

DOOMED TO OBSCURITY

One-Time International Celebrity Depends on Government for Handout

By DICK WEST

Washington — (UPI) — Once he was the toast of the nation and a name familiar to news-



West

paper readers on five continents, including Australia. Millions saw him on television and thousands more saw him in a motion picture which was hailed as one of the most important documentaries ever filmed.

Now he is all but forgotten, a has-been doomed to obscurity and dependent on the government for his daily sustenance.

And that shows how fleeting fame is, for his rise and fall as an international celebrity were telescoped into a few short weeks. I am referring, as you already may have guessed, to "Ham," America's original astronaut.

I got to thinking about Ham Wednesday as I was witnessing, courtesy of the House Space Committee, the first public showing of the official film of last week's man-in-space flight.

It so happens that I also was on hand last February during the first public showing of the film taken on Ham's trail-blazing trip.

Height of Glory

Ham at that time was at the height of his glory, little realizing how soon it would be eclipsed by human astronaut Alan Shepard; not to mention Yuri Gagarin.

As I watched Shepard's great adventure unfold on the screen, I found myself drawing comparisons between his pictured reactions and those of the chimpanzee.

It seemed to me that Shepard, on the whole, took things more calmly. At least he did not bare his teeth when the force of gravity pressed him against his high-flying chaise longue.

The film was made by a camera fixed inside the capsule so that it would focus on Shepard's face from lift-off to landing. It was hard to tell from his expression just what was going on.

However, you could see his arms move as he punched buttons and things on the instrument panel, and once he turned his head to look out of the window.

Stood Straight Up

During the period of weightlessness, the straps on Shepard's harness stood straight up although was lying on his back. It was kind of eerie.

There also was a shot of Shepard giving the big rocket the once-over just before he boarded it. I had a feeling that he was looking at it askance.

The end of the film showed Shepard being plucked out of the ocean by a helicopter.

This made me wonder what his first words were when he was hauled aboard. Unfortunately, it was a silent film, but I like to think that he turned to the pilot and said "Take me to your leader."



MORE HARD LUCK—A woman sneak thief stole \$1 from Duane Busby, 9, of Los Angeles, as he walked to a grocery store to buy bread and milk for his four hungry brothers and sisters. The dollar was the last one the destitute hard-luck family had. Misfortunes have piled up on the family. The father is in a Veterans hospital for treatment of cancer. Their car was stolen two weeks ago. Their household electricity has been turned off. Duane underwent surgery three years ago in a million-to-one operation which saved his eyesight. (UPI Telephoto)

Late Bloom Continues On Many Bartlett Pears

An unusually high amount of late bloom continues to appear in the Bartlett pears, according to County Horticulturist Clifford B. Cordy.

He said late bloom generally gives orchardists trouble for blight cankers which should be cut out and removed from the orchards as soon as possible.

Sprays of copper or streptomycin should be used, Cordy explained that streptomycin sprays cannot be used nearer than 90 days to harvest so that the time for its use is about to expire. He said that copper should be applied to dry trees and under conditions when it will dry rapidly.

Cordy said the late bloom is also evident in other pear varieties, which is unusual, but not of concern. He added

that generally the late bloom has passed within one month from the dropping of the first blossoms.

The county official said that a heavy infestation of blight has been reported in the Placerville, Calif., area. He said conditions which encourage blight in one area are generally similar along the coast.

Cordy said there have been no reports of new blight in the Rogue valley, but it is known there are holdover cankers. Insects can move to new blossoms quickly so blight could increase rapidly if given a chance, he added.

Sacramento, Calif. — (UPI) — Mrs. Charles Kinsey gave birth to a boy Wednesday in the infant's ward department of a downtown department store.

State Plans Sale Of Used Vehicles

The Oregon department of finance and administration will conduct an auction of state-owned vehicles at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Medford Highway shop, Highway 99, north of Medford.

It will be the second public auction held by the state in Medford.

