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Blues - July 22

HERB CAEN



Friday Fish-Fry

GALLANTRY IN ACTION: Gene Robinson, an American Airlines sales exec, saw a pretty, pregnant girl standing in line at S.F. Airport this week—and, Boy Scoutlike, did his good deed: moved her up to the head of the line, processed her ticket and escorted her out to the plane. As she was about to disappear into the cabin, she turned around, called out "Thanks a lot," opened her overcoat, reached under her sweater, and extracted a pillow.

★ ★ ★

NOT THAT IT MATTERS: The Giants have assigned Tom Sheehan to scout the Baltimore Orioles, in anticipation of their meeting in the World Series, but so far Baltimore isn't returning the compliment. The Bolshoi Ballet **NETTED** \$235,000 during its run at the Opera House, which should prove to the Kremlin that the capitalist system is still functioning. Speaking of December-May marriages (ALL the rage!), Tom Barbour of American Airlines here got a note yesterday from KLM, alerting him that Zoltan Kodaly arrives in S.F. today. "We presume you know," advised KLM, "that Dr. Kodaly is a famous Hungarian composer well into his 80s whose wife is about 25." Make that December-April. Grover Sales liked the scene so much he took a photo of it. On Bridgeway in Sausalito yesterday morn, cop stops car, gives ticket to driver. Driver red-faced, chews out cop, tears up ticket, throws out window, and so on. On driver's rear bumper: "Support Your Local Police." PG&E's newest hydro-electric plant has been named the Black Powerhouse, so watch it, Whitey! (No, but seriously, folks, it's named in honor of the tata Jim Black).

★ ★ ★

ON THE RECORD: The current installment (July 16) in The New Yorker's blistering series on the American Medical Association's fight against Medicare—I ask you, who's sicker than some of our doctors?—tells about a project called Operation Coffee Cup. Quote: "Thousands of doctors' wives held afternoon parties for friends and neighbors, at which they ate cookies, drank coffee and listened to a recording of a talk by Ronald Reagan. 'One of the traditional methods of imposing statism or socialism on a people has been by way of medicine,' Reagan informed his listeners, and urged the ladies to write letters, and get their friends to write letters, to members of Congress (opposing Medicare). 'If you don't do this,' he said, 'One of these days you and I are going to spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in America when men were free.'"

Tell us, Unca Ronnie, tell us what it was like!

★ ★ ★

SOCIAL NOTES: At 1 a.m. Sunday, something big will happen at Fillmore. ...
...dding! As the foot...

LOL: HLO-Medical

August 11, 1966

Mrs. James F. Brennan
2115 Broadway
San Francisco, California

Dear Mrs. Brennan:

Thank you for bringing this column to my attention. It isn't the first time that Mr. Caen has been dishonest with regard to me. He certainly seems to be a member of the Brown organization. Now it is true that I opposed Medicare; that particular piece of legislation, but not the idea of medical care for those who need it. I think most of the Medicare Bills have had a great many faults and are very poor legislation.

Mr. Caen has put words in there out of context from other parts of speeches I have made. At any rate the entire effect is contrary to my viewpoint and I assure you that in the days ahead I will do my best to make the record completely clear.

Again my thanks to you with kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan
RR;fc