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SEPTEMBER, 1948

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SEPTEMBER, 1948

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Helicopter landing on deck of aircraft carrier, U.S.S. *Coral Sea*, anchored in Bay of Lisbon. The plane's passenger is Ambassador MacVeach.

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Bruins, John H.	Praha	Dept.	FSS
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Byrne, James M.	Bern	Madrid	2d Sec. & Vice Con. (Asst. Cult. Off.)
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Conover, Carroll F.	Casablanca	Cairo	FSS
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Joel Roberts Poinsett

An Early American Diplomatist

By PAUL J. REVELEY
Chief, Division of Mexican Affairs

Joel Roberts Poinsett, by nature and because of the environment in which he spent his early years, seems to have been destined to follow a Foreign Service career. He could not bind himself to any exact profession and, until he reached later middle age, was unable to resist the urge to travel. His desire for public service was insatiable, even at the expense of his health and his modest personal fortune. The indiscretions which he committed during his diplomatic career were attributable to his ardent patriotism and almost fanatical belief in the principles of Jeffersonian democracy.

Poinsett's thirst for public service was, during the course of his seventy years of life, at least partly satisfied—commercial agent and consul at Buenos Aires, consul general "for Buenos Ayres, Chile and Peru,"—a part of this period he served simultaneously, and without permission of the Department, as a general in the Chilean Army with action as a cavalry and artillery commander against the forces of the Spanish viceroy. Upon his return from South America, Poinsett entered politics in his state and was elected to the State Legislature. During this period he also acted as advisor to President Monroe and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, in South American affairs. Before his first assignment to Mexico, Poinsett represented the Charleston district in Congress for nearly four years, a part of the time serving on the Committee for Foreign Affairs. Later public service in the United States, as Secretary of War and in other capacities, followed the completion of his second mission to Mexico.

Charleston, South Carolina, in 1779 had already won a battle star in the war. Shortly after the birth of Poinsett in that year, the city was captured by the British and occupied by them until a few months before the Yorktown surrender. Poinsett was therefore literally a Son of the American Revolution. His father, a second generation Huguenot doctor, had by 1780 earned a place in the Charleston community, along with the contemporary Rutledges, Pinckneys, Pringles and Legarés. In fact, Dr. Poinsett's standing was such that, after a residence in England with his wife's family for a period of six years following the Revolution, he returned to Charleston and resumed life where he had left it, as a semi-Royalist, in 1782.

Joel Roberts Poinsett received his education in England (in the early years) followed by a tutor in Charleston, then two years at the academy of Dr. Dwight in Greenfield Hill, Connecticut. A few years later he attended a private school near London while on a visit to his mother's relatives, studied medicine at Edinburgh, completed a course in military

science at Woolwich, England, and, back in Carolina, read law in the office of a Charleston attorney. His fragile constitution did not permit him to complete his medical studies in Edinburgh, his father would not consent to his becoming a peace-time soldier, and Poinsett himself, in his early twenties, found law too irksome and had no desire to settle down in the comfortable place available to him in Charleston. During his sojourn in England he had visited Portugal for several months. His one ambition after returning home was to see as much of Europe as was possible at that time. The campaigns of Napoleon were no doubt an added incentive.

Poinsett became one of the several early unofficial ambassadors of the United States to Europe in the quarter century following the Revolutionary War. He made two extended visits to the continent in addition to his residence in England in his earlier years. He left Charleston for France in the spring of 1801 and for nearly ten years devoted himself to travel, including a tour of the United States during the interval between the two European sojourns. Poinsett's observations of political developments in France in 1801 and his discussions with French statesmen and military officers whetted his appetite to extend his wanderings. He traveled to and studied in considerable detail Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Vienna and, on his second long trip, Sweden, Finland, and a visit of about a year and a half to Russia. In St. Petersburg the American consul, Levett Harris, obtained permission to introduce him at the court of Czar Alexander. Young Poinsett was well received by the society of the capital and was offered many opportunities to observe at firsthand life in Europe's most absolute monarchy.

In the spring of 1807 Poinsett and an Englishman of his own age, Lord Royston, left St. Petersburg on an extended visit to southern Russia and beyond. The pair reached the Volga whence they made an adventurous journey to Kazan, Astrakhan, Baku, Derbent, Kuban, Tiflis and other exotic cities in Georgia, Persia and the Caucasian country. On a part of the journey in the last-named area, they joined the party of a Persian slave merchant who was transporting a cargo of girls bought in the Circassian mountains for sale to Turkish harems. A few weeks later Poinsett and Royston again met the Persian in Baku. The girls, the trader said, had become much more beautiful on the diet of meat he had been giving them, and were about ready for market.

The pair returned to Moscow late in the fall of 1807, after witnessing the siege of Erivan by the Russian army and a

long journey through Armenia, the Crimea and across the Ukraine. Poinsett received an offer of a colonelcy in the Czar's army and a veiled implication from the Foreign Minister that he would be welcomed as the first minister of the United States at the Russian court. Before departing from St. Petersburg, Poinsett reported to the American Minister in Paris,

"Upon taking leave of the Emperor of Russia, his Majesty after dinner took me into his Cabinet, and addressed me nearly in these words: 'Upon your return to Washington I beg you will expose to the President the esteem I have for his person, and the interest I feel for the United States. I hope the good understanding which exists between us at present will continue; our commercial interests are the same.'"

Poinsett left Russia for Paris, where he remained until the spring of 1808. Anticipating the second war with Great Britain, he then returned to Washington in the hope of obtaining a commission.

However, long before 1812, Poinsett was appointed United States "agent for seamen and commerce" to southern Latin America. In carrying out his mission he was told by the Secretary of State "to explain the mutual advantage of commerce with the United States, to promote liberal and stable regulations, and to transmit seasonable information on the subject." Another paragraph of his instructions is of interest. He was

"to diffuse the impression that the United States cherish the sincerest good will towards the people of Spanish America as neighbors, as belonging to the same portion of the globe, and as having a mutual interest in cultivating friendly intercourse: that this disposition will exist, whatever may be their internal system or European relation, with respect to which no interference of any sort is pretended: and that, in the event of a political separation from the parent country, and of the establishment of an independent system of National Government, it will coincide with the sentiments and policy of the United States to promote the most friendly relations, and the most liberal intercourse, between the inhabitants of this Hemisphere, as having all a common interest, and as lying under a common obligation to maintain that system of peace, justice, and good will, which is the only source of happiness for nations."

The record of Poinsett's activities in Buenos Aires and Chile clearly indicates that he interpreted his instructions very broadly. The commercial interests of France and Great Britain and to no little extent those of the United States, were poised for the struggle to obtain as large a share as possible of the commerce of the areas in the southern part of the continent as soon as and even before full independence was won from Spain. In fact, Poinsett's diplomatic career in South America and in Mexico is marked from the very beginning to nearly the end by official and personal rivalry with the diplomatic agents of Great Britain in the countries to which he was assigned. His journey to Buenos Aires took more than two months, including a visit of several weeks with Thomas Sumter, the American Minister in Rio de Janeiro. Secrecy was well maintained as to his appointment and it was not until he left Rio, disguised as an Englishman bound for Buenos Aires, that the British Foreign Office heard of his mission.

Poinsett remained in Buenos Aires approximately one year and creditably performed his duty in protecting the commerce and interests of the United States. He convinced the authorities of the provisional Government that American commerce must be treated on a no less favorable basis than that of Great Britain, and furnished Washington with adequate reports of the constantly changing political conditions

in his area. He was active in the independence movement, although not to the extent to which he later became involved in Chile. Poinsett recommended to Secretary of State Monroe that we encourage an alliance of all Spanish America, which union would then request the protection and aid of the United States to obtain independence from Spain. His disappointment with the noncommittal reply received from the Department no doubt contributed to his desire to proceed without further delay to Chile. After obtaining a favorable commercial treaty with the Junta of Buenos Aires, Poinsett succeeded in persuading President Madison to appoint a resident consul for Buenos Aires and he obtained for himself an appointment as Consul General "for Buenos Ayres, Chile and Peru." He arrived in Santiago toward the end of December, 1811.

He had not been in Santiago more than a few days before becoming involved in revolutionary politics and concurrently in rivalry with British interests, official and commercial. He was formally received by the Junta in February, 1812, as Consul General of the United States. In his reply on this occasion to José Miguel Carrera, the Chilean patriot with whom he became fast friends, Poinsett stated:

"The Americans of the North look generally with great interest upon the success of these countries and desire with ardor the prosperity and felicity of their brothers of the south. I shall present to the Government of the United States the friendly sentiments with which you have congratulated me in having been the first who had the honorable task of establishing relations between the two generous nations who ought to look upon one another as friends and natural allies."

Shortly thereafter Poinsett accorded practical application to his words by becoming in fact an authorized adviser to the Chilean Government. The provisional Constitution of 1812 was drafted in his home in Santiago and he exerted considerable influence upon Carrera to break off all connections with Spain and to establish a completely independent republic. His activities accentuated the friction between Peru and Chile and as rumors were received that the Spanish Cortes were considering declaring war against the United States, American ships and seamen were captured and held in Peruvian ports. Poinsett's commission as Consul General ordered him to protect American citizens and their property. He forthwith obtained a commission as General in the Chilean army, led a cavalry charge in the Battle of San Carlos, and shortly thereafter captured the seaport of Talcahuano from the Peruvian Royalists. Poinsett called the American sea captains to his headquarters on the heights overlooking the bay, told them that, as they could well observe, their Government had protected their persons and property and that they were free to leave with their vessels whenever they wished.

Poinsett campaigned with the Chilean army until about September, 1813 and assisted in the successful military action to recover the province of Concepción. His conduct was not pleasing, however, to all Chileans, as evidenced by a letter written to him by one Juan Francis Sanchez in 1813:

"Your conduct is notorious in separating yourself from the Duties incumbent on the Character of an American Consul. You have fomented in the Capital of Chile the Discords which have produced the present war against the legitimate Rights of Ferdinand the Seventh (whom may God preserve). . . . Various are the documents which I preserve in my office to prove that you direct the Marches, positions, and all the offensive operations of the Enemy's troops and that at present you are found in their camp fascinating that portion of men who no doubt would be less wicked without that Influence. . . ."

Poinsett throughout his diplomatic career was very adroit

in justifying his extra-diplomatic actions to the Department of State, especially in cases in which he realized that the Department might with some cause believe him to have exceeded the spirit and letter of his instructions. In a despatch from Santiago dated September 10, 1814 the Consul General summarized the situation as he found it concerning the seizure of the American ships in the Peruvian port and the measures he took to obtain a peaceful settlement. He then continued:

"Remonstrance was of no avail, my representations had been answered by insults and by a repetition of the injuries. I could not sit tamely, and see our flag insulted, our ships seized and our citizens loaded with irons. My influence in Chile enabled me to act as I thought my duty imperiously called upon me to do, for I could not longer consider these as the acts of a neutral; but as the wanton aggressions of a man, who in the arbitrary exercise of uncontrolled power knows no right, and who as an ally of Great Britain looks forward to a war with the United States as a necessary consequence of that alliance, and as a justification of his violent proceedings. These, Sir, were the motives which determined my conduct, and which will I trust justify it."

Paxson, in his "Independence of the South American Republics", refers to this unorthodox activity of Poinsett as follows: "In spite of this lapse from duty—which went unblamed—he seems to have been one of the ablest and best representatives of the United States in South America. He seems not to have engaged in privateering or commerce". In partial justification of the Consul General's energetic action in protecting American nationals, it should be stated that he remained in Santiago for eighteen months without instructions of any kind from the Department. He wrote at the time to a relative that he had been so long a solitary wanderer that he had learned to accustom himself to his own approbation.

Poinsett remained in Chile until the autumn of 1814 and continued to be, as usual, extremely active in assisting Carrera in the Chilean independence movement as well as becoming personally involved in incidents leading to the battle between the United States Frigate "Essex" under command of Commodore Porter and the British naval vessels, the "Phoebe" and the "Cherub". He arrived back in Charleston in the spring of 1815 on a Portuguese vessel via the Madeira Islands after an adventurous journey circumventing the British fleet blockading Buenos Aires. The Poinsett Papers in the collection of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania contain an interesting letter written to President Monroe on the geography of the Madeiras and the customs of the people. His report to the President of his mission to South America was acknowledged as follows:

"In acknowledging this communication which terminates your agency in a trust of much delicacy and importance, I have the honor to state that the ability and zeal with which you have conciliated the good disposition of

the local authorities and people where you have resided, in conformity with the amicable relations existing between the United States and Spain, and the information which you have communicated, have obtained the approbation of The President".

There can be little doubt concerning his ability, and none as to his zeal, in the manner in which he carried out his missions in South America.

Poinsett was in his middle thirties upon the termination of his South American assignments. The second half of his life was likewise spent in continuous public service: member of the South Carolina State Legislature, congressman in Washington, two missions to Mexico and Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Van Buren. Then, years of political activity in his state as a "Unionist" in stalwart opposition to the Nullifiers and Secessionists, but always as a loyal southerner:—"If the revolution comes, for there can be no peaceable secession or dissolution of the Union, I am ready to take my part and my stand among the sons of the South in the ranks or in organizing the defenses, but without hope."

It is not possible to include in a short sketch details or even mention of all the activities of this little known and energetic early citizen. A review of his two missions to Mexico, which concluded his turbulent diplomatic career, will be of greater interest here.

Poinsett's first assignment to Mexico was a temporary one. Iturbide had just completed negotiations with the Last Spanish viceroy, providing that Spain recognize the independence of Mexico. Emperor Iturbide desired to establish diplomatic relations with the United States. President Monroe asked Poinsett to visit the new empire and particularly to ascertain if the Mexican people approved of their sovereign and whether his reign showed indications of permanency.

The special agent reached Vera Cruz in September, 1822 and found a situation to suit his fancy. The die-hard Spanish Royalists were in possession of the castle of San Juan de Uloa while Iturbide's troops held the rest of the city. Poinsett disembarked the next morning and, observing the amenities, called on the American vice consul and the commander of the Mexican garrison, the young Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. Following a formal dinner with Santa Anna, the officer escorted his guest to the roof of the town hall, with a view of the Royalist castle. He explained to the visitor his plans for capturing it. Poinsett, one can believe, offered suggestions but if so his report to the Department, "Political State of Mexico" discreetly omits reference.

Foreign Service officers, who occasionally must travel by outmoded DC-3's and cargo ships, should read the account of Poinsett's journey from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, a tour de force of 290 miles. The port, in sharp contrast to today, was a pest town, surrounded by stagnant water, with hilbous fever, drenching rains, oppressive heat and a now unknown lethal ailment quaintly referred to as black vomit.

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By Courtesy of Frick Art Reference Library
Joel Roberts Poinsett
 A Valiant Advocate of Democracy

Information Please, International

By LLOYD LEHRBAS

Director, Office of International Information

An information officer attached to a United States mission in India wrote "I feel somewhat like a corporal . . . trying to fight off tanks with a squad of poorly equipped foot soldiers. I need more powerful ammunition."

The officer probably voiced a feeling shared to a greater or lesser degree by information officers the world over. Happily the situation and its close relation with the many vital objectives of United States foreign policy came to the attention of a committee of Senators and Representatives. They studied our informational and educational program in 22 European countries. Impressed with the extent of misunderstanding and wilful misrepresentation accorded the United States abroad, the returning legislators and their colleagues on Capitol Hill passed the Smith-Mundt Act.

This Act reconstitutes the Department's international information program whose scope and effectiveness had been severely reduced by an appropriation cut the previous year. It paved the way for the heavy ammunition which field representatives have needed for a more effective execution of their mission. As a result the organization of the Office of International Information has undergone a substantial overhaul and its skeleton staff has been expanded as rapidly as time and conditions allow. The entire information program has been closely scrutinized and a number of new operations added to give the United States a well-rounded and aggressive overseas information organization.

The key phrase of the enabling Act states the objectives of the program ". . . to promote a better understanding of the United States in other countries." George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, elaborated on this expression of purpose in a talk delivered at the Mount Holyoke College. He stated "We seek preservation of democracy in the United States and to assist the free peoples of the world in preserving their liberties. We hope in due course that other peoples who have lost their liberties will be able to regain them. The information program is one of the implements we employ in our efforts to achieve our great policy objectives." Assistant Secretary Allen also made some pertinent comments on the policy behind the content of the information program. He said "The Japs and Nazis failed because they did not tell the truth. The primary advantage we have over the propaganda efforts of totalitarian states today is the fact that we Americans are not obliged to present ourselves to the world as models of perfection. The United States has so many virtues to overcome the

shortcomings that we need not fear the effect of our being thoroughly known abroad. In our information activity, we must present our civilization in its true color if we are to be effective. That color is gray—not lily-white. We have the enormous advantage in our information program that we are willing to admit our imperfections and to tell the truth as nearly as we can ascertain it."

This statement is a reaffirmation of a policy which has prevailed in United States information abroad since the beginning. It will apply equally to the expanded and intensified efforts to place the truth about the United States before the peoples of the world.

The reception given to this type of information abroad is a convincing demonstration that it is not only right in a moral sense but the most practical manner of doing the job. The need for more of the same has been evidenced in many ways. Paradoxically, the appetite of the world's peoples for information about the United States has grown.

A village outside Kunming asked that the mobile film unit stationed there pay a visit and show films. The unit was unable to fulfill the request because roads were impassable. Some weeks later the request was repeated and the town council advised that the people of the village and the neighbors in the direction of Kunming had, in the interval, built a road so that a jeep could get through. The editor of the *Uganda Herald*, in Nairobi, wrote to the information officer in East Africa and expressed his appreciation for the "excellent news letters." He said "I find them extremely useful not only for abstracts which I publish from time to time, but because of the general background they give of American conditions."

In Moscow, a Russian called the Embassy wanting to know when *Amerika* would carry an article about Presidential election campaigns. He was informed that one would be printed in the October issue. This, he said, was too long to wait and insisted that the official to whom he was talk-

ing give him, then and there, a dissertation on the issues and the candidates.

In a single month, 150 columns of USIS releases appeared in Norwegian newspapers. Field reports on press operations stated that practically every item put out was used by some newspaper. The *Gazeta De Noticias* in Rio de Janeiro set a local record of sorts by using seven feature-type stories and four short items of USIS origin in a single issue.

The new program of information will employ every tested medium in its operation.



A varied audience views the exhibit of American photographs at the United States Information Center at Belgrade.

Radio broadcasting and motion picture activities will be vigorously expanded. News and feature stories, background material, special columns, technical stories, commentaries, by-lined articles, will comprise the bulk of the material for newspaper publication. There will be a broader use of photographers and photographic exhibits of many descriptions, magazine reprints will continue. The program of documentary motion pictures will be expanded.

While greater volume and versatility in the producing units is an essential, the fulcrum upon which the success of the entire operation pivots is the field staff. Much of what has been accomplished so far is attributable to the energy and intelligence with which Departmental personnel overseas have handled the material reaching them from the supply base at headquarters in Washington. In recognition of this fact, the new program provides additional staff increases for some overseas posts. The work overload burdening most USIS offices is thus being somewhat relieved and some posts are better equipped to meet the expanded requirements of the enlarged program.