Included will be a 1957 station wagon, 19 passenger cars (1954-59 models), pickups, travelalls, suburbans, dump trucks and scoopmobile loader. All are available for inspection from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, May 19 and from 8 a.m. until sale time. A brochure listing equipment to be sold will be available.

Two state sales were held in Portland and Salem during April, with licensed automotive dealers purchasing 35 per cent of the vehicles offered. Twenty-six 1957 sedans averaged \$738 each, 14 1958 sedans averaged \$753 each, and 10 1959 two-door sedans averaged \$995 each, at the two sales.

Successful bidders will be required to remit a 10 per cent bid security with entire amount to be paid by May 25. Personal checks are acceptable as bid security only.

Firemen Inspect 87 Homes in Medford

City firemen on home inspection Wednesday made 35 recommendations for correction of fire hazards.

They inspected 87 dwellings, noting no hazards in 56 of them.

Firemen stopped at 170 houses and found no one home at 70. Occupants of 13 homes declined the offer of inspection.

DISABILITY RATE

New York — About 28 million of U.S. citizens suffer some form of chronic disease or a physical disability handicap.

TOBACCO CENTER

Raleigh — More than one-half of all tobacco products manufactured in the U.S. come from various North Carolina centers.

FUEL MEASURE

Los Angeles — An electronic fuel gauge for the U.S. air force measures gasoline in pounds rather than by gallon.

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6 Only, Swing Spout Faucet	5.39
6 Only, Disston Hand Pruner	.89
24 Only, 1/2-Pt. Pure Linseed Oil Putty	.19
48 Only, Auto Litter Container	.29
50 Only, 4" Porcelain Pull Chain Recept.	.29
10 Only, 11-Piece Plastic Measuring Sets	.66

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GRANTED DIVORCE—Dancer Ann Miller is shown in Santa Monica, Calif., court where she was granted an interlocutory divorce from Texas oilman William P. Moss. Miss Miller waived alimony but was awarded \$43,000 in cash and their Beverly Hills home. She charged Moss with cruelty and said he frequently struck her, on one occasion breaking her hand. (UPI Telephoto)

4-H News

Smart Cookies

The meeting of Smart Cookies 4-H club May 8 was called to order by President Sue Lisenbee. John Gilham led the 4-H pledge and Gordon Braten led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roxanne Whipple called the roll and read the minutes. We talked about a party for our mothers for Mother's day. Our record books were checked by Junior Leader Colleen Franek.

Each member is to make a pudding at home and give a report on the results at the next meeting. Mrs. Florey told us to practice our Brownies for the pre-fair.

Colleen Franek will give a demonstration on quick cookies at the next meeting.

Karyn Ricks, Reporter

HOT JOB

Cleveland, Ohio — (UPI) — Asked how he liked three new spotlights installed in his city hall office to improve reading conditions, Mayor Anthony Celebrezze replied, "They're lousy." Disheartened by the terse rebuff, city electricians suggested installing sun lamps in the mayor's office. Snapped the mayor: "This job is hot enough as it is."

Priest in Daily Visit To Cooper

Hollywood — (UPI) — Msgr. Daniel F. Sullivan of the Church of the Good Shepherd is a daily visitor at the bedside of cancer-stricken actor Gary Cooper, the star's family reported today.

Cooper was converted to Catholicism in 1959. His doctor, Rex Kennamer, said Cooper's condition continues to decline, but not radically.

The 60-year-old actor has been unable to receive visitors other than Msgr. Sullivan and his wife and daughter since April 23.

Under sedation much of the time in his Bel Air home and fed intravenously, Cooper talks with his wife and daughter when conscious.

TO APPEAL ORDER

New York — (UPI) — Pan American World Airways said it will appeal a federal court order signed Thursday that it get rid of its 50 per cent interest in Pan American Grace Airways (Panagra). Federal Judge Thomas F. Murphy, who signed the order, found Pan Am guilty last March of violating the anti-trust laws by preventing Panagra from seeking routes between South America and the United States. The federal government had started the anti-trust suit in 1954.

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