WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

NEW YORK.—If the king and queen had talked with Lawrence Tibbett, after he sang for them at the White House when they visited our capital, they might have been pleasantly assured that they had dropped in on the America of authentic British tradition and not a parvenu nation without a past. In the California badlands, when Lawrence Tibbett was 7 years old, his father, a deputy sheriff, cornered the bandit, wild Jim McKinney, in a Chinese joss house in Bakersfield. At that time, McKinney ranked Billy the Kid, previously the leading bad man in those parts. Shooting his way out, he killed Tibbett. Tibbett's brother, Bert, then sheriff of Bakersfield, stepped in in time to land a load of buckshot between the bandit's eyes.

Tibbetts Proof Ours Is Not a Parvenu Nation

Just the other day, Lawrence Tibbett's Uncle Bert gave him the shotgun which had dropped McKinney. The boy had a hard scramble, getting an education and helping support his widowed mother and, at long last—speaking in the manner of the house of Windsor—here's another distinctive American touch—Lawrence Tibbett is the first American singer to gain fame without European training.

Betty Lee Tibbett, his sister, taught him his first songs, and how to play the piano. Joseph Dupuy, the southern California tenor, was his first professional teacher. He knew he had a voice, but was determined to be a Shakespearian actor. However, his fame as a singer grew in Los Angeles, and he began studying with Frank LaForge in New York. On January 2, 1925, he stole the show from Scotti, in Verdi's "Falstaff." The record shows one score for the numerologists. His luck wasn't so good until he added another "t" to his name—it is properly Tibbet.

Takes on a 'T' And Luck Does A Happy Turn

There's still another touch of quaint Americana in Mr. Tibbett's story. Whenever he has a headache, he walks around on his hands. He says that sluices the blood out of his head and stops the pain. Many a time, just before he was to sing a specially exacting role, members of the Metropolitan cast have seen him off stage, running around upside down. Our reception to the king and queen was necessarily routined, but they would have learned much of interest if they could have circulated in disguise like good King Alfred who burned the cakes.

THE Duke of Windsor gave the Rev. Robert Anderson Jardine a pair of cufflinks for marrying him, and the duchess sent him a piece of wedding cake. That was about the net return for the little vicar's defiance of his clerical superiors. As the captains and the kings depart, he's broke in Hollywood, which, some people say, is worse than being broke in Death Valley. Those who liked to think they had a ringside seat at great events projected the plump, sandy-haired little priest into history, along with the parish priest mixed up in Napoleon's divorce and marriage—an event which set up the "Black Cardinals" and set churchly hierophants wrangling ever after.

Jardine Had but Walk-On Part on History's Stage

Soon forgotten was the Rev. Mr. Jardine. His lecture tour in this country was a failure. He found engagements mysteriously cancelled. He now says, "Bigotry and persecution have followed us across the sea. My wife and I hardly know where to turn, but we're fighting on. I found that America thus far is a land of promises, not of promise."

He was a low-church, Evangelical pastor in Darlington, county of Durham, working in the slums and appealing for better conditions for the Welsh miners, known as "the poor man's parson." It was King Edward's sympathetic reference to the sad plight of the miners that claimed his loyalty, even to the extent of sacrificing his living of $2,000 a year. He had hoped to gain a living by lecturing in this country.

"People seem to shun me," he says. "I can't quite understand it." He is a rather bewildered, meager little man. He sent the duke a cablegram congratulating him on his recent peace speech, but got no reply. However, he has no regrets. He believes it was clearly his duty to perform the wedding ceremony.

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd do it," he says.

(Consolidated Features—WNU Service.)

Liquor Elections Eight Years Apart

In Australia a vote must be taken every eight years on a proposal to abolish liquor licenses. If 60 per cent favor it, all licenses, except those of breweries, must be cancelled. This makes liquor sales illegal.

Foreigners in Brazil

Foreigners who wish to transact business in Brazil must, under a new decree, first prove that their entrance and registration in the country were lawful.

