



**THE LINCOLN COUNTY NEWS and CARRIZOZO OUTLOOK**  
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**L. Kinnard, Editor and Publisher**

Government is not intended to apply to just a few individuals—each and everyone of us is entitled to representation by the men we elect to serve our interests.

The grave problem of public confidence that faces the American press today is not a new responsibility to newspaper editors. It has always been the responsibility of the press to give the people the facts—straight.

A free press is the watchdog of democracy and needs to retain that freedom by retaining public confidence. How? By telling the public the facts straight and clear. That is the greatest contribution newspapers can make today in the beleaguered cause of human freedom and democracy.

Carrizozo has, in our opinion, a problem in its present power situation. It has other problems too, but let's take one problem at a time. We feel confident Highway 54 will be completed in the near future. A major highway through here will bring in tourists, and, undoubtedly, some new business places. The public knows by this time the value of tourist business. It has received plenty of publicity. The News-Outlook has published statistics regarding the benefit of good highways in bringing tourists into towns and thereby aiding in their prosperity and growth.

In our present power plant capable of growing with the town? Major repairs are now being completed on a "generator" at the local plant. It is not yet known what the cost will be, but it is expected to be high.

There have been other breakdowns prior to this, and there is no guarantee one won't happen again.

Council appears to believe we have a good plant. A number of local citizens have indicated a different opinion, and have complained of what they believe to be excessively high rates.

We believe it is time Carrizozo citizens and their City Council get together. You elected that group of men to serve your interests. Then let them know what those interests are by attending the next regular meeting, which is held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P. M. in City Hall.

We have no reason to doubt City Council will be eager to help you once they know your desires. That is the reason you elected them—you felt they were the ones best suited to render service to you.

The question of special meetings was brought up by this newspaper at the regular meeting of council on June 6.

We feel it is un-American to transact public business in special meetings of which the people have not been notified. There may be occasions when there is not time to notify the public, but it is customary in most places to invite to all meetings a press representative who will report to the people.

One member of council has taken us to task for our attitude and feels that newspaper people have the wrong slant on these matters, and that we are doing

**Fort Stanton**

By HELEN NASH WHITEHEAD  
 Dr. McQuigg, one of our consultants from Albuquerque's Lovelace Clinic, came down Tuesday night purposely to get to bed early and an early surgical start next morning. Instead he and Doctors Whitehead, Lithgow and Benson went into a three-hour surgical huddle and no one turned in very early.

The Louie Merrells, Mullins and Miss Barbara Howes teamed up as hosts for the regular monthly Bonita Club dance. Green and yellow streamers were used effectively as their decorative motif and as usual, a good time was had by all.

Mrs. Tom Burleson was hostess to the regular USPHS Women's Bridge Club. In addition to the hostess, guests were Mesdames Baker, Benson, Ferguson, Kusinovich, Lithgow, Merrell, Parker, Payman, Shaw, White, Whitehead, Reed, Stemmer and the Misses Reid and Maroney.

The Ed Whites' son Willett, lieutenant, U. S. N., has been ordered to sea duty for two months, which gives the grandparents an excellent opportunity to have his children and wife as house guests.

Dr. R. E. Whitehead was present at the New Mexico Heart Association's meeting at Santa Fe on June 7, where outstanding men in their field spoke. Use of anti-coagulants in heart disease was the choice of Dr. Foley from Cornell Medical Center, N. M. Congenital heart disease by Dr. Griffith of the University of California and the Use of ACTH and Cortison was the subject of Dr. Frawley, Harvard University. A dinner followed at La Fonda Hotel.

The newly installed barbecue, back of the nurses' home, is apparently going to be a popular spot this summer if the number of impromptu dinners is any indication.

The Misses Holik and McCollum returned from their vacation looking rested and pert. Mrs. Louie Merrell will preside on the newly elected president of the Captain Woman's Club on June 16 at 8 P. M. for the first time. Dr. and Mrs. Whitehead have been asked to show some of their numerous color slides during the entertainment.

Jean Sanchez, who is visiting her family during her two weeks vacation from Hotel Dieu School, of Nursing in El Paso, played the organ for Sunday mass at the Sacred Heart Chapel.

Mrs. Percy Parker was sorry to have her mother, Mrs. Eddie Keeney; her sister, Mrs. Inez

neither the town nor our paper any good by printing the report we made of last week's council meeting; that we are agitating matters. He was offered the columns of this paper free of charge for any statement he might wish to make, but declined the offer.

