

Handshaking Strikes Snag At Capital With Hoover

President Hoover Frowns On The Ceremonial Visits Of Touring Citizens.

New York Times. The Hoover administration promises to show a sharp falling off in the output of "men who shoot the president's hand." The present possessor of that very popular member is finding that the stream—or rather torrent—of visitors who make him the climax of their sight-seeing tours to Washington are putting on him an undue strain, which is naturally a special anathema to an engineer. He has accordingly let it be known among the senators

and representatives, who have the privilege of sending "friends" to him with an introduction, that he would be obliged to them if they would hold the number down. And there is a prospect that the ordinary receptions for such visitors will be limited to one a week.

Besides taking too much time, Mr. Hoover has found that the huge number of visitors—recently more than 1,700 came at once—make his hand so sore that it is difficult even to sign papers. Public men, as is well known, develop a technique of handshaking so as to avoid that very contingency. They find that if they seize the visitor's hand first and squeeze it the visitor does not manage to squeeze theirs—and it is the squeeze that does the damage.

But even the best technique is not proof against the ever-present individuals who do not realize that they are not alone in wishing to make their greeting particularly cordial. On one of the visits of the Prince of Wales to the United States his right hand became so swollen from clasps that in the midst of a reception he put it in a sling and finished with his left; and after that his handshaking was limited.

The custom of "paying respects to the president" is an old one, but it attained enormous proportions under Presidents Harding and Coolidge. Mr. Harding enjoyed his visitors and used to say they gave him the "most fun he had." In the two years and five months of his office it was estimated at the white house that he shook hands with 250,000 persons.

Shaking the president's hand is a carnival ceremony of the average citizen and is born of curiosity and respect. The total time involved, except for the days or hours of anticipation, consists of scarcely more than two seconds in the chief executive's actual presence.

The visitors form a long line lead

ing into his office. Here, as their turn comes, a secretary asks of each one in a whisper what his name is and repeats it with fair accuracy, in a loud voice, to the president. There is a quick clasp of hands; the visitor finds the eyes of several attaches indicating a door straight ahead; he rushes along through it in what seems the established high tempo, and finds himself out on the lawn in the rear of the office or in a corridor leading out. That moment in his career has passed—a moment so brief as to give hardly more than a confused impression, though it generates, usually, an anecdote that not only endures a lifetime but even grows with age.

The expressions seen on the faces of visitors as they emerge is something that one never forgets. Children and small boys, of course, are privileged to obey their impulse to steal a last look, but grown-ups are forbidden by etiquette. Instead, they rack their minds for every semblance of the fleeting vision while it is still fresh. Their faces keep the same polite, half-embarrassed smile as that with which they went in, but it no longer suits, for their eyes have suddenly lost their alertness and become intensely preoccupied, so that their faces look more like masks. And as they suddenly become aware that they are out and among members of their group their first sign of returning presence of mind is almost invariably the ejaculation "Well!"

The Handshake's Lure. That brief visit has enough allure to bring citizens to the white house from all parts of the country. Champion football, baseball and debating teams, heads of local patriotic societies, small-town business men and their children, screen stars, pugilists and explorers follow one another in the lines; and every so often an enterprising railway clerk in Oklahoma sells tickets to some Indian tribe whose members do not know what to do with oil royalties, and off they will go, with or without blankets, most of them in trousers and shirts but without coats and collars to call on the Great White Father.

The possibility of a meeting with the president, in fact, is often used by convention officials to sweeten the bait for bringing a session to Washington.

Of all the occasions for handshaking, that on which the plainest citizen has his day is at New Year's. Then the privilege is open to any one with patience enough to stand in line for several hours in the white house grounds awaiting his turn. The custom of being at home on that day was started by Washington in the first year of the Republic, while he was living in New York. His diary entry for Jan. 1, 1790, with characteristic formality reads: "The Vice President, the Governor, the Senators, members of the House of Representatives in Town, foreign public characters, and all the respectable citizens, came between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock to pay the compliments of the season to me—and in the afternoon a great number of gentlemen and ladies visited Mrs. Washington on the same occasion."

Washington did not shake hands. He only accepted bows, and returned them with added rigidity, but the handshake has now become firmly entrenched as a white house ceremony even though the origin of the formality is forgotten.