The production units of the Office of International Information are organized in three divisions, all of which are affected by the reorganization.

The radio Voice of America, which has the special advantage of providing a direct and immediate contact with peoples, evading the obstacles of local censorship and material shortages, will undergo a substantial expansion under new arrangements. Program content will come under much closer Departmental supervision and some programs will be entirely produced within the Department.

At present there are 36 shortwave transmitters in the United States with a wattage ranging from 10,000 to 200,000. Broadcasts are given in 22 languages to Europe, Latin America and the Far East. Individual beams are directed to all European nations with the exception of the Scandinavian peninsula and Finland, all Latin America and China, Netherlands East Indies, Indo China, Siam, Korea and Soviet Siberia. Government owned and controlled relay stations are in operation in Honolulu, Manila, and Munich. Relay arrangements also exist with many domestic broadcast-



USIS Exhibit "Land and People," Shanghai, July 4, 1947.

ers in other nations. Construction of installations in Honolulu and Manila is nearly completed. In addition, new facilities will also be erected in the European area.

The International Broadcasting Division has made special efforts, of course, to beam "Voice" broadcasts into the Soviet Union and its satellites with greater strength. Accordingly, the "Voice" recently began operations from five additional high-powered transmitters in England through arrangements with BBC which double the number of "Voice" signals relayed into Russia and satellite countries. Other existing relays will be strengthened and additional medium and long-wave bands will be employed where available.

Despite their oft-repeated contentions that the "Voice" broadcasts are ineffective, Russian officials have given clear indications recently of an increasingly hostile attitude toward the broadcasts. Evidence of deliberate "jamming" by Soviet authorities has been unofficially reported from several field areas.

The new administration of the "Voice" is currently engaged in revising transmission loads. The necessity of expanding in areas where short-wave facilities have been lacking has caused the Division to develop new programs which are expected to attract wider interest.

The news file of the radio programs consists of factual items from the wires of the International News Service, Reuters and Transradio News Service and augmented by a State Department wire service. In the wider area of commentaries and features, the "Voice" announcers and narrators will editorialize, but only in an attempt to put across the American viewpoint factually and honestly.

The subject matter of programs will, of course, vary according to areas. This reflects realization that listeners behind the Iron Curtain and in countries of western Europe are greatly interested in the progress of the Marshall Plan and how it will affect them. In other areas of the world, content of the program is more closely tailored to local tastes.

In all areas of the world, however, the basic operating procedures of the "Voice" remain constant. The straight-forward presentation of developments in the United States and abroad, placed in their proper perspective, honestly told and faith-

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Clippings from around the world showing use of photographic material supplied by the Pictures Branch of OII.

"Neither Snow, nor Rain . . ."

The Story of the Diplomatic Couriers

By JACK GROVER AND EDWARD R. PIERCE

The warning light in the DC-3 flashed on. Low over the solid green Brazilian jungles, Courier James Dean leaned forward, peered through his round window at the storm clouds, muttered to a fellow passenger,

"Emergency landing coming up."

He fastened his seat belt securely and shifted slightly a brown leather briefcase that was resting between his feet. Tensely the passengers waited as they circled closer and closer to the jungle below.

The plane, flaps lowered, wobbled as it came down into a tiny jungle clearing. Suddenly there was a sickening crash as it piled up with one wing crumpled and digging into the ground, the other pointing skyward. Battered and bruised, the passengers clambered out, Dean among them, the briefcase gripped firmly in his hand.

On calculating their position they found they were in the midst of the wilderness some 200 miles from their destination, Asunción, Paraguay. All night long they remained where they were, whipped by the storm, tending to their needs as best they could. Radio contact, which had been broken, was re-established.

The next morning, with the help of local inhabitants, a primitive cart was loaded with luggage, and a long trek over muddy trails and roads began.

After many hardships they made it to the roaring Iguassú Falls, where an emergency plane picked them up on the evening of the third day and flew them to Asunción. On arriving, Dean went directly to the American Embassy. Begrimed, bleary-eyed from lack of sleep, he delivered the contents of his briefcase, diplomatic mail.

This is one of many such incidents in the lives of our Diplomatic Couriers. These men travel far and fast, leading an often exciting, always grueling, existence.

Today we have what is probably the most extensive courier system in history. Completely cosmopolitan in nature, it spokes out of Washington to posts all over the world. As you read these lines couriers are on the move, one perhaps enplaning in New York for Paris; another soaring over the Andes to Buenos Aires; still another starting the long run from Honolulu to Australia.

The whys and wherefores of the courier system can be explained in one word: *security*. Couriers carry official material which can't be entrusted to the ordinary channels of transmission. What they take must arrive at its destination without having been in unauthorized hands, and, of equal importance, it must be known that such is the case. The only answer to this is to have it taken by hand and kept under close watch at all times. This is called

"safe-hand" delivery; therefore our courier system.

The couriers must exercise constant vigilance over the material they handle, never leave it—sleep with it if necessary. Many is the hour a courier, with his diplomatic mail beside him, lies on his bed counting the cracks in the ceiling or stares out the window at the strange town in which for one reason or another he has been forced to stay.

The ship *Western Prince*, on which Courier Henry Coleman was traveling from the U.S. to London, was torpedoed and sunk. Coleman, his diplomatic mail with him, got clear in a lifeboat in which he tossed, with several others, for nine hours in a heavy sea. They were rescued by a freighter. On it Coleman spent four nights, one of which he slept on the floor, another on a table, always his briefcase serving as his pillow. On landing at a north-England port, he immediately boarded a train for London, where he went straight to the U.S. Embassy to deliver his mail.

Such security all over the world is expensive. Last year nearly a million dollars was spent on travel alone by United States couriers. Yet the system in the long run actually saves money. It would be much more expensive to attempt to transmit by cable and telegraph the messages carried by courier. This financial saving is entirely aside from the greater security provided by the courier service and the fact that the very nature of some of the material practically precludes its transmission by other than "safe-hand" means.

Service in the Western Hemisphere is operated from Washington. There are four other bases, in Paris, Cairo, Shanghai and Honolulu. From these four centers, which are interconnected, the mail is sent to even the most remote posts—to Capetown, to Dairen, Reykjavik, through the Khyber Pass to Kabul, Afghanistan.

Not all couriers travel by plane. Many times river boats, and even rickshas, have been used.

The men who make these trips are handpicked by the Department. For an applicant to receive favorable consideration he must have an impeccable background. A thorough investigation of each applicant is made; those who do not measure up to the necessary standards are eliminated.

A thorough and stiff physical examination must be taken by those who survive the preliminary investigation. The life of a courier is so strenuous that only men in the best physical condition are acceptable. For this reason the emphasis is on younger men.

Though considered an asset, a knowledge of languages is not a requisite for appointment. No one could be expected to know the many languages a courier encounters.



A Diplomatic Courier, Edward R. Pierce, of the U. S. Department of State, on his way to a plane. These men carry their highly confidential material all over the world.



Many kinds of transportation are used by the couriers in many kinds of weather to reach their destinations. Often they are met by the Army and travel by jeep; sometimes it is snowing—or raining, as is the case here showing Courier Jack Grover.

After a man is selected and approved, he receives his appointment as a Staff Officer. From then on he moves rapidly. After he takes his oath of office he undergoes a complete indoctrination. He attends lectures on the general organization and responsibilities of the Department of State. He is instructed by officers of the Courier Service on the specific duties of the courier. He is taught to cope with travel arrangements, mail handling, exchange rates, customs information, laws, rules and regulations. And he learns that above all, above anything else, it is his duty to see that the material entrusted to his charge gets through to its destination.

He learns from "old hands" passing through Washington from all corners of the world, and quickly becomes accustomed to the facility with which the names of far-away and exotic places are bandied about in ordinary conversation. Two old timers meet in the Washington office, one in from Cairo, the other from Shanghai:

"Hello, Dale. Glad to see you. Seems like a long time since we parted in Balboa."

"It sure does, Al. How's Harris Ball? Last time I saw him was in Rio."

"Harris is fine. He was on the Australian run when I left Shanghai. I hear Hunt Huebeck is assigned to Cairo now."

"Yeah. He went over from Paris a few weeks ago. Made the Calcutta trip and took off for Capetown just before I left Cairo for Washington."

One of the couriers assigned to Latin American duty was being kidded one day in Miami regarding his urgent need of a haircut.

"Yes," he replied quite seriously, "I know I need one, but I always like to wait till I get to Buenos Aires. I have a good barber across the street from the Continental Hotel."

The new courier is required to receive inoculations for everything from smallpox to plague. He must be available for travel in any part of the world at any time.

A diplomatic passport is issued to the new man, complete with visas of the various countries through which he will be traveling. He is also given a Courier Letter. This letter is a special document issued by the Secretary of State explaining the

nature and urgency of the courier's mission, and requesting those presented with it to extend "any or all privileges or facilities which may expedite his passage" on that mission.

Let's follow a courier, whom we shall call John Koval, through the routine of a trip from Washington. On his scheduled day of departure Koval carefully checks the material he is to take signs a receipt, is driven to the airport where he boards a plane for an overseas destination.

In various cities and towns along his route where we have posts, Koval is met at the airports by a representative of the local office. After an exchange of official credentials there is an exchange of mail. If his schedule calls for an overnight stop, when he arrives at the city where he is to spend the night Koval places his diplomatic mail in the post's safe for security. He is then free until he picks up his mail to resume his journey. It might be only for overnight, or he might have a break of several days.

If the plane misses schedule and he is forced to "lay over" at a point where no U.S. diplomatic or consular office is located, Koval keeps the mail with him at all times, without exception. Sometimes in emergency situations a courier chains the briefcase to his wrist, though this isn't the general rule.

When Koval returns to the Washington headquarters he reports on the trip, makes suggestions for changes and improvements of the runs, and turns in his records of the material he handled.

Couriers literally cover the globe. The average courier travels in a year the equivalent of from five to ten times around the world. Theirs is a life of constant change. They might be in New York one day, three days later in Buenos Aires, in Cairo one week, Capetown the next.

A courier usually is on the Latin American cycle for about six months, the Hawaiian for three, and works out of the other three bases for more or less 18 months each. But he might be transferred at any time.

In his travels to the more distant and isolated posts the courier brings, besides the official mail, news of friends in the Foreign Service, the latest chitchat, therefore is welcome.

He gets to know foreign lands as few in the world do.

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The exchange is made. Couriers drop off material for the particular post, pick up material for posts farther along the line. John Koval, Edward R. Pierce and Pete Snyder are shown in picture.

American Business and Foreign Trade Zones

By ROBERT M. WINFREE*

As modern as we are in the United States—as progressive as American business might be—as daring as Americans are in their daily trading with foreign nations—it has been only in the past fifteen years that we have adopted a method of trade which has been recognized in Europe for centuries. That method is the establishment of Foreign Trade Zones in the principal ports of our country, which zones are created to facilitate the exchange of commodities moving in international trade. It has taken us, as a country, many long years to realize that we could not continue to prosper solely on our domestic trade. After the first World War we realized that it was necessary to change our commercial ideas and we began to think about foreign trade—but we thought in only one direction—exports. In our desire to flood the markets of the world with American made merchandise we neglected one fundamental factor—if we were to continue to sell abroad we must also buy abroad. We did not realize that foreign trade is a two-way street and it has taken another war and its resultant commercial chaos to make us realize that we must import if we are to continue to export. One of the most promising moves, showing that we are actually developing an idea of what foreign trade really is, has been the establishment of foreign trade zones in our principal ports.

The foreign trade zone is not a new development in the commercial field. To trace the history of such zones one must go back hundreds of years to the 14th century Hanseatic League, a trade institution which extended from Italy throughout Europe into Scandinavia and Russia. Free ports were the principle of this League. The free port idea carried through the years until Germany, toward the end of the last century, dropped the idea of having entire free ports and established free zones in their place. The free zone idea caught on immediately and was adopted by many other European nations and it is that plan which we have adopted in the United States. The Foreign Trade Zone of New York which was established in 1937 was the 44th Foreign Trade Zone in the world.

Foreign Trade Zones were authorized by the United States Congress in 1934 after many years of agitation for such zones by prominent American business men and merchants interested in foreign trade. Under legislation sponsored by Congressman Emanuel Celler, public or private corporations may apply to the Federal Board, consisting of the Secretary of Commerce,

Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Army, for the authority to establish and operate a foreign trade zone. Foreign trade zones are segregated areas located in major ports of entry in the United States where foreign merchandise may be unloaded and stored without clearing through Customs. Such merchandise may be re-packed, assembled, sorted, graded or otherwise manipulated without payment of customs duties as long as it remains in the Zone. However, at the present time, no manufacturing may take place nor may the goods be exhibited. After manipulation the goods may be re-exported and duty must be paid only when they are actually imported into the United States. American importers may lift samples from merchandise stored in the zone and pay customs duties only on the samples. Imported merchandise is appraised at the time of entry into the customs area rather than at the time of entry into the Zone. This is an important factor for an importer of items which may lose weight during the time they are stored in the zone for sorting or grading. An excellent example is the case of Brazil nuts which are being sorted and graded in the New Orleans Foreign Trade Zone. During the time it takes to grade Brazil nuts, they lose as much as 25% in weight. Since customs duties are exacted on the weight of the nuts when they enter the United States from the zone, the importer actually saves up to 25% in duty as shrinkage takes place while sorting and grading are being performed. Substantial savings can also be made in insurance on merchandise stored in the zone. According to a publication of the New Orleans Port authorities an im-

porter warehousing \$150,000 worth of alcohol in the zone only would have to take out insurance in that amount to cover his interest. However, were this merchandise shipped into the United States for storage without the use of the facilities of a foreign trade zone, to cover himself he would have to insure for approximately two and one half million dollars, the difference consisting chiefly of customs duties and internal revenue taxes. The same source gives as a typical transshipment operation for a Foreign Trade Zone the case of a Canadian whiskey firm which stores its shipments in the zone awaiting consignment either to the United States, to other foreign countries or to ships stores. The firm is not required to pay customs duties, internal revenue taxes, state or city taxes and transportation taxes unless their merchandise is entered into the United States. All that they must pay are incidental charges, such as storage, handling and insurance. The entire income of all foreign



Courtesy of Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans

View of Port of New Orleans.

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trade zones is derived from nominal storage and handling charges.

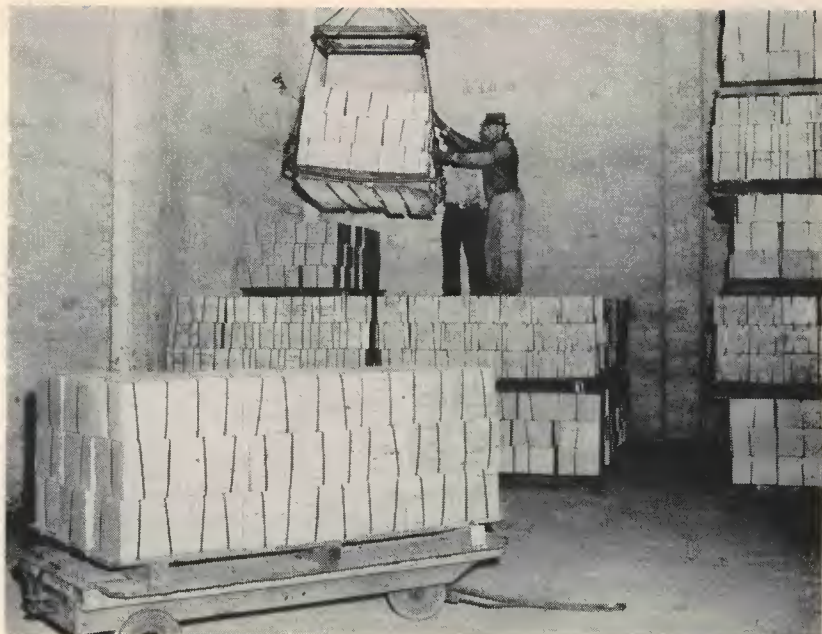
A foreign trade zone is big business.

To illustrate let us take certain statistics regarding the traffic handled by Foreign Trade Zone No. 1 which is located on Staten Island in New York. The first Foreign Trade Zone to be opened in the United States, No. 1, in 1937, handled merchandise from 21 different countries, totaling 10,586 short tons, valued at one million dollars. In 1939, a brief span of two years, this same zone handled merchandise from 56 countries, totaling 100,845 short tons, valued at 39 million dollars. In 1941, 70 countries shipped 232 types of goods valued at 189 million dollars to the zone. Even this huge total was but a small fraction of world wide free zone trade which was estimated at \$7.5 billion dollars per year. In spite of the shortage of wharf and warehouse space during the war, the New York Zone was permitted to continue operation since it was adjudged to be an essential part of our foreign trade.

During the course of a recent Trade Conference Tour to New Orleans, I had opportunity to inspect the facilities of Foreign Trade Zone No. 2, which is located in that city. Statistics furnished by Mr. J. H. Boyd, the manager of the zone, showed that the city of New Orleans has set aside 19.69 acres in the port's public cotton warehouse area for the use of the foreign trade zone. As the zone grows, adjacent space up to a total of 80 acres may be utilized. The covered area, including ground level and second story warehouse space, within the zone comprises 452,782 square feet. Open wharf space fronting directly on the Mississippi River and available to ocean going vessels comprises 47,768 square feet. Warehouses in the zone are of the most modern reinforced concrete, divided into large bins and protected by steel overhead doors. An automatic sprinkler system guards against fire. The entire area is surrounded by a high steel wire fence and guards are stationed at appropriate intervals to protect the stored merchandise against theft and pilferage. Wharf-side railroad sidings are available and an overhead electric crane installation provides for easy transfer of cargo from railroad to vessel or to any designated bin within the warehouses. It was an extremely interesting sight to see huge hales of burlap, weighing up to 1500 pounds each, being stacked 35 feet high by the electric crane, the entire operation being handled by two laborers and the crane operator, and to see cases of motor oils stacked ceiling high being shifted from storage bins to railway cars with a very minimum of labor.

Because of the modern construction of the warehouses in the New Orleans Zone, the automatic sprinkler system and the efficient guard system, insurance rates on merchandise stored therein are substantially lower than in other warehouses, which provides a substantial saving to the importer using the facilities of the zone.

The Celler Act envisaged Foreign Trade Zones on all of the major coastal regions of the United States and this is rapidly becoming a reality. In addition to Zone No. 1 in New York and Zone No. 2 in New Orleans, Zone No. 3 was opened in San Francisco on June 10th of this year. It is expected that Los Angeles and Seattle will soon submit their applications for foreign trade zones and San Antonio has also indicated its interest. Legislation is now pending in Congress which will broaden the activities of the Zones, in that manufacturing and exhibition of merchandise, heretofore prohibited, will be permitted. It is interesting to note



Courtesy of Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans

Mexican canned meat and gravy being prepared for transshipment from New Orleans Foreign Trade Zone.

that when hearings were held on this legislation, no objections whatsoever were received from any American interest. Certainly this indicates a realization on the part of American business that we must henceforth encourage foreign imports into our country.

