

Franklin Pierce Adams, 'F.P.A.' Dies At Age 78

NEW YORK (AP) — Franklin Pierce Adams, the "F.P.A." whose wit and wisdom delighted millions, died Wednesday night.

The 78-year-old newspaper columnist and unabashed poet, one of radio's earliest panel stars on "Information Please," had been confined to a nursing home for the past five years. Death was attributed to hardening of the arteries.

"F.P.A." had not signed those initials to a regular column since 1941. But for a time shortly after World War II he wrote a syndicated daily piece of several paragraphs called "This Little World."

His verse—on subjects ranging from baseball to humorous "translations" of the classics—appeared in many collections as well as in his columns.

In one brief piece he described the newspaper craft to which he devoted nearly 40 years:

"Journalism is a shrew and a scold—
"I like her,
"She makes you sick and she makes you old—
"I like her."

Adams not only wrote light verse, but did so without apology. In fact, in an introduction to a 1942 collection of his and others' "Innocent Merriment," he wrote that if he could choose the ability to write either serious or light verse, "I would vote for lightness."

His best-known bit of verse, quoted by thousands who may not have known its source, had to do with an immortal Chicago Cubs infield and was entitled "Baseball's Sad Lexicon":
"These are the saddest of possible words."

School News

HONOR ROLL
LAKEVIEW—Fifty four students of the Lakeview Junior High School made honor roll grades for the fourth six-week period of the school year.

Those in 8-a were Jack Berreth, Keith Clawson, Patty Cory, Michael Gray, Susan Hotchkiss, Barbara Keirse, Linda Lampkins, Anita Luki, Marilyn McNeal, Barbara Newcombe, Brian Newcombe, Larry Samples, Jean Snider and Dennis Warren.

In 8-c were James Ackerman, Karen Anderson, Marie Deming, Sheila Jarman, David Mitholland, Jack Moon, Gail Robin, Mary Stephens and James Tooke.

In 7-a were Sheryl Anderson, John Bach, Leigh Barry, Billy Duke, Susan Kiewer, Konrad Kratz, Daryl Jean Leavitt, Bruce MacKay, Aaron Osborne, Christine Radford, Bonnie Simpson, Linda Toner and Ann Weir.

In 7-c were Carol Allen, Jerry Bissell, Sally Bratton, Judith Creel, Bruce Getty, Greg Gilbert, Kenneth Giles, Pat Peacock, Kathy Plato, John Smerski, Laura Walsh and Gene Williams.

In 7-d were Lynn Anderson, Wildard Edwards, Betty Kelley, Helen Oliver, Beulah Overton and Mike Weatherly.

SUFFERERS MISCARRIAGE

NEW YORK (UPI) — Stage star Kim Stanley suffered a miscarriage in the early stage of pregnancy and has had to cancel her appearance next week in "Two For The Seesaw" at the Royal Poinciana Playhouse in Palm Beach, Fla.

"Tinker to Evers to Chance," Trio of Bear cubs and fletcher than birds,
"Tinker and Evers and Chance," Ruthlessly pricking our gonialion bubble,
"Making a Giant hit into a double—
"Words that are heavy with nothing but trouble.
"Tinker to Evers to Chance," To many Americans "F.P.A." was the seemingly-shy, head-dipping man with the long nose and big mustache who helped white-haired former sports writer John Kieran answer Clifton Fadiman's toughest questions on "Information Please" on radio and later TV. The 1952 TV version was short-lived, folding after one season.

Kieran said Wednesday night in Boston that he would fly to New York Friday to take any part in the services for "F.P.A." that his widow might desire.

"We had an affinity long before we got together—as baseball addicts, and we both wrote light verse," Kieran said, adding:

"Some of the proudest moments of my life were when I broke into his column, and when he commented on my baseball writing."
Adams' second wife, Esther Sayles Root Adams, survives, as do three sons, Timothy, a staff member of the San Francisco Examiner; Anthony, of Weston, Conn.; and Jonathan, of New Canaan, Conn.; and a daughter, Miss Persephone Adams, of New York.

