroad to sell small economy cars both in the U.S. and world markets.

Vienna — **W** — The supreme prosecutor of Communist Hungary Saturday denounced freedom Premier Imre Nagy as a "traitor" who paved the way for the anti-communist revolution last year. Communist sources said Nagy soon would be brought to trial for his life.

Communist sources said a "judicial inquiry" already had been completed in the case of Nagy and that it found enough "evidence" to warrant a trial.

The trial probably will be held next month, the sources said.

The "inquiry" was carried out by one of the courts established by Premier Janos Kadar last December to deal with "anti-state" activities. Maximum penalty for treason is death.

New Type Of Car Predicted In 1958 By Auto Industry

Detroit — **W** — A "new" type of American car will probably be born out of the 1958 labors of the auto industry to adjust to its changing market.

This was the recent prediction of a Chrysler corporation official who viewed the decline of the middle priced luxury market and the still small but startling growth of foreign small car sales.

Since this prediction was delivered there have been several other developments which make it look even better:

— All sales figures show that except for the lower priced lines there has been little to cheer about in public reception of 1958 models.

— Ward's Automotive Reports, authoritative industry statistical publication, reported Friday domestic auto makers have cut back 1958 production plans by 8.4 per cent or by a half-million cars; and steel firms supplying the auto industry report cutbacks in steel orders.

— Secretary of Labor James Mitchell and state employment officials are predicting increased unemployment for early 1958, with recovery of these jobs seen later in the year.

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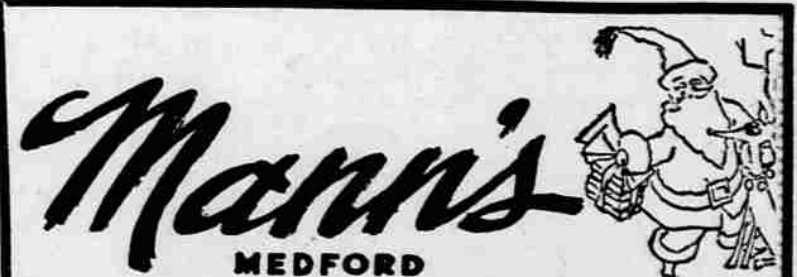
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