



The Lyons Den

LEONARD LYONS

Richard Goodwin, the former White House aide, was in N. Y. all week to help resolve the dispute over the Manchester book on JFK. He confirmed the story I printed—that Mrs. JFK's 10 hours of taping were meant only for the JFK Library and not for publication now.

All who knew the late President had their recollections of him taped, as part of the library's oral history program. These tapes were to be kept under seal, for use by future historians. Goodwin and Arthur Schlesinger did tapes for this project. Schlesinger also taped Mrs. Kennedy's recollections—but only up to November of '63.

Schlesinger felt he was too emotionally involved to do any taping with her about the assassination . . . And William Manchester, who'd written a good book on JFK, was selected.

James Baldwin is worried over Fern Marja Eckman's new book about him, "The Furious Passage of James Baldwin." But Fern offered him a Xerox copy of her manuscript months ago, and Baldwin refused to look at it . . . A Long Island newspaper refused Paramount's "Alfie" ad, the same ad used in family magazines . . . Lee Radziwill's stage contract has a clause assuring her that no press-release will refer to her as Princess or as Mrs. JFK's sister.

ABC's headquarters in Washington has a street-level window decorated with Christmas ornaments and lights. It includes a huge wreath under which is written: "Peace on Earth . . . Good Will to CBS and NBC" . . . The other two networks showed no reaction, but Mutual Broadcasting sent its own artist to add to the sign "...and MBS."

Leland Hayward, the producer, is recuperating from an intestinal infection at New York Hospital . . . Vanessa Redgrave already has recorded four songs for the film version of "Camelot" . . . Lou Brecker has a \$5,000,000 offer for the air rights above his Roseland Dance City, for use as an 18-story building . . . The new Spanish Pavilion on Park Av., N. Y.'s newest and perhaps most expensive restaurant, doesn't charge for bread-and-butter.

Norman Wisdom's 80-year-old mother made her first trip here from London, and went to see her son in "Walking Happy." When she was seated she told the usherette—as she does in British theaters—"I'll have a cup of tea at the interval" . . . The theater's manager arranged this



LEE RADZIWILL

N. Y. innovation for her.

Beatrice Whitney Straight's first film-producing venture, "The Borrowers," will be made in London next summer. The adaptation will be by Jay Presson Allen, author of the London hit, "Prime of Jean Brodie" . . . The Gaslight Club, expanding, bought the next-door building on E. 56th St. . . . James Harris, whose father is co-producer of "Mame" and "Sweet Charity," will produce a film for United Artists.

Louis Nizer, the lawyer-author, was guest of honor at a testimonial here last week. In his response to the glowing introduction, Nizer said: "Egotism is a case of mistaken non-entity" . . . He also said: "Love blinds you to faults; hate blinds you to virtues."

Arthur Kopit, author of "Oh Dad, Poor Dad," hasn't as yet been shown the Seven Arts film version finished long ago. He sighed: "For all I know, maybe they've animated it" . . . Audrey Totter, who retired from films 12 years ago, returns to play Susan Strasberg's mother in "Chubasco" . . . Only eight subscriptions are open at Frank Hale's Palm Beach Playhouse this season. They're available only because of deaths of the original owners.

Peter O'Toole arrived in Venice on the day the storm broke there. He walked to his hotel, then stayed two weeks, helping wherever he could. "This is the way to enjoy Venice," said O'Toole, "especially when gondolas come in through the window."

Sybil Burton Christopher's newest musical find, the blonde-all-girl barefoot quartet, the "Luvs," will make their bow at Arthur Morday night. It will be at the Lefraks' party for their debutante daughter Francine . . . The Plymouth rocks with laughter at each performance of Neil Simon's "Star-Spangled Girl" . . . Elliott Gould will produce a Broadway musical adapted from an Art Buchwald story.

Saul Bellow, the novelist-playwright, was invited to visit the new home of a show business figure who'd recently become rich and famous. The host showed Bellow all the elegant appointments of the elegantly decorated home, and asked: "Do you think it's *nouveau riche*?" . . . "Well," replied Bellow, "you can't have everything . . ."

The backers of "Mame" received all their money back this week . . . Mrs. Dong Kingman, wife of the artist, helped 20th Century-Fox prepare Chinese press releases on "The Sand Pebbles" for New York's five Chinese newspapers . . . One of the last bastions of club life in N. Y. is vanishing: at the next membership meeting of the Harvard Club—wives will be admitted to the session.