

Air Commodore Whittle, for instance, received a tax free award of £100,000. He is the engineer directly responsible for the original development of the jet engine.

The British have a very fine award system. At the end of the War they had made something like 500 substantial awards to people, not for scientific research, but for ideas, and for inventions. I feel that this country needs something like that; we need a similar incentive over here.

The man working in our laboratories, or the man working in any laboratory needs an incentive to go home and think about his problems and to work on them in his spare time. To me this is the way you make progress.

In addition I want to say that with the continuing increase and emphasis—and I certainly think it should be there—of research and development by the Armed Forces, it seems to me that all of us and particularly those with major administrative jobs have a great responsibility to see that these programs are sound and that they are well planned.

We have many problems in the administration of research and development programs. In the Navy, we have a very elaborate arrangement. We have our own laboratories. We have contract programs. We have development programs. All I am saying is that I want you people to know that we realize, as well as you do, that we have to continually examine these programs and keep them on the track.

I assure you that we are very much aware of this responsibility. We feel that it is much more than just a question of developing improved weapons and equipment. We have to look at the work from the point of view of economy, practicability and available resources. It is a challenging responsibility but one in which I am personally proud to be engaged.

It has been a pleasure for me to tell you what we are trying to do.

LUNCHEON ADDRESS*

A WASHINGTON COMMENTARY

Paul Wooton, Washington, D.C.

I ALWAYS speak on one subject, "What I am Hearing in Washington." In that I am different from Mark Twain. When asked to deliver a lecture, he would send a list of 25 subjects and say "Check the subject you want me to speak on." One fellow wrote back and he said, "Which of the twenty-five is the best?" He wrote back "They are all the same speech."

I have the same subject every time, but if I talk a week apart, I must change my talk because "News marches on." Also, it is my understanding that one of the reasons—possibly the primary reason—for selecting me as a guest speaker today was that I would tell you about Princess Elizabeth's visit to Washington a few weeks ago.

I remember when this Society started. Bee Brown† had an office in the Press Building and gave me a little story about the organization meeting for *Engineering News Record*. He was one of the very first, I believe, to use aerial photography in private practice. I think probably the Army work started him. It is astounding how this Society has grown from that little group to your present large membership.

* Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Society, Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

† W. N. Brown, Washington, D. C. One of the Charter Members of the Society.—Ed.

My remarks about the Princess will be human interest observations in connection with her visit.

As you know the time of the visit was postponed a week on account of the King's illness. That upset our arrangements for holding a reception in accordance with the decisions of the working press—this totals some 1100 here in Washington who devote their entire time to news and editorial correspondence. We found that a large national organization had engaged the ballroom of the Statler and having this room was essential for our reception. The manager called me in Philadelphia and said, "They won't give up the Presidential room." I said, "It will make a wonderful news story to say this organization does not take the royal family seriously." We got the room.

We shattered a thousand years of precedent with that party.

The Royal family never is interviewed and doesn't meet the press. They yielded to our American idea of fraternizing. Coming to a party attended exclusively by active members of the press was quite a concession on their part. It was a very delightful experience for all and particularly for me.

The Press Club, two Women's Organizations, and Overseas Writers had cabled asking to sponsor a party for the Princess. That put the British Embassy on the spot. It thought that having the President of the Press Club, the President of Overseas Writers or the President of any organization preside at this meeting would mean that that organization was sponsoring it. This might antagonize the others. It was decided to pick someone who was president of nothing, make him chairman and let the others be members of a committee. That was the yardstick used in the selection of me as the chairman, and the person to introduce the Princess.

I tried to keep in pretty close touch with Mr. Simmons, the protocol officer at the State Department, so I would know more or less the proper things to do. I forgot to ask if one takes hold of the arm of Royalty when escorting them. When the Princess got out of the automobile, I helped her up the steps as I would an American girl. That was not the proper action. You are supposed simply to walk at the side. The Princess didn't pull away.

The British way of mingling with guests at their garden parties is to walk around and shake hands with certain designated people. Someone makes the selections for them. Here I was, a member of the press and all these people at the reception were my colleagues. (The competitive situation in the newspaper business is pretty fierce, I can tell you.) If I introduced her to the representative of one paper and not of the others, I would be in trouble. I told the Princess. "Every twenty steps I will make a selection; I will stop, regardless of who it is, whether representative or not." I stuck to my twenty step plan. She said, "People have mentioned to me before that it is quite embarrassing to make these selections." I read in the paper the next day, when she received a large group of people on the sidewalk at the British Embassy that she stopped every twenty steps and shook hands. At least the Heir Apparent adopted one of my ideas.

To many, I suppose all the fuss made over a young girl who, by accident of birth occupies high place, seems fantastic, particularly when the place she occupies carries with it little in the way of authority; but the world is not run on any such logical basis. The appeal of the Royal Family, particularly when they lead exemplary lives, is widespread, even in this country.

A flag is a fine symbol, but a flag cannot have babies, it can't visit hospitals and it can't perform acts of human kindnesses. The concept of the Royal Family in Britain is one of the finest features of Anglo Saxon tradition.