But there is still another vital role which foreign trade zones must play in the not too distant future. Air commerce is playing an increasing part in our daily life and it is not crystal gazing to see foreign trade zones established in the very near future at the airports of the world. Thomas E. Lyons, the Executive Secretary of the Foreign Trade Zones Board, stated in a speech at Miami on May 20, 1948: "With the remarkable development of air traffic we may be approaching an entirely new phase in the possible utility of the Foreign Trade Zone, something that was not remotely contemplated in 1934 when the Celler Act was passed. However, it is interesting to observe that while air cargo transport was in its infancy the framers of the foreign trade zone bill anticipated our air future and wrote into the law provisions for inland zones as well as for zones at shipside."

As Foreign Service officers we can help this program and at the same time assist our merchant friends in foreign countries by publicizing foreign trade zones, pointing out the advantages to be gained by shipping through them. Instructions have gone to the field stating that Foreign Service officers should emphasize the United States import trade promotion program. Foreign Trade Zones are facilities closely related to this import program which should be made known to foreign business men whom we meet in our day-to-day contacts. By so publicizing these zones we can render a service to American as well as foreign business. It would also be well to point out to foreign shippers that foreign trade zones offer admirable facilities for the transshipment of merchandise. A good example is the case of Mexico. No regular steamship service exists between Mexico and Europe. However, merchandise may be shipped from Mexico, in small boats, to the New Orleans Foreign Trade Zone, stored there at extremely reasonable rates and placed on board one of the many vessels operating out of New Orleans for Europe. The same procedure may be followed by any other country where facilities for direct shipment to other countries do not exist.

Not at Your Request Nor for Your Convenience

A Hypothetical Vice-Consul's First Day at a Hypothetical Post in War-Time

By EDMUND A. GULLION

Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State

The Department of State had ordered John Smith from Scandinavia to the Balkans. To appease the unknown God in the Comptroller General's office Smith's orders had included the ritual words: "This assignment is not at your request nor for your convenience." As Smith's train bisected Europe from Hamburg to the Mediterranean, its clicking wheels reiterated and insisted—"Nor for your convenience"—Smith heard it once more in the sibilant escape of steam, as the engine growled to a stop—the first Smith had ever made in the Balkans.

The station looked very strange but perhaps this was because he was bewildered and tired and homesick. The new vice consul to Balkania was no old hand. This was his first real post on his own. His probationary experience had been comfortably got through in cozy Scandinavia where everything was clean and everything ran on time. As Smith peered through the window a swarthy pirate burst into his compartment, snatched his bags and made off. From what Smith in hot pursuit could see of the station, it looked like the end of the world—the end of the world tinged to a charnel blue by the blackout lamps. The shadow of war weighed over this remote but strategic corner as heavily as on any of the capitals through which Smith had passed. The lurking soldiers, the shawled women and atmosphere of doom gave Smith an idea of a canvas by Goya.

This impression abruptly receded when he heard someone calling his name in flat American tones. A stubby, brisk man, dressed in morning clothes, came forward and pumped his hand. "Welcome to Balkania, Smith. Where the hell have you been? I have been expecting you for weeks. Glad to see you."

Smith announced that he, also, was glad to see Kelley. He was too—as glad as he would have been to see anyone from home.

Kelley continued, "I didn't put these formal clothes on in honor of your arrival, it's a uniform I had to wear at a funeral—buried an Archbishop this afternoon."

He propelled Smith into his car and they humped through the blackout over the worst roads Smith had ever seen or felt, to the American Consulate. Kelley hoped to get away on leave, the next day if possible, the day after at the latest, and wanted to get the formality of turning over done with quickly. The office was a converted apartment on the third floor of one of the few modern buildings possessed by the seaport town. To Smith it seemed a peculiar little shoe box after the panelled luxury of the big legation he had recently left, but he felt himself comfortable and somehow at home as he recognized the standard issue Government golden oak furniture, the replica of which he had left behind at his former office.

There had been no diner on the train and Smith was a very hungry man. Nevertheless the next two hours were spent wrestling with Government accounting forms: they verified the cash to the last penny, checked fee stamps, receipts, trust funds, and all the last month's accounts, and Kelley made certificates to Smith and Smith swore oaths to Kelley, until the new vice consul began to wonder if the signing of a peace treaty, or the merger of two \$1,000,000 firms could possibly be attended with so much rigmarole. At the end of the process they got out the code books and together sent out the message which put Smith in possession—"Vice Consul Smith arrived today and assumed charge."

The two men finally got to Kelley's bachelor apartment

and after a light dinner Smith got to bed with a head dizzy with figures and somewhat awed at his new responsibilities.

In the morning Kelley woke him early. On the way to the office Smith looked curiously about him at the town in which he had been delivered. His first impression was amazement at the squalor and confusion and general oriental atmosphere in what he had always supposed to be a modern European city. He saw, however, that it was beautifully located in a curve between the sea and the high hills, along the crest of which ran an ancient wall built by Venetian governors centuries ago to hold back Barbarian invaders from the North. It was apparent during the ride to the office that Barbarians were still massed behind that wall. The crowded streets were full of soldiers—soldiers such as Smith had never seen before, unstandardized in appearance, some in sandals, some in boots, some as fierce as Turks, and some as gay as organ grinders.

At the office, in conference with Kelley, Smith learned that the thing behind those walls was to be his principal concern for months to come. In fact, until the day when the blond beasts actually poured over and through the wall to seize the strategic shore.

The Consulate had, then, considerable political importance. In a district remote from the capital it was inhabited by many minorities and had a vivid history under many flags. The tensions in that area had always been of interest to "the desk" in the Department and now Washington wanted to know everything that was going on. From the atmosphere of the place Smith soon sensed that there was no question that an attack would take place; the questions were: when, where, and how was it organized: who were the spies, who were the collaborators, what was the Government going to do, how effective would resistance be?

The Consulate also had its share of the usual problems.

Smith sat with Kelley through the morning, analyzing the run of the mill. The waiting room had an atmosphere of its own, an aroma that Smith was able to recognize and associate with stale wine and garlic and the tired sweat of peasants' clothes. It seemed to Smith inevitably associated with applicants for immigration visas. Smith was glad to see that everyone was received courteously and with respect. In his short career he had already learned how easily a young man's head is turned if he has to deal all day with people who want something, especially those who wanted it desperately as people wanted visas to America in that time and place. Smith was an average young man but he may have been a little more sensitive than most—he had a quality which is so fundamental in a diplomat that it is often forgotten by some diplomats and by most of their critics—a warm humanity, and a desire to serve.

The visa cases presented some real problems. Kelley had more than a suspicion that many of the applicants for temporary visas for business purposes were actually fleeing military service and hoped to get into America without the formality of immigration laws or the limitation of the quota.

It appeared to Smith that the morning he spent with Kelley might be typical of a day's work at the office. During the first two hours or so—from 9:00 to 11:00—Smith interviewed visa applicants and handled passport cases. Citizenship law appeared to be somewhat tricky at this Consulate because most of the clients seemed to possess dual nationality. They were considered Americans under Ameri-

(Continued on page 48)

Native Land

After Nine Years a Foreign Service Officer
Looks at the United States

By ROY M. MELBOURNE

In the early summer of 1939 America was a good place in which to have leave before heading to foreign parts and to a newly assigned post. The World's Fair was the big attraction and somehow it had a buoyant national tone, despite the world's troubles. Its theme was the world of tomorrow. It was relaxing to see the modern marvels and then to carry on a bit in New York. You saw Americans, unique among the world's great peoples, trying to forget Hitler for a moment and daring to look hopefully into the eye of tomorrow.

As you left home and settled on shipboard perhaps you thought of that aspect of your basic job which was to interpret abroad, completely aside from official policy, the aims and aspirations of your countrymen. And yet at that time how many knew any more than did you just what these were?

The news in a foreign language that reached you to say war had come to Europe announced a worldwide period of change incomparably greater than in any similar span of recent history. America changed with it, and yet this decade of international crisis required men in your calling to stay abroad while your country was being transformed. Actually it was nine years, aside from a brief leave and a few state of siege months in wartime Washington which allowed you to see little beyond a desk deluged with papers. The opportunity finally came to take a long, unhurried and appraising look at your native land.

Before you lies the American scene after it has been through a giant reshuffle. The picture has changed its shadings and the jigsaw puzzle has been cut differently. Is this the world of tomorrow we nebulously imagined in 1939? For tomorrow is here.

While away you tried to retain the personal touch about homside ideas, and the best expedient was the ingrained tang of your own colleagues and the local Americans, who were regularly recharged by new arrivals. By conversation with these brand new or rejuvenated people you learned to detect traces of changes by such transient vapors as catchy tunes and new jargon. Because of your heightened exile-like interest, magazines and books tended to keep you better informed factually than when in the United States. Yet there was that fundamental called the current American viewpoint or the popular approach to international and domestic events that time made more elusive despite all your reading of those considered as authorities. In the field of social phenomena you had become suspicious of authorities ever since the time of war internment as an enemy official. During that time you wryly regaled yourself with reading articles in the last available issue of a respected journal all claiming long range peace prospects between the United States and Japan rarely had been more bright. Strange names and impressions that lacked body, since they were met only on paper or as echoes among the fraternity, gradually misted your old picture of the United States until, as you returned home in the early summer of 1948 to stay for a gratifyingly lengthy term, you were sure of only one thing—prices were high and it would be tough living on your salary.

The money disappearance rate was the first thing that struck you. Abroad you could never quite rid yourself of the idea, despite expense, that you were using stage money nor of a tinge of surprise that people accepted it. Now, when you were handling good United States currency again,

instead of only \$1 bills being pocketed with the loose change for convenience, \$5 bills began showing up. Likewise, as you splurged or re-outfitted, the bad news you had read in economic reports and magazine ads was unmistakably confirmed.

People appeared more brusque in view of your conditioning to a more leisurely personal approach and as circumstances forced Americans to do more for themselves. This trait you were told was a war legacy. It was true that pesky dining car technique of writing your own order had caught on and self-service stores were everywhere. The current coat of arms seemed to include a super-market and an electric eye quartered, with a shopping carriage rampant.

You had seen the New Look elsewhere but the biggest women's change was the slacks and baby motif. The depression era had discouraged babies, and slacks were only for the beach. Now slacks were an accepted kind of informal attire, and as you encountered them in store or street there were always one or more youngsters tagging along as the hirthrate apparently soared. Men, as usual, were expressing themselves only in more weird and discordant neckties.

Some everyday conversation had a comforting, familiar ring. In sports you regretted to see the growth of the big business trend, yet there was your great love, baseball, and although player rosters had become meaningless, the spirit of the game restored all kinship. Among the teams the Dodgers were just the same, but to a surprising extent the cult of Brooklyn had overflowed into national folklore. In science you could talk with equal point about advances such as atomic energy, since it was as essentially unreal to the home crowd as it was to you. Where previously it had been Hitler, now it was Stalin and Russia that had everyone concerned, and the international news looked only too reminiscent of Hitler's salad days.

Curious it was to hear talk of shortages, to note the long waiting lists for automobiles, and to witness public decrying of the fuel shortage. No one knew when there would be enough cars and folks commiserated with those who had home oil heating. What made it remarkable was that for the first peace period in its existence the country was finding it had to husband its resources.

Nostalgia had its part. In talk of the opera, theater and films you heard no mention of Lawrence Tibbett, there was no longer a touring George M. Cohan, and Greta Garbo hadn't been seen in years. Stars had faded and others, including bobby sox idols, were to the fore. Yet the inimitable Bing had by now become a national institution.

No, the interval of the years could not be dismissed. There were events, personalities, waves, of which you had not personally witnessed the rise or fall. America in 1939 was an age before boogie woogie. You had never heard a Shostakovich symphony nor Wendell Willkie's voice; you had been denied the chance to see "Gone With the Wind" or the decade's Broadway plays that had found rest in anthologies; you could not account for the marvelous state of ballet. How many indigenous melodies and national overtones had run their course to be felt only at the time in the heat of living.

Among friends the blind spots you occasionally showed

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MEETING THE PUBLIC

American travel abroad has reached the highest levels since before the war. With the increasing restoration of tourist transportation and hotel facilities in areas inaccessible under wartime conditions, it appears that we are moving toward something approaching a normal volume of American visitors to many foreign countries.

For the Foreign Service this means work. It also means more contact with the American traveling public than we have had for some years; and more contact means more opportunity to make a good impression on visitors and to counteract the unfavorable stereotypes toward the Service which unfortunately are held in some quarters.

It is ironic that the volume of visitors to our posts abroad, all in one way or another calling upon us for services, should be increasing just when new economies are being put into effect. Nevertheless, just because it will be difficult to render adequate and cheerful service to travelers with our reduced and overworked staffs, it seems particularly important at this time to make a special effort. Actually, increased public contact is a good thing for the Service if we can do our work in such a way as to improve our reputation.

There are several key points which might well be kept in mind. One of them is that it is important that our own people always think and speak well of the Service. It is an old axiom that good public relations begin with the man at the next desk. In other words, we should strive for the kind of internal harmony and group spirit which will insure that all members of our organization give outsiders an impression of sincere devotion to duty. This will not be easy in a year of economy and sacrifice in which the temptation to grumble will be great. Nevertheless, the relationship between internal morale and outside reputation is a close one. Now more than ever it is important that officers do everything possible to maintain the morale of their subordinates.

A second point to remember is that not just private citizens, but also members of other Government organizations,

are members of the public. We must be just as scrupulously courteous, helpful and friendly with members of other services and agencies as with any other category of Americans with whom we have contact. Occasionally there have been in years past frictions with other agencies operating abroad. We must reduce these to the minimum, both in the field and in Washington.

In regard to tourists and other travelers, we should remember that it is not just the quality of the service we render that counts, but the manner in which we render it. Even though we may often be confronted with impossible requests and unreasonable expectations, we can soften the traveler's disappointment if we can make him feel that we are genuinely sympathetic to his needs. It is particularly important that receptionists, as the first point of contact, be carefully selected, instructed and supervised.

Another important point is that the American who visits our offices abroad does not come on business alone; he is often a homesick traveler who experiences a thrill when he enters a building over which the Stars and Stripes is flying. Consciously or unconsciously, he expects that he will find there an American atmosphere and receive a greeting characterized by the friendly, democratic warmth that he associates with the United States. The emotional glow which he will receive from a personalized reception may mean fully as much to him as quick action on the problem he presents for solution.

There is, of course, no substitute for quick and efficient service which gets results. But there is a world of difference between efficiency provided by an irritable, grumbling official, and the same service rendered in a friendly, courteous and cheerful manner. If our consulates are crowded and overcrowded, as many of them are and will continue to be, that fact will be obvious to any visitor and he will give us all the more credit for being able to keep smiling under such circumstances. And he will be far more inclined to be tolerant of delays in service if we can somehow manage to convey to him that we are doing absolutely the best we can do under the conditions under which we have to work.

HENRY S. VILLARD

There is no use denying the fact that the JOURNAL has just suffered a grave loss with the departure of Harry Villard to assume his duties as Counselor at Oslo. The JOURNAL feels itself in a position analogous to the ocean liner in the celebrated Punch cartoon "Dropping the Pilot." To be more specific, it is difficult for most of us, particularly the editors, to think of the JOURNAL without our retiring Editor-in-Chief.

From his first association with the Foreign Service, Harry Villard has shown a keen interest in the JOURNAL. To it he brought not only a personal heritage of journalism and a thorough academic training which culminated at Harvard and Oxford but a kaleidoscope of experiences garnered as an ambulance driver with the Italian Army, as a teacher, as a real estate broker, as a publicity agent, and finally as a newspaper and magazine writer. In addition to this, Harry Villard is endowed with a fine sense of discrimination, excellent literary taste, and above all a flair for editing.

If in recent years the JOURNAL has made very considerable advances, not only in circulation and format but also, we venture to state, in the quality of its articles, it is due to these endowments of its Chairman of the Editorial Board. It will be the endeavor of the present Board to continue to edit the JOURNAL in "the Villard tradition." If they succeed in this task, they may in some measure repay the debt of gratitude owed to Harry Villard for his devotion to the magazine and for the industry and imagination with which he inspired its activities.

From the Press

ARMOUR'S DEPARTURE

From the Washington Post, August 18, 1948

Mr. Norman Armour has slipped out of town almost unnoticed, having wound up a 33-year-old career in the diplomatic service, his last post being that of Assistant Secretary of State. It was like him to go without any fuss or feathers. His modesty is as becoming as it is unusual, and adds flavor to a record which has been worthy and honorable. He has been a sightseer of and participant in much history. As a secretary in Moscow he watched the street fighting which ushered in the Russian revolution. Thirty years later he found himself in Bogota in a similar, though not so historic, situation. He was at lunch at the Hotel Continental when the mob invested the hotel and started to pillage and destroy and kill. His first thought was of the embassy, and he set out to walk there, attended by danger at every step. When he and his group arrived, it was found that the Ambassador was absent. Mr. Armour took charge, and his calmness and authority assuaged any fear on the part of the staff and promoted self-help and cooperation in meeting the emergency.

Mr. Armour was the kind of diplomat of whom visiting Americans were always proud to find as their Ambassador. At all his posts he elicited respect. A man of courtesy and consideration, of distinguished presence, he made friends for America, though he never shirked whatever disagreeable duty he had to do in forwarding American policy. Unlike many emissaries, he represented his country, not the country to which he was posted, and certainly not himself. He was a representative in the truest sense of the word. His post as Assistant Secretary of State in charge of all the geographical desks is now vacant. It is said that it will not be filled, because the organization of the State Department is becoming more and more based on specialization. The need nowadays is for men who know this or that expertly. But some of the wide-ranging knowledge which Mr. Armour acquired from his rich experience and which his natural gifts tempered into ripe judgments would not come amiss amid the seething and striving and self-centeredness of the specialists.

FOREIGN SERVICE

From the Washington Post, July 28, 1948

The movement to give District government employes the pay raise that was denied them in the closing hours of the last session of Congress ought, out of fairness, to be extended to include another group of employes in the same boat. The 6000 members of the Foreign Service, who are Government employes under any definition, were excluded from the \$330 Federal pay increase because of a flaw in the language of the act. The exclusion was one of legal interpretation rather than intent. Backers of the legislation thought the Foreign Service was covered, but a dispute over the tense of a verb led the eagle-eyed General Accounting Office to rule against it. Accordingly, we believe, Congress has an obligation now to make amends. The members of the Foreign Service have an importance beyond their numbers as America's eyes and ears abroad, and it is imperative that the service become a corps of the best qualified representatives rather than a luxury reserved for the rich. This condition, no less than elementary justice, demands that members of the Foreign Service be accorded equality of treatment with other Federal employes.

A TOUCHING TRIBUTE

FSO Paul W. Meyer, American Consul at Victoria, B.C., has sent to the JOURNAL an article by Nancy Hodges, published in the Victoria Daily Times of July 12, 1948, which pays a most unusual and deserving tribute to a former American Consul at Winnipeg, who died 55 years ago. The article follows:

"Because of the nasty taste left in my mouth—and perhaps in my reader's—after digesting stories of divorcees who offer themselves for sale to the highest bidder, I devoured with avidity a sweet and rather touching little news item I saw in a Winnipeg paper.

