

Backstairs: Plan Revealed for Dinner

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Washington—(UPI)—Backstairs at the White House: President Eisenhower's recently revealed plan of having reporters in for dinner and permitting them to publish his views on crucial issues of the day is a journalistic innovation at the White House.

Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman had more social contacts with the news corps of Washington than Eisenhower, but the emphasis here is on the word "social."

Not in modern memory has a president invited all of the full-time White House reporters to dinner and deliberately held forth on a number of subjects in the knowledge that much of what he said would be relayed to the public.

Roosevelt, during his early days in office, had a few reporters to Sunday night suppers spasmodically, but these were not news-producing sessions. They were valuable, however, to the reporters in sensing the chief executive's mood.

Truman Played Poker
During his earlier years in the White House, Truman played poker with some of the reporters he knew personally, or invited them to occasional social affairs at the White House. Here again, they were social and not news-producing contacts, but still valuable.

The Roosevelt and Truman semi-social relations with the reporters who covered them seemed to diminish in frequency toward the end of their terms. Thus, it is somewhat surprising that the current President does something to improve his relations with the press and radio and television during the last 18 months of his term.

On the surface, his explanation last week was the first that the dining table briefing essentially was an experiment. He also made the point that he wanted to show "a courtesy" to the men who cover him regularly and accompany him wherever he goes.

Another recent example of this "courtesy" was inclusion of three reporters in a garden party he gave at his Gettysburg farm for members of the White House staff. It was the first time reporters were invited to join other guests in a tour of virtually all of his

home except the upstairs bedrooms.

In a way, this was a more radical departure from his usual reserve than last Monday's White House dinner. The Gettysburg house has been Eisenhower's fortress against prying eyes. He must have been more than a little reassured when the three reporters, invited strictly as guests, did not leap into print

with a foot by foot word-tour of his home.

A President sometimes gets annoyed at reporters for prying, or seeming to pry, into areas he regards as purely personal. On occasion, it becomes necessary for someone close to a chief executive to tot up the many times that newsmen have experienced in White House coverage respect the confidences and the human nature of the President.

Satellite Launching Planned in August

Washington—(UPI)—The United States plans to launch a Paddlewheel satellite from Cape Canaveral, Fla., about Aug. 7 to test feasibility of using solar power to operate radio equipment aboard space probes to be fired later at the planet Venus.

Reliable sources said today that if the Paddlewheel shot is successful that National Aeronautics and Space Administration, also plans:

—To fire a deep space probe in November into a trajectory

which would take it to the vicinity of Venus if the planet were in a favorable position. Actually, Venus won't be in shooting distance of the earth again until 1961.

Follows Report
Disclosure of these plans followed a report in London that U. S. scientists are at Britain's big Jodrell Bank radio station for an attempt to put a rocket in orbit around the moon "between Aug. 1 and 10."

This report is wrong, it was learned. The Americans are at Jodrell Bank to help track the Paddlewheel satellite. Other major tracking stations for this shot are at Cape Canaveral, Hawaii, and Singapore, with Goldstone in California and the Millstone Hill station in New Hampshire assisting.

NASA had planned to launch the Paddlewheel in an advance of a Venus probe scheduled for last month when the bright planet was in a favorable position. Technical difficulties forced postponement of the Venus shot until 1961, and the Paddlewheel experiment also was held up.

Gets Rescheduled
The Paddlewheel satellite, so-called because it carries solar vanes which give it somewhat the appearance of a paddlewheel, has now been rescheduled for Aug. 7.

The Paddlewheel satellite will be launched into the flattest orbit yet attempted. If all goes well it will extend about 20,000 miles from the earth at its farthest reach and will come within 150 miles at its closest approach.

The satellite will be launched by a three-stage rocket consisting of an Air Force Thor booster with second and third stages developed from the Navy Vanguard rocket.

The satellite's elongated orbit will enable it to make repeated samplings of the so-called Van Allen radiation belts around the earth and provide new data on their intensity and extent.

Salvage Team Finds Sunken Treasure

Miami, Fla.—(UPI)—A six-man salvage team, flushed with Saturday's success, scoured the ocean bottom off the Florida Keys today for more Spanish relics and treasure.

The group, operating near Tavernier, Saturday brought up 18 tons of relics from a Spanish galleon sunk in 1733.

A chest of gold coins, kegs of silver bars, 2,000 rusty cannon balls and other items were included in the find.

Tim Watkins, the expedition's leader would not estimate the value of the find but said it was "certainly one of the more significant" treasure discoveries of the last decade.

Watkins said he has marked about 40 other wrecks in the area for examination.

"Regardless of what others will tell you," Watkins said, "there is no secret about treasure hunting. You simply have to know the ocean bottom and know how to mark wrecks when you find them."

Service Station Man Once Figure of Sea

Barre, Mass.—(UPI)—To see him now, manning the pumps at his filling station, you'd never think that Basil D. Izzi was once the central figure in a saga of the sea.

It happened in 1942, early in World War II, when Izzi, then a 19-year-old sailor, was set adrift along with four shipmates on a nine-by-eight-foot raft after their boat was torpedoed in the South Atlantic.

Izzi was one of three to survive the ordeal of 83 days aboard the raft, with only the fish and birds they could catch for food and only rain-water for drink.

BACK ON JOB

Washington—(UPI)—President Eisenhower returned to the White House by helicopter today after spending a restful weekend with his wife at their Gettysburg, Pa., farm.

The world's largest fruit packing shed is located in Placerville, Calif.

Talent School Staff Completed for Term

Talent—Talent public schools will open Sept. 8, according to R. B. Parr, superintendent.

Since the approval of contracts of Don Moore, athletic coach, and Richard Gannaway, instrumental and chorus instructor, the teaching staff has been completed for the coming school year, Parr said.

Staff members for the elementary grades include Gene Farthing, principal; Richard Thorpe, Virginia Schopf, George Zickfoose, Bill Mearns, George Quinowski, Ruth Dews, Esther Newcomb, Cecile Fifield, Ida Bowman, Annette Fellers, Genevieve Holdridge, Nellie Young, Mary Ann Conger, Richard

Reum, Yvonne Mearns and Doris Corry.

High school staff includes E. A. Vickel, principal; Ruby Messenger, Mildred Parr, Don Moore, John Kuchler, George Nelson, Mildred Hart and Patrick Lynch.

Some snakes have been known to live without food from one to two years by absorbing the fat of their own bodies.

College Graduates To Continue Study

McMinnville—Continuing desire for more education beyond the bachelor degree and increasing opportunities for graduate work are emphasized again this year at Linfield college here where 30 per cent of the June graduating class plans more formal study this fall.

Thirty new Linfield gradu-

ates have completed graduate school plans for September, a survey shows. Two others have postponed graduate work briefly and at least 12 have received scholarships, assistantships or fellowships.

Record show that a large percentage of Linfield graduate enroll in graduate schools soon after receiving

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their bachelor degrees. In 1958, 24 per cent of that class sought additional education. This class included a Rhodes scholar.

A radar antenna 1,000 feet in diameter is planned for completion by early 1961 when Venus will be nearest to the earth.



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