

Notes on People NYTimes JUL 22 1975

Passport Chief, 70, Will Stay

Frances G. Knight, who has been chief of the United States Passport Office for so long that she has been compared to the late J. Edgar Hoover in survivability in government service, will be kept in her job, though she reaches the mandatory retirement age of 70 today. Her extension was granted by the Civil Service Commission and by her boss, Secretary of State Kissinger, after the commission decided that keeping her would be "in the best interests of the United States." Mr. Kissinger's office sent her a framed document granting her the extension, for one year, last Friday.



Associated Press

Frances G. Knight, who continues as head of the Passport Office, in Washington yesterday.

John S. Prescott Jr. has resigned, effective Sept. 1, as president of the newspaper division of The Washington Post Company and as a director of the parent company. No reason was given, and Mr. Prescott said he was considering offers from other newspapers, or possibly going into business for himself.

Mr. Prescott, 47, joined The Post in 1971. The Washington Post Company publishes The Washington Post, The Trenton Times newspapers and Newsweek magazine and operates a chain of broadcasting companies. Mr. Prescott said he "will take some time" to decide what he is going to do next.

Following that trusted political rule of thumb that goes: If you have a problem, appoint a commission to look into it, President Valéry Giscard D'Estang of France created a special government post yesterday to deal with the problems and concerns of prostitutes. Guy Pinot, a 56-year-old Appeals Court magistrate, was selected for the position and will be officially confirmed at tomorrow's meeting of the French Cabinet. Yesterday, Mr. Pinot said he had no special previous experience with the problems of prostitutes but was "particularly sensitive to

everything which touches the lives of human beings." In recent months, French prostitutes have been demonstrating in protest against police, who they say, harass them.

When President Idi Amin of Uganda recently saw the condition of the Speke Hotel in Kampala, where a meeting of the Organization of African Unity is scheduled to be held, he flatly told the manager the hotel would "just not do." "Get this place cleaned up," he ordered, and an army of workmen appeared within minutes, scrubbed the court and displayed various hunting trophies as well as portraits of President Amin.

Steven Weed, the former fiancé of the kidnapping victim-turned-fugitive, Patricia Hearst, is reportedly writing a book about his three-year relationship with the Hearst family heiress, and her parents are worried about what it will say.

Catherine Hearst, Patricia's

mother, told The Chicago Tribune that she and her husband were worried "about issues that might have a negative effect upon Patty's defense at such time when she might be a defendant in a trial."

Mrs. Hearst also told the newspaper that the family was considering filing suit to stop publication of the book. Mr. Weed has said that there are only "two or three things," all minor, in the book that might embarrass the Hearsts.

John Stonehouse, the member of Britain's Parliament who faked his won death-by-drowning in Miami last November, then fled to Australia and was extradited to England last Friday, lost a second attempt to win bail in a London court hearing yesterday.

Mr. Stonehouse, who is charged with 21 counts of theft, fraud, forgery and conspiracy, began a hunger strike in Brixton Prison after his first request for bail was turned down on Saturday.

Kenneth Jones, a lawyer, said he visited Mr. Stonehouse after yesterday's hearing to hand him a writ in behalf of a chain store group that contends that Mr. Stonehouse owes them money. Mr. Jones said that Mr. Stonehouse had been mildly injured in a struggle with prison officers after he tried to avoid letting the lawyer serve the writ.

When 1,000 villages in Watchfield, England, gathered Sunday to protest the selection of their town as the site of a rock festival, County Official Eric Bond had simple advice for them. "Lock up your daughters," he said, and stay home and pray for rain."

MARY BREASTED