Now, How's That?

New Haven.—If the earth were 24 hours old, as Dr. James Young Simpson puts it, man would be but 17 seconds old. His age is now 400,000 years. Dr. Simpson, professor of natural science at New College, Edinburgh, is visiting Yale.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS

North Carolina, Cleveland County. In the Superior Court. Before the Clerk. Alice Canady and husband, Roland Canady, Ora Byers and husband, Tom Byers, Nola Camp and husband, John Camp, Ethel Smith, widow and Florence McCoy, single, Plaintiffs

vs. Lloyd Ellis and wife, Alice Ellis, Rena Crosby and husband, Walter Crosby, James Ellis and wife, — McCoy, Scott McCoy and wife, — McCoy, Odus McCoy and wife, — McCoy, Uilus McCoy and wife, Lottie McCoy and Arizona McCoy, defendants.

The defendants, Lloyd Ellis and wife, Alice Ellis, Rena Crosby and husband, Walter Crosby, James Ellis and wife — Ellis, if living, Fred McCoy and wife, — McCoy, if living, Scott McCoy and wife, — McCoy, if living, Odus McCoy and wife, — McCoy, if living, Uilus McCoy and wife, Lottie McCoy and Arizona McCoy will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the superior court of Cleveland county, N. C. for the sale for partition of certain lands situated in No. 4 township, Cleveland county, N. C., which the plaintiffs and the defendants hold as tenants in common and the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear in the office of the clerk of superior court at the court house in said county on Monday, May 13, 1929 and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiffs will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This April 11, 1929. A. M. HAMRICK, Clerk Superior Court. Jno. P. Mull, Atty. for plaintiffs.

Held for Questioning



Inspector Louis E. Crawford is one of men being questioned by U. S. Attorney Tuttle for information regarding liquor which is alleged to have been found in Congressman Morgan's baggage when he arrived in New York recently from Panama. (International Newsreel)

Women Teachers Are Defended

N. Y. Times. Educators at New York university have come to the defense of women school teachers in this country, following the recent charge by the National Association of British Schoolmasters that women teachers as a group were responsible for the bribery and corruption existing in the United States. A member of this group declared the United States was "loaded with bribery" because so many teachers here are women who manage boys by a "system of bribery and corruption." Dr. Robert K. Speer, assistant professor of elementary education in the school of education at New York university, emphasized the fact that women teachers cannot be held responsible for any such existing conditions for the simple reason that most of the mature population of the country today who might be implicated in any of

the charges attended grade school at a time when more than half of our teachers were men.

"To charge women school teachers with responsibility for 'bribery and corruption' of this country is absurd," said Dr. Speer. "In selecting one cause, Mr. Freeborough, who made the charge, and the British school masters' association seem to have picked an unlikely cause rather than a likely one. It is highly improbable that women teachers are more inclined to mollycoddle boys than men would be, and neither men nor women mollycoddle boys to any degree worth mentioning, if at all.

"We are faced with a peculiar condition in America. With sentiment in favor of the same salaries for men and women, with equal learning and experience and supply and demand as it is, I should dislike to think how long of the 'mollycoddle' men we should attract to elementary teaching positions at the salaries offered. The fact is that a better woman than a man can be attracted by a given salary."

According to Dr. Phillip W. L. Cox, professor of secondary education in the school of education at the university, the criticisms coming from the British schoolmasters are manifestations of a "male domination complex."

"The charges that our women teachers are responsible for so many of the ills which this Englishman seems to believe are characteristic of American youths is absurd," declared Dr. Cox. "The assertion may be attributed to ignorance. More probably, it is just a manifestation of the 'male domination complex.'

"This delusion of grandeur has frequently been patent in the behavior of untrained schoolmen in America. Not being skillful or vigorous enough to command the respect and gain the voluntary cooperation of pupils, they have too often looked on their masculine clothing and deeper voices, and even on their ignorance of pedagogy and intellectual clumsiness, as symbols of superiority.

"The success achieved by the more capable women in the profession has irritated schoolmen, who feel themselves losing their grip. Such a superficial generalization regarding the university of undesirable traits among American youths is unfortunately characteristic of incompetent or 'regressive' schoolmen not only in England but also in America. But they are not alone in this by any means. Their counterparts among the clergy sometimes make similar assertions and blame the situation to lack of church attendance.

