

# Mrs. Kennedy Credited With Doing Much To Keep Cultural Explosion Alive in U.S.

By HARRY FERGUSON  
Washington—UPI—A recent visitor to the White House asked President Kennedy to identify the subject of an oil portrait hanging in the Blue Room. Kennedy studied it for some time and then replied, "I don't know. Those things have been changed so much."

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy did not strike the match that ignited the cultural explosion in the United States, but she has been so active in promoting it that sometimes even her husband can't keep up with her. The nation is fairly familiar with the changes she has made in the White House as a result of the televised hour she conducted. But her influence has been wider and deeper than what has happened at 1600 Pennsylvania ave.

**Start at Once**  
The Kennedys plumped for culture as soon as they moved in. The doors were thrown open to long-hair music, ballet and Shakespeare, which represented a sharp change from what went on during the administration of Dwight D. Eisenhower. So carried away

by the new order of things was Arthur Schlesinger Jr., special assistant to the President, that he could not resist a comment on Eisenhower's taste for popular music:

"In the executive mansion, where Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians once played, we now find Isaac Stern, Pablo Casals, Stravinsky and the Oxford Players. I think we will not leave it to the Soviet Union to discover the Van Cliburns of the future."

**Has Wide Influence**  
The influence of the White House is so wide that whatever the President or the First Lady show an interest in has a good chance of enjoying a boom. Mrs. Kennedy has been active in the National Cultural Center here, she attended the opening night of the Lincoln Center in New York and she received this citation from New York University:

"Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy, through her genuine concern for the fine arts, has served the people well. She has enhanced the importance of the White House as a national artistic monument."

What she did in the White House was to order an inventory of about 28,000 items in storage, and she made some interesting discoveries. She began to move out some of the modern furniture and replace it with antiques. She persuaded wealthy persons to



**CULTURAL ENTERTAINER**—President Kennedy is shown chatting with famed cellist Pablo Casals after the latter entertained at a White House state dinner in honor of Puerto Rican Governor and Mrs. Luiz Munoz Marin last November. (UPI)

donate about \$1 million worth of antiques and art objects.

Kennedy appointed August Hecksher, director of the Twentieth Century Fund, as White House cultural coordinator and one of his duties is to survey the relationship between the government and the arts which has been cool almost to the freezing point.

**Arouses Most Suspicion**

Painting seems to arouse more suspicion among the anti-culture group than any other art, and there are always stories going around about some abstract artist who won first prize with a painting that was hanging upside down.

Last year first prize in a water color contest entered by 12,000 high school students on the theme of "What America Means to Me" was awarded to Sharon Whittaker of Ravenna, Ohio. Her entry showed a bleeding American

eagle lying on the ground, and persons viewing it here asked what it symbolized. Nobody could explain it except Sharon, who said the American eagle was half dead because of all the strife and worry going on in the United States.

Such things do not discourage the interest in and sale of art. Sears Roebuck & Co. currently is dealing in art and you can buy it on the in-

**Ladies Offered Prompt Attention**

London—UPI—Sign outside a London laundromat: "Ladies who care to call in and drop off their clothes on the way to work will receive prompt attention."

**SET CONVENTION DATE**

Washington—UPI—The National Prohibition Party will hold its presidential convention in St. Louis Aug. 28-29.

Sculpture, too, encounters some lifted eyebrows among the non-believers. Two years ago, Jean Tinguely, a Swiss sculptor, put together an awesome machine for the New York Museum of Modern Art. It was called "Homage to New York" and consisted of old bicycle wheels, lathes, electric fans, gongs, saws, baby carriages from the dumps, and an ancient player piano, all of which were connected with a battery. The whole thing was 27 by 23 feet and was painted white. Tinguely pressed a plunger connected with the battery and "Homage to New York" began to clank, groan and burn.

The exhibit was a success until some non-artistic person turned in a fire alarm. The New York fire department used foamite to put out the blaze.

**LONGEST PYTHON DIES**  
Pittsburgh—UPI—Colossus, believed to be the longest python in captivity, died Sunday at the Highland Park Zoo of advanced age and pneumonia. The snake was last measured in 1956. It stretched out to 28 feet 6 inches and weighed nearly 300 pounds. Officials said Colossus was about 30 years old.

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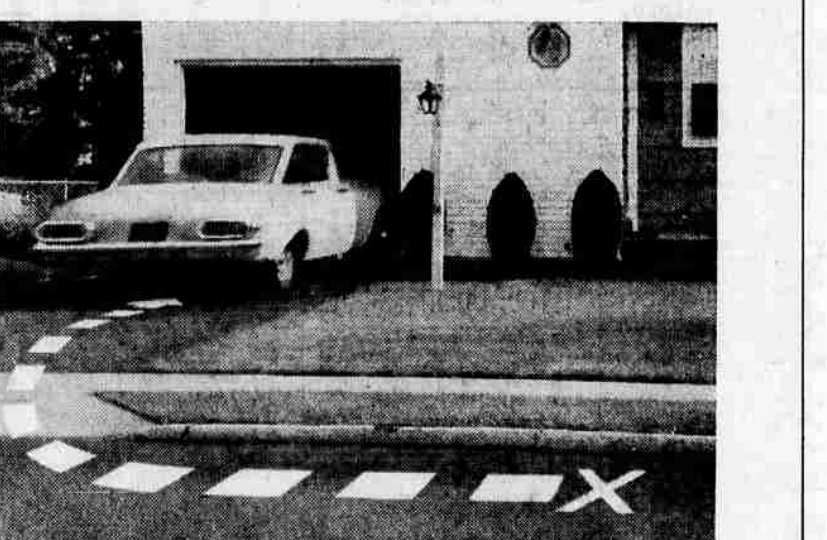
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So be careful when you're parking. And if you ever should bump the curb hard, ask your Shell dealer to check your front tires and your wheel alignment.
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So, if you possibly can, drive right into the garage when you arrive home.
- 5. Make sure your fan belt isn't too loose or too tight.** Too loose a belt can lead to an overheated engine, a run-down battery. Too tight a belt can damage generator and water pump bearings.  
For a rough check on fan belt tension, lay a stick across fan belt pulleys, push




Do you know why it's bad practice to park in front of your house, let your engine cool—then put the car away later on? For correct answer, see item 4.

- 6. Ask your Shell dealer to show you the heat control valve on your exhaust manifold—and to fix it if it sticks.** If the heat control valve doesn't move freely, a number of bad things can happen—including burned valves, loss of power and rough running.  
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- 7. Treat your car to a regular check-up.** All cars, even the brand-new ones, need periodic inspection—to catch small troubles before they cause big damage.  
So, ask your Shell dealer to put your car on his lift soon and take a look. That's the best way to spot leaking brake fluid, a loose connection, or anything else that needs fixing.  
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