An elderly woman was seen carrying a bunch of freshly-cut crocuses and climbing several flights of stairs to the public gallery of the City Council Chamber in the Manitoba capital. Arrived there, she placed the bouquet at the base of an oil painting of a former United States Consul, James W. Taylor.

It appears she was perpetuating a custom kept up every year since Mr. Taylor died 55 years ago. He was sent to Winnipeg as Consul in 1870, three years before the city was incorporated, and remained there until his death in 1893.

During his tenure of office he became known as the man who was 'so kind to all the children in the neighborhood.' The elderly woman was one of the children to whom that U. S. Consul had been so kind.

Every spring, she said, he would pick the first wild crocuses and the first wild strawberries and distribute them to the youngsters, as well as showing them many other attentions, which endeared him to them.

When he died in 1893, he was sincerely mourned. So much so that the children of the neighborhood, out of gratitude and to honor his memory, made a point of placing a bouquet of the first wild crocuses at the base of his portrait in the council chamber each year.

But, as the years passed, the kiddies who had shared in his gifts, who knew and loved him, grew up and either moved away or else passed on.

Until the elderly woman, who mounted those stairs the other day to honor his memory according to the charming custom of the years, was almost the last survivor of those to whom Mr. Taylor had been a childhood friend.

To me, there is something very touching in this little saga of devotion, this 55-year-old tribute to a man whose life, after all, only slightly impinged on the lives of those children.

Yet his little deeds of kindness, something quite extraneous to his official duties, have remained fresh in the memory of the childish recipients for half a century—long after they themselves have forgotten far more historic contemporary happenings, I dare say.

That little episode of the Winnipeg woman's homage to the consul's memory seems to me to have a lesson in it that far transcends the mere news value of the story.

That long-dead American could never have dreamed that his kindly attitude towards those young Canadians would have had such long-lasting effect. Yet of such trivial little courtesies and kindnesses is the solid structure of international friendship, understanding and goodwill built up.

Further, I am prepared to swear that, could he be reached for an opinion, he would rate that woman's pilgrimage to his portrait with her little bunch of crocuses a tribute far more touching in its spontaneous sincerity after the lapse of years than any mere monument, even in the homeland which he served so faithfully and so well."

News from the Department

By BARBARA P. CHALMERS

Personals

Rear Admiral WILLIAM D. WRIGHT, JR., USN (ret.) has been appointed Coordinator for the Philippine Rehabilitation Program in the office of the Foreign Service. The Coordinator will deal with all matters pertaining to the Philippine Rehabilitation Program.

Mr. STEPHEN LATCHFORD, Aviation Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, retired from the Department on July 30, after 43 years of Government service. Mr. Latchford received a letter of commendation from the Secretary of State, and his associates in the Department gave a farewell reception in his honor.

Mr. EMIL J. SADY, of the Division of Dependent Area Affairs, has resigned to become Chief of the Pacific branch of the Division of Territories and Island Possessions of the Interior Department.

At the convocation exercises on July 28, 1948 at Mankato State Teachers College in Minnesota, Retired FSO MAURICE PRATT DUNLAP spoke on "The Vikings in America." Since his retirement Mr. Dunlap has devoted a great deal of his time to research of Viking life.

"A Sarmiento Anthology", translated from the Spanish by Retired FSO STUART EDGAR GRUMMON, has been published recently. This work is the first attempt to present in English a representative anthology of the writings of the late Domingo Faustino Sarmiento, who was at one time President of the Argentine Republic.

HON. PAUL C. DANIELS, former Ambassador to Honduras, has recently been appointed as United States Representative on the Council of the Organization of American States. He succeeds former AMBASSADOR WILLIAM DAWSON, who resigned for reasons of health. Ambassador Daniels will continue his present duties as Director for American Republic Affairs.

The appointment has recently been announced of FSO JOSEPH C. SATTERTHWAITTE and RAYMOND A. HARE as Director and Deputy Director, respectively, of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs.

FSO GORDON H. MATTISON is now Acting Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, and FSO ELBERT G. MATHEWS, Acting Chief of the Division of South Asian Affairs.

Among the recent retirements from the

Department is that of Mr. STEPHEN HUGH QUIGLEY, Administrative Assistant on the Protocol Staff of the Department of State, after forty-five years and eight months of service. Mr. Quigley was presented with a letter of commendation by Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

Retired FSO COERT DUBOIS, United States member of the Security Council's Committee of Good Offices for Settlement of the Dutch-Indonesian Republic dispute, has asked to be relieved of his duties because of ill health. He returned from Batavia in July.

MR. SAMUEL D. BOYKIN has been appointed Director of the Office of Controls, and assumed his new duties on June 28, 1948.

FSO AND MRS. BASIL F. MACGOWAN, while on home leave, traveled through twenty-four states, visiting relatives and friends while on tour. Mr. Macgowan has just finished a six weeks training course at the Foreign Service Institute and is leaving soon for his new post at Lima.

The Department announced on August 4 that the American Consulate General at Colombo, Ceylon, had been raised to an Embassy on August 3, at which time AMBASSADOR FELIX COLE presented his letters of credence to the Governor General of Ceylon.

Thomas C. Wasson

The body of Consul General THOMAS C. WASSON, who died in Jerusalem on May 23 after having been wounded by a sniper's bullet, arrived in Norfolk on August 7 aboard the aircraft carrier U.S.S. PALAU.

Mr. FRED W. JANDREY, a Foreign Service Officer, was designated by the Secretary of State to meet the U.S.S. PALAU at Norfolk and accompany the remains to Washington. The ashes of the lamented Consul General were on August 13 deposited in the columbarium at the Chapel of St. Joseph at the Washington Cathedral, where a memorial service was held on June 2, 1948, under the auspices of the Foreign Service Association.

Harry M. Donaldson

Friends and colleagues of FSO HARRY M. DONALDSON were shocked to hear of his death by drowning from the S.S. American Defender while the ship was leaving the harbor at Rotterdam



Photo by Ralph S. Duter

FSO Ralph H. Ackerman taking oath as Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. Left to right: FSO Robert F. Woodward, Deputy Director of Office of American Republic Affairs; Miss Dorothy Tirrell, Assistant to Mr. Marvin W. Will, FSO William W. Walker, Assistant Chief of Division of Caribbean Affairs, FSO Howard H. Tewksbury, Chief of Division of River Plate Affairs; Charles C. Hauch, of the Division of Caribbean Affairs; FSO Cecil B. Lyon. Mr. George C. Riddiford is administering the oath.

on August 7. His body was recovered a few days later in the vicinity of the place where he was drowned. Mr. Donaldson, who was the Consul at Antwerp, was en route to the United States on home leave.

UNESCO Conference at Beirut

Among those designated to serve as Advisers to the United States delegation to the Third Session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which is to be held at Beirut, Lebanon, from October 18 to November 10, 1948, are Messrs. CHARLES M. HULTEN, WALTER M. KOTSCHNIC, KENNETH HOLLAND and FSO JAMES S. MOOSE, JR. The Honorable GEORGE V. ALLEN has been designated as one of the Representatives of the United States to the Conference.

Labor Conference at Paris

Officers of the Foreign Service assigned as labor attaches to American Diplomatic Missions in Europe met in Paris from August 3 through August 5 to consider European labor problems and their relation to the European Recovery Program. Labor advisers of the Economic Cooperation Administration, representatives of American and European trade unions, and officers of the United States Department of Labor participated in the discussions. Ambassador JEFFERSON CAFFERY opened the session, which was presided over by PHILIP M. KAYSER, Director of the Office of International Labor Affairs, Department of Labor, and DONALD HOROWITZ, Assistant Chief of the Division of International Labor, Social and Health Affairs of the Department of State, served as co-Chairman of the session.

National Security

The Secretary of State has appointed the following committee to study the question of whether persons have entered the United States, in connection with the work of international organizations, whose presence is inconsistent with national security:

Mr. BENJAMIN M. McKELWAY, Editor,
Washington Star

Mr. JAMES H. ROWE, JR., Attorney, member of the Commission on organization of the Executive Branch of the Government, former Assistant Attorney General

Mr. MARCELLUS C. SHIELDS, retired Clerk of the House Appropriations Committee, 1916-1944.

NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE EDITORIAL BOARD

FSO Edmund A. Gullion, who has served for three years as a member of the Editorial Board of the FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL, has succeeded to the Chairmanship of the Board, effective September 1. Mr. Gullion, who until recently served in the office of the Under Secretary, is now attending the National War College.

MARRIAGES

WHITAKER-COLLIER. Miss Eleanor Pedrick Collier and FSO Hugh N. Whitaker were married on August 7, 1948, in New Orleans. Mr. Whitaker is Vice Consul at Palermo.

IN MEMORIAM

HODGDON. FSO A. Dana Hodgdon, Consul General at Stuttgart, died on July 12, 1948, at Stuttgart.

DONALDSON. FSO Harold M. Donaldson, Consul at Antwerp, died at Rotterdam, August 7, 1948.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

These items gleaned from the American Consular Bulletin of September 1923 may be of interest to present-day members of the Foreign Service Association:

The death of President Harding on August 2, 1923 was recorded.

Mr. Herbert C. Hengstler, Chief of the Consular Bureau, celebrated on August 18, 1923 his twenty-fifth year of service in the Department of State. A resolution of the Executive Committee of the Consular Association commending Mr. Hengstler for his faithful and zealous efforts in behalf of the American Consular Service was published.

Consul John P. Hurley (Riga) was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for "extraordinary heroism in action at Villers-sur-Fere, France, July 28, 1918." Secretary-of-War Weeks bestowed the decoration on August 11, 1923.

Consul John K. Davis was assigned to Nanking. Consul Lowell C. Pinkerton to London and Consul Leslie E. Reed to Bremen. Consul Hooker A. Doolittle was assigned to Marseille, and Vice Consuls Loy W. Henderson to Queens-town, Samuel J. Fletcher to Havre, Alfred T. Nester to Naples, and Harry L. Troutman to Messina.

A son, Richard, Jr., was born to Consul and Mrs. R. F. Boyce at Nassau, Bahamas, on July 24, 1923, and a daughter, Helen Louise, was born to Vice Consul and Mrs. Harold S. Tewell at North Bay, Ontario, on July 11, 1923.

Consul Lester L. Schnare contributed an article entitled "The Old Bridge at Chaochowfu."

BIRTHS

MARTIN. A daughter, Carolyn Maric, was born on April 6, 1948, to Mr. and Mrs. Haywood P. Martin in Washington, D. C. Mr. Martin is Director of the Office of Foreign Service, Department of State.

SMITH. A son, Richard Lawrence, was born on May 7, 1948 to FSO and Mrs. Donald W. Smith, in Washington, D. C. Mr. Smith is Deputy Director of the Office of Foreign Service.

GEERKEN. A daughter, Edith Marion, was born on May 22, 1948, in Arlington, Va., to FSO and Mrs. Forrest K. Geerken. Mr. Geerken is assigned to the Division of Protective Services of the Department of State.

HORSEY. A daughter, Sarah Redwood, was born on June 9, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. Outerbridge Horsey, in Washington, D. C. Mr. Horsey is First Secretary at the Embassy in Rome.

BREWSTER. A son, David Riggs, was born on June 30, 1948, to FSO and Mrs. Herbert Daniel Brewster in Athens where Mr. Brewster is Second Secretary.

OLDS. A daughter, Margaret Lovejoy, was born on July 3, 1948 to FSO and Mrs. Herbert V. Olds in Rotterdam where Mr. Olds is Consul.

AYLWARD. A daughter, Anne Doane, was born on July 6, 1948 to FSO and Mrs. Robert A. Aylward in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Aylward has been assigned to Peiping as Language Officer.

WELLMAN. A daughter, Judith Lynne, was born on July 31, 1948 to FSO and Mrs. Harvey R. Wellman in Mexico City where Mr. Wellman is Second Secretary.

News From The Field

FIELD CORRESPONDENTS

Argentina—Dixon Donnelley
Australia (Canberra)—Donald Lamm
Austria—Martin F. Herz
Belgium—A. Guy Hope
Bolivia—Park F. Wollam
British Guiana—George W. Skora
Canada (Eastern)—Terry B. Sanders, Jr.
Ceylon—Perry N. Jester
Colombia—John M. Vebber
Costa Rica—Albert E. Carter
Dakar—William R. Gennert
Dutch West Indies—Lynn W. Franklin
France (Northern)—Alfred H. Lovell, Jr.
France (Southern)—William H. Christensen
French Indo-China—Dallas M. Coors
Hongkong—Betty Ann Middleton

Hungary—Jane Wilson Pool
Iceland—William S. Krason
London—W. Stratton Anderson, Jr.
New Zealand—John S. Service
Panama—Oscar H. Guerra
Paraguay—Henry Hoyt
Peru—Maurice J. Broderick
Poland—Findley Burns, Jr.
Portugal—William Barnes
Rumania—Donald Dunham
Shanghai—Emory C. Swank
Singapore—John Hamlin
Southampton—William H. Beck
Switzerland—Ruth Madsen
Trinidad—Benjamin L. Sowell
Union of South Africa—John C. Fuess
Uruguay—Sidney Lafoon
U.S.S.R.—Foy D. Kohler

ATHENS

June, 1948.

Athens is a busy post, with many comings and goings. We have said goodbye in recent months to the last of the pioneers who returned in the hectic days of Liberation to reopen the Embassy: Leonard Cromie, who now helps to hold the fort for us on the Greek Desk in the Department, and Bob and Martha Caldwell, who we hope are a little homesick for us up in Dublin. We are happy, however, to have the Rankins back with us, their third assignment to Greece since 1932 and second tour of duty as Charge d'Affaires during an important period. Our new Ambassador, the Honorable Henry F. Grady, is also not a stranger to Greece, having been the American representative on the Allied Mission to Observe the Greek Elections in 1946. He is expected in a few weeks.

It was from Athens, too, that our dear friend Tom Wasson flew to the post of duty at Jerusalem where he gave his life. He will be remembered with deepest affection here—a gracious, kindly, scholarly (he learned to speak fluent Greek in a few months), extremely capable officer.

Greece has been the scene of the activities of UNSCOB—the United Nations Special Committee for the Balkans—which has kept our Consulate General in Salonika busy for the past six months. FSO Jerry Drew, who has long experience with international conferences, was selected as Deputy U. S. representative and has,

in fact, ably directed our Delegation during the necessarily frequent absences of Ambassador Kirk. The Committee is now temporarily in Geneva, preparing the report which is to be presented to the fall session of the U.N. General Assembly in Paris. Harry Howard and Phil Mangano of the Department are assisting with the report.

This year two members of our alien staff, Vlademir Bouichkoff and George Zalocostas, both in the Economic Section, celebrated their Twenty-fifth Anniversaries of service in the Embassy and pre-war Legation. They received warm letters of commendation from the Chief of Mission for their loyalty and devotion.

The Embassy within the past few months has sponsored two charity performances. One in February, in honor of

the 20th anniversary of the sound film which was attended by the King and Queen, netted almost a thousand dollars for the Queen's Fund. Another in April, organized by students of the American School for Girls for the benefit of the families of mobilized Greek soldiers, produced \$1,500.

There have also been frequent visits by the U. S. Navy in Greek waters during recent months, on one or two occasions involving nearly 20 vessels at a time. Admiral Richard Connolly and Vice Admiral Forrest P. Sherman have each visited Athens twice this year, and various functions at the Palace, the Embassy and elsewhere were arranged for them and



The above picture was taken on steps leading out of the palace after Ambassador Palmer had presented credentials to His Majesty, the King of Afghanistan, on June 5, 1948. Front row: Chief of Protocol, The Honorable Ely E. Palmer, U. S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, and the Court Protocol Officer. Second row: FSO Bruce R. Crooks, FSO T. Eliot Weil and Lt. Colonel Edward F. Kent, U. S. Military Attache. Third Row: Attache Pierre Parker, Attache David B. Wharton and Attache George E. Palmer.

On steps of Belem Palace in Lisbon following Ambassador MacVeagh's Presentation of Credentials on June 9. Left to right— Colonel Esmeraldo Carvalhais, Protocol Officer; Ambassador MacVeagh; Consul General Thomas McEnelly, (behind Ambassador); First Secretary Albert E. Clattenburg, Jr.; Second Secretary Elizabeth Humes; Second Secretary William Barnes; Assistant Military Attache Lt. Col. John D. Torrey, U.S.A.; Dr. Henrique Viana, Chief of Protocol, and 2 assistants.



members of their staffs. We are always delighted to see the Navy.

LISBON

August 1, 1948.

Arrival of Ambassador MacVeagh

Ambassador Lincoln MacVeagh, his daughter, Mrs. Samuel Thorne, and her nine-months-old son, Sam, arrived at Lisbon June 3 on the Portuguese freighter GANDA. The Ambassador's first month at this post was a crowded one since a few days after the presentation of his credentials some 14 units of the United States Navy, including the battleship MISSOURI and aircraft carrier CORAL SEA, put into port for a 6-day visit, and following their departure he played host to the American community at the traditional Fourth of July reception at the Embassy.

Second Secretary Humes Sets Style Precedent

Miss Elizabeth Humes, Second Secretary of Embassy, created something of a local precedent in attire for lady diplomats by the costume she wore at the ceremony of the Ambassador's presentation of credentials to President Carmona. The Foreign Office prescribes the dress for males on such occasions but has never laid down any rules regarding women's wear. When faced with this problem, Miss Humes got in touch with Dr. Henrique Viana, Chief of Protocol, told him what she proposed to wear, and asked his approval. What could Dr. Viana do but assent? The costume, as originated and modeled by Miss Humes, consisted of a floor-length black satin dress, small black hat with pink ribbons, and elbow-length black gloves. President Carmona was visibly impressed with the wearer of all this finery, and Miss Humes expects that her get-up has a good chance of becoming de rigueur for all future female members of the diplomatic corps attending ceremonial functions.

U. S. Fleet Visit

Lisbon probably sees more of the United States Navy than any other Foreign Service post. In the past two years there have been five American naval visits in which one battleship, 2 aircraft carriers, 5 cruisers, and 16 destroyers have participated. By far the biggest was the visit of the midshipmen's training squadron in June, 1948, comprising 14 units with about 12,000 officers, midshipmen, ROTC's and enlisted men aboard. Admiral R. C. Connolly, Commander of U. S. Naval Forces in Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, flew his flag on the MISSOURI, historic ship of the

Japanese surrender ceremony, while the squadron was under the command of Rear Admiral Heber H. McLean, U.S.N.

Official entertainment included an Embassy reception and dinner given by Ambassador MacVeagh, a garden party offered by the Portuguese Foreign Minister, Dr. Jose Caeiro da Mata at Queluz Palace outside Lisbon, and the Admirals' reception on board the CORAL SEA. Among the extra-official affairs were a special bullfight and a garden party for the enlisted men at the former German Legation. The latter function, attended by over 1,000 men and several hundred local girls with food and dance music provided by the Navy, was a huge success, and it marked the first occasion on which the German Legation has been used for a social gathering since its former occupants departed. The small American community of Lisbon, some 100 strong, did its best to make the Navy welcome. Information booths set up at several vantage points along the waterfront gave many who volunteered for duty in them a realization of the deficiencies in their knowledge of the city. Members of the fleet's complement were entertained at numerous small parties by local Americans, and from all accounts the Navy was well pleased with its reception.