"Whether our boys have women teachers or our girls have men

teachers, it has very little effect on their social education. In America the attitudes and behaviors of children are far more the product of the practices and approvals of youthful and adult out-of-school companions.

"It is their homes, their gangs, play groups, part time or full time jobs, their companionships with older brothers and sisters and their friends that our children; discover the interests, opinions and conduct which are acceptable."



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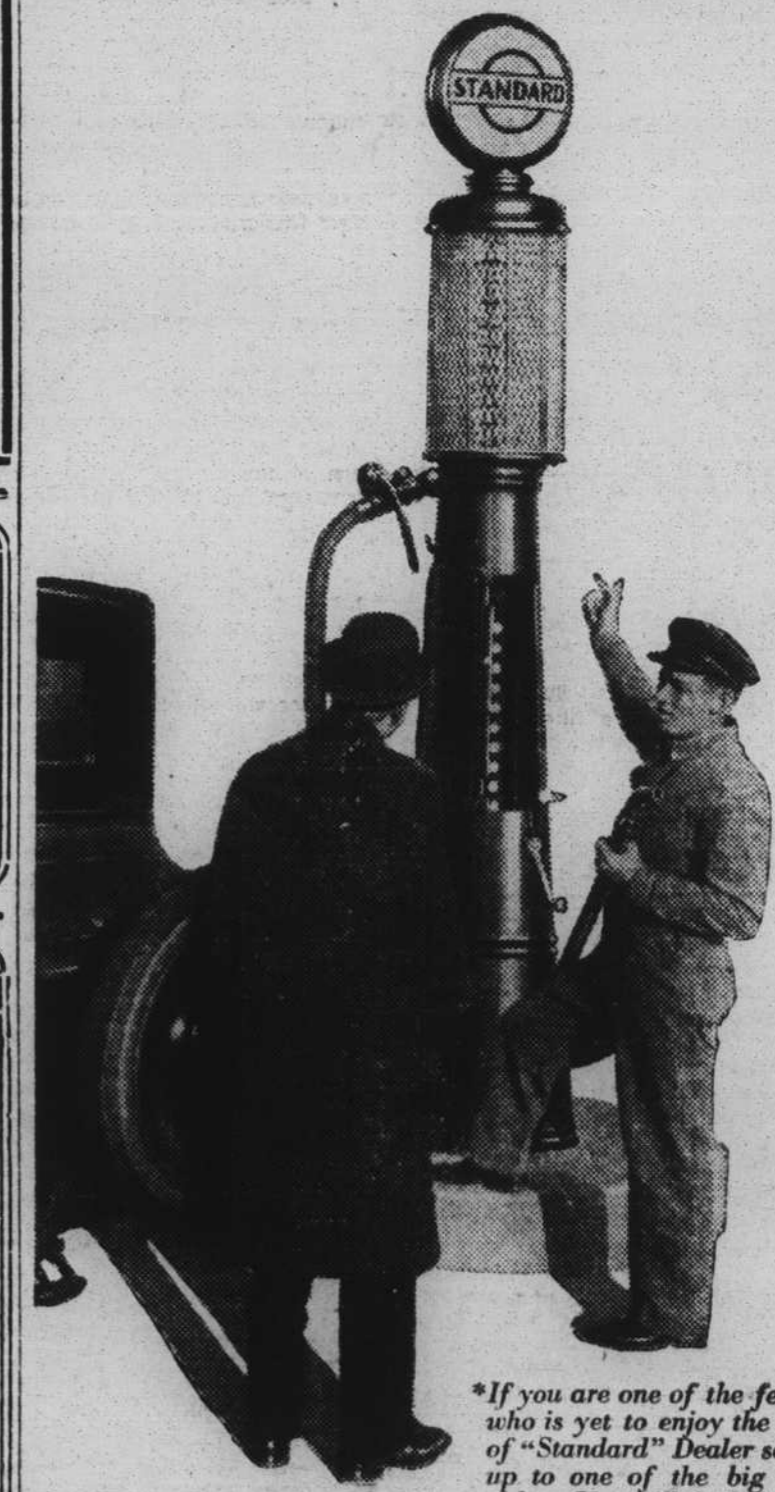
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