Most Important Events in U. S. History Had Their Genesis in a Small Group of Red-Brick Buildings That Stand in Independence Square, Philadelphia

By RAYMOND PITCAIRN
(Released by Western Newspaper Union.)

A SMALL group of red-brick buildings, simple in design, standing against the green background of a mid-city park . . .

Above their sturdy walls rise tall skyscrapers. On every side of the famous square about them roars the traffic of a bustling age. But for the idea they represent, all could be obscured and lost to public consciousness amid the myriad activities of a great city.

Yet to this modest and historic site turn today the eyes and hearts of all men and all nations that love free government.

For here is Independence square, Philadelphia, with its world-famous structures — Independence hall, Congress hall, Old City hall, and the American Philosophical Society building.

Here is America's noblest shrine. Here stands the inspiring symbol of America's answer to all who thwarted free government in the past, to all who challenge it today.

And in the troubled year of 1939, men realize, with a new and poignant sense of values, the great and enduring significance of this historic site. Seldom, if ever, have more visitors stopped here to absorb its patriotic message. Seldom have the historic relics, the portraits of the Founders, the whole story of Liberty here preserved aroused wider national and international interest.

All this is apparent not only at Independence square, itself, but elsewhere, too. One of the most popular exhibits at the New York World's fair today is the Pennsylvania building, which represents historic Independence hall and tells, in its displays, the story of American liberty and progress under the free government there established.

And what a story! Its preface antedates by decades the Revolution. Its theme runs through our whole history.

Long before the first hint of separation from England, Independence hall was the capitol of a colony dedicated to political freedom, religious tolerance and justice to all men. Long after our liberty had been won it was the rostrum from which Abraham Lincoln, Woodrow Wilson, and other national leaders preached their ideals of freedom.

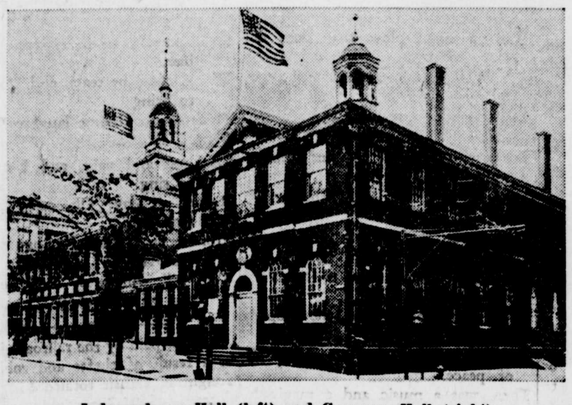
It is our greatest, richest storehouse of national recollections.

Other nations, too, may boast their patriotic shrines. The great cities of Europe are studded with them. But usually they glorify the dead past of conquest; the victories of strong captains, and the power of stern kings.

But Independence hall and Independence square tell a greater story. They glorify the freedom and the power of the common man—the ideal established by our Founders and preserved by generations of valiant citizens. In a world torn by doubts and fears, they stand confident and serene—a beacon to all humanity, lighting the way toward peace and happiness and progress.

The Independence Square monument is not merely one historic building; not merely a famous plot of ground. It includes four buildings, in each of which were enacted events profoundly significant to American liberty and American development. Its tree-shaded lawns are as important as its structures. On them through formative periods were held public meetings of protest and of action that played a dramatic role in our great national epic.

Let us consider in chronological order some of the notable steps in the long "Parade of Progress" staged in the separate buildings or on the greensward of that famous square.



Independence Hall (left) and Congress Hall (right).

Independence Hall.

Here is the oldest, the most venerated, of the historic structures in Independence square. It was erected about 1732 as a statehouse for provincial Pennsylvania from plans designed by Andrew Hamilton, brilliant colonial lawyer who won fame as the advocate of free speech and a free press. In 1736 the provincial assembly first held its sessions there, with Hamilton as speaker and Benjamin Franklin as clerk.

