

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann

THE PRESIDENT AND THE PEOPLE

While President Kennedy's popularity, as measured by the Gallup Poll, is high, he is still a long way from having behind him a reliable and effective majority. The narrowness of the election is still registered in Congress, particularly in the House, and the general upsurge of good feeling in the country has not yet crystallized as practical support of his program.

One might describe the public mood as one of growing good will and confidence without the excitement and enthusiasms of a crisis. This will do very well for a time. But while the Kennedy mission is not to resolve a crisis such as confronted Roosevelt in 1933, his mission, as he made amply clear in the campaign, is to arrest and reverse a decline in American power, influence, and progress which could over a period of years produce critical and dangerous results. If the excitements of a crisis are uncalled for, a conviction of national purposes and necessities is for the long run indispensable.

As of now, there are many more people who like John Kennedy, and his appointments, and his style of operating in office, than there are people who understand and believe in what he is committed to doing. He will have to close this gap; he will have to persuade the large majority who like him that they must also believe in him. Until this is done, the important constructive measures of his administration are headed for serious trouble in Congress. For Congress is not now feeling the pressure of a large convinced Kennedy majority.

Such a majority cannot, I venture to think, be rallied wholly or in the main by personal popularity. As measured by the Gallup Poll, Mr. Kennedy probably is about as popular as Gen. Eisenhower after his first month in the White House.

But his situation is radically different from Gen. Eisenhower's. He is committed to positive programs that require new laws and new appropriations and perhaps new taxes. His predecessor was primarily interested in undoing rather than in doing. High personal popularity with a passive and negative program make for an easy life. But personal popularity is not enough to carry with it an active and innovating program.

The President will have to find ways of communicating his own convictions to a working majority of the people. Is he not doing that? Not adequately, so it seems to me. There is a missing element in his press conferences, his speeches, and his public appearances, and for lack of it he receives much approval without creating sufficient conviction.

That missing element is, I think, the willingness to take the time and to take the trouble to explain, to expound, to describe, in a word to teach. John Kennedy is already proving himself to be an extraordinary Chief Executive. He has very great gifts of precise analysis and judgment, he has a rare combination of courage with political sophistication. Indeed, he has all the makings of a great President. But if he is to be a great President, he must be not only executive, organizer, politician, and popular leader. He must also be a popular teacher.

The greatest leaders are also great teachers. The instinct to teach, to make himself understood because he has explained himself, has not yet shown itself in the President. I say not yet

because I have no doubt that this instinct to teach is in him. It is in every man who has deep convictions and a passion to realize them.

His press conferences illustrate what I am trying to say. They are conceived on the assumption that the use of a Presidential press conference is to provide spot news. The President makes announcements and the correspondents ask him questions in order to get stories, perhaps even scoops, that have not yet been published.

This is, I believe, a basically false conception of why it is worthwhile to have the President submit himself to questions from the press. It adds nothing to the spot news to have the President, rather than Mr. Sallinger, announcing it. As for the hidden stories and scoops, there is never enough time to go deeply into any of the background which make them significant. As compared with what might be done with the President's brief time before the television cameras, a very large number of the questions are a waste of time. Moreover, unless I am greatly mistaken, the use of the time to dig out hidden news and to reach for scoops is not ending the American press to the American public.

The real use of the Presidential press conference is to enable the President to explain his policies and, if necessary, to compel him to explain them. In any event, explanation, not announcements or scoops, is wanted in this extremely public but also very intimate encounter between the President and the public. How the President's press conference can be reformed or transformed, or whether it should be supplemented, are questions which can be answered only after some experimentation. But these questions need to be answered. For President Kennedy with all his political genius is not yet in full effective communication with the American people.

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Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY features a top-ranking M.C. named Gene Rayburn. An out-of-town fan asked Rayburn one morning, "Are you related to the Speaker of the House?"

"Am I related?" chuckled Rayburn. "I'm married to her!"

A movie director once requested Actor Victor Mature to register a certain expression for a scene in progress. "See here," snapped Mature. "I have three basic expressions: I can look right, I can look left, and I can look straight ahead. Now which expression do you want?"

