

Khrushchev Said To Be Improving

Moscow—(UPI)—Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, who has been suffering from flu, is out of bed and may return to work "in a few days," First Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan said Thursday.

Mikoyan said at a Finnish Embassy reception that Khrushchev is back on his feet "but his doctors won't allow him out" of his suburban home.

"He is better and he should be back at work after a few days," Mikoyan said.

It was Mikoyan who Wednesday confirmed reports that Khrushchev was ill. Khrushchev last was seen in public Friday at a Cuban ballet performance.

MUSIC ORGANIZER DIES

Orange, N.J.—(UPI)—Mrs. Parker O. Griffith, 82, who in 1938 organized the non-profit Griffith Music Foundation which brought symphony orchestras, leading artists and cultural and educational groups to Newark, N.J., died Wednesday.

Hall Not Guilty In Idaho Slaying; Girl Faces Charge

Gooding, Idaho—(UPI)—Roger Hall, Crescent City, Calif., was found innocent of murder early today, just a few hours after a key witness at his trial was arrested on a California warrant charging her with another slaying.

A jury of eight men and four women deliberated less than five hours before acquitting Hall, 22, on the charge of killing Dr. John Hunt, Portland, Ore. Hunt, a plant pathologist, was slain on the Idaho desert Aug. 24, 1959.

Hall and Mary Katherine Hampton, 19, Sandy Hook, Ky., were implicated in the Hunt slaying by convicted murderer Emmett Spencer. He admitted the actual killing, but maintained that Hall and Miss Hampton were accomplices.

Spencer, currently awaiting

execution in Florida for a murder there, also admitted the slaying of Perry Ten Eyek, former University of California basketball star. He again named Miss Hampton as an accessory.

Testified for State

Miss Hampton was originally charged with murder in the Hunt case, but the charge was dropped when she offered to testify for the state against Hall.

However, Miss Hampton was arrested here Thursday on a California warrant charging her with the murder of Ten Eyek. The warrant was received in a wire from Sheriff Reno Bartolomeo of Ukiah, Calif.

Ten Eyek, 53, was found beaten to death near Ukiah, about 100 miles north of San Francisco.

Bartolomeo said Spencer admitted that he and Miss Hampton killed Ten Eyek after he picked them up on a Southern California highway and they talked him into driving them to Oregon.

Miss Hampton's court-appointed attorney, Jack Murphy, said he would fight any attempt to extradite her to stand trial in California on the murder charge.

Attorney Claims Revenge

Murphy claimed that Spencer was "out to get" the girl because "she told the truth in Florida which helped to bring about his conviction and sentence of death."

"The evidence right here in Idaho clearly shows what this man is trying to do," Murphy said. "He has made accusations to local authorities about killings that do not exist, claiming that he and Kathy were involved."

"He has no compunction about involving himself because he's going to die anyway—but he wants to make sure she does, too."

Murphy said his client emphatically denied the Ten Eyek killing.

"It's a figment of his (Spencer's) imagination, just as many other statements he made."

Sheriff Bartolomeo sent a wire to Idaho Gov. Robert E. Smylie asking his help in extradition of Miss Hampton. Smylie said he was unable to assist, unless asked by the governor of California.



KENNEDY FAMILY—President-elect John F. Kennedy, Washington, D.C., Thursday. Only relatives and a few friends attended the ceremony. (UPI Telephoto)

Back Stairs: Press Conference Lacking

By WILLIAM J. EATON

Washington—(UPI)—Back Stairs at the White House:

President Eisenhower has not had a full-dress, formal news conference for three months—the longest such interval during his administration except for the convalescent period following his 1953 heart attack.

The Chief Executive last conducted a wide-open question-and-answer session in Washington on Sept. 7 at the start of the political campaign.

He appeared before newsmen in Augusta, Ga., on Nov. 16 to explain his directives to cut down overseas spending and halt the gold outflow. But questions were limited to that subject and Eisenhower announced at the outset that it was not a formal press conference.

Not Conference

During an October vacation, the President answered a few questions on the first tee of the Eldorado Country Club near Palm Springs, Calif., about a political appearance in New York City.

But neither the White House nor the corps of correspondents regarded either session as a news conference. There is no indication from James C. Hagerty, the President's press secretary, when the next one will be held.

However, Hagerty said in answer to a question that he was sure the Chief Executive would meet reporters before he leaves office Jan. 20.

Interval Contrasts

In 1955, the Chief Executive met with newsmen on

Aug. 4 and then headed for a Denver vacation. He suffered a heart attack on Sept. 24 and did not see reporters again until Jan. 8, 1956—five months from the August conference.

The long interval this year contrasts sharply with the Eisenhower record in 1959, when he met with newsmen at least once a month.

Eisenhower has pioneered in several ways in his dealings with the communications media. He allowed television cameras to record the news conferences starting with his 58th press session on Jan. 19, 1954.

He now has had 91 news conferences since his inauguration—an average of about one every two weeks.

Photographer Discussed

One of the well-known Washington photographers—Thomas Craven Sr. of United Press Movietone—was one of the topics discussed by President Eisenhower and President-elect John F. Kennedy at their historic meeting.

Eisenhower noticed Craven was in the office to take pictures after a prolonged absence from the White House and asked where he had

SHELL REBEL TROOPS

Jakarta, Indonesia—(UPI)—The Indonesian army Thursday reported that 90 rebel Darul Islam troops and their followers were killed last week in a shelling attack. The army said an Indonesian navy ship scored a direct hit on the Darul Islam barracks in the South Celebes.

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Putnam Makes Suggestions on School Programs

Salem—(UPI)—Dr. Rex Putnam, superintendent of public instruction, has recommended to Gov. Mark Hatfield and the 1961 legislature that no new activities or programs be put into effect that will draw from the basic school support fund unless the fund money is replaced.

Putnam's recommendation appears in the 44th Oregon education report put out by the State Education Department.

Putnam said "while it is probable that there is need to study the status of the presently constituted office of county school superintendent, no change should be made which would create a vacuum in administrative procedures."

Intermediate Office

He said an intermediate office between the state and the local school districts should be maintained in some form.

Other recommendations:—Salaries of the education department professional staff be kept in line with comparable positions in local school districts. He said a survey shows salaries of state education officials are "considerably lower" than positions outside the department.

That the legislature increase the amount appropriated for basic school support with the "ultimate goal" being 50 per cent state support to grade and high schools.

That basic school support money be used to reimburse school districts for "the normal school program" and that special programs be financed from special appropriations.

BLACKLIST SHIPS

Damascus, U.A.R.—(UPI)—The Arab League Thursday put the American ship Liscomb Lykes and the Swedish ship Lillian on its blacklist because they violated Arab boycott regulations. The action was taken by the league's Israel boycott office and presumably concerned trading with Israel.

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Memorial Services Slated on Sunday

Special memorial services for members of the Medford Elks lodge who died during the past year will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the local temple.

The service is held annually to honor members who died. Eighteen members died during the past year.

Lodge officers will conduct services, and music will be provided by the Hedrick Junior High school acapella choir under the direction of Carroll Graber. Organ prelude and postlude will be by John Lusk.

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