Here, in 1755, the members of the Pennsylvania provincial assembly asserted their refusal to "make laws by direction." Here, in 1757, they determined to send Benjamin Franklin to England to demand "redress of grievances." Here, in 1764, the citizens of Philadelphia protested the Stamp Acts and declared that no imposition of taxes against natural and legal rights would be tolerated. Here, in 1765, more than 300 of the leading merchants of Philadelphia signed the Non-importation resolutions.

And here, in 1775, after the entire country had been goaded into protest against British tyrannies, assembled the famous Second Continental congress.

It was in the now-famous Independence chamber of Independence hall that Richard Henry Lee of Virginia offered, on June 7, 1776, the resolution declaring that "These United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

It was in this chamber, on July 4, 1776, that the Declaration of Independence, which gave world-stirring expression to that resolution and to the whole cause of human liberty, was adopted.

It was here that the Continental congress appointed George Washington commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary armies; that it created the name, "The United States"; that it adopted the design of the American flag.

It was here, in 1781, that congress received news of the final victory at Yorktown, and, in 1783, ratified the Treaty of Peace.

Then Independence hall, having housed the birth of a nation, became the scene of its firm establishment as well.

In its chambers had been adopted the Articles of Confederation. And when they proved inadequate, when the nation sought a "more perfect Union," it was at Independence hall that the Founders met to draft its form.

So here, in 1787, they wrote the Constitution of the United States—America's firm guarantee that "We, the people" should rule; history's greatest and most famous charter of free government.

Independence Square

While the provincial assembly and the Continental congress enacted their stirring drama in Independence hall, the people played a similarly significant part on the wider stage of Independence square.

Here, in Independence square, they met to protest the Stamp Acts; and, again, to forbid the landing of the cargo from the tea-ship "Polly."

Here, in June, 1774, they gathered to denounce the closing of the Port of Boston, and to propose a congress of "sister colonies."

Here, on April 24, 1775, they heard the news of the Battle of Lexington and resolved "to associate for the purpose of defending with arms their property, liberty and lives."

Here, in 1775, they saw the first Pennsylvania quota mustered into service with the Continental army.

And here, on July 8, 1776, they assembled, thousands strong, to hear the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence and to cheer its epoch-making proclamation of the rights and the dignity of man.

Congress Hall and Others.

Independence square had staged the birth of a nation. Now it was to stage the second act of our great American drama: the task of organizing that nation and setting it firmly on a course of unprecedented expansion and development.

Not in Independence hall itself were these later events enacted, but in the sister structures, Congress hall and Old City hall, which flank the older statehouse on either side.

To Congress hall moved the First Congress of the United States in 1790, at the conclusion of its first two sessions in New York. Here, in Congress hall, both house and senate continued to meet until 1800, when the new Capitol of the United States was established at Washington. Here congress enacted the most important measures of our early republic. Here it debated the famous Jay treaty, and admitted Vermont, Kentucky, and Tennessee into the Union.

Here, in 1793, it saw George Washington inaugurated for his second term, and later listened to his famous "Farewell Address." Here, in 1799, it mourned the great leader's death and heard him eulogized in the inspired words: "First in War, First in Peace, First in the Hearts of His Countrymen." Here John Adams was inducted as second President of the United States.

And in Old City hall, during the same ten years, sat the Supreme court of the United States. Here it handed down the first of the decisions which throughout our history have strengthened and clarified the Constitution.

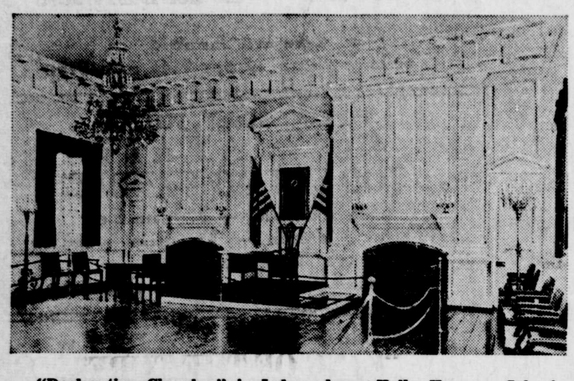
As Independence hall and its two sister structures stand as the symbol of our ideal of freedom, so the American Philosophical Society building, which shares with them the famous square, represents the beginning of our national progress in science and its material developments.

