

Names in the News

Compiled by LILLIAN FOREMAN

Ehrlichman adjusts to prison life

John Ehrlichman, once the No. 2 man in the Nixon administration, is adjusting smoothly to prison life at Swift Trail Federal Prison in Safford, Ariz., the superintendent says.

Ehrlichman began serving a 2½-to-8-year term on Oct. 28 for his involvement in the cover-up of the Watergate break-in.

"The job he is doing takes a certain amount of mechanical ability," said Supt. John Hadin. "The job requires a lot in terms of interest and a desire to learn."

Stripper released after overdose

Fanne Foxe, who splashed into Washington's Tidal Basin and the national news media in a 1975 incident involving retiring U. S. Rep. Wilbur Mills, was hospitalized and released after taking an overdose of tranquilizers, her press agent said.

John Carmen said Miss Foxe, whose real name is Annabel Battistella, was taken yesterday afternoon from her Westport, Conn., home to Norwalk Hospital, where her stomach was pumped.

Singer signs record contract

Former rock 'n' roll star Jimmy Clanton, after a decade-long recording hiatus, has signed a long-term contract with the Starcrest label in Nashville, Tenn., the company has announced.

His first release is "Old Rock 'N' Roller Will It Happen Again?," described by the company as "soft rock."

Charges filed against actor

Freddie Prinze, 22, star of the "Chico and the Man" television series, was charged yesterday in Los Angeles with driving under the influence of methaqualone, a tranquilizer, on Nov. 5.

Snowden snaps pictures for book

Lord Snowden, 46, estranged husband of Britain's Princess Margaret, says he's taking pictures in Malaysia for a book but gave no details of the project except to say that he's doing it for an international firm.

Irish poet wins British award

Seamus Heaney, 37, has won Britain's W. H. Smith literary prize for "North," a highly acclaimed collection of his poems on the violent history of Northern Ireland, his homeland.

The \$1,600 prize is awarded in London by a national chain of newspaper distributors and booksellers to the author judged to have made the most outstanding contribution to English literature each year. Heaney has been hailed by some critics as the best Irish poet since William Butler Yeats, who died in 1939.

Irish problem is British rule

Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, who supports independence for Northern Ireland, says the real Irish problem is not the struggle that is portrayed between Protestants and Catholics but British rule. Devlin, making her first trip to the United States in several years, said she wants to tell the American people "what is really happening in Belfast."

Painter keeps plying trade

Mail Pouch signs fading

EDITOR'S NOTE — Those Mail Pouch signs on the sides of barns that kids on car trips loved to count are disappearing now, and so are the men who once painted them by the thousands. All except Harley Warrick, 51, still plying his trade.

By **GEORGE ESPER**
Associated Press Writer

BELMONT, Ohio — Few ever heard of Harley Warrick. His is hardly a household name.

But Harley Warrick has left his imprint along the highways and byways of nine states, and what he has left is symbolic of America in an age of innocence, an agrarian America, an America of penny candy and nickel cigars.

Harley Warrick is the last of the Mail Pouch sign painters.

Surely everyone who has driven through the rolling plains of the Midwest or the hills of Appalachia or the mossy lowlands of the South is familiar with his work, an art piece as big as the side of a barn.

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Harley Warrick has painted those

words — top line white, middle line yellow, bottom line white, background black — more than 16,000 times on about 10,000 barns.

He has painted so many, in fact, he can do it practically by instinct. He remembers painting some of them with a hangover. Perfect. For a lark, he painted a couple upside down just to startle his boss, then repainted them correctly.

At 51, Warrick seems as much a part of Americana as his work. His face, pipe in mouth, has as much character as his signs. The eyes are blue, the hair slightly gray, the texture of the skin that of a man who does his work outdoors.

Reflecting on his 31 years on the job, Warrick remembers most vividly, and warmly, the crews he worked with.

"The fellows you got acquainted with and worked with them for years," he says.

"They've passed on now, but while you're working on these barns, you remember working there before with a certain crew or the guy and you get to thinking about him. You get a lot of memories that way."

Like Harley's fellows, the signs are passing now. He estimates only a thousand left today.

They have become items of nostalgia, sought after by collectors or for reproductions on postcards and paintings.

They were still plentiful in 1945 when Warrick, then a young man of 20, came home from the war, from the Battle of the Bulge, from the 99th Division, to his farm in eastern Ohio.

"We had one on our barn at home," he recalls. "I'd often wondered how in the heck somebody painted one of them things. I'd just been home from the service about two or three days and kind of looking for a job."

"A crew just happened to come along and paint it then, so I was talking to them. They said, 'Well, if you're interested in it, we got an opening here for you. We need a helper on another crew.' So I just went across the road and packed my suitcase and took off."

And that's the way it was for the next 31 years. Warrick, with his four-inch pure bristle brush and homemade paint in hand, traveled

through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, West Virginia and Kentucky.

Warrick estimates there were 10,000 barns with Mail Pouch signs back in the mid 1940s, when there were no interstate highways, no mini-cities of motels and fast-food shops.

At peak, there were eight or nine painting Mail Pouch signs crews of two men each.