New Arrivals

New arrivals are FSO Easton T. Kelsey and wife, formerly of Toronto, FSO Charles E. Higdon, FSS Charles J. Kolinski plus wife and daughter, and FSS John L. Hagan. The new Counselor, FSO Alfred T. Nester, and Mrs. Nester are expected here early in August.

Nothing daunted by the intricacies of the local vernacular, the Kelseys, with the spirit of the '49ers in their blood, struck out into the hinterland a few days after their arrival to take stock of Portugal's mineral wealth. Mineral reporting was one of Mr. Kelsey's specialties at Toronto.

Mr. Kolinski comes to Lisbon after a short training assignment in Commerce before which he was assigned to Glasgow. He knows Portuguese well after three years in charge of our war-time consulate in the Cape Verdes. Mr. Hagan's previous post was San Jose. Mr. Higdon, a recent appointee to the career service under the Manpower Act, has served with other agencies of the Government in Sweden and South America.

Miscellany

The most traveled member of the staff is FSS Jack Barrett who, in less than a year has visited the Azores, Madeira,

(Continued on page 52)

The Bookshelf

FRANCIS C. DE WOLF, *Editor*

The Memoirs of Cordell Hull. Review by the Honorable Green H. Hackworth, American Member, International Court of Justice, The Hague. (In Two Volumes). *The Macmillan Company, New York, May 24, 1948. 1804 pages. \$10.50.*

A more picturesque career of a man of the present generation could scarcely be imagined than that of Cordell Hull. Born in a log cabin in the foot-hills of the Cumberland Mountains in the State of Tennessee in 1871 and confronted by difficulties which few of the present generation can comprehend and which only the strong of spirit of his generation could surmount, he rose by gradual and measured steps through the halls of the legislature of his native State and those of both Houses of the national Congress to the highest post in the Cabinet of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His early education was a struggle against handicaps which would have submerged into obscurity one with less zeal and determination. The fascinating story of these handicaps and the battle to overcome them is related in Part One of the Memoirs. They must have steeled the man for the successful career which had its beginning while he was yet a youth and marked his more than fifty years of active public service, terminating with his resignation as Secretary of State on November 30, 1944, because of ill health.

Few men have risen so high from such humble beginnings. Only through the tenacity of purpose and dogged determination that have characterized his endeavors, was such a phenomenal but gradual rise to high places in public life and in the respect and affection of his countrymen, made possible.

He was elected to the State Legislature in 1892, a month after reaching majority and was reelected in 1894. Meanwhile, he had entered the practice of law. This was interrupted in 1898, when he organized and trained a company of volunteer troops to fight in the war with Spain. He was commissioned Captain and left with his troops a few months later for duty in Cuba. On returning from Cuba, he resumed the practice of law but that was again interrupted in 1903, when, at the age of 31, he became Circuit Judge of a Judicial Circuit embracing ten counties, serving in that capacity until 1906.

His native Tennessee was good to him. In addition to placing him in the legislative and judicial branches of its government, it sent him to Washington from 1906 to 1930, with but one intervening period of two years, as a member of the House of Representatives, and in the latter year elected him to the Senate. He was serving in the Senate when, in 1933, President Roosevelt appointed him Secretary of State. Meanwhile, he had served some four years as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, a powerful position in the hierarchy of national politics.

Mr. Hull was a liberal of the moderate type. His thoughts always ran toward the under-privileged. His own early struggles had made their imprint. He states that despite the fact that the Supreme Court in 1895 had held, in *Pollack v. Farmers' Loan and Trust Company* (157 U.S. 429, 158 U.S. 601), the income tax law of 1894 to be unconstitutional, and despite the further fact, as he relates it, of the unpopularity of the subject in Congress, where he says, "special privilege" was in control, he introduced in 1907 a Bill to revive the tax to adjust a situation "in which wealth was shirking its share of the tax burdens." He was hopeful that the Supreme Court, which had undergone some changes, might be more favorably disposed than when it gave its 5 to 4 decision in the case cited above. This Bill and another

introduced in 1909 failed of approval but a proposal to amend the Constitution was adopted and became effective four years later as the 16th Amendment. Thereupon Mr. Hull drafted the legislation which became law in 1913 as part of the Underwood Tariff Act. He regarded this as one of the most outstanding features of his public service. He strongly supported the establishment of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Trade Commission, etc. In 1916 he drafted a revision of the income tax law and also drafted a federal estate-tax measure, both of which were approved by the Congress and signed by President Wilson.

Mr. Hull never made hasty decisions. In January 1933 President-elect Roosevelt offered him the choice Cabinet post of Secretary of State. Most men would have accepted immediately, but not Mr. Hull. He kept the matter under advisement for more than a month and finally accepted only after he and the President found that they were in complete harmony as to his functions *vis a vis* the President in the conduct of the foreign relations of the United States. The President announced the appointment February 21, 1933.

He was vitally concerned regarding the maintenance of international peace and was a firm believer in the proposition that the best assurance against war was improved economic conditions of peoples and their countries, and that the first step in this direction was freer commercial and trade-relations. Even before he was offered the post as Secretary of State, he inaugurated in the Senate steps looking to the utilization of the Federal Tariff Commission to assist the incoming administration in the negotiation of trade agreements. His efforts in this direction were intensified after he became Secretary of State and came to fruition with the passage of the Trade Agreements Act in 1934. This Act has been extended from time to time, thanks to Mr. Hull, and is still in existence. Many agreements carrying tariff reductions on specified commodities, ameliorating quota and other restrictions on trade have been negotiated under it. At about this same time he turned his attention toward problems of disarmament; the good-neighbor policy; the establishment of relations with Russia; the Far Eastern situation; the situation in Europe, particularly in Germany; later the Second World War; and finally efforts toward the creation of an organization for the maintenance of peace and security—the Charter of the United Nations.

Under the heading—"What of the Future," Mr. Hull states "My twelve years as Secretary of State were a difficult period in which to live. It was an epoch filled with conflicts, tragedies, and seeming impossibilities. One could not come through it, however, without feeling its vibrant pulsations. And it has left the nations of the world with an opportunity for advancement such as they have never had before, such as they may never have again." It left Mr. Hull broken in health but not in spirit. In the last lines of his Memoirs appear these words: "no achievement can be higher than that of working in harmony with other nations so that the lash of war may be lifted from our backs and a peace of lasting friendship descend upon us."

The pages of Mr. Hull's Memoirs bring into hold relief, in language as plain and unsophisticated as the man himself, the story of his life's work. But the book, consisting of two volumes, divided into eight Parts, is not to be appraised on the basis of a fascinating story of the life of a distinguished American. Rather, its chief value lies in its record of our international relations during a critical period of our country. It is a hook written by one who figured prominently in the panorama of events and who, therefore, was in a

position to speak from personal knowledge and official records. The division of the book into Parts corresponding to the chronology of events, with descriptive headings, facilitates its use by students of political history as well as by the casual reader. Eighty-five percent of the book relates to Mr. Hull's tenure as Secretary of State. His praise of his associates in the Department and in the field—Foreign Service Officers—is unstinted.

The popularity of the book is evidenced by its place among the best sellers. The author pays high tribute to the part played by Colonel Andrew Berding in the preparation of the volumes, without whose assistance, he states, "this book would not have been written."

Green H. Ackworth

Fundamental Education—Common Ground For All Peoples—UNESCO—(Report of a Special Committee to the Preparatory Commission of UNESCO). *MacMillan Company, New York, 1947, 325 pages, \$2.50.*

Devoted to the purpose of launching a world scale attack upon ignorance, "Fundamental Education," is the report of a special committee to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization. The report is divided into five chapters covering the subject approximately as follows; the origins of the present document; its scope and purpose, accounts of Fundamental Education in action with difficulties encountered and achievements attained, including detailed statistics on the illiteracy of each country, analysis and conclusions of a broader character such as articles and excerpts on major issues of theory, policies and methods including problems to be met in the attack on illiteracy and the larger aims of Fundamental Education, and possible steps for Unesco in forwarding the world-movement for Fundamental Education.

This volume, the first fruit of the labours of the Education Section was prepared to explain the proposed plan of work in the field of Fundamental Education. The volume is presented to a wider public purely as a working document and focuses attention on an increasing world movement in which Unesco might be of some help. The necessity for action is based on the proved existence of immense numbers of people who lack the most elementary means of participating in modern life, thus threatening peace and security, and challenging science and culture. Unesco's keen interest lies in the fact that where half the people of the world are denied the ability to read and write there lacks some basic unity and justice which the United Nations are pledged together to further.

It is emphasized that Fundamental Education is to spread elementary knowledge and the means of acquiring it but that its content must be real and not purely formal and must aim at improving the life of each nation through influencing its natural and social environment. Since illiteracy means not only lack of the ability to read and write but communities uncultivated and encased within rigid and ineffectual forms of traditional education, such learning must be given in terms of the emphases of the local culture. However, if these new educational systems are to function within a widening world pattern of enlightenment, certain changes within the educational systems of the high cultures of East and West will also be necessary. The East must teach something of the West and vice versa.

Fundamental Education is divided into seven major policies including the scope and content of Fundamental Education, the State and Voluntary Agencies, the problem of language, the provision of reading material, mass communication and finally the problem of incentives.

Finally, in suggesting lines of action the committee recommended that the process through which fundamental educa-

tion may be advanced with fullest vigor and success lay in one word, "Participation," emphasizing the flexibility of procedure. The establishment of a panel on Fundamental Education was suggested with some members continuously in service at Unesco headquarters in Paris, while others to be available for consultation. Activities suggested for the Panel were documentation, planning of staff services of information to study direct problems and lastly personal contact through attendance at conferences and otherwise with workers in the field.

Fundamental Education is largely a movement of the peoples themselves democratic and inherently basic and it is for that reason that the program suggested is so extensive, penetrating and flexible. In conclusion it was quoted that since "Education in its traditional forms has failed to save us from the scourge of war or to promote social progress in larger freedom," a new and more direct and comprehensive approach is definitely now in order.

Carol Pray Ryan

Democracy and Empire in the Caribbean. By Paul Blanshard. *The Macmillan Company, New York. 379 pages. \$5.00.*

Mr. Blanshard has skillfully compressed into a cohesive and highly readable book his comprehensive war-time study of the disparate political, economic, and social problems posed by the European and American colonies in the Western Hemisphere. In this book he has focused his main inquiry on the non-self-governing areas in the Caribbean. He considers them in relation to the independent republics of the region, Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic, only insofar as certain factors in their life impinge upon "regional" solutions to the problems of the colonies.

These "outposts of growing democracy in the Western Hemisphere" and "rearguard garrisons of European and American imperialism" have, in Mr. Blanshard's view, become such important trouble spots that sooner or later both America and Europe must pay more attention to them. In the European colonies, which he states are colonized largely by imported African slaves and indentured East Indian servants, he sees the rule of the white man coming to an end, and the colored masses rapidly rising to power. In Puerto Rico, he finds that a proud and politically mature people, with a Spanish culture and the psychology of a Spanish-American republic rather than a European dependency, has shown increasing dissatisfaction with its present anomalous position as an "organized but unincorporated territory of the United States." In what way, inquires Mr. Blanshard, has the functioning of European and American colonial methods prepared these people for self-government; who are the political leaders that are emerging; in what way do the four powers contemplate giving to these peoples the self-respecting place in the world community to which they aspire? To what extent, he asks, will new political and economic relationships to the metropolitan governments increase the stability and security of these islands and territories? Will the European possessions be drawn ideologically closer to this hemisphere or to Europe?

Mr. Blanshard, a war-time consultant to the United States Section of the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission and a former racket buster in New York City, indicts, in ascending order of stricture but in varying degrees, United States, French, British, and Dutch failure to provide adequate education, self-government, and economic safeguards for the majority of their subjects. He does acknowledge in a final chapter entitled "Progress and Prophecy".

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Letters to the Editors

HOLIDAY HOUSE

2201 South Knoll Street
Arlington, Va.
August 10, 1948.

TO THE EDITORS,
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

Referring to excerpts of a letter of mine published in the FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL in the May, 1948, issue, regarding our desire to be helpful to Foreign Service Officers who may be stationed too far from the United States to have their children with them during the holidays and who may not have family or friends whom their children may visit, we wish to say that we are now in a position to have with us over the Christmas holidays this year three boys and two girls. The children would be between the ages of thirteen and eighteen years and in preparatory school.

The parents would be expected to pay the approximate costs of their maintenance.

The parents would be requested to name some Officer or other person in Washington, other than ourselves, who could act *in loco parentis* in case of emergency.

We shall have a regular homeside Christmas tree and turkey. We shall try to keep the children entertained with sightseeing and other recreation.

Very sincerely yours,

RICHARD F. BOYCE.

LOYAL MEMBER ICEMAN'S UNION

American Embassy,
Stockholm, Sweden,
July 16, 1948.

TO THE EDITORS,
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

I read with much interest your article in the June number entitled "Backgrounds of Foreign Service Officers" which mentions some of the strange preparatory careers of certain members of the Service. I wonder if the records do not show that I started my business career as an ice man. I am still a member in good standing of the Cincinnati Ice Drivers' Union (A. F. of L. Local 108) and hold an "honorable withdrawal card" which exempts me from the payment of Union dues until I go back on the ice wagon. (I will be eligible for retirement from the Foreign Service next April).

I recall with fond affection my two mules (jennies), whose names were Agnes and Cecilia.

Very truly yours,

PATRICK MALLON.

SPECIALIZED LANGUAGE TRAINING

Peiping, July 8, 1948.

TO THE EDITORS,
THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

The two letters in the April issue of the JOURNAL by an unnamed Foreign Service Officer and Dr. William Maddox were extremely interesting to those of us in Peiping who have been studying Chinese over the past two years and who have naturally done a good deal of thinking about specialization in the Far East. My personal opinion, one shared by some of my fellow students, is that Dr. Maddox's letter painted too rosy and optimistic a picture of the situation. It would seem wiser to view conditions as they really exist

and suggest possible improvements in the system of language specialization in general and Far East specialization in particular.

First for the darker side. As the anonymous Foreign Service Officer points out, Far Eastern language officers have in the past had to spend from three-quarters to all of their careers in their given area. It is generally agreed that this unfortunate phenomenon led to staleness and lack of perspective and from a promotional standpoint resulted in most officers ending up a blind alley. If such a policy were to persist in the future, the result would be even worse, for at least in China there is little question that living is less pleasant than before World War II.

One must hasten to state that the Department itself is fully aware of the danger of the past policy of confining language officers entirely to their given areas. In theory at least, the present policy is that language officers should spend no more than two-thirds of their careers in their language areas. The question remains whether it will be possible to recruit and retain enough language officers to render such a policy possible. Doctor Maddox's letter stated that the Institute's program called for the training of 25 to 30 officers per year over the next few years in Asiatic languages. To my mind it is highly doubtful that the Department will be able to attract this large a group unless it is prepared to offer incentives that are now lacking. In this respect it will be recalled that several months ago one of the News Letters of the Director of the Foreign Service referred to the discouragingly low number of applications for Asiatic language training.

The Department at present holds that it is not feasible to grant special treatment to any one area or any one group within the Service. It is nevertheless true that the British have long followed the policy of giving additional financial remuneration to officers proficient in difficult languages. It is difficult to see why our Service could not do the same.

More important than financial considerations is the problem raised by the unnamed Foreign Service Officer of the lack of top flight positions available in Asiatic language areas as compared with Europe and Latin America. This drawback could, I believe, be largely eliminated by increasingly placing Far Eastern specialization on an area basis and not viewing it solely from the language standpoint. Chinese and Japanese language officers should spend a good part of their careers at posts in other Far Eastern countries such as the Philippines, Korea, India, Indonesia. A possible allotment for such officers might be one half of their careers in their special areas (China or Japan), one-quarter in other Far Eastern posts, and one-quarter in Washington and posts in other areas.

Such a policy is even more in the interests of the Service than of the officers concerned. It has always been taken for granted in European and Latin American service that an officer must serve in a number of different countries herefore he can see the affairs of his area in proper perspective. The Far East has always been viewed almost solely from a Chinese or a Japanese standpoint, quite naturally so since this is where our Far Eastern policy-making officers have spent all their time.

As for the problem of opportunity for Far Eastern specialists, the policy might well be followed of reserving most of the top posts in the area for officers who have spent the large part of their careers in the Far East and understand its problems and peoples. India, Burma, Ceylon, the Philippines are now independent. This opens up a great many

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Photograph taken at the picnic given by FSO and Mrs. Jack McFall for Consul General Groves and staff of the Consulate General, Montreal. (See News from the Field).



Ambassador Bursley has sent the above picture from Tegucigalpa, and challenges any post to equal their record of three sets of twins, for however brief a stay at a post. The children in the above photograph from left to right: Duncan and Douglas Blunkinship, Sue and Connie Miller, and Dennis and Dale Virgil.

Service



Official Photograph U. S. Navy

President Estimé of Haiti makes an official call on board the U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt. L. to r.: Chargé d'Affaires Robert H. McBride, President Estimé, Captain Willinsson of the Franklin D. Roosevelt, General Linaud, Chief of Staff.

Glimpses



Reception given by FSO and Mrs. Kenneth Yearns in Bahia, in honor of Rear Admiral Armando Berford Guimaraes, Brazilian Navy, who was presented by Mr. Yearns with the Legion of Merit, awarded by the U. S. Government for his work during the war. Left to right: Col. Murrino Cezimbra Tavares, General Aristoteles de Souza Dantas, Mrs. Yearns, Consul Yearns, Rear Admiral Armando Berford Guimaraes, Senhora Berford Guimaraes, Capt. Aldo de Sa Brito e Souza.



Baghdad's White House. (See Letters to the Editors, page 52.)

What Does A Consul Do?

By ALLAN MACFARLANE, *Marseille*

The writer has sometimes been asked: "What do you *do* in a Consulate?" After close upon fifty years of consular work one is tempted to reply: "What does a Consul *not* do?" As one of my Chiefs once put it, he found consular work attractive, because "it touches life at so many points."

Memory recalls those distant days when office hours were ten to four, when the staff numbered three, and Frs 125 covered the clerk's monthly salary (not sufficient today for one satisfying meal!)

Those were deliberate days, when carbon paper was unknown, and letters were copied between dampened sheets in a hand-press. Despatches and reports, however, received more respectful treatment, being laboriously transcribed into leather-bound volumes before transmittal.

The date when a United States representative first appeared at Marseille is lost in the mists of time, but the earliest written record bears the date 1785, when the incumbent was one Stephen Cathalan, with the title "Commercial and Navy Agent." Has any other consulate an earlier record?

A dip into those yellowing pages, still gritty with the sand then used for blotting, reveals some curious records. One such, dated January 22, 1807, attests under "oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that the mustard and vinegar shipped in the American ship FRANKLIN of New London . . . are by order and for the sole account and risk of Thomas Jefferson, Esq., President of the United States of America, being for his own use, that no citizen or subject of any of the Belligerent Powers has any share or concern in the same either directly or indirectly."