For here David Rittenhouse, America's first astronomer, gave to the world the results of his studies. Here Benjamin Franklin thrilled his notable audiences—and Europe as well—with his reports on electricity. Here Benjamin West, the artist; John Bartram, the botanist; Benjamin Rush, the physician and chemist, quickened the spread of learning.

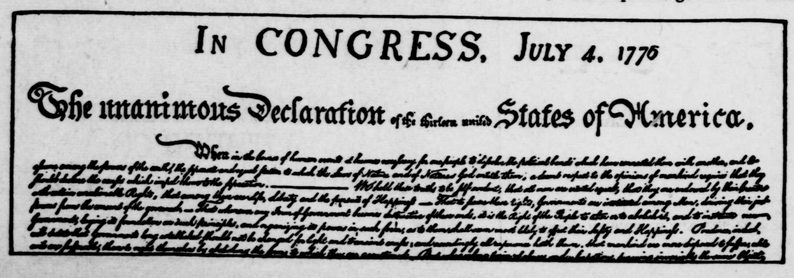
Here 15 signers of the Declaration, and 18 delegates to the Constitutional convention—including Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Adams and Madison—sat as officers or members of the Philosophical society.

Here were established the first scientific society, the first important museum, the first notable collection of manuscripts and historic relics in the United States. Here, in our earliest days, was created a world-wide respect for American science and learning.

Here it was demonstrated that free government and high human development go hand in hand.



"Declaration Chamber" in Independence Hall. Here on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence and on June 14, 1777, the first American flag, were adopted.



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

Liberty Bell Ever Has Been 'Voice of Freedom And Herald of Victory'

Among all the historic relics in Independence square none today fans the fires of patriotism, none touches the hearts of visitors, like the Liberty bell. In its presence they stand enthralled, like devotees at a shrine. There they seem to hear again the announcements of great deeds and the tributes to dauntless men that it tolled through almost two centuries of our early history.

Independence hall was the "Cradle of Freedom." The Liberty bell was "Freedom's Voice and Herald."

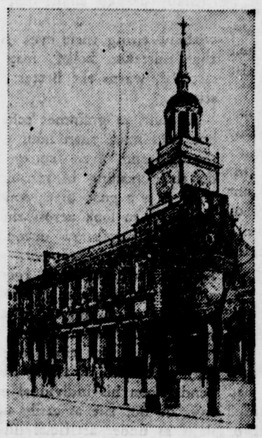
Throughout our colonial and Revolutionary history, it gave the call that convened the provincial assemblies which battled for the people's rights; it sounded the summons that brought citizens to Independence square for their meetings of public protest and action.

Boldly that eloquent tongue proclaimed the early protests against the Sugar and Stamp acts in 1764 and 1765, the town meeting which forbade the landing of tea in 1773, the closing of the Port of Boston in 1774, the first hostilities of the Revolution in 1775, and the opening of the Second Continental congress.

And then, in July, 1776, it rang the great message foretold in its prophetic inscription—familiar to all Americans today:

"Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof."

But its labors in the struggle for freedom were not ended. Throughout the Revolution—except for the brief period when Philadelphia and Independence square were held by the enemy—the Liberty bell remained a herald of victory. On each July 4 it commemorated the anniversary of the Declaration; in October, 1781, it announced the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown; in April, 1783, it proclaimed the treaty of peace and the ultimate triumph of that great principle of liberty to which a new people had dedicated their nation.



Independence Hall.

And in 1788 it announced the birth of our republic, as it rang to celebrate the ratification of the United States Constitution, with its inspiring assurance that "We, the people" should govern.