A Park Avenue matron took her 6-year-old daughter to see a large stable in the Bedford Hills sector of Westchester. The youngster's attention was captured immediately by a newborn colt.

"Look, Mommy," she caroled, "A foreign horse!"

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Court Records

JUSTICE COURT
Gold Hill District
Montana Machine Dalton, disobeyed stop sign, \$5.
Joseph Edward Cox, inadequate brakes, \$25.
Walter Joseph Kraus, failure to dim headlights, \$25.
Doris William Jackson, obstructed vision, \$10.
Jan Skagstad, disobeyed stop sign, \$5.
Nada Marelene Rose, disobeyed stop sign, \$5, suspended.
Curtis Dale Pechalka, expired vehicle license, \$5.
George Patrick Novetzke, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Allen Richard Hilkey, no brakes, \$25.
Vera Margery Peterson, obstructed vision, \$10.
Robert Francis Kirk, truck speeding, \$10.
Sandra Marie Proctor, failure to dim headlights, \$5.
Charles Michael Grey, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Louis Oliver DeMoss, truck speeding, \$10.
Marvel Louise Fowler, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Elmer Eugene Brown, obstructed vision, \$10.
John Francis Watson, no operator's license, \$5.
Patricia Lucille Goseman, failure to stop for school bus, \$10.
Gerhard Bruno Karl Langer, no lights, \$15.
Lillian Ruth Pettee, violation of basic rule, \$20.
Terrie Ann McLorin, expired vehicle license, \$5.
Johnny Glen Harris, violation of basic rule, \$10.

JUSTICE COURT
Ashland District
Charles Edward Weaver, obstructed vision, \$10.
David Elmer Robertson, overload, \$24.
Ray Owen Gant, disobeyed stop sign, \$15.
Joseph Dean Smith, overload, \$19.50.
William Lawrence Jenn, overload, \$32.50.
Kenneth Van Ausdall, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Robert Charles Haddock, bus speeding, \$10.
Marshall Eldon Farned, overlength, \$15.
Elden Hertha, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Homer Taylor, improper passing, \$20.
Clyde Wheelson, holding speed contest, \$4.50 and 8 days in county jail.
Henry Dooms, no muffler, \$10.
William Breece, violation of basic rule, \$25.
Jesse Jaco, no operator's license, \$5.
Everett Schmelzer, obstructed vision, \$5.
Robert Dawson, overload, \$22.
Lee Bates, overload, \$32.
Richard Thompson, overlength, \$15.
Turner Ingram, overload, \$10.
Daniel Rankin, overlength, \$15.
Robert Derby, overload, \$260.
Ronald King, overload, \$26.
James Crasty, four in driver's seat, \$15.
Milton Wallace, expired vehicle license, \$5.
Charles Murphy, expired vehicle license, \$5.
Warren Dunn, overwidth, \$15.
Edward Jeffries, overwidth, \$15.
Patrick Machado, overload, \$78.
Leland Buckley, overload, \$28.
Richard Bricker, overload, \$91.50.
Charles McMillin, overload, \$40.
Clair Wood, overload, \$67.50.
Ronald Cushman, obstructed vision, \$10.
Elvan Overholzer, overload, \$63.
Kathryn Harder, violation of basic rule, \$100.
Oliver Herbison, obstructed vision, \$15.
Howard Carter, excessive noise, \$15.
Seth Putnam, overlength, \$15.

DISTRICT COURT
Warren J. Gutches, no clearance lights, \$10.
Richard Havner, failure to dim lights, \$7.50.

Senior Citizens Official To Speak On Legislation

Coming changes in social security, medical care for the aged, and an adequate living allowance for retired people will be discussed at two meetings of the National League of Senior Citizens to be held in Grants Pass and Medford Thursday.

The Grants Pass meeting will be held in the Women's club auditorium across from the Grants Pass library at 2 p.m. Thursday. The Medford meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the YMCA. The public is invited to attend both meetings.

J. M. Burk, regional director of the NLSC and the league's legislative counsel, will report on state legislation introduced by the league.