His sons likely inspired one of his most delightful—and briefest—verses, entitled "Lines to Three Boys, 8, 6½ and 2 Years of Age":
"Gentlemen, I love and like you,
"Caring little for your IQ."

Adams was born in Chicago, attended the University of Michigan briefly, then began selling insurance.

It was not long before he turned to newspaper work, becoming a \$25-a-week columnist for the Chicago Journal without an apprenticeship as a reporter.

After a year of writing "A Little About Everything" for the Journal, he came here to spend nine years on the old Evening Mail.

When he moved to the Tribune and started the column known as "The Conning Tower" which he wrote for 27 years.

After World War I interrupted his career and he became a captain in intelligence, he made this comment:
"I didn't fight, and I didn't shoot.
"But general, how I did salute."
"The Conning Tower" appeared in the Tribune until 1922, moved to the New York World until 1931, then returned to the combined Herald Tribune where he stayed until 1938. That year he joined the New York Post.

In 1941 Adams gave up the column for free lance writing, continuing on the "Information Please" program. In 1944—in complete seriousness—he ran for the Connecticut Senate as a New Deal Democrat, and lost.



NEW HONOR SOCIETY members were named this week at Klamath Union High School. They are, left to right, front row to back, Gary Leavitt, Betty Kerns, Beverly Esgate, Chubbie Spero, Nancy Herlinger, Katy Warren, Linda Pernell, Barbara Herman, Joan Wizer, Diane Draw, Kristina Hawley, Marilyn Thorne, and Myrna Frewing; second row, Grover Gentry, Dave Sibbet, Charlton Curran, Judy Hodge, Vicki Mattox, Phyllis Hawes, Sharon Vinzce, Diane Wolter, Trudie Turpin, Sandra Benson, Darlene Reynolds, Charlotte Corley and Karen Sullivan; back row, Dean Metcalf, Ted Blair, Remo Melchiori, Lucille Waters, Eunice Anderson, Margie Welman, Nancy Hugelman, Janice Parr, Virginia Leaming, Bobbe Taylor, Patti Propst, Saramarie McLin, Barbara Robichaud, Kathleen Townsend, Peggy Jo Buck and Judy Esgate. Darali Gibson, Carole Saunders and Bob DePew are not pictured. They showed superior scholarship, leadership and character.

PTA NEWS

CARNIVAL

NEW PINE CREEK—Saturday evening, March 26, is the date for the big PTA school carnival at Kelly Creek. Plans have been completed and committees are working on their assignments. Proceeds from the carnival will be used for organization expenses rather than for the Katie Dick Scholarship as previously announced.

The record low temperature in the United States was measured at Rogers Pass, Montana, January 20, 1954. It was -69.7 degrees.

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Astronomer Predicts Life On Moon

DETROIT (AP) — A noted astronomer says your children may live in a self-sustaining colony on the moon.

Dr. I. M. Levitt, director of Franklin Institute's Felix Planetarium in Philadelphia, told the American Rocket Society Wednesday he thinks men will land on the moon within 10 years.

Within 20 years there may be a civilization there, he added.

Levitt, who admitted he didn't have the faintest idea what it would cost, said a nuclear reactor could supply the power needed and the moon itself provide everything else, food, water, air, clothing, etc.

From rocks, he said, man can extract water, which in turn can be broken up into oxygen for air and hydrogen for fuel.

Food, he said, would be derived from algae (primitive plants). "Once the atmosphere and food situation is taken care of," he continued, "we can begin worrying about clothes, homes, desks, chairs and other structural materials."

"I propose that these items will be fabricated from the basic elements; oxygen, nitrogen, carbon and so forth."

Levitt thinks man will get to the moon from some sort of space station.

Manned reconnaissance of the moon, which he views as a vital step, will be made from a space station that will have to be assembled in space as a satellite of the earth.

"It is from this station," he continued, "that a small crew could take off for the moon to circle it and bring back photographs."

He said this crew could pick a spot for man's first landing.

Dr. Levitt said he believes man

will have to pick a moon cave to shelter him from radiation and meteors and temperature extremes.

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