Today, there are not enough signs to keep Warrick busy full time. He works only about 16 weeks out of the year, travels half of it, he used to, painting not more than 20 new signs a year, repairing those still standing about every five years.

He points out that, ironically, while the Federal Highway Beautification Act of 1965 killed the barn signs, the 1974 Highway Act designated them "landmark signs to be preserved."

The fee to the farmer is nominal, anywhere from \$1 a year to \$20 a year. Many of the farmers are simply interested in getting their barns painted free.

Destruction of animals called inefficient

Speaker decries 'putting pets to sleep'

"We need to find ways of using animals instead of just putting them to sleep," the executive director of the American Humane Association told the state's animal control officers who were assembled at Texas A&M University.

Milton Searle was the first speaker Monday in the weeklong "Third Annual Animal Control Personnel Development Program" conducted by A&M's Center for Urban Programs.

Searle noted that he had begun his career as an animal control officer saying, "We are killing too many animals and our critics use this killing as a way to bring us before the press and public."

"The methods are good, acceptable and humane but the killing itself will continue to be criticized," he explained. "But there is hope there are ways of using these discarded and unwanted animals."

"There is a pilot program in Denver to train 'hearing dogs' for the deaf," Searle pointed out. "These dogs are super-trained and are taught to be sensitive to what their

masters can't hear. This program alone could create a need for 500,000 animals."

There are also other plans for the use of dogs, he went on. "A Golden Years Companion" animal program will utilize these extremely obedient dogs that respond to commands without difficulty for elderly persons that can't get around.

In Lima, Ohio they are instituting pet therapy for mentally handicapped," Searle said. "The officials of the institution began with fish by letting the inmates care for them. Now they are raising and selling them, making it a self-sustaining program."

"After seeing the progress with fish, the officials went to birds, hamsters, gerbils and now dogs without any instances of inmates hurting the pets," he said. "So the challenge is, instead of killing animals, find something to do with them. Only our lack of imagination will hold us back."

Searle also said to solve the immediate problem of controlling the

stray animal population, they need the sanction of the public to exterminate animals.

"Animals running free are a great health problem; a danger to the population and the environment," he said. "The way it is now you can't take a rifle and shoot strays that you know have no owner. Instead you are required to wear out equipment and waste time chasing these animals down and capturing them. Then we're required to house them, feed them and then destroy them."

Searle was followed by rabies expert Dr. Lea Hutchinson of El Paso, who said that animal bites are one of the most common human affliction second only to venereal disease in the number of occurrences.

"There were one million dog bites in 1974 and of these 85 percent were by owned dogs," Hutchinson said. "Half of them occurred within a block of where the animal lived and only two per cent of them were liberally provoked."

Stein conducts research with marmosets

"Yes, We Have No Bananas," a popular song a few years ago, could be the theme of a colony of small monkeys called marmosets. The marmosets are housed in cages at the College of Veterinary Medicine as part of a research project being conducted by Franklin J. Stein, an associate professor of veterinary anatomy.

"Bananas are not good for monkeys because the fruit has a lot of oil in it that can cause diarrhea," Stein said, adding that he feeds the marmosets apples and oranges in addition to their canned monkey food.

Marmosets are small monkeys from Central and South America. Stein said the monkeys are very useful in medical research.

"Marmosets are good experimental animals because their bodies react similarly to humans. They are used in dental research, transplant studies, nutrition studies, and tests checking their responses to bacteria," Stein said.

Researchers prefer the marmosets over the rhesus monkey because the marmosets are smaller and easier to handle. They also grow to adult size faster and repro-

duce more than the larger rhesus monkey, Stein added.

Stein began his pilot project about a year ago with the goal of having a breeding colony of marmosets for research here at Texas A&M. Today, Stein has 22 adult pairs and about 15 young that have been born in captivity.

"Marmosets usually pair up just one mate. The females usually have twins every five months," Stein said.

When born, a marmoset weighs about one ounce or the equivalent of four teaspoons of sugar or less pennies. An adult marmoset usually weighs about a pound. A baby marmoset stays with his parents until he reaches adolescence at 18 months. Then he is moved to his own cage and given a mate. Marmosets have a breeding life of about 10 years, Stein said.

"I have applied to the National Institute of Health (NIH) for funds, and once we get the necessary funds, I hope to be in full production within three years," he said. Stein hopes to have 100 adult pairs producing 300 young a year for research.

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Deportation hearing set for Iranians

HOUSTON — Most of the 91 Iranians arrested a week ago after a clash with police during a demonstration, are expected to appear Thursday at a deportation hearing.

Most were interviewed yesterday by a judge and assigned personal recognizance bonds.

The decision by a magistrate with the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) means the Iranians will be released from jail soon.

Except for a few students who could not prove their identities with proper documents or persons who turned out not to be enrolled in school, Judge James Smith found the rest reliable enough to appear at the deportation hearing.

Forty-two Iranians are charged with violating their student status. The INS claims 35 entered the country "in an unknown manner" and nine allegedly overextended their authorized stay. Various charges were lodged against the rest.

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