



WASHINGTON'S FLOATING HOTEL—Coming originally from the subtropical waters of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the Amphitrite arrived here yesterday to serve transients in the Nation's Capital. Seventy-five rooms that formerly housed winter tourists will open in 10 days to take care of businessmen and other travelers to Washington who cannot find other hotel rooms. The management stressed that it is purely a transient hotel and not a project for Government workers. —Star Staff Photo.

Floating Hotel Docks Here for Duration To Relieve Shortage

Craft to Be Operated On Transient Basis; Ready in 10 Days

The Amphitrite, America's only floating hotel, docked yesterday at Old Oceanwharf, its home for the duration.

The combination ship-hotel has been used as a home for travelers at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for a number of years and was brought here to help relieve the shortage of hotel rooms. It has 75 rooms and will have a dining room and bar when it is opened to the public.

"We expect the Amphitrite to be ready for occupancy in about a week or 10 days," H. G. Bulkeley, president of the Amphitrite Corp., operators of the floating hostelry, said today.

Mr. Bulkeley noted that the general idea had spread that the hotel was brought here to relieve the shortage of rooms among Government workers. "This is wrong," he said, "we are going to operate the Amphitrite on a transient basis. There are no apartments in her, only single and double rooms to take care of the many travelers and businessmen who now find it impossible to get hotel accommodations when they come to Washington."

At least two women wanted to be sure they would get a room. They heard that the floating hotel was here and hurried to the docks to be sure they would be accommodated. When told of the delay in getting things arranged for the official opening they left their names.

Workmen are busy clearing the area surrounding the docks. Peter Sala of Cleveland, vice president of the Amphitrite Corp., is in charge of the operations.

WAVES Still Have Place For Enlisted Personnel

There are still vacancies for enlisted personnel in the WAVES, according to announcement today at the office of Naval Officer Procurement at 1320 G street N.W. Processing of applications has been simplified to speed induction of candidates for enlistment, who are to report for training October 9 at three Middle Western colleges.

It is no longer necessary to write in for application blanks. These can be called for at the office and may be brought back in person. Aptitude tests will be given immediately. Documentary evidence, such as birth certificates, transcripts of high school records, diplomas and letters of recommendation, must be brought in original form and photostats. The original will be returned as soon as the photostat copy has been certified.

A group of 49 officer candidates from the District and vicinity will leave for the training center at Smith College October 6. To this will be added a contingent of five officer candidates from Baltimore. These officer candidates will receive one month's training as apprentice seamen, three months' instruction as midshipmen, and will then, if successful in their courses, be commissioned ensigns in the Women's Reserve.

Maj. Schofield Resigns As Naturalization Official

Attorney General Biddle announced yesterday the resignation of Maj. Lemuel B. Schofield, for over two years closely identified with the work of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The resignation will be effective October 15.

Appointed a special assistant to former Attorney General Jackson on June 6, 1940, Maj. Schofield was placed in administrative control of the Immigration and Naturalization Service soon after its transfer to the Justice Department from the Labor Department. Maj. Schofield continued in charge of service until July 20, 1942, when Earl G. Harrison was appointed permanent commissioner. Since that date he has acted for the Attorney General in various matters pertaining to the repatriation of United States citizens returning from Axis-dominated countries.

Born in Warren, Pa., on October 21, 1892, Maj. Schofield practiced law in Philadelphia for a number of years, and served at various times as assistant district attorney and director of public safety for the city of Philadelphia. He plans to return to private law practice in Philadelphia.

WCTU Unit to Meet

The opening fall meeting of the West End Women's Christian Temperance Union will be held at 8 p.m. Monday at the Union Methodist Church, Twentieth street near Pennsylvania avenue N.W. Visitors are welcome to attend. Mrs. Iris Hubbard is president of the organization.

Auditorium Block Becomes Center for Chicago Servicemen

Historic Theater And Hotel Taken Over To Entertain Soldiers

By the Associated Press.

CHICAGO, Sept. 26.—The Auditorium Block, for decades the meeting place of leaders in the arts and public life, was turned over to Pvt. Peter Plink and his pals today.

