

L.T.-OLDS. FRIDAY-JANUARY 20, 1961.

Good Evening Everybody:

World reaction to that stirring Kennedy inaugural address on the whole is favorable. Even in Moscow - where they don't care for John Kennedy's attack on Communist tyranny. The Soviet press - adopting an attitude of wait and see. ~~This~~ This is in line with Khrushchev's bid for another summit meeting. An idea which Mr. Kennedy did not turn down in his inaugural address.

What about Chiang Kai Shek, and Mao Tse Tung? Chiang expresses concern over the possibility - that Washington won't support him quite so strongly in the future. Mao is ~~am~~ afraid he'll meet - a more vigorous defense of Formosa.

As for our western allies, they all seem satisfied with President Kennedy. West Germany - happy ~~about~~ about the Kennedy pledge to maintain western rights in Berlin,

Paris noting that Kennedy is supporting DeGaulle's plan for Algeria. London - a spokesman for the Prime Minister remarking: "We need American leadership and we think we'll get that leadership from Mr. Kennedy."

## CUBA

Interesting reaction in Cuba. Castro, suspending the execution of some counter-revolutionaries - doing this apparently as a gesture to impress President Kennedy. But the Cuban dictator did have his firing squad at work today executing - two more. And - sending another group of them - to jail. But the indication is, that he'll cut down on the bloodshed that has been offending even his friends in Latin America. A decision, that could save the lives - of many anti-Castroites - now in Cuban jails.

Some may have wondered for a moment today were we going to the Presidential inauguration after all? That was quite a scene there at the Capitol; dignitaries gathered in the rotunda, Cardinal Cushing of Boston, delivering his long invocation - with smoke rising from the lecturn. Officials and secret service men moving around behind the Cardinal - trying to look inconspicuous but being far from that! Can you imagine their apprehension with all that smoke coming from just under the Cardinal's prayer. Would the lecturn burst into flames and force the new President and all the others to retreat? Then what would happen? The smoke continuing as Marian Anderson sang "The Star Spangled Banner." But - they finally got it solved, as President elect Kennedy and President Eisenhower looked on, and wondered. The cause - crossed wires. Cause of so many fires.

From then on everything went off without a hitch. John Fitzgerald Kennedy - taking office as our Thirty-

Fifth President. The thirty-fourth individual to hold the office. ~~Am~~ Why the discrepancy? As you may recall Grover Cleveland, President twice was out for a term. That's why he is counted twice in the roll call of Presidents.

All of the familiar stately ceremony was there today on Capitol Hill - with a few novelties. The most interesting of these - the Bible on the lecturn. Our ~~past~~ past Presidents have always used - the King James version of the scriptures. President Kennedy, using the douay version instead - the ~~mt~~ official Catholic version of the Bible.

Another unfamiliar note today - the length of the Kennedy speech. Or rather - the shortness of it. The President delivering a call to action - in twelve hundred words. Some political scientists were saying today that it was "the most impressive inaugural address of that brief



length since George Washington took office back in  
Seventeen Eighty-Nine." Tonight the Kennedy address is  
being studied around the world. Our friends and foes,  
trying to figure out what the new American President  
intends for them.

## PARADE FOLLOW KENNEDY

The parade down Pennsylvania Avenue following the inauguration, as most of you know already - was spectacular as these parades always are. President Kennedy rode - in the open car - with Mrs. Kennedy, and Senator Sparkman of Alabama. Then, Vice President Johnson - and Mrs. Johnson, and their two daughters; and - Speaker Mayburn. Other prominent figures of course including former President Truman, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Grand Marshal of the parade - General James Gavin - former paratrooper of World War Two. Sixteen thousand members of the Armed Forces took part - including contingents from West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, the Coast Guard Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy. Also more than thirty thousand civilians in the parade - from federal officials to Boy Scouts.

Some "firsts" - in Nineteen Sixty One. The first time for fifty states to be represented. The first time - we've ever seen a space vehicle on Pennsylvania Avenue. One of those we orbited successfully and then recovered. It was there - along with rocket ships, ballistic missiles, and other weapons of the latest design - and the P.T. boat - one just like young Jack K - commanded in World War Two.

The theme of this inaugural parade - "World peace through new frontiers." The theme of President Kennedy when he accepted the Democratic nomination - at the Convention.



## RUBBERS

Among the unusual incidents in today's parade - here's one indicating how it was affected by the weather. As the detachments marched past - rubbers began to pile up in the gutter. The marchers came prepared - for the blizzard. Many of them, wearing rubbers over their shoes as they set out down Pennsylvania Avenue. The pace of the march - working the excess footwear loose. Result - rubbers - flipping off. Bouncing around - under the trampers feet - kicked off along the route of the ~~parade~~ parade. A lot of marchers ~~reached~~ reaching the end of the march with one rubber, and one wet shoe.

## WEATHER

Today, Washington represented the U.S.A. - even in its weather. That heavy snowfall - blanketing the city. Adding a wintry note to the inaugural. Piling up slush on Pennsylvania Avenue - which had to be cleared away in a hurry. Conditions, so bad - most of the usual formalities disappeared. For example, at last night's spectacular gala, evening dress was supposed to be mandatory - so directed by Impresario Sinatra. But many guests couldn't get home and the gala committee advised them not to try. So they turned up as they were - in business suits, house dresses, sports wear, and so on.

## TROLLEY

In Philadelphia, Bernard Halpin decided to do something about - the transportation problem. He and two friends entering a Philadelphia trolley barn - rolling out one of the vehicles. And off they went - careening through the city. Halpin and company - picking up passengers. Letting them off - whenever the bell rang, as if they were - the real motorman and crew. Not bothering - to collect fares. They were still at it - when the ~~exit~~ alarm went out from the trolley barn. The police, peering through the snow - for a run-away trolley. Which finally clanged to a halt when a patrol car cut across in front of it. The three amateur transportation workers <sup>tonight</sup> are in the

"stir", Dick.

~~pokey tonight~~

And - protesting. <sup>Saying: #</sup> Says Bernard Halpin:

"I don't know <sup>are we</sup> why ~~we're~~ here? - <sup>we were only helping</sup> we did a lot of people a big favor. a lot of folks."

## HOOVER

Too bad America's Number One elder statesman had to miss the inauguration - because of the blizzard. As you no doubt know, Mr. Hoover flew up from Miami to see a man half his age be sworn in as President. Flew up and the plane couldn't land.

If he had made it, we would have seen the unique spectacle of three former Presidents side by side - Hoover, Truman and Eisenhower. At eighty six he did his utmost. He flew there and then the plane turned and flew away from the blizzard. Back to Miami they went, where Former ~~President~~ President Hoover watched the ceremony on TV.