

Back Stairs: Problems for Kennedy

By MERRIMAN SMITH
UPI White House Reporter

Washington—UPI—Back stairs at the White House: A proud Virginian and Middleburg neighbor of President Kennedy threatens to put up a large sign on the edge of his property saying, "you're now leaving the Old Dominion and crossing the New Frontier."

Harry Albacker, a Pittsburgh, Pa., entertainer who bills himself as "the only dead magician alive," is adding to the pet problem at the White House.

Albacker for some time has used in his show a white rabbit named Zsa Zsa. The bun-

ny, however, has grown a bit too large for high silk hats and her owner is shipping the animal to three-year-old Caroline Kennedy for Easter.

Albacker says the rabbit has been trained to play a top trumpet, which is more than can be said for the salamander recently presented to the President by his seven-year-old nephew Robert Kennedy Jr.

Young Bobby delivered the salamander to the President about 10 days ago in a glass jar which now repose empty in the office of the President's secretary, Mrs. Evelyn Lincoln. The salamander has been given warmer and more comfortable quarters in the White

House florist shop.

With the advent of any new national administration, it required much investigative effort and varying amounts of time to extend security clearance for new appointees per-

mitting them to have access to classified government documents.

The current jam of security clearance means that the green light still has not flashed for several sub-cabinet Kennedy appointees. The result is that these job-holders are somewhat frustrated in the conduct of their assign-

ments, being unable to see some of the vital papers of government which are readily available to security-cleared associates working in the same department or agency.

For years, the Secret Service insisted that White House automobile tags should not be distinctive or so unusual that

they could be spotted easily by the general public. This policy, however, seems to have been abandoned. The President's tag number in the District of Columbia is JK-100 and the first 25 licenses in the JK series are assigned to ranking members of the White House staff.

If you see anything over JK-126, the car probably belongs to a member of the general public who was assigned the number as a matter of routine distribution.

The President has the enthusiastic approval of his physician, Dr. Janet G. Travell,

in his preference for rocking chairs. The Chief Executive has a ladder-backed rocker in front of the fireplace in his White House office. Frequently he suggests to callers that they sit on couches beside the fireplace and he takes the rocker while they conduct their conference.

Doctor Travell would like to see many other American executives with rocking chairs in their offices. She thinks that while the exercise provided by a rocker is mild, it is vastly preferable to the ultra-soft, so-called executive chairs used by many men confined to long hours in offices.

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MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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IN LEGAL BATTLE—Mrs. Dolores Hope, right, wife of comedian Bob Hope, accompanied by Mrs. Josephine Wayne, is shown as she appeared in Los Angeles Federal Court in the legal battle over Hope's life story. The Internal Revenue Service claims the Hopes should pay taxes on money raised by the Bob and Dolores Hope Foundation, which was set up to aid crippled children and which the film couple contend is a charitable organization and tax exempt. Hope gave the rights of his life story to the foundation, which sold it to a national magazine for \$100,000. (UPI Telephoto)

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors. (Copyright 1961—General Features Corp.)

Mimi B.—He's careful how he talks to his associates, but not his wife.

Raphael B.—She's too touchy and too fussy about manners at home.

Mimi B.—I run a big house and take care of our three children, all with no help. When Rafe gets home, the dinner is cooked and the place is tidy. Yet, if he happens to find me resting on the couch, he'll say, "Pretty soft!" and wonder what I did all day.

Hasn't he any eyes? Any imagination? Does he think anything, even a pin, moves from here to there without me moving it? But he never asks, "How did things go?"

He wants tons of solicitude, consideration and sympathy for the hard day he puts in, but if I crave some of the same he acts as if I've been on a rest-cure! "What's hard about that?" is all the comfort I get.

Actually I know he gets a few coffee-breaks at the office, and plenty of yarn-swapping around the water cooler. I'm sure he's the essence of politeness to anyone who pleads fatigue or strain. But at home he acts like a boor and insists upon being handled with kid gloves.

No, I want him a gentleman at home, kid gloves and all.

Raphael B.—How can Mimi, home all day and her own boss, compare her condition with mine at the end of a day's work? She doesn't have the pressure of an office-manager asking her to hurry up with last week's reports and get out this week's reports within 24 hours.

She can lie down any time she wants to, watch TV, or escape with a bridge game while the kids are at school.

Not me. Those coffee-breaks and yak-sessions are straight out of Mimi's imagination. Sometimes I don't even let up for lunch, but have it sent in.

I think I'm showing her enough consideration by leaving her free and quiet all day, with no criticism of how she does the house or what she keeps with her time. But unless I keep thanking and complimenting her, she feels I'm a brute.

Mimi should go easy with me, and stop making unnecessary demands.

The Council:—To settle this debate as to who deserves more consideration, a magic wand is needed. Then Mimi would go to the office for a week, and Raphael would run the house, mind the kids, and welcome her home. They'd

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