We are ready and willing to make the same offer to any and all members of Carrizozo City Council, so long as their statements conform with postal regulations governing printed matter sent through the mails.

City Council is empowered to call special meetings, but they have also a moral obligation to notify the people of any pending public business which may concern their welfare.

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Garrity, and her youngsters leave for Los Angeles after an all too short visit.

Nancy Payman was hospitalized during the week with a sore throat and infected ear, but is on the mend and home again.

There was a large turnout Sunday at the Chapel of Our Redeemer to hear Bishop Stoney, who, with Mrs. Stoney, are visiting most of the diocese including Glencoe and Ruidoso.

A belated wedding reception was given at the Nurses Home Sunday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pettigrew. Mrs. Pettigrew was formerly Miss Macdonald. An excellent punch and a cake, too pretty to cut, were served. A chest of silver, the Mr. Pettigrew's gift, didn't arrive for the occasion, but two days later. Miss Page unwrapped the box and put it in the surgery for Mrs. Pettigrew to find.

A note of sadness struck the Fort when Mrs. Ray Baker received news of the sudden death of her father, who suffered a heart attack and died on the enroute car on which he was riding. The Bakers left as soon as possible to make formal arrangements. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Mrs. Baker in her bereavement.

Lawson D. Fish, commander of VFW Post in Captain and medical technician at Fort Stanton, was present at the recent state VFW convention held in Albuquerque. Jim Thompson, who was also a delegate, and Ethel went along. Jimmy Thompson won first prize at the American Legion on Friday night in Captain.

Frank E. Smith returned from Key West a little cozier than expected due to a flareup of a chronic hip ailment and plans to continue his column when released from hospital.

The Bensions had an addition to their family—a boy—late Saturday or early Sunday. They are due to leave the Fort about July 1 to take up a residency.

Perry Zamora will be in charge of the "Lab" while Fish is vacationing. In addition to business, he will cover Georgia, Alabama and other southern states before returning here.

A delightful candlelight dinner honoring Mr. and Mrs. Boyd on their twenty-fifth anniversary was given at the Bonita Club. It's been three years since such an occasion took place. Actually this is a fine old Fort Stanton tradition. The last recipient calls a meeting of the old timers together to decide on the menu and guest list, which in this case was Mrs. Howard. The Boyds had already ordered an exquisitely decorated cake, which they planned to have a few friends in to share with them, when they found out about the impending dinner, so they just

asked the dinner guests to come around the next night for cake and ice cream.

Mike Muscat is missed over at occupational therapy since he has had to go into the hospital for treatment.

Jan White is celebrating her sixth anniversary at grandmother's house—Mrs. Ed White.

The Boyds are planning a California vacation beginning this Thursday.

Friends of Congressman "Tony" Fernandez are pleased that he was returned as Democratic candidate in the primary.

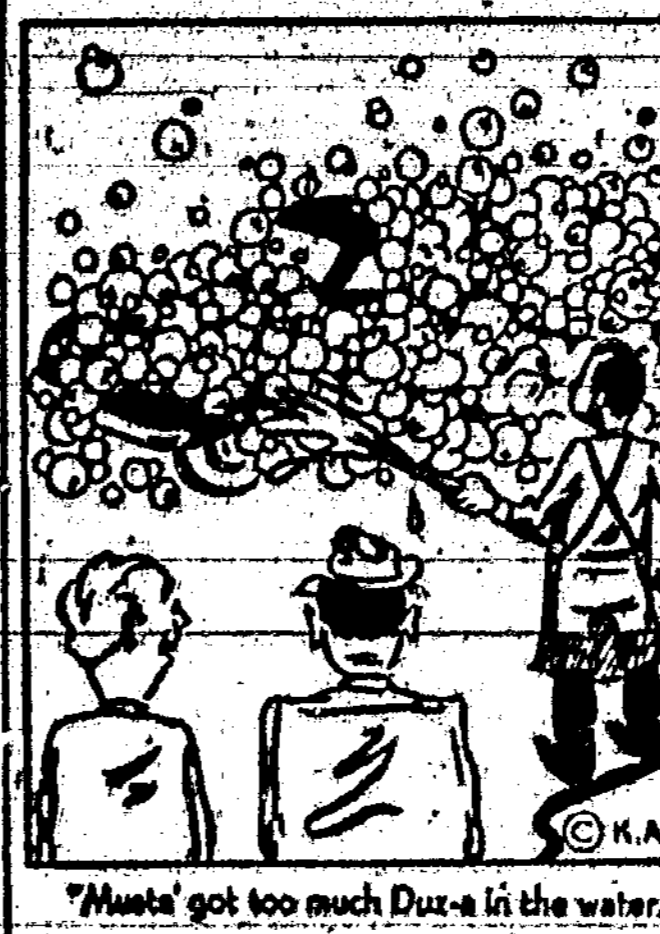
Mrs. William D. Higgenbotham and two of her three sons are here visiting Mr. Higgenbotham, one of the hill patients. The trio came from their home in Port Arthur, Texas.