First of the hearings on NLSC sponsored legislation was held in Salem on March 3. Then a bill to allow deferral of a portion of the real property tax for persons over 65 was discussed. Also discussed was a bill to provide outright exemption of such amounts. Burk opposed the deferral bill and supported the exemption bill.

Other NLSC bills introduced include a bill on medical care for the aged using matching federal funds for direct medical care for those eligible. Burk strongly opposes the administration's bill for insurance to provide medical care in Oregon. This insurance idea is unworkable and would make Oregon ineligible for federal aid, he said.

10 States Frown on Aid To Children

Washington—UPI—At least 10 states plan to turn down President Kennedy's proposed federal aid to needy children of jobless parents, it was learned today.

Even so, the House was expected to approve the emergency measure today and rush it to the Senate for similar action.

The legislation would provide up to \$305 million in public assistance aid for youngsters under 18 years of age.

Thomas Beecham, Conductor, Dies

London—UPI—Sir Thomas Beecham, 81, one of the world's most revered orchestra conductors, died today of a stroke.

The famed British musician, who became a baronet on the death of his father and also was knighted for his services to music, suffered a second cerebral thrombosis. He had been ill for several months and had been confined to his bed after canceling a number of performances in Europe last year.

Beecham was recognized as a masterful interpreter of the classicalists, but he was equally famous for his ironic humor and racy wit.

BOTTLE BRINGS ARREST

Greensboro, N.C.—UPI—A Delta airliner flying from Washington to Charlotte, N.C., made an unscheduled stop Tuesday night to check a bomb scare. The "bomb" turned out to be a bottle of wine. Charles Truner, 39, a passenger, was removed to jail and charged with drunkenness.

CITY FOUNDED

Santiago, Chile, was founded in the year 1541.

Food Stamp Plan Test Areas Told

Washington—UPI—Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman has announced that President Kennedy's food stamp plan to help the impoverished will be tested in the city of Detroit and seven other localities from Montana to Kentucky.

The other localities Freeman announced Tuesday were Franklin county, Ill.; Floyd county, Ky.; the Virginia-Hib-

bing-Nashwauk area in the Mesabi iron range of northern Minnesota; Silver Bow county (including Butte) Mont.; San Miguel county, N.M.; Fayette county, Pa.; and McDowell county, W.Va. Freeman said he hopes to get the plan into operation by June 1, but said it might take until June 15 to get the program going.

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Unemployment Reduction Seen

Washington—UPI—Mild weather and brisk Easter trade may reduce unemployment this month from the 20-year high of 5,705,000 recorded in February, Labor Department economists said today.

They based their forecast on the hope, expressed Tuesday by Labor Secretary Arthur J. Goldberg, that expansion of construction activity, farming and trade would absorb some of the long-term unemployed. Goldberg cited the unemployment figures to the Senate Banking Committee today in prepared testimony urging immediate approval of President Kennedy's emergency program to extend jobless benefits.

Program on Animals Scheduled Thursday

A program on animals of this area is being sponsored by the Public Library of Medford and Jackson county on Thursday, March 9, at 4:15 p.m.

All children of grades four through six are invited.

Featured speaker will be Dr. Franklin Sturges, assistant professor of science at Southern Oregon college.

Other interested young people are invited also, a library spokesman said.

Dr. Sturges will discuss the ways some of the animals live, and how they interact with each other. Animal skins and a special book display will be featured.

The program will last about 45 minutes.

4-H NEWS

Have Needle, Will Sew
The fourth meeting of the Have Needle Will Sew 4-H club was held at Mrs. Chester Ashton's home Feb. 23. All seven members were present.

The entire meeting time was devoted to business, including plans for goals for the coming year. We also talked about our skit for Friendship follies. Ideas for skits were exchanged but final plans will be made at the next meeting.

We also planned a skating party for the club which will be held Wednesday, March 15, at the Phoenix Skating rink. We will meet at Bonnie's before going. The next meeting will be held at Mrs. Ashton's home March 9 at 7 p.m.

Bonnie Knapp served refreshments.

Georgia Mitchell, Reporter

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