The Liberty bell still served the nation long after the capital had moved from Philadelphia to Washington. From its high tower in Independence hall, it continued to herald both glad news and tragedy. Through many years it pealed on Independence day to celebrate the Declaration, and on February 22 to honor Washington's birthday. In 1824, it sang a welcome to Lafayette, then re-visiting the nation for which in youth he had fought. And in sadder tones it mourned, one by one, the deaths of the Signers as the years took their inexorable toll.

Then on July 8 of 1835, it sounded its final note. On that day the Liberty bell cracked while intoning a funeral dirge for Chief Justice Marshall, early and most notable interpreter of the Constitution.

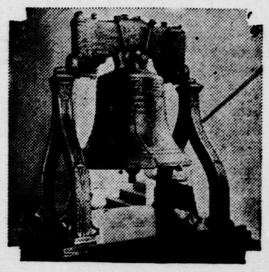
Now mute, but still glorious, the bell is preserved, for all to see, in the main corridor of Independence hall, overlooking the famous square. And its message remains unchanged. Still in eloquent symbolism it continues to proclaim liberty throughout the land and to the inhabitants thereof. Still, in July of 1939, it repeats the self-evident truths that it announced so joyously in July of 1776. Still it reminds America and humanity:

"That All Men Are Created Equal—

"That They Are Endowed by Their Creator With Certain Unalienable Rights—

"That Among These Are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness—

"That to Secure These Rights, Governments Are Instituted Among Men, Deriving Their Just Powers From the Consent of the Governed."



Photography, Not 'Star Gazing,' Is 1939 Astronomer's Method

Here is a replica of the 15-million-dollar Mt. Palomar observatory and 200-inch "sky mirror," largest in the world. The replica is one-twenty-fourth the size of the original dome, which is 14 stories high. Every movement and function of the observatory is reproduced faithfully. Samuel Orkin, who constructed the replica at Pasadena, Calif., is shown examining it.

Huge Glass Eyes Peer Into Space, Solving New Riddles.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

The "eyes of the world," the great telescopes that peer out from the turning earth to explore the far reaches of the universe, are increased by one more in the new 82-inch mirror of McDonald observatory on Mount Locke in the Davis mountains of western Texas.

The completion of this giant "eye," which can photograph stars only a millionth as bright as any that can be seen by the unaided human eye, brings to a total of at least 40 the number of telescopes of two feet in diameter or more now in use in the world.

The McDonald observatory telescope is the second largest in the world in actual use at present, being exceeded only by the 100-inch telescope at Mount Wilson observatory, Pasadena, Calif. Both, however, are being surpassed by the 200-inch telescope set up on Mount Palomar, Calif., under joint auspices of California Institute of Technology and Mount Wilson observatory. The McDonald observatory is operated jointly by the Universities of Texas and Chicago.

Each Has Its Job.

The increasing size of telescopes does not mean that the various instruments will compete with one another in exploring the heavens, however, nor is a smaller telescope made out of date or useless by a larger one. There is work enough for all in probing secrets of the vast universe, and the task of exploration is divided among the various instruments.

Astronomers nowadays seldom "look through" their large telescopes. They do most of their exploring of the heavens by photographing sections of the sky. The great telescopes of modern times are primarily giant cameras. Their huge mirrors or lenses act as funnels for light, making it possible to concentrate a large quantity of star light in one spot.

By exposing a sensitive plate for several hours, or even for several nights, to light concentrated by a telescope, an astronomer can photograph stars and galaxies of stars so distant that he could never see them with his own eyes through the same telescope if he looked a lifetime. This is because the effect of light on a photographic emulsion is cumulative, which is not true of the human eye.

Photographic Processes Improved.

The "seeing" ability of telescopes grows greater also as photographic emulsions are improved and made more sensitive. Better emulsions make the 100-inch telescope at Mount Wilson considerably more efficient today, for example, than when it was built 20 years ago, though its mirror remains the same size.