An earlier entry, dated August 22, 1804, records the visaing of the passport held by Washington Irving, whose signature closes the entry. He was then under suspicion as a British spy!*

Those were troubled times, when, these records tell us, American skippers, on clearing from Marseille, were instructed to proceed to a given latitude and longitude, thence to be convoyed by American warships, as a protection against the nefarious activities of the Barbary pirates. How history does repeat itself!

Memory brings back those hectic days on the outbreak of World War I, with the office invaded by worried travelers, clamoring for transport and money. They all had checks or letters of credit which the banks would not honor; they were all furious and some of them actually hungry. There were no ships leaving, as all the coal had been requisitioned, and the banks were momentarily frightened. A few of the more philosophical turned to and gave us much needed help.

Crooks and criminals lent spice to life. One such I recall, who disappeared after stealing a hefty sum from the steward of a ship whose crew I was paying off on board. It occurred to me that the suspect (known to the steward but not to me) might make for "gay Paree." That proved a happy inspiration, as he was quietly picked up by the detectives who, with the steward and myself, awaited him at the railway station, so the good time he came so near to having was postponed for quite a while!

One morning's mail brought a request to find a naturalized Armenian, one John D. Melconian, who was known to have reached Marseille but could not be traced further. The city death records, we were assured, bore no mention of him. A tedious search eventually revealed trace of his stay in a

hotel run by one Cesar Tasso. As the latter had meanwhile been exported to Devil's Island, following conviction for the murder of one of his guests, the inquiry began to look ugly. At our request it was ordered that C.T. be interrogated "over there." In the meantime, however, he had managed to leave the Ile du Diable for parts unknown. Just when the search seemed hopeless, an unsigned letter from overseas to the authorities provided the long-sought solution. Melconian had been refused passage when seeking to embark for the Levant, been sent to hospital, and thence to the cemetery. All that tedious search because the name had been misspelled in the city records!

Shipping, too, brought its own problems. One such that I remember vividly was a sailing vessel which gave us endless trouble. We heaved a sigh of relief when her clearance papers were at last handed over, but our joy was shortlived, as the local paper on my breakfast table announced that she had burned to near the water-line overnight, so we had to begin all over again!

An errand boy one day took me to the insane asylum, only to learn that the inmate sought had died the day before. Uncovering the numerous hodies in the mortuary for identification was a grim business, but very appropriate to the day, which happened to be the French "Jour des Morts."

A similar errand took me one day to the School of Anatomy, to save from dissection the remains of a citizen whose death here had been reported to us by the Department. In spite of the fact that he had held an American passport, it had not occurred to the local authorities to notify us.

If at some future date some bookworm delves into our old records, he may note that on a given date the present writer drew ten francs on account of his monthly compensation. That fact is now solemnly incorporated in the National Archives of the United States!

When I am gently chided for seeming to haunt the old scene in my retirement, I am reminded of the remark of an old negress who called on us one chilly winter day. She drew a chair to the stove, and only when sufficiently thawed turned to us with the question: "This is the American Consulate, isn't it?" Being assured that it was, she added: "This is ma home. Ah helong heeah." That is the only reason I can give.

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO A CONSUL

July 17, 1948.

To _____
SIRS

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I feel major to be,
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With the greatest respect,
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* See "Consular Bulletin," Jany. 1923.



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Joel Roberts Poinsett

(Continued from page 9)

The journey to Jalapa, sixty miles westward, was made by a muledrawn dilapidated "volante", escorted by a guard of six dragoons. Poinsett had been warned in Vera Cruz that the inns were devoid of accommodations; the food, dried beef; and robbers at every pass. The traveler spent the first night at Encero (now a neat village) on a cot of canes covered by a wet blanket, his privacy consisting of a curtain made of long strips of beef hung up to dry. Even this, Poinsett wrote philosophically in his diary, "might have been endured, but we were visited by such swarms of fleas, sancudos and mosquitos, that we rejoiced when we saw the light of day."

In Nopaluco, the special agent changed from his bouncing vehicle to a sturdy coach drawn by ten mules, in order to enter Mexico City, tired and dirty, but nevertheless in proper fashion. Two days later Poinsett came over the ridge north of Iztaccihuatl with its vista of the great valley of Mexico.

He was not presented to Iturbide until a month after his arrival in the city but did not waste his time in the interim. The days, and many nights, were spent in conversations with Mexicans of every kind, politicians, soldiers, cabinet ministers, priests and beggars, in attending cockfights, and associating with the society of the lively capital. He even ran across thirty-nine American filibusters in the Penetencaría and in poor condition. These were later released by the Emperor at Poinsett's personal request. Effecting, in Peru and Mexico, what is now a tradition in the modern career service, Poinsett required no specific instructions from the Department to assist American citizens in trouble.

Poinsett remained in Mexico less than four months and, after visiting Guanajuato, San Luis Potosi and other areas, returned to Washington. His report to the President on Iturbide was negative, the new empire would not long survive and he counselled that "by recognizing the Emperor during the present contest, we give him an advantage over the republican party. We take part against the majority of the nation." A few months later Iturbide and his government were overthrown.

In the spring of 1825 Poinsett gave up his seat in Congress and accepted the appointment offered him by President Adams, as first American Minister to the Republic of Mexico. Among others considered were Thomas Hart Benton, William Henry Harrison, and Andrew Jackson. History, in all fairness, indicates that any one of these might have been more successful than the selected candidate. Poinsett's four-year Mexican mission is a record of political intrigue, almost constant interference in Mexican domestic matters, a relentless stubbornness and a running feud with his British colleague compared to which most present-day diplomatic unpleasantness pales by comparison.

In Henry George Ward, the British chargé and protégé of the foreign secretary, Canning, Poinsett found an able opponent. The rivalry between them revolved around the efforts of each to reach commercial treaties with Mexico. For a short period following Poinsett's arrival, the negotiations of the two with the Mexicans followed orthodox bargaining methods to obtain the greater advantages. Soon, however, the active rivalry acquired new facets and the pot began to boil. Nearly everything at hand was tossed in: The Monroe Doctrine versus England as the sustainer of the world's liberties; competition in entertaining Mexican states-

men with name-calling after-dinner speeches, Ward's map of Texas showing expanding American settlements, most-favored-nation versus bilateral reciprocity, attempts to use and then to destroy the influence of the President's favorite lady of the palace; and, perhaps most fantastic of all, the intimate identification of the two envoys with the Scottish Rite and the York Rite Masonic lodges, which became—largely due to Poinsett's activity in organizing the "Yorkinos"—the two important political parties of Mexico of the period.

The history of this rivalry is available in the reports of the two men to their governments, and makes interesting reading. Not even St. Patrick was spared. In 1826 both Poinsett and Ward attended a banquet given by the Irish colony of Mexico City and assisted by many prominent Mexicans. The American Minister offered the toast "May those Civil and Religious Privileges, which the Irish enjoy to the full in that Land which has been emphatically, but truly denominated the chosen Land of Freedom, be not long denied to them in their Native Country". Ward parried with "Having been compelled to touch upon a subject which it had been unanimously determined not to allude to, I must beg leave to observe in answer to the remarks that had been made, that nothing reflected so much credit on the Irish as the fact, that during the whole course of their struggle for those rights to which they conceived themselves so justly entitled, they had never either sought the interference, or solicited the sympathy of a foreign power!"

The two men apologized on the following day, but the truce was short-lived. However, Ward obtained his treaty and was recalled in 1827. Paradoxically, it was during this year, and after Ward's departure, that Poinsett's real troubles began. The influence of the Scottish Rite party had declined and its leader resorted to arms. In the following two years the American Minister became more deeply involved in Mexican politics, to an extent that his friends, whom he helped obtain control of the Government, were forced by public opinion to ask Washington for his recall. He returned home early in 1830.

American historians in general treat Poinsett kindly in writing of his Mexican mission. One Mexican historian, Zavala, defends him, although he fares badly in the works of several others. For an objective review, Manning's "Poinsett's Mission to Mexico" should be required reading. And even Manning states that he is best known for having brought home the Christmas flower of Mexico, named in his honor, "poinsettia".

Poinsett by no means retired after his return from Mexico. The last thirty years of his life were active, as Secretary of War, art patron, civic leader, and elder statesman.

Of his few biographers, J. Fred Rippy's story is the most "simpática". In the concluding chapter of his work Rippy says "Poinsett was a wise man with the courage and self-abnegation to follow his convictions. . . Selfishness was lacking in him, absent in an uncommon degree. . . He was an ardent humanitarian who tried to serve every cause he deemed good: education and democracy, science and art, and the nation in whose institutions and benevolent mission he so profoundly believed. . . Someday he may occupy the place he deserves among South Carolina's greatest sons, perhaps at the head of them all in vision and versatility."

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Information Please, International

(Continued from page 11)

fully interpreted, remains the guidepost of all "Voice" operations. This is necessary, officials feel, if the United States, its peoples, policies, way of thinking and living are to be made understandable to people of other countries who do not have the background of American life necessary to a proper evaluation of day-to-day developments here.

Although this policy calls for a selection of news and features, it does not preclude the presentation of items unfavorable to the United States. As one official said recently in a published interview, "it is better to present the unfavorable in its proper proportions than to leave it for the other side to magnify."

There are strong indications that the Voice of America audience is building steadily. "Voice" executives believe that three times as many heard it in 1947 as in the previous year. Rough estimates place the number of shortwave receivers which are able to receive signals from the United States at 30 million. Conservative calculations on this basis place the audience potential at 150 million. The implications of a listenership of this size need no emphasis. It is also significant to note that in a number of nations the "Voice" is almost the sole instrument available to us for reaching the masses of the people.

A recent report from Praha disclosed that where other information functions have been sharply circumscribed by government restrictions the Voice is described as "booming in" regardless of "curtains" or official dicta.

Plans for the Voice's future do not involve radical changes in programming but lay stress on mechanical and editorial improvement. The "Voice" will speak in 10 more languages and the total hours of broadcast will be stepped up. The staff will eventually be doubled.

The International Press and Publications Division has a substantially increased staff and will add volume and variety to its output. The Wireless Bulletin is coming out in more varied form, and with greater content. To Europe and the Mideast, the regular Bulletin will be supplemented by individual "regional" wireless services—which will nearly double the daily wordage delivered to major posts. Latin America will receive its own new edition of the Bulletin with news of that region in greater detail. Content of the Far Eastern Bulletin will be increased.

Special supplementary service to individual missions in each area will supply to the field regularly copies of editorials from the U. S. press and stories of particular local interest. Facilities for filling special requests to all areas have been increased. The Air Bulletin will come out as usual twice a week, lengthened to approximately 5,000 words with feature material in compact form. Its content will include current developments in the fields of economics, agriculture, science, education, and similar topics. This Bulletin will be prepared so that it can be distributed "as is" or used to supplement the Wireless Bulletin.

The popular Weekly Economic Review will be continued in its present form. The medical and surgical letters will continue on a monthly schedule. Likewise the bi-monthly letters on chemistry and pharmacy will be continued. The increase in staffs and funds at distribution points will enable some missions to make a wider use of these letters. The mission in Ankara translates the medical and surgical letters and sends them to a mailing list of 7,000.

The Feature Section has been set up to produce a regular supply of special articles, profiles and "corrective" material

for use in foreign publications. The flexibility of such a unit allows it to be adapted to the needs of the day and fills in a gap which previously existed in the press and publications organization. A dozen trained news reporters, including two who concentrate on ECA activities, cover all important Washington press conferences and Congressional hearings, and other news developments in the Capital. The output of this unit is fed to the producing units of Press and Radio.

Writer-photographers will cover special assignments throughout the country so as to provide illustrated first-hand reports of events particularly characteristic of the American scene. The first such story so handled was that of the complete remodeling and modernization of a Maryland farm in seven hours. A staff-writer and several photographers were on hand to record the results of the work of the 500-man crew required to accomplish the transformation.

The general pattern of the Magazine Reprint Service will not be altered but the volume will be enlarged. The weekly package of eight articles will be built up to ten and it is anticipated that selection can be angled more closely to regional needs. With the cooperation of the staff in the field, the Reprint Service hopes to be able to encourage special requests from periodical editors abroad.

Amerika will continue publication on a regular monthly schedule. Its effectiveness in the Soviet Union has caused Departmental officials to plan its publication in other languages—notably Czech and possibly Polish. The new editions will be similar in appearance and content to the Russian magazine.

The New York staff serving foreign journalists in the United States has been increased and will offer a more complete and extensive service. In addition, they will compile a full-fledged weekly checklist of government and other background material for these correspondents. This work with the overseas newspapermen has produced remarkable results—an experience which parallels those reported by information officers in the field who have been able to work in similar fashion with correspondents in their locale. The article in the August issue of the FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL on Embassy public relations buttresses the feeling which is gaining supporters among Departmental officers that closer and better organized liaison between the missions and press representatives can make an important contribution to the success of the information program and indirectly to that of the United States foreign policy.

In conjunction with the increased output of written material, the Photographic Section is in the process of being rebuilt from its previous skeletal status. The demand for photographs of life in America is repeatedly demonstrated. In Baghdad on one occasion all of the 14 pictures sent to the city papers in a day were used. The Copenhagen USIS office recently supplied a publishing house which was putting out an encyclopedia, with 200 pictures on a variety of subjects. The information officer in Buenos Aires reports constantly increasing demands for photographic treatment of all types. He specifies a particular interest in lay-outs dealing with new planes, airport improvements, everything in the transport field, household appliances and anything which has to do with "the last word in mechanical developments."

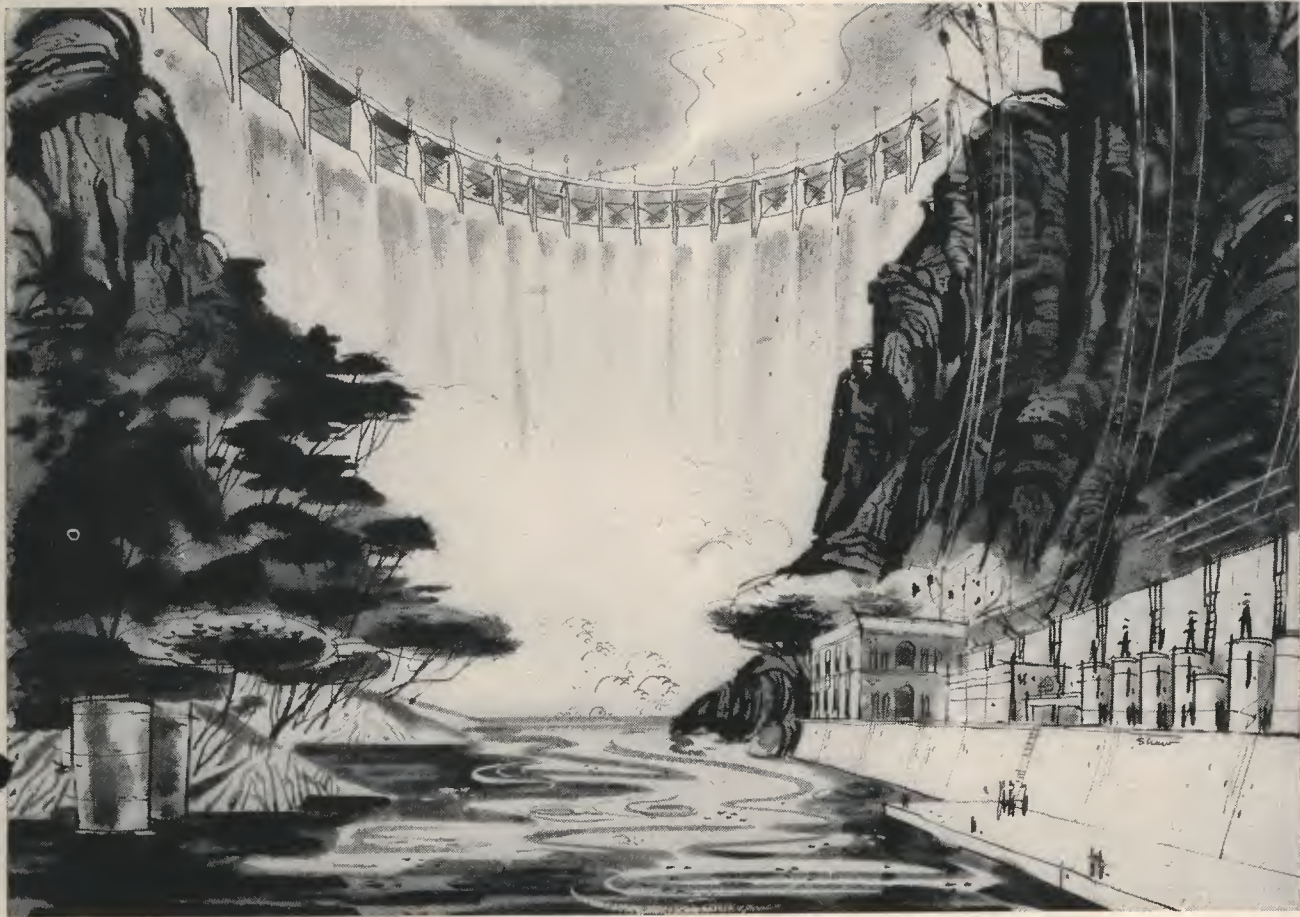
The Photographic Branch now has a library of more than 300,000 prints. The present inflow of new photographs.

(Continued on page 34)



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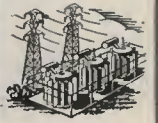
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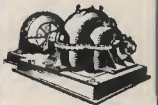
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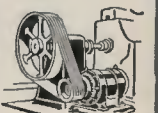
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GENERAL MANAGER

250 a week, is being stepped up. The 1949 appropriation allocates some funds for buying pictures, and enables the establishment of working agreements with other government agencies and private sources. The end product will be a larger picture supply better tailored for overseas use.

There are nearly 6,000 light weight filmstrip projectors in the field, which operate on direct or alternating current. The distribution of some projectors lit by kerosene lamps to serve areas where electricity is not available is being considered. This section plans regular world-wide service of three or more film-strips each month in a minimum of ten languages. For the first-time color will be used. There will be four such strips made a year.

In the photo display field, in addition to regular monthly sets of mounted photo enlargements, poster picture pages will be printed in four languages or with all type blanked out to permit over-printing in the field. At least two major exhibits with some three dimensional forms included are under consideration.

A new picture page subject will be made up every three weeks and 20,000 copies distributed. These will duplicate some of the photographic displays and are designed to fill in where posters are familiar forms of story projection.

Packets containing multiple prints of about twenty different picture subjects, averaging three feature-type sets suitable for public use, as well as photos of particular interest to regional areas will be sent the missions weekly. The plastic plate program has been reinstated and plastics of selected photographs, suitable for long-term usefulness also will be dispatched every week for provincial press use. The Branch will service special requests for pictures and picture series in the field.

Last year, through the efforts of more than 150 foreign service establishments that have film libraries—some with more than 300 titles—a hundred million people in other lands saw American films. Two hundred and fifty thousand showings abroad were reported. The audiences saw at least one hour of the character and quality of United States' cities, towns, and villages, of industries and farms. They saw portrayals of the American at work and at play, in school and in training. They were introduced to the process of government at all levels and the participation of the citizen therein.

