

## Lagniappe



### Airline Guessing Game

### Bubbles for Bernstein

By THOMAS GRIFFIN

DURING THE three years it took our town's Morton Bernstein, project engineer for Curtis and Davis, to convert an old building in San Francisco into the posh new Stanford Court hotel on Knob Hill, he figures he logged a million or more air miles between the two cities. And therein lies a tale.

Seems he flew National Airlines and National has an amateur navigator's game called "Abreast of Mount Baldy Game" to amuse passengers on the long flight. A scratch pad and instructions are given to those who wish to play. The problem is to figure out the time it takes the aircraft to fly from beam Houston to beam Mount Baldy, which is in California near the Los Angeles area. The captain announces the speed at which the plane will fly, the distance between the two points and whether the aircraft will encounter head winds or tail winds. The passenger who comes closest to the time the plane is "Abreast of Mount Baldy" wins a bottle of champagne.

Because Morty made the trip so often he became quite an expert in guessing right. A friend, Paul Kalman, quotes him, "At first I used my slide-rule to work it out but as time went on I didn't need it. I could do it from long practice."

In time, stewardesses who spotted him boarding their plane groaned, "Here's that man again!" and started-icing his champagne. In all, Morty figures he won about 200 bottles of champagne and he and his wife are becoming tired of the stuff. I hear they're giving away bottles to friends.

Now there's a tip for you!

ADDENDA—The Stanford Court hotel, of which Edgar Stern Jr. of New Orleans is one of three owners, drew quite a few Orleanians to San Francisco for the celebrative opening last week. Among them were Mayor and Mrs. Moon Landrieu, the Blake Aratas, the N. C. Curtis Jrs., the Arthur Q. Davises, the William Cristoviches, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Trautman, the Moise Dennerys, the James Weimans and the Stanley Diefenthals.

POTPOURRI—Isn't a prominent society matron getting a face-lifting job in another part of the country? . . . Clay Shaw, whose pastime was restoring French Quarter properties before THAT CASE took most of his time and

money, could be starting anew; he's negotiating for a small house in the 1000 block of Dauphine . . . Sight for sore eyes: Frosty Blackshear and Mary Maud Stirling as old-fashioned girls in hoopskirts in Frosty's courtyard for the Spring Fiesta's "Patios by Candlelight" tour; they were the picture of elegant innocence . . . Scoop Kennedy's friends (he estimates he has two) will be glad to know he's got something else to add to his fame as a gourmet: The Medalion of Merit awarded by the International Wine and Food Society of London. Only three other Americans achieved that honor.

HITHER AND YON — Mrs. Southall Tate, 87, Chatelaine of Tulane's "Tate House" dormitory for 40 years, now in Providence House Nursing Home, cheered by a recent visit from Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Longenecker bearing an armful of Easter lilies . . . "Bitsy" Barnett, free again, celebrating the event lunching at Brennan's with "Rusty" Scaccia and Sue Kitz . . . Brazilian consul general J. P. de Rio Branco and "esposa" (wife to you) rounding the 20th marital milestone via the dinner route at Tchoupitoulas Plantation.

SHOW BIZ —Too bad the public didn't provide sufficient support for the pro company at the Rep; let's hope the board at its meeting tomorrow will work out something for the remainder of the season. Meanwhile, the Rep's Second Company will give two performances of "Great Zeus" at 7 and 9 o'clock tonight; everyone's invited to attend free; the play concerns two tales of love and the Olympian gods, one sad, one happy. . . Is Bourbon Street going completely "carny?" There's now a circus-like tent, complete with loud-mouth barker in the 500 block unging passersby to see a girl turn into a gorilla before your eyes . . . A CBS special, "It Takes a Lot of Love," slated for 7 p.m. Wednesday via Channel 4, will feature a deluxe pet hotel, Aranwood, operated by ex-Orleanian Arthur Sachs in Mahawh, N.J.; Arthur's sister Auguste, now Mrs. James Frank, will be glued to her set in New Orleans. . . Shirley Ann Grau, our town's Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, will be on "Padul Fabry Talks," 6 o'clock tonight via Channel 12; they discuss "The Literary Scene in the South."