But astronomers still would know comparatively little about the universe, if they merely looked at stars and photographed them, even with the largest telescopes. The light that is concentrated by the giant mirrors and lenses is not only photographed directly, but is also broken up into its spectrum of different wave-lengths. By analyzing the spectrum of a star, astronomers in many cases can learn an amazing number of things about it—its distance, mass, brightness, temperature, size, speed of rotation, and even sometimes the approximate number of atoms it contains.

Larger Telescopes Are Reflectors.

Most of the larger telescopes in use today are reflectors, that is, they have huge mirrors which gather star light. The light is then reflected and concentrated at a given point, or focus, where the image is photographed, or sometimes observed by the astronomer visually. The other type is the refracting telescope, in which star light is gathered and concentrated by a series of lenses, but such lenses are difficult to make beyond a certain size. The diameter of the lenses of the largest refracting telescope in the world, at Yerkes observatory, Williams Bay, Wis., is 40 inches, whereas the diameter of the mirror installed in the Mount Palomar telescope is five times as great.

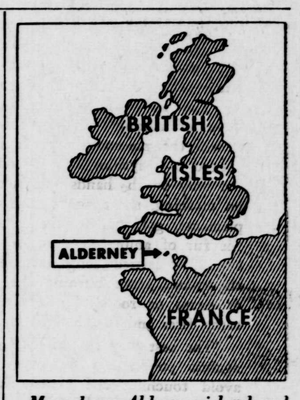
Despite their great bulk, telescopes must and do have a high degree of precision. The mirror of the McDonald observatory telescope weighs nearly three tons, yet its curved surface has been ground and polished to an accuracy of one-millionth of an inch. The telescope and its mounting weighs 75 tons, yet it is so perfectly balanced that it is moved by a motor of one-third horsepower and can be adjusted to a hair's breadth.

Britain Mans Old Fortress On Alderney

'Second Gibraltar' Lies In Mid-Channel, Nearer France.

Prepared by National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.—WNU Service.

Already tagged as a "second Gibraltar" is Alderney, of the English channel islands, as reports from London indicate that plans are under way to fortify this little island which is closer to the coast of France than to the coast of England.



Map shows Alderney island and its strategic position in the English channel.

Sixty miles from England at its nearest point, less than ten miles from the Normandy shore, Alderney was once described by Napoleon as "England's shield." During the Napoleonic wars and after, it was heavily and expensively militarized by the British, who also launched considerable construction on a great breakwater that was to make the isle's principal harbor safe for the British fleet. This haven is on the north coast facing England.

A Rock-bound Coast.

Only about three and a half miles long and with an average of one mile in width, Alderney is something of a natural fortress in itself. With high precipitous cliffs on its south and west coasts, it looms in many spots from 100 to 200 feet above foaming seas below.

Rocks surrounding the island make navigation extremely hazardous on all but the northeast side. Between Alderney and the French mainland is a dangerous strait known as the Race, where currents and wind combine, in bad weather, to churn the waters into wild, breaking seas. On the other side of the island, some seven miles west, is the still greater hazard of the Casquet rocks on which many a ship has gone down. Swinburne, the English poet, once wrote a poem called "Les Casquettes," which described a storm battering at the rocks and mentioned a girl, who, it is claimed, actually did live there.

Fortresses Still Usable.

Adding to the grim look of the island are the old forts and military works, most of which have long been dismantled. Fort Albert east of the Harbor, Fort Tourgis on a northwestern shoulder of the island, and Fort Essex on the southeastern side, are still good, however, for barracks. The latter, named for Queen Elizabeth's favorite, the Earl of Essex, was turned into a military hospital, with facilities of wards, dispensary, and kitchen.

Toward the interior, Alderney's fertile plateau displays a more inviting aspect. Almost in the center of the island is located the only town, St. Anne, with its well-paved streets, postal telegraph office, hotels, and shops.