The restoration of funds to the Motion Picture Division has measurably improved the Division's capacities and literally and figuratively put it on wheels. The so-called mobile units, makeshift vehicles whose mobility has largely depended upon the ingenuity of the particular mission officer and the favors of Providence, will be replaced. The new units are mounted on a specially constructed jeep body and carry generator, projector, turntable, recordings and spare parts. They will also load as standard equipment items that in many areas are as essential to operations as the projector itself—extra gas, drinking water, and air mattresses.

As far as production is concerned the Division, with its larger staff, will be able to examine and appraise existing films more thoroughly and to push the cooperative production of motion pictures. This arrangement is actually a good bargain for the government and at the same time it results in pictures better geared to fill mission needs. The Division will now be able to work with a private producer from the time the shooting starts, with an eye to making a film that will accomplish the ends for which the private operator was working, and at the same time keep in mind clarity of presentation, mission requirements and taboos

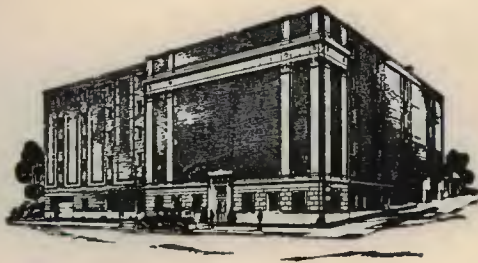
(Continued on page 36)



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Information Please, International

(Continued from page 34)

peculiar to foreign showings. The Division is also optimistic about the possibility of making arrangements for commercial release of some of their output through theaters abroad.

The specialized films serve a variety of purposes. A doctor in Burma saw a film which demonstrated a new operating technique for inguinal hernia. Later that day the doctor performed two operations, using the new technique he had just witnessed. He was so enthused over the result that he got in touch with the USIS office so that he could communicate with the doctor who started the film and inform him of the results.

This and many other instances indicate their peculiar value. These films not only reach a professional audience with worthwhile and lasting information, but they give mission officials a tool which enables them to broaden their contacts. Cooperative action between USIS and the members of the Foreign Service has frequently served the mutual purposes of each. For example, a preview of films on U. S. agriculture shown under joint sponsorship of the Agricultural Attache and the director of USIS in China to several hundred employees of the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture had a salutary effect on the relationship of both with the Ministry. On another occasion a speech by an Ambassador was related to the subject of a newly-arrived film shown on the same program. According to mission reports, the effectiveness of both the film and the talk was markedly improved.

Wherever possible these special films will be increased in number and variety. They will cover the usual technical subjects, industry, agriculture, medicine. The Division also plans an expansion of its program to pictorialize the face of the United States and the nation's patterns of life.

Where the Division has gotten detailed and accurate reports of audience responses and reaction from the field, and is kept informed of local needs, they have been better able to direct their production toward meeting foreign requirements.

The potential of an information program of this scope and diversity is obviously tremendous. It is equally apparent that the percentage of the potential which is realized will depend very largely on the intelligence, perception and the vigor with which it is executed. While the producing divisions bear a full share of the responsibility for success, or failure, the issue will be finally decided in the field and will turn on the work of the overseas staff.

❧

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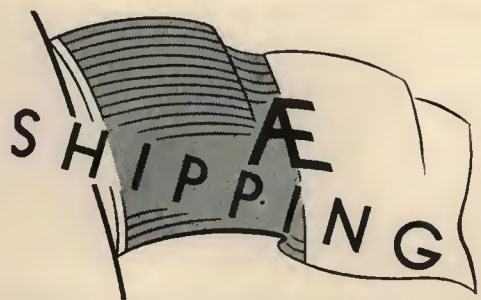
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Neither Snow, Nor Rain

(Continued from page 13)



Security is the watchword at all times in the handling of courier material. When the courier reaches a city where he must remain overnight, this material is kept in the safe of the local U. S. Government office. Courier is John Koval.

Although he is almost constantly on the move, he does have brief stayovers in many places, and he is free to return on his leave time to some particular spot that has won his fancy.

The job is an ideal one for the young man who is interested in making the Foreign Service his career. It affords an opportunity to see the Service in operation all over the world. Too, he has an enviable chance to make friends in both official and private circles. While traveling he has a great deal of free time to study things in which he happens to be interested, anything from anthropology to the many languages with which he comes in contact.

Often he finds himself in a section of the world in which history is being made. A few months ago a couple of couriers in Rome went out for a stroll. Suddenly they found themselves at the edge of a milling crowd that was demonstrating before one of the government houses. Soldiers rushed in, pandemonium broke loose. Shots, which fortunately hit neither courier, rang out from all sides, killing several persons close by.

And they have a golden chance to see the interesting and odd of other countries, from the calypso of Trinidad to *Ramadan* in Tunis; from *carnavales* in Lima to shark-fishing off Luanda.

On a free night a courier might see a demonstration of the strange *macumba*, voodoo black magic of Brazilian negroes. Or some afternoon he might go to the top of Corcovado to see Rio de Janeiro—"the most beautiful sight in the world."

On the other hand, it's a tough life. Among the many factors which make it so are crashes and forced landings of the planes which the courier must use constantly. He flies so much, month in, month out, year in, year out, that his chances for trouble are far greater than those of the occasional traveler.

On the ninth of April, this year, veteran Courier John Powell was caught in the bloody revolution in Bogotá. Powell, after landing at the airport, found he had no transportation into the center of the city, six miles away. So he walked. He made it to the Embassy building, however. As

(Continued on page 40)



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Neither Snow, Nor Rain

(Continued from page 38)

to what happened next, no official report has come in as this is being written, but to quote from the April tenth Washington *Times-Herald*:

"One of the injured was John Powell, an American diplomatic courier.

Powell arrived by plane from Panama after the revolution started. He walked six miles from the airport to the embassy office and delivered his pouch safely.

He was attacked at the entrance to the embassy office by members of the mob. The pouch was slashed by machetes and Powell suffered a scratched arm and superficial wound in his side. Powell is from Nashville."

Fatalities occur occasionally. In 1943 Courier James Wright lost his life in a crash in Portugal's Tagus River. This was the same crash in which the singer Janic Froman was badly hurt. Foreign Service Officer Walton Butterworth survived this crash.

A little over a year ago a plane disappeared on a flight from Monrovia, Liberia, to Accra. One of the passengers was Homer White, a veteran State Department courier. Despite months of intensive search no trace has ever been found of this plane; what happened to it is still an unsolved mystery.

Lady Luck often takes a hand. The other day a plane, aboard which a courier was traveling, circled for a landing in Tegucigalpa. A huzzard collided with the plane; the metal nose was smashed with a foot-long rent through it. A little higher contact and the pilot could easily have been killed and the plane wrecked.

On another occasion a courier flying on the east coast of South America happened to change his seat, the single right front one of a DC-3, to one farther back. Shortly afterward the plane made a crash landing, its right engine demolishing the seat the courier had just vacated.

A laconic report in August of last year told the story of an incident involving Courier Alfred Frazier and others in a plane flying between Paris and Madrid. Due to instrument failure they lost their way, and cruised about over Spain for several hours trying to land. Finally, still many miles from Madrid with only ten minutes' gas supply remaining, it was announced that an attempt would be made to set down on the first road that could be found without trees or telephone poles. One was soon spotted, and the tricky landing was made. Frazier stayed with his mail, but managed to send a message to the American Embassy in Madrid. An official car was despatched; the mail was delivered.

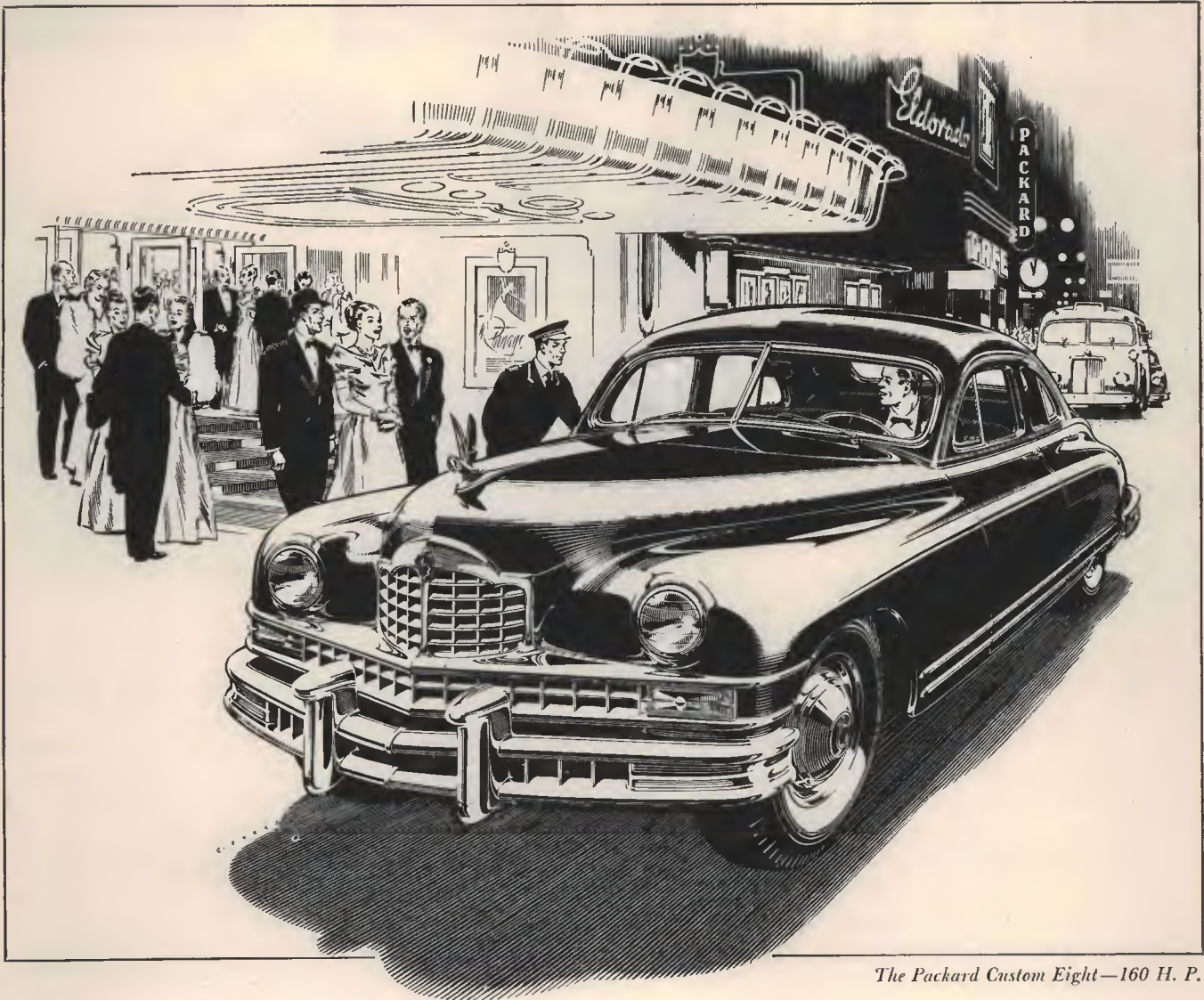
There have been several cases in the courier service in which men, who to all appearances were enjoying the very best of health, suddenly developed an aversion to flying, "flight fatigue." They simply couldn't force themselves to fly any more.

Many of the courier runs are extremely long and arduous. The one from Cairo to Calcutta is an example. So are the ones between Washington and Cairo, Honolulu and Sydney. Sometimes the men fly 50 hours, and more, straight through, stopping only when the plane refuels. To make the necessary stops the courier often travels by local plane, is up and down all day long. Often to make a connection he deplanes, immediately catches another, goes on his way. On a number of runs the average daily travel is around 2,000 miles for days on end.

There is many a minor headache for the courier. Extremes

(Continued on page 44)

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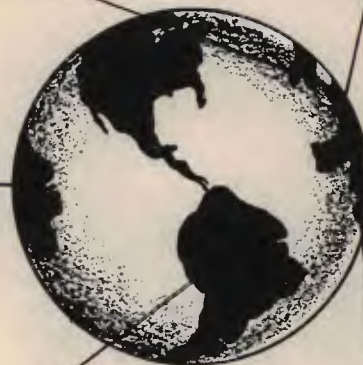
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Neither Snow, Nor Rain

(Continued from page 40)

of climate must be endured. Working out of Paris, for instance, a courier may find himself in Moscow one week and in Tunis the next. The constant changes in climate present a clothing problem. When it's winter in New York it's summer in Buenos Aires, and they're on the same run. How to dress?

On the flight from Lima, Peru, to La Paz, Bolivia, passengers often have to use oxygen. The flight rises in a few hours from sea level to an altitude of between 17,000 and 20,000 feet (the La Paz airport is over 13,000). This many times results in nosebleeds, *soroche* (mountain sickness), always in the loss of energy.

The courier spends a lonely life. He almost invariably travels alone.

When schedules go wrong, which they often do, he must cool his heels for long tiresome hours at airport or railroad station.

There is a constant strain on the courier, who must never make a mistake with what he is carrying, miss a flight, must always deliver the contents of his briefcase safely, meet all emergencies.

He often finds himself wondering whether or not the plane will be able to set down in the soup, sometimes is tossed out of his seat as the plane enters some boiling cumulus cloud.

A cast iron stomach might be considered an almost indispensable qualification for courier duty. The courier must be prepared to have his digestive system cope with a variety of strange dishes: *fuchifu* in Lima; *cous-cous* in Algiers; *shashlik* in Moscow.

Couriers are exposed to all kinds of illnesses, by-pass most of them.

Changing his money into the coin of the realm sometimes taxes the courier's mathematical ability. For instance, one of the men not long back from Europe mentioned that when he was there the U.S. dollar exchange in Hungary was up in the neighborhood of 500 quadrillion pengö. When the courier wanted to change, say, \$15 into pengö, he had to start figuring; later when he wanted to change what he had left over into rubles, he had to figure even harder.

At times he must dig deep into his pockets for commonplace things. In a little Polish town some months back one of the couriers had to pay seven dollars for a loaf of black bread and two dollars apiece for bantam eggs.

During the war, courier trips were made from a secret base in England north and east past the Arctic Circle to avoid being shot down over German-occupied and -patrolled territory, then south to Stockholm, the destination. The temperature in the unheated plane often was between 40 and 50 degrees below zero. The couriers would huddle in their bucket seats for hours and hours. One time all four motors conked out and the plane started down. All were ready to jump when luckily one, then another, of the motors caught.

Nothing is so chafing to the couriers after a run like that as having someone remark,

"Whatta soft job you guys have."

The U.S. couriers are not the only ones to travel these airways; several of the major powers in the world today maintain courier systems. The British couriers are called "King's Messengers," a title that has been employed for many years. These men carry a small silver greyhound, a symbol of their service.

Couriers of enemy nations in World War II often en-

(Continued on page 46)



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Neither Snow, Nor Rain

(Continued from page 44)

countered one another in such neutral spots as Stockholm, Lisbon and Ankara. Standing at the same ticket counter they would pick up their tickets, and they sometimes traveled on the same plane or train. Under such circumstances a stony silence was kept by both sides, although the men involved might have been quite well known to each other.

Reciprocal courtesy is extended to couriers by other nations. To interfere with the couriers of another nation would be to invite similar action against one's own.

These courier systems are neither a new idea nor a modern innovation. History is studded with famous and dramatic incidents in which couriers have played important roles.

Even as long ago as 3,000 B.C. there were couriers. The first great world-conqueror, King Sargon of Chaldea. Ancient Babylon, decreed the death penalty for all who interfered with the fleet runners who carried his messages marked with the Great Seal of Sargon.

In 1380 B.C. the wily King Amenophis outwitted his enemies, the powerful priests of Egypt, by a clever ruse. He shaved the head of his most trusted courier, Kosru, and dyed on the bald pate an all-important message concerning the war that was to be declared on the priests. When Kosru's hair grew back he was sent through the spies of the priests to Amosru, who was plotting with Amenophis.

The Romans developed a highly efficient courier system in the heyday of their empire. Genghis Khan had fierce riders who sped his messages by relay all over his vast

empire. The Incas of Western South America used as couriers the swiftest runners of the nation. These men, called *Chasquis*, set incredible records in their runs through the towering Andes. In far-off Nepal, heavy punishment fell on anyone who failed to give way to the sound of the silver bell carried by the royal couriers on the mountain trails. Dessalines, famous Negro general in Haiti, favored the use of fat old women as couriers. These, he believed, had the best chance to slip through the enemy lines unmolested.

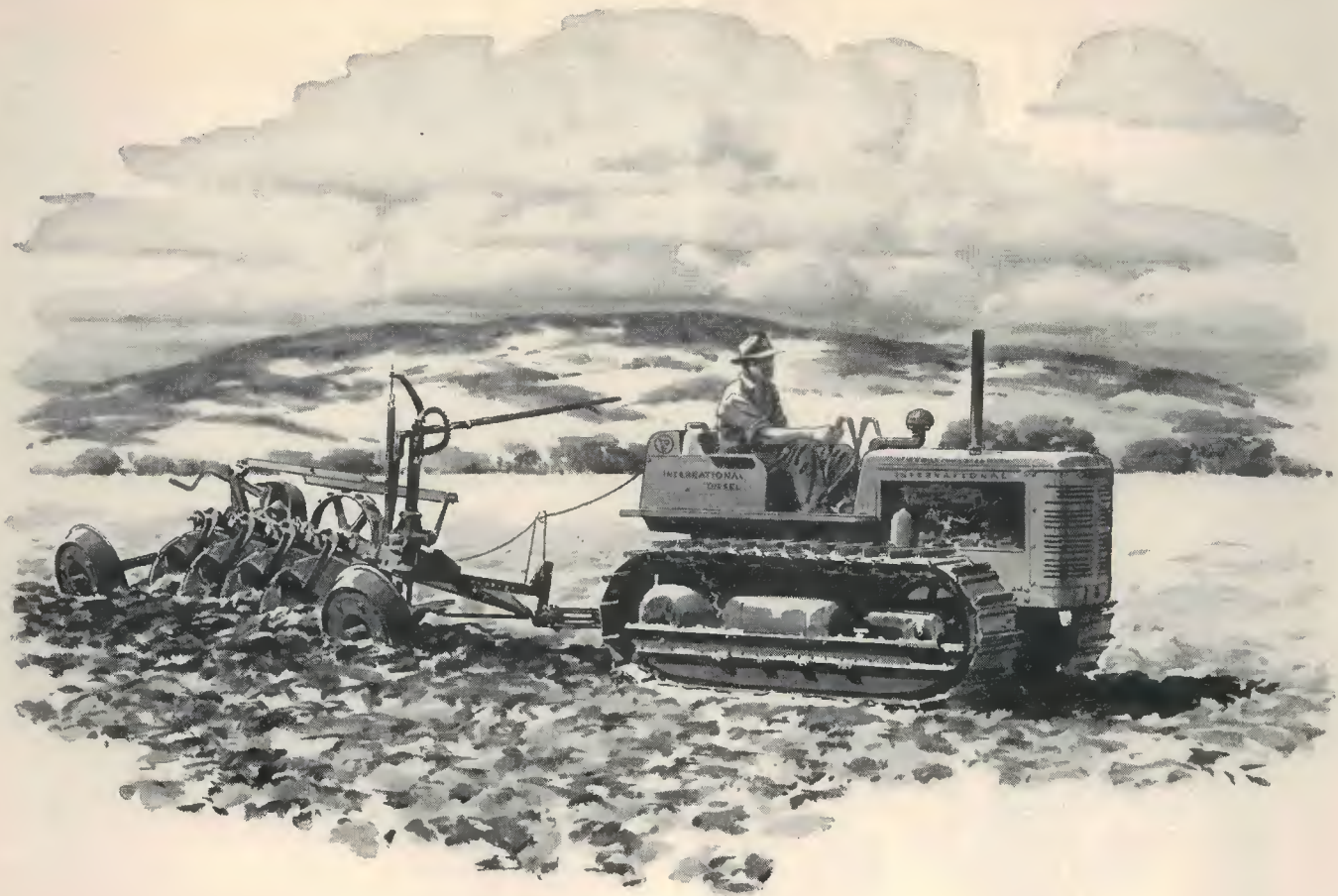
And well-known to every schoolboy is the Marathon Run, the Pony Express, the Message to Garcia.