I was asked to say a few words about Mr. Churchill.

I came over on the Queen Mary during the War with him and had had some previous contact. I think that of all the people in the world who have been able to use commonplace words in an effective way, he is our very best example. His tribute to the Royal Air Force—those seventeen words that he used to tell about what the Royal Air Force did in the Battle of Britain—will go down in history and live forever. There is not an unusual word in that group. One of the choicest was his calling Mussolini a utensil. In England "utensil" refers to an obsolete article of crockery. I thought such a designation of Mussolini was appropriate.

During most of my career I have written on the business subjects. Maybe I should say something along that line.

Leaving aside short-term developments on which a mass of information is available, and to which day-to-day business policy must be geared, the United States is approaching a fundamental test of its economic institutions. This test will not come all at once or in any one year. It may last a decade, but a clear understanding of the nature of the test will help business leaders formulate their own policies as well as help them decide on the nature of the public policy they may wish to support.

As it looks now, the main elements of the test are: Public expenditures which are now on a scale that absorbs not less than forty per cent of the gross national products;

Taxation to support these expenditures, which is approaching the point where the old incentive for enterprise and savings ceases to be effective;

Meeting the extra cost by borrowing, which cannot be accomplished except over a short period of war-created enthusiasm without constantly feeding inflation.

As to inflation, it robs all those who have fixed values, fixed savings, those who have inflexible incomes, lagging salaries, teachers, professors, preachers.

In the long run inflation is not compatible with free institutions and equitable distribution of income. What can be done about that dilemma? Expenditures can be reduced intelligently only by elimination of waste and increased efficiency. There is no hope of a drastic cut in outlays unless through a miracle, a stable peace should become a reality.

The one thing businessmen can insist on in this connection is integrity and efficiency on their own part, as well as on the part of the Government. We no longer can conduct business in a careless way, counting on wide margins of resources to absorb inefficiencies and graft.

Granted that expenditures will not decline sufficiently to ease the problem substantially, we must work hard to obtain a really equitable and effective tax structure; one that will operate in accordance with ability to pay and will take into account the effects on individual and business decisions as well as on the incomes of the individual groups.

Integration of Federal and local taxation is one phase of the problem. Elimination of loopholes is another. We no longer can afford log-rolling among representatives of interested groups to determine tax policy; nor can we afford to have the schedules worked out by the demagogues.

All these problems have been with us for a long time, but during the coming period, this test period I mentioned, of our economic and political system, they will be more crucial. Their correct solution will have a real effect on the outcome of the test. We shall not get away from public borrowing as long as expenditures increase. We must find ways of borrowing that are less inflationary.

I think there is evidence our foreign policy is popular with a great majority of the people. We have made aggression terrifically costly by opposing it in Korea. We have made it so costly they are eager to get peace. I don't know why they stall. I suppose they have a bad situation at home.

Certainly, if there isn't unrest in Russia itself, there is in the satellite countries. Even the Chinese, with their low regard for human life, are getting tired of sacrificing manpower. Certainly Hungary, or any other one of the satellites, is not willing to sacrifice manpower in anything like the proportions the Chinese have been willing to sacrifice it.

THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY*

*Capt. O. S. Reading, President of the International Society,
L. Ray Smart, Director of Program and Charles H. Andregg
in Charge of Exhibits at the Congress*

CAPTAIN READING:

THE members of The American Society of Photogrammetry will certainly have a feast of photogrammetric information this year, the Centennial Year, of photogrammetry. Those present at this Annual Meeting will not only have a feast these next three days, but will have the opportunity of a full banquet with international flavor next September, if there be no World War III before then.

Those who have attended other Congresses will need no urging to be at this one. They will attend if they possibly can. But to those who have not had the pleasure of learning just what our colleagues in other countries are doing, the Seventh Congress in September offers the opportunity of a lifetime to become familiar with their work and to become personally acquainted with the leading photogrammetrists of the world. I say an opportunity of a lifetime, because these congresses are held every four years, and it will be at least a generation before the United States will again have its turn to assemble the best photogrammetry of the world in this country, for the convenience and benefit of our memberships.

We already have word that the leading instrument firms of Europe will make very complete exhibits of their instruments, and the various national societies, of their work in photogrammetry.

Perhaps a few words about why we have so much to gain from an exchange with the foreign countries, may be in order. I suppose every one of us who has been in Europe has been tremendously impressed with the way certain areas make use of every foot of ground to the best advantage; how they replant and conserve their forests; their beautiful parks and boulevards; and the way they are putting boulevards through their old cities and expanding their building programs, each with the idea of existence for a long time in the future. I once discussed with an Englishman the damage an atomic bomb would do to London. He said, "Well, maybe so, but some of my family have been living in Cornwall since William the Conqueror, and I think there will be a few of us left. The sense of the value of the future is very strong in Europe, notwithstanding two world wars.

* A presentation at the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Society, Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C., January 9 to 11, 1952.