Mrs. Ray Davis of Albuquerque, formerly a nurse in the Indian service, is here at the hospital for a checkup. Mrs. Davis will be remembered by many as she has had to make many trips to the hospital due to her lung condition.

Messrs. Abernathy and Hogart are here from Washington going over property and construction problems and also trying to see some of the country.

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## TB - The Invader

By HELEN NASH-WHITEHEAD

According to Mrs. O. E. Berninghaus, Taos, there are only three counties in New Mexico sufficiently staffed with public health doctors, nurses, sanitarians and clerks to meet standards recommended by the American Public Health Association. "This means," she said, "that approximately 97 per cent of our people in New Mexico lack basic public health protection, even though as a state we have done relatively well in supporting public health programs."

TB is the most important chronic fatal disease caused by a germ in the United States today. It has been estimated that approximately 5,000,000 people die of it throughout the world annually, which makes the problem the concern of every community, or it should, for no community is secure while TB is rampant elsewhere.

Recently Dr. H. Corwin Hinshaw, president of the Trudeau Society, (medical branch of the National TB Association) pointed out TB is actually displaced on the mortality lists—usually seventh, and if the tables were revised TB would occupy a more prominent position. If TB was listed in any of a number of other ways, such as groups affected, years of potential life lost, actual cost in dollars, or according to sorrow, hardship, frustration and degradation, the picture would be greatly changed and any little complacency that existed would be changed to one of urgency, such as we feel about heart disease listed as our No. 1 killer.

If the figures for heart disease were broken down, one would find that it is not one disease like TB, but a combination of a dozen or more diseases, such as arteriosclerosis and high blood pressure of the middle aged and older life; rheumatic fever heart disease of the young and infectious diseases of the heart called bacterial endocarditis and many other rare conditions. All these are usually grouped together as one disease—hearting—and compared with TB. The same is true of cancer with all its variability and the highway and house accident group. Actually when looked at from this angle, TB is higher on the list than any of us want it to be and a scourge that we must try to eliminate from our nation just as we did yellow fever.

TB is defined as a communicable disease, caused by the tubercle bacillus. Any organ in the body may become infected, but the lungs are most frequently attacked. TB is spread from the sick to the healthy in numerous ways, principally through germ laden droplets sprayed into the air by coughing or sneezing; kissing; through the common use of water glasses, dishes and other eating utensils not properly sterilized; from bed linen and through dust containing TB germs. Germs may be spit out, mix with floor or ground dust and, after drying, be carried by air currents to a person who may breathe them into his body. A child, crawling about the floor or playing on the ground, may pick up some of these germs on his fingers which eventually always get to his mouth.

Unlike most communicable disease, TB takes some time to develop and may depend on repeated or prolonged exposure. The fact that several members of a family may have TB has given rise to the belief that the disease is inherited. It is true that TB "runs in families," but contact, rather than inheritance, is the chief reason why TB often affects several members of one household. Close contacts of home life make it easy for the germs to be spread from one person to others in the family circle.

Dr. Skavlem of Cincinnati says that we know "there is marked difference in susceptibility among individuals and also in the same individuals at different times. Mortality is highest during the first year of life. After the age of 2 and 3, infections become more common, but the development is rare until a low point of mortality is reached from the ages of 10-15. The safest period of life as far as the development of TB, or death from it is concerned, is between the ages of 5 and 15. At the age of puberty, there is a sudden continuous climb in the level of morbidity, until it attains a second peak, which is reaching out further and further into the middle-life period of 35 to 50.

The resistance possessed by an individual may vary from day to day as a result of such common factors as fatigue, malnutrition and intercurrent disease. As a factor in individual resistance, Dr. Skavlem says that he would place fatigue first. How often is

TB observed in a youngster working long hours and sleeping little in order to become a nurse, to complete medical school, or to support dependents. Often associated with fatigue is undernourishment. Poor nutrition becomes a major factor in nations or groups of individuals during wars or periods of enforced enslavement or deprivation. Intercurrent infection, especially those involving the respiratory system, such as influenza, pneumonia or whooping cough, may change the level of resistance to germs lurking in the lymph glands of the body.

Mechanisms of defense are of two kinds against the invasion of TB infection possessed by the human body. First, the anatomical factors with which the individual is gifted at birth; and second, the acquired factors which the individual develops as a result of contact with the infection and which may result in immunity.

In an effort to uncover unknown TB, which is estimated at half of the 500,000 active cases, 14,000,000 mass miniature chest X-rays were taken last year. This year it is hoped the number will be 16,000,000. In large metropolitan areas, mobile equipment have parked in certain congested areas to encourage people to have their chests X-rayed voluntarily. Such surveys have not only uncovered TB, but have disclosed many other unsuspected chest conditions that require medical attention. Many hospitals are X-raying new admissions as a routine procedure. During an original experiment, one New York hospital found evidence of TB in 10 per cent of admissions and pulmonary TB in 3.6 per cent.

The millennium dawned in the treatment of TB when Dr. Wakeman in 1944 reported that streptomycin inhibited the growth of the tubercle bacillus. Since then many other drugs have been tried and tested. One discovery, a blood test reported by Dr. Gardner Middlebrook of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, which is successful may prove to TB what the Wasserman test is to syphilis. Still in the experimental stage, the test is based on hemagglutination which would be more satisfactory than the present tuberculin skin test in differential diagnosis. A positive tuberculin test gives evidence of past or present TB, but not of its activity. Does this new blood test.

The research laboratories of Charles Pfizer have developed a new drug called viomycin, which is capable of appreciably suppressing the course of TB infection, according to the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Furthermore, it appears to be active against TB germs which have become resistant to streptomycin, as well as against those still sensitive to streptomycin. Still in the experimental stage also, but during its limited experiment, it has shown to be somewhat toxic. Until further studies are made on the EGG and other new research, streptomycin is still the leading antagonist against TB, although it is not an ideal drug in all respects, say some of the experts, nor can it be considered a specific cure. Strains of tubercle bacilli resistant to streptomycin develop more rapidly than sensitive strains, but another chemical para-aminosalicylic acid (PAS for short) if combined with streptomycin, delays the emergence of resistant strains.

The National TB Association

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was formed in 1904 while two other organizations were fighting each other. This third group believed their goal was greater than their differences and so the association was born. Each year we hear of it around Christmas through the sale of Christmas seals, which incidentally amounted to \$20,153,476.49 in 1948 which was an 8 per cent increase over 1947. The association is formed of medical and the lay, who are active all year round. Thus many communities have their own TB association and Lincoln County is anxious to have theirs. A meeting was held Wednesday, May 24, at 7:30 P. M. at the Carrizozo Grade School auditorium for this purpose. The county has approximately \$350 from past Christmas seal sales, but the funds must be kept with the state association at Santa Fe as there is no local organization to administer the funds. An organization of this kind would greatly facilitate TB work in this area and perhaps attract many grants-in-aid funds.

World War II and the atomic bomb have shown us the futility of an isolationist program. TB is a world problem and, as a nation, we are spending billions and contributing manpower to aid world recovery plans. Therefore, as a national group, we are

also obligated to combine with similar groups in Europe, South America and perhaps later in other areas.

TB is one of our most expensive diseases, both in years of life lost and in dollars. Each year an estimated 1,500,000 potential years of life are lost by those who die. The median age of persons who died of TB in 1947 was 46, as compared with 65 for cancer and 70 for heart disease. This, however, is steadily im-

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proving, as the median age 10 years ago was 39.

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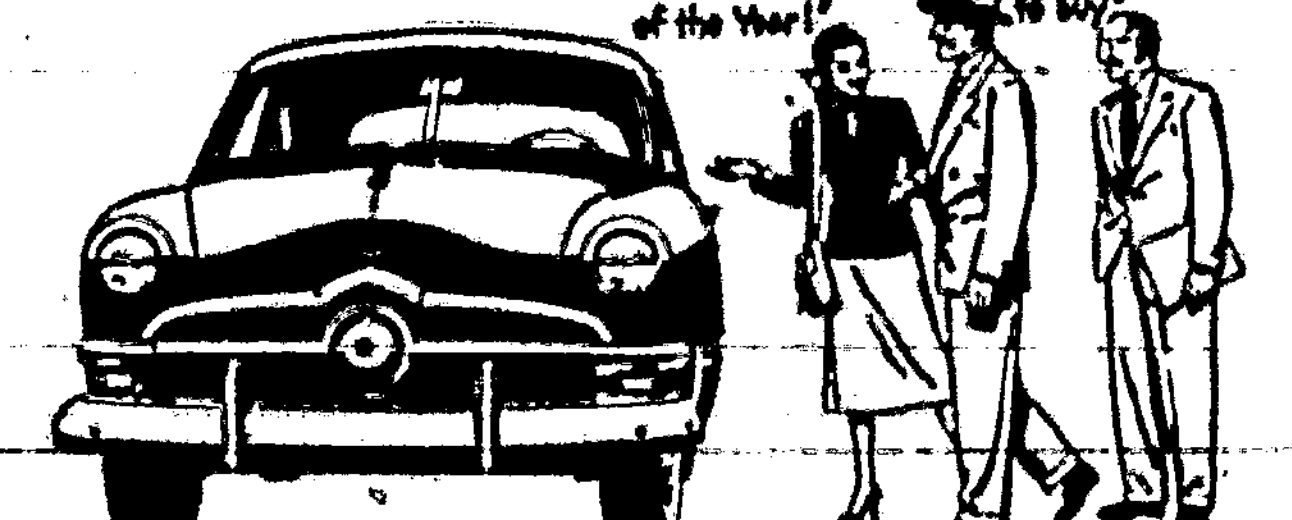
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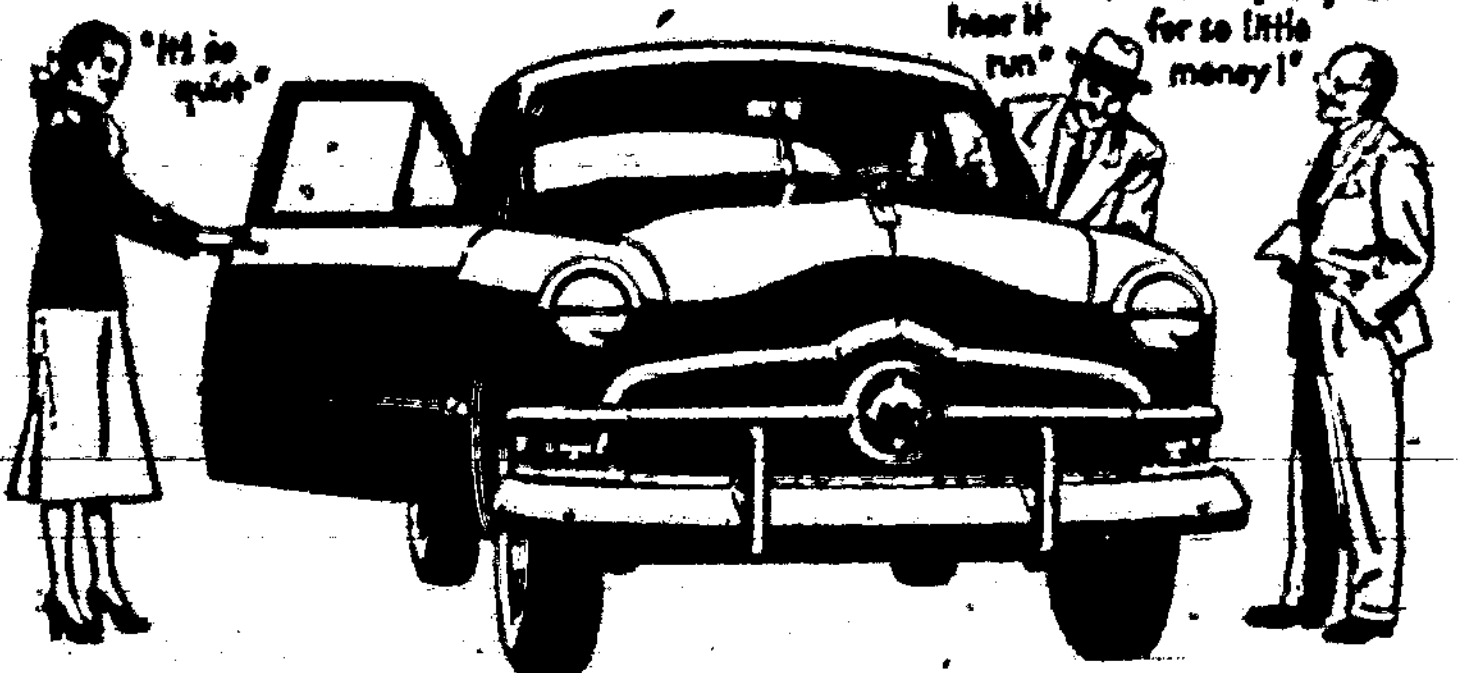
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