

Rings for Everything

Bells Can Make Capitol Building Sound Like Alcatraz Prison Break

By DICK WEST
Washington—UPI—Several days ago, as a public service, I undertook to explain how tourists visiting the U.S. Capitol could tell what floor they were on. I pointed out that a "P" stands for "street," that "F" stands for "floor," that "B" stands for "subway," and so forth.

Since then, I have been informed that the floor identification system is only a minor factor in the overall confusion of tourists and is not what gives them traumas.

What really shakes them up is that they keep hearing bells.

I feel it my duty to explain, therefore, that they really do hear bells. The Capitol has more bells than most cathedrals. There are times when

the place sounds like Alcatraz during a prison break.

Actually, the bells are a sort of primitive signal system, serving the same purpose for members of Congress that voodoo drums provide for tribal leaders in the jungle.

When a congressman hears one long ring at 9:30 a.m., he knows that the House is meeting at noon. This is followed at 11:45 by three short rings, which means that the session is now only 15 minutes away.

Most congressmen can tell time, but this way they don't have to keep looking at their watches.

If the session already has begun, then three rings mean something else. They mean that no quorum is present. Two rings mean a roll call vote and one ring signals a teller vote.

A teller vote is conducted by herding the members, sheep dip fashion, down the center aisle, where they are

counted. It also is known as "once around the park."

Finally, at the end of the day, which may be 12:15 p.m., four rings let members know that the House has adjourned. Five rings announce a recess.

On the Senate side of the Capitol, the bells mean something different.

One long ring marks the hour of convening; one short ring starts a roll call vote. Two rings signal a quorum call and three rings are used to call senators who didn't answer the quorum call.

Senators also use three rings to call an elevator, but that is a private signal which has nothing to do with the legislative process.

There are four rings for adjournment or recess; five rings for an executive session, and six rings for a legislative session after an executive session.

The average tourist, who is in the Capitol only a short time, has no cause for concern. It takes a prolonged exposure to give you bats in the belfry.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

New Discoveries About Cancer

The many investigators in the great Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research in New York City just reported a number of hopeful discoveries. They found that the so-called DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) which has so much to do with determining the make-up of an animal or a man—also the transmission of hereditary diseases—has much to do with cancer. A change in the structure of the DNA can produce cancer.

Years ago, my friend Dr. Wendell Stanley, the great virologist, told me he was sure that, with time, we would find that many cancers, not only in animals, but in man, are due to viruses. Now a virus has been found in a transplantable human tumor—a virus that causes a deformity in the immature bones of new-born hamsters (little rat-like animals).

Every such finding is interesting because it adds to the evidence that viruses are present in human cancers as well as in many of the cancers of animals. A virus called Egypt 101 has recently been found in the cancers of 14 patients.

Drugs are being found which slow tumor growth or which protect animals from succumbing to a transplanted cancer tumor. Studies on transplanted cancers show that each one of 16 different types of cancer has a different rate of growth. Ever since the work of Dr. A. C. Broders of the Mayo Clinic, it has been known that cancers have at least four degrees of malignancy.

Type 1 is very slow to grow and to scatter, while Type 4 is likely to grow rapidly, to scatter rapidly, and to kill rapidly.

Virus-Like Agent

Very interesting is the discovery now of a virus-like agent in some cells which took on cancer-like properties after having been grown for some time in tissue cultures in glass tubes.

Hopeful is the discovery

that actinomycin D (an antibiotic) either alone, or with x-rays, appears to be helpful in the treatment of certain cancers of children. Also, very interesting is the discovery that a strange virus will protect hamsters against cancer. No tumors have developed in a colony of 1,500 animals who, some time ago, were infected by the virus isolated from a transplantable human tumor.

All of this can give some hope to those many people now suffering from cancer, or who have a loved relative who is suffering from cancer. Such people write me to ask if any research is being carried out. Actually, an enormous amount of research is being done. Many ask, "Why don't they pour millions of dollars in and have a 'crash program'?" The trouble is that, in order to do good research, one has to find a promising "lead" or "breakthrough."

Only then do the research workers have a hopeful way of attacking the problem of finding either a cure or a protective remedy or a vaccine or

Fred Meyer Plans New Shopping Center

Portland—UPI—Fred Meyer confirmed plans Tuesday for a \$7 million suburban shopping center on the west side of Portland.

Meyer said the 37-acre project will be built in a triangular area bounded by SW Canyon rd., the Hillsdale-Beaverton Highway, and the proposed new expressway.

Chicgo—UPI—Prize cattle may soon be transported to the slaughterhouse by air freight, the magazine Traffic Management believes. The magazine said it has learned several packing companies are investigating the possibility.

DROVING BY AIR

Do you know cancer's seven danger signals? The more you know about this dread disease, the better your chances for heading it off. Dr. Alvarez' booklet, "What We Know About Cancer," is available to readers of the column. To obtain it, send 25 cents and a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request to Dr. Walter C. Alvarez, Dept. MMT, The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Box 957, Des Moines 4, Iowa.

Greyhound Signs Driver Contract

San Francisco—UPI—Negotiators for Western Greyhound Lines and 5,000 drivers reached agreement on a new two-year contract Tuesday, six hours before a scheduled strike in 11 western states.

A company spokesman said the new contract, subject to ratification by the drivers, would be retroactive to March 1. The union said it called for wage increases, a cost of living escalator clause, and improvements in vacations, health and welfare, plus other fringe benefits.

Unofficial sources said drivers and station employees would receive an eight-cent hourly wage increase this year, and another six cents next year. Highway drivers will get an extra 30 cents per 100 miles this year and 20 cents more as of March 1, 1963.

The drivers, represented by the Amalgamated Association of Motor Coach Employees, had set a strike deadline for midnight Tuesday, the third deadline in four days.

A walkout would have affected an estimated 100,000 passengers using Greyhound service daily over the line's 16,000-mile system in 11 western states.

Salem—UPI—Mrs. Sam Johnson, Redmond, was sworn in Monday as a member of the Grant, Baker.

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Society Honors Dr. Roy McNeal

Ashland—Dr. Roy M. McNeal, long-time Southern Oregon college professor of geography, was honored by the members of Gamma Theta Upsilon, SOC geography society, by the presentation of an oil-photo portrait of him for permanent display at the college.

Making the acceptance speech was Dr. Elmo N. Stevenson, SOC president, who traced Dr. McNeal's teaching career since he joined the college as its first football coach in 1927.

Dick Simonson, Medford, presented the portrait and also served as master of ceremonies for the evening. Dr. McNeal was ill and unable to attend the Friday ceremony, but Mrs. McNeal expressed her appreciation of the honor on his behalf.

Dr. Stevenson spoke on "The Geological Development of Oregon," placing particular emphasis on the southern Oregon area. Miss Sharon Zundel, Medford, was in charge of making the picture arrangements.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh G. Simpson, Ashland, sang and led the group singing which followed.

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