The historic theater, hotel and office building where the greats since 1889 have performed and resided be-

came another unit of the Chicago servicemen's center.

"In 1891, the Auditorium was the highest building in Chicago," the center's publication declared. "Now it will be the biggest and best center for servicemen in the world."

Bowling Alleys Planned.

The first floor of the hotel section, which had one of the city's finest cuisines, boasts a 150-foot canteen counter where hot dogs will be handed out. Where the hotel ticket brokers used to sell "two down front on the aisle" to those able to pay the commission, center workers will pass out free tickets to theaters, movies and sporting events.

The second floor is given over to a ballroom, library and writing room and in a few weeks the third floor will house darkrooms where camera fans among the servicemen can develop and print their negatives. In the huge acoustically-perfect theater where Caruso, Farrar and

Garden sang, the new sounds will be those of flying bowling pins. Alleys are being built over the main floor of the multi-tiered theater.

Stars Played There.

The block was opened officially December 9, 1889, with President Benjamin Harrison in the theater audience when Adeline Patti sang "Home, Sweet Home." George M. Pullman, the railroad car magnate, paid \$2,100 for the privilege of having first choice of a box.

Virtually every type of entertainment was shown in the theater and nearly every ranking stage and musical artist played from its boards—Sarah Bernhardt, Ellen Terry, Sir Henry Irving, Paderewski, Anna Melba and Flo Ziegfeld's beautiful girls, Will Rogers and a circus. Its swan song offering as a commercial theater was the rowdy "Hellzapoppin."

Pigeon Files Legislator's Message to Roosevelt

A message from Representative Snyder, Democrat, of Pennsylvania, to President Roosevelt, was delivered at the White House late yesterday by an Army carrier pigeon which flew it 155 miles in less than three hours.

The pigeon bearing Mr. Snyder's message left the Conneville (Pa.) airport at 12:28 p.m. and arrived at Fort Meade, in nearby Maryland, at 3:07 p.m.

Capt. Otto Meyer, of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, took the pigeon from Fort Meade to the White House, where the message was delivered to Marvin H. McIntyre, secretary to the President.

The message read: "The Army Battle Depot Show

now exhibiting at the Conneville airport, Pa., convinces the 500,000 people of my Congressional District that the Commander in Chief of the United States Armed Forces, all Army officials, industry, labor, and all concerned, are doing a big job in a big way."

Quartermaster General Employs Plan Dance

The autumn ball of the employees of the Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army will be held tonight from 10 to 1 a.m. at the Shoreham Hotel.

Feature of the evening will be the crowning of the office beauty queen by the Quartermaster General, Maj. Gen. Edmund B. Gregory. The "queen" is Miss Vaso Sarichas, a stenographer whose home is in Hollywood. It is expected that 300 to 400 couples will attend.

Visitor Believes South America Has 842,000 Tons of Rubber

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Sept. 26.—Maj. Wendell Dove, home from an inspection tour in the Amazon Basin, said today he believed that there were more than 842,000 tons of rubber in the great forests of South America.

"It's there—and it's no back-yard job getting it—rubber trees stretching 2,000 straight-line miles across the Amazon Basin and covering Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil," he said.

Mr. Dove, who says he is no rubber expert, has lived in South America for 15 years and recently was assigned to medical work there by the co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs. His inspection tour in the Amazon Basin was in the interests of the medical aspects of the rubber reserve program in that area. He is a native of Texas.

One of the problems of extracting rubber, he said, lay in paying a higher price to South Americans for it.

"Supply and demand for rubber in the First World War brought South Americans \$3 per pound," he said. "Today, we're paying 40 cents for the same weight, a price so low that native labor supply won't extend itself. Pay them any less and they'll quit work and go fishing. But boost that base price and

you'll see results. Rubber experts down there, men who have represented rubber companies in South America for years, hold the same opinion as I."

He said that certain Axis channels were understood to be buying up supplies of rubber.

"It is an unofficial business," he said. "They're not supposed to do this, but it's suspected that Axis agents, through contraband sources, maintain this flow by offering producers higher prices than we have contracted for."

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