

Coffee Break

Even though the Richard Nixons won't be moving into the White House until January 20, speculation on what changes the new First Family will bring about has been making the rounds.

It seems that the Nixons love to dance, which was news to me. In fact, knowing most husbands, it might be news to Mr. Nixon as well. You hear, too, about the piano being tuned-up, now that we have the first piano-playing president since Harry Truman.

Another report says that the Nixons favor meat-loaf. Whether this is an improvement over the Johnson Administration penchant for chili remains to be seen.

But being a "homemaker" the item that interested me most was the one from the Nixon housekeeper of many years who practically became lyrical in describing her employer and family.

"The Nixons are extremely neat," she observed, "Never a sock on the floor, bathroom towels always neatly folded. You'd never think anyone was living in the house."

My first reaction was that if a family like mine were to occupy the White House, you wouldn't find a former housekeeper coming out with a book, "My Thirty Years Backstairs at the White." You'd be reading, "My Thirty Days at the White House and Why I Gave Notice."

The first reason being that she got sick and tired of finding hair rollers in the East Room, the Red Room, the Green Room and the Lincoln Room.

And Socks. The Nixons may not leave them around, but I have to conduct a harvest when I wash clothes so they'll have clean ones to put on.

Actually, my family means well in putting their soiled clothes into hampers. It's just that they feel it's unsportsmanlike to stuff them in. So they stand 20 feet away as if they were shooting free throws from the foul line at a basketball game. And their average is such that the San Francisco Warriors would never sign any of them.

I would like to see the day bathroom towels were neatly folded. I consider it lucky if they're left sopping on the floor and not left on a bed to soak through. Moreover, you can follow the path of our son, "Big Foot," around the house each time he showers.

I rationalize the whole thing by saying that our home has a "lived in" look. But as a national shrine with visitors pouring through it daily? No!

In fact, if we were to occupy the White House, there would be some who would say that the British left it in better shape back in 1812 when they tried to burn it.

Holiday Bike Rules Outlined by Younger

One of the most cherished gifts a parent or other relative can give a child is a bicycle, says District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, but it can also cause heartache if stolen.

Younger noted that the period from now until New Year's Day are known as "Danger Days," and warned parents that many new bicycles are stolen needlessly.

One of the items that should be purchased to prevent theft of a bicycle, the district attorney noted, is a strong lock. Children should be encouraged, he added, to always lock their bicycles and to keep them in garages or other safe spots when not in use.

Youngsters should be aware of safety rules, said District Attorney Younger, and "parents can help by setting a good example."

To make cycling safer, the DA urged that parents explain these rules to their youngsters:

- Keep the bicycle in good mechanical condition.
- Obey all traffic rules and signs, and always give proper hand signals.
- Walk your bicycle across busy intersections.
- Always ride with the traffic—as close as possible to the right side of the road.
- Be sure the roadway is clear before entering.
- Always ride single file and watch for opening car doors.
- Only one person should ride a bicycle—no passengers.
- If you must ride during darkness, make sure the headlight and rear reflector are working.
- Select the safest route to your destination and use it. Busy streets and intersections should be avoided.
- Yield right of way to pedestrians.

Sunday Concert Planned

Music students of El Camino College will present a Christmas Concert Sunday at 3 p.m. in the college auditorium.

Appearing in the program will be the 75-voice college Community Orchestra, conducted by James E. Mack.

The program will feature traditional and familiar holiday music "designed to create the spirit of Christmas in all who come to hear it," commented Mikkelsen.

SELECTIONS to be offered by the orchestra include the "Christmas Festival Overture" by Anderson, "Sleigh Ride" by Anderson and the "Farandole" from the L'arlesienne Suite No. 2 by Bizet.

Combined choral and orchestral groups will present the traditional poem, "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by Moore. The musical setting was arranged by Ken Darby.

CONCLUDING the concert, the combined groups will perform a portion of Handel's "The Messiah." Accompaniment on the harpsichord and organ will be added by Roesarie Luthi, staff accompanist, and Tom Owens of the music faculty.

Vocal soloists will be Linda Smarr and Anne Miller, soprano; Helen Walker, alto; Ed Davies, tenor; and Frank Gross, bass.

There is no charge for admission. The music department indicates that the concert will be "short and enjoyable for children as well as adults."

TRAFFIC HEAVY

Christmas Eve is the deadliest period of the holiday season in traffic, according to the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council. During the six hours of Christmas Eve, the hourly rate for fatal accidents throughout the country is approximately five times higher than for the balance of the holiday.

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GIs to Get Dividends Totalling \$236 Million

More than 4,250,000 World War I and World War II veterans holding G.I. insurance policies will receive \$236 million in dividends during 1969, Administrator of Veterans Affairs William J. Driver announced today.

This is \$13 million more than the 1968 dividend payment of \$223 million.

The dividends will be paid throughout 1969 on the anniversary dates of the policies, Driver said.

He emphasized that veterans need not apply for the dividends since payments will be made automatically.

FOR NEARLY 4,100,000 World War II veterans, National Ser-

vice Life Insurance (NSLI) 1969 dividends will total \$218 million. The average payment will be about \$53. NSLI dividends in 1968 were \$208 million.

Some 185,000 World War I veterans with United States Government Life Insurance (USGLI) policies will receive a 1969 dividend of \$18 million. The 1968 dividend amounted to \$15 million. Average payment in 1969 will be approximately \$97, up \$18 over the 1968 average of \$79.

INCREASED interest earnings on government life insurance funds made possible the higher 1969 dividends.

These earnings will also enable VA to pay a modest, first-time dividend averaging \$11 to approximately 193,000 veterans holding modified life insurance policies. These policies are issued at a low permanent plan premium rate and provide maximum insurance protection until the veteran reaches age 65. Then the face value of the policy is halved.

WATCH SHOPPERS

During the Christmas shopping rush, there are more pedestrians in the streets than at any other time of the year. This means, according to the Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the National Safety Council, that all motorists should exercise extra caution. The shopper-pedestrians often are laden with packages that obstruct their vision.

City Gets \$97,000 in Road Fun

SACRAMENTO — State Controller Houston I. Flournoy today announced the distribution of \$55,087,213 as the November apportionment of highway users taxes among the cities, counties and the state.

The distribution included \$13,787,191 to the counties; \$10,257,334 to the cities; and \$31,062,688 was slated for expenditures on state highways.

The apportionment included Los Angeles County's share of \$4,173,230, and Torrance's share of \$97,000.

The funds were derived from the following sources: Gasoline taxes, \$49,608,165; diesel fuel tax, \$3,579,430; by transfer from the motor vehicle transportation tax fund, \$1,898,452 and the balance from miscellaneous sources.



Plan Now To Be Represented In The Press-Herald Christmas Church Page...

The Press-Herald's Annual Christmas Church Page will appear in the December 20th edition. Plan now to have your church advertising and publicity ready (Deadline is December 16). For information, call Mrs. Bronnon at 323-6060.

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