Just as these courier systems of the past have developed to ours of today, it in turn will change. In what ways it will change depends largely on two factors: the role played by this country in international relations, and ever changing and constantly improving means of transportation. Kosru, the Egyptian courier, would gaze with awe on the four-motored aerial giant which today takes a courier from Washington to London in a few hours. Not many years hence the atomic-age couriers may—probably will—cross oceans and continents in Buck Rogerish conveyances at which to us would be equally amazing speeds.

But come what may, the couriers of tomorrow will follow the tradition of those of today, a tradition that was established by the Persian couriers about whom Herodotus wrote:

"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

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Not at Your Request Nor for Your Convenience

(Continued from page 16)

can law while their native country refused to consider them as expatriates. Kelley renewed several passports, registered the birth of an American baby and interviewed several local businessmen interested in obtaining agencies for American products or in export opportunities to the States. "After the war, of course"—they expected war.

At about 11:00 a.m. a man who looked like a college professor in a state of agitation was shown into the office. It developed that the caller was, indeed, a professor, the dean of an American missionary college established near the city, who was seriously disturbed by a decree of the local Governor General making it impossible for him to give instruction in English. He felt that this decree was only the beginning of a chauvinist program in the schools which aimed to eliminate institutions which resisted the fascist stamp the dictator of the country wanted to impress. Kelley arranged to see the Governor General in an effort to get the decree remedied.

At about noon Smith heard a violent discussion and unmistakably American oaths proceeding from the waiting room. When the disputants were calmed down Smith learned that the captain of an American ship calling at the office to obtain a bill of health and clearance for his vessel happened to meet a deputation of seamen from his own ship who wanted:

- a. either to throw the captain overboard, or
- b. to quit the ship in a body.

This was the beginning of the notorious "Troublemore" case for Smith. It was to be many weeks before Smith and the consuls down the line were to hear the last of the S.S. Troublemore. Its stormy passage was to contribute greatly to Smith's knowledge of the navigation laws, the labor conflicts of the maritime unions, the psychology of seamen, and the seeming distinterest of the authorities in Washington with Smith's headache.

After lunch, which introduced Smith to a villainous local liquor which turned milky when water was added, Smith and Kelley set out on official calls: The Governor General, the General Commander of the Corps Area, the Director of the Port, colleagues of the consular corps (these latter, Smith thought, took themselves very seriously), and some of the prominent officers down the line. Smith got over feeling like a new boy at school in his fascination at the ritual character of these visits. Each authority received him with a low bow and installed him on a divan. Each would ask him if he cared for coffee and, with Kelley coaching, Smith assented. The official clapped his hands and a small boy would appear from nowhere bearing tiny cups of syrupy coffee on a brass tray.

The visit ended, Smith and party proceeded on the next call. It was quite a procession. Hundreds of children and passers-by seemed to think it was their duty to see that the new American Consul did not lose his way. Smith's embarrassment was not lessened by the solicitude of the most prominent man in the retinue—the Kavass of the Consulate, an improbable figure in uniform topped with a high fur shako, who gently but firmly cleared the path ahead. Smith wished he could get Kelley to send this genie off for a lamp, but Kelley accepted the situation with composure.

This pilgrimage rounded off the day except for a reception in Kelley's flat, a long lecture by the latter on unsuspected pitfalls and an absorbing perusal of the recent despatches and telegrams. The new Vice Consul was excited over the possibilities of the new job and far too busy to indulge the homesick mood of the evening before. He felt himself at the threshold of big things.



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Native Land

(Continued from page 17)

would bring expressions similar to those with which Rip Van Winkle's auditors greeted his musings. You could understand, for you recalled the piquant impression it had made when your venerable, recluse acquaintance, Mr. George Santayana, blithely admitted never having heard of "The Green Pastures." But the expression was a mite smug when you asked who was a certain voice of the airwaves.

For good or for ill a new social force had arisen in the United States in the multitude of daily radio commentators and press columnists who, perhaps to fill a need, were prepared to offer their views on anything despite a regrettably frequent lack of individual equipment, richness of mind or originality. You enjoyed nostalgically the early trail breakers like Lippman and Drew Pearson, or the voices of Kaltenborn and Lowell Thomas, but it was astonishing to see the glib, omniscient roles assumed by characters best described as Runyonesque.

A happy innovation in the magazines you had already remarked, namely the sprinkling of cartoons in the bleak stretches of advertising pages. As for the writing in these periodicals and their kindred novels, you also were aware that the tendency was to carelessness and wilder logic and probability. A type of mystery story called "hard boiled" and historical novels appeared on your return to be a glut on the market. Those friends whose professional literary capacity you respected affirmed that the past few years were the trough before a genuine literary surge and that the only recent book worth reading, "Human Destiny," was by a Frenchman. Criteria for a sensational work had changed from "The Grapes of Wrath" to the Kinsey Report, and the introspective themes of psychiatry and the search for peace of mind you could only contrast with the previous extrovert preoccupation of winning friends and influencing people.

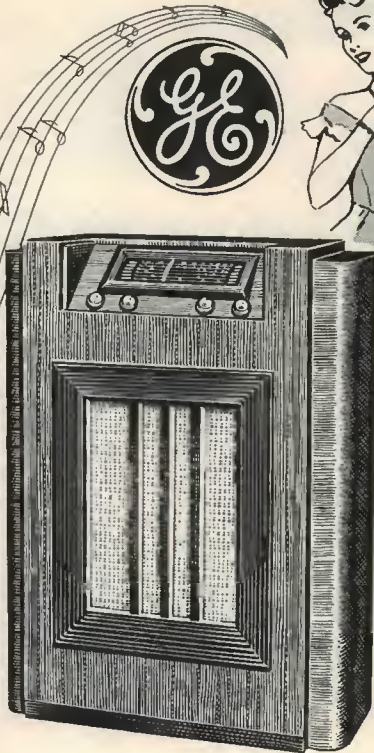
As you began to go deeper into things domestic you saw that materially, while bearing the cross of high prices, times were good but that people walked on eggs whenever this was mentioned, as if they were afraid of their own prosperity. You wondered how it was possible in such a strife torn era to continue to enjoy undisturbed the things we had. Further, you found a doubt that the continued presence of international slums, unless they were attended to, would allow our way of life to survive.

Concurrently, there was a second mentality shift, of which the feeling of creed and racial differences or inequities in the United States was the outward manifestation. The civil rights question was creating heat. Examinations of anti-semitism appeared in talk, films and novels. Amid this ferment of ideas and temperaments came the impact of a press interview given in Vienna by some travelling American negro correspondents, who, when prodded by Soviet journalists, stoutly held that, of all countries, the United States with its unique characteristic of receptiveness to criticism gave maximum future promise for any individual. With this you paired the poll of recent immigrants, who, as they counted their blessings, placed liberty at the head of the list. To you the American dream was thriving vigorously in the fertile soil of a liberty which was emanating rays stronger than any radioactive substance. It was a stirring thing, these movements of the American conscience and the awakened popular realization of a common heritage in liberty. The magnificent concepts of the Freedom Train, of the Friendship Train, are somehow unthinkable as you remember us in 1939. Then they might well have gotten yawns,

(Continued on page 52)



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Native Land

(Continued from page 50)

perhaps some bored interest, or (uncomfortable thought) been the subjects of satiric cartoons.

For nine years in your own small way you have engaged in a running battle with forces of tyranny and authoritarianism, against which you have formed an unalterable resolution. Now at home you found men seeing that liberty, on a global basis, was challenged as never before. Suddenly you were completely at ease, for the stirrings of America were those of the best aspirations of the world. How much more broadly satisfying was the present atmosphere from that of 1939. This was America, this was your native land.

Letters to the Editors

(Continued from page 26)

top flight posts which should logically be filled by men thoroughly conversant with Asiatic affairs.

It is realized of course that the suggested policy will never be possible unless the Service is successful in attracting enough language officers so that the latter do not have to spend their entire careers in a restricted area such as China or Japan. But the mere fact of adopting such a policy might well attract many officers to Far Eastern specialization who would otherwise find it unattractive.

LARUE R. LUTKINS,
FSO V

BAGHDAD'S WHITE HOUSE

American Embassy,
Baghdad, Iraq,
July 23, 1948.

TO THE EDITORS,

THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

In the June issue of the JOURNAL you published a story about President Truman's suggestion that American Embassies copy the White House throughout the world.

For the interest of the JOURNAL readers you might care to print the enclosed view* of the American Embassy in Baghdad with the following caption:

"In Iraq the American Embassy residence (above) is known as 'Baghdad's White House.' Although sorely needing a coat of white paint, it proudly boasts a garden balcony. (Mr. Larkin and Washington architects, respectively, please note)."

Very truly yours,

JOHN N. GATCH, JR.

* (See Service Glimpses, page 27.)

News from the Field

(Continued from page 23)

the Canary Islands, and Paris, all on official business. . . . Commercial Attache Sherman Green and Mrs. Green spent a week in Paris in July where Mr. Green participated in ERP meetings. . . . Among recent visitors to Lisbon were Ambassador Cavendish Cannon and Mrs. Cannon who spent several days here in July both prior to and following a trip from Belgrade to Washington on consultation. They have a warm spot in their hearts for Lisbon where Mr. Cannon formerly served as First Secretary. . . . Mr. Samuel Thorne, Ambassador MacVeagh's son-in-law, arrived here July 22 and he and Mrs. Thorne plan to stay in Lisbon through August. Mr. Thorne is a professor at the Yale Law School and

during recent months he has been engaged in research work in England on a Guggenheim Fellowship. . . . Jay Castillo, the Embassy's Press Attache, was recently married in the United States to Miss Mary Forbes, formerly of the Embassy's staff.

Your correspondent is happy to report the arrival of his son, Charles Glover Barnes, on June 3 at Lisbon.

Death of Mr. Jose Portugal

The Embassy was saddened recently by the death of Mr. Jose Portugal which occurred on May 31, 1948 in Lisbon. Mr. Portugal was a loyal and faithful employee of the American diplomatic mission at Lisbon for more than three decades under 8 Ministers and Ambassadors. He began his service at the Legation on April 1, 1916 and during the First World War and for some time following he and a secretary were the only members of the Legation staff. In subsequent years he was entrusted with the major responsibility for protocol matters and the management of the Chief of Mission's household.

On April 1, 1946, the 30th anniversary of his uninterupted service, he was given a silver tray bearing the signatures of all his former chiefs at a reception held in his honor at the Embassy residence. Mr. Portugal occupied a special place in the affections of all officers and employees who have served at Lisbon, and his passing leaves a vacancy which will be sorely felt at this Mission.

W. B.

MONTREAL

July 30, 1948.

Came the dawn Saturday morning, July 17th, and most of the members of the Consulate General at Montreal were up earlier than usual. For hadn't Consul and Mrs. Jack McFall invited the entire staff to enjoy the day at "Gami Chalet?" By 9:30, six cars and a jeep were wending their way northward through the Quebec countryside to their destination beyond Val Morin in the Laurentians.

"Gami," they were told, is a Swiss word meaning "Swiss mountain goat," and the attractive little chalet, perched halfway up the mountainside, overlooks a small, inviting lake surrounded by evergreens. Everyone was in a gay and happy mood, the cares of office left behind. Casual attire was in style at Gami Chalet—there were shorts, slacks, wash frocks. Consul General Groves looked very comfortable in white plus-fours, and Consul McFall, in khaki shorts, looked as though he hailed from a real Alpine Inn. Vice Consul Robert C. Johnson, Jr., cared not a whit that there was a rip in his white shorts; and Vice Consul Charles Warner, in blue denims, looked the part of the flower gardener that he is.

After the hour-and-a-half ride, no one had to be called twice when our hosts announced, "Come and get it." There were hot dogs (chiens chaudes, to us Quebecers!) and buns galore—boiled hot dogs and hot dogs roasted over the open barbecue; a whole bucketful of potato salad, and an equal quantity of shredded vegetable salad; a tray of assorted cheeses and crackers and pickles; fruit cocktail served in paper cups, to ease up on dishwashing; pound and fruit cakes; and quantities of wonderful, hot coffee, as only coffee can taste at a picnic. And what, may I ask, is a picnic without lollipops?

The small bar set up just outside the basement entrance was very inviting, and the tubs of ice held an assortment of thirst-quenchers, not forgetting a stone jarful of lemonade with sprigs of mint for the kiddies.

(Continued on page 54)

SIGNET RING

WITH STATE DEPARTMENT SEAL



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(Continued from page 53)

Kodak fiends enjoyed their hobby throughout the afternoon. Some pitched horseshoes down on the lawn. Others went swimming in the lake. Some picked wild raspberries. Still others just sat around and enjoyed themselves, gloating over the fact that it was Saturday and a holiday. Vice Consul Wilbur P. Chase took the youngsters for piggv-back rides.

And three mad fishermen—Dr. Langdon R. White, and Vice Consuls Stephen Olesnevich and Charles Warner—set forth in a boat to show their colleagues . . . oh, well, to protect the reputation of the Consulate General, let's just skip the fish story! The result of the catch, and the size thereof, hardly do justice to the dignity and importance of a consular trio.

It wasn't until six o'clock that the McFalls' guests decided their hosts needed a rest. Now shall we end our story by just emphasizing that a delightful time was had by all 40-odd present, and our hosts voted the best and most charming to be found anywhere?

FRANKFORT-ON-MAIN

June 11, 1948.

The adage "In Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love" appears to have real meaning during most of the year in the Consulate General at Frankfort. Among the members of the staff who have married since the reestablishment of this office in March 1946 are: Captain James Perry and Marie Wagner; Vice Consul Donald McAvoy and Kay Winder; Vice Consul James Osborne and Anne Clay; Mabel Gore and Sam Zimmerly; Mary Raprich and Lt. George Adams; Hazel Ohrlé and Lt. Vernon Smith; and last but not least Mary Louise Miller and Lt. Robert Mayhew. The engagement has been announced recently of Kathryn Eden to Captain William Timlin.

Among those who have departed recently from Frankfort are: Muriel Janzen who is now Mrs. Lonnie F. Stephenson, Jr.; Captain and Mrs. James Perry, he having been the Army Liaison Officer and she before her marriage was secretary to Consul General Redecker; Dr. John Caldwell, the U. S. Public Health Officer attached to the Consulate General; and Marion Elliott and Lois Roorck who have winged their way to the States on home leave. To take the places of our departed friends are: Captain William Timlin as Liaison Officer; Dr. LeRoy Bates as Public Health Officer; Mr. and Mrs. John Walker, who were transferred here from the Embassy at Madrid; and Maxine Miller, Anne Jerge, Dixie Grundy, and Mary Sanderson from the Department.

WM. FRANK LEBUS, JR.

The Bookshelf

(Continued from page 25)

certain reforms initiated since the war, such as the recent incorporation of the three French colonies as integral departments of France and the decision of the British to lay the ground work for federation of certain of its eight Caribbean colonies with a view to eventual dominion status, which do somewhat correct the focus of his original indictment. He might also have mentioned Puerto Rico's right to elect its own governor this year, and the more recent decision of the Netherlands Parliament to grant self-government within the Netherlands Kingdom for the Dutch possessions in this hemisphere. Mr. Blanshard, however, in spite of all his sympathy toward subject peoples, has no

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illusion that Caribbean problems could or would be solved by granting outright independence to each island or each group of colonies at this time. "The colonial system is undemocratic, antiquated, inefficient, selfish, cruel, and snobbish, but it is a going concern which now provides a place for its subjects in a comprehensive scheme of buying, selling, employment, and defense."

In Mr. Blanshard's plan for a brave, new Caribbean, self-government is the ideal, but it must come within an agreed system of regional government within the framework of the United Nations and competent to deal with problems on a regional basis as well as with those of the individual colonies. The Caribbean Commission, he believes, can become this agency for regional democracy in the Caribbean only if it is given the delegated power to coordinate and develop, rather than merely advise on, the economic life of the area, and becomes recognized by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations as the representative economic agency for the region.

DUNCAN A. D. MACKAY.

The Economic Reconstruction of Europe. By Geoffrey Crowther (Editor of *The Economist*, London). Foreword by Homer D. Crotty. Printed in U.S.A. by Grant Dahlstrom at the Castle Press, Pasadena, California, 1948. 79 pages. \$2.75

Geoffrey Crowther, Editor of the London *Economist*, delivered three lectures during the last week of February 1948 at the colleges in Claremont, California, on the economic rehabilitation of Europe. In the first, entitled "The Vitality of Europe," Mr Crowther explains the reason why Europe is undergoing so many economic and political difficulties and sets off the reason why, in his opinion, Europe's time of troubles will come to an end.

In his second lecture, "Freedom and Order in Europe," the author examines "the twin demands as they sometimes appear of Socialism and Nationalism in Europe," and "how far they are likely to stand in the way of any rational program of reconstruction and progress." The author also considers how far Europe can be expected to approach the American ideals of private enterprise and federal union.

In the last lecture entitled "America and Europe," the distinguished British economist considers the mutual interlocking relationships of Northern America and Western Europe with specific reference to the Marshall Plan. Perhaps the most significant aspect of Mr. Crowther's analysis is his note of optimism in a period of great crisis.

Timely, short, easy to read, and intelligent, "The Economic Reconstruction of Europe" is recommended reading for Foreign Service Officers.

FRANCES C. DE WOLF.

The price of the Dictionary of Foreign Trade which was reviewed in the July 1948 issue of the JOURNAL has been reduced to \$10.00.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Members of the Foreign Service Association and subscribers to the JOURNAL are again reminded that the Editorial Board would welcome special feature articles ranging from 2000-3500 words, accompanied by photographs. Contributors are also reminded that the pay for such articles is 1c per word if accepted for publication.



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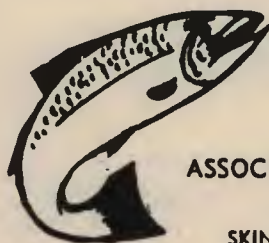
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