

newal plans. In my more nightmarish moments I wonder where those millions of board feet of lumber, those countless tons of clay for bricks, those endless bags of cement needed just for the houses of that 120 million are going to come from.

"No, we are going to have to learn to preserve what we have and build upon it.

"We must ponder long and hard before we kill existing neighborhoods. Carelessly uprooting people from a neighborhood in which they have lived a lifetime in order to replace their houses with something better may indeed provide sounder buildings and spruce up the area. But too often it scatters around the city confused and resentful people who vent their justified hostilities upon their new dwelling places and cause more slums.

"One time when families moved to public housing developments, they went voluntarily, hoping they were finally getting the break that would permit them to build themselves a new and better life. Now, too often, they go because the place they lived in previously is being torn down and public housing is all they can afford. Construction specifications of public housing units frequently are an insult to the tenants. No doors on the closets, no baseboards on the walls have become symbolic of project living. What wonder is it that projects go sour and decay from the inside out?"

These are some of the thoughts that have occurred to me and I pass them along to you in a spirit of helpfulness, in connection with your "Salute to the Arts" luncheon on Thursday, April 27 at the Mayflower Hotel.

There are some other things I had hoped to discuss such as a Presidential proclamation of National Music Week during the first week of May each year; and having the President extend the benefits of civil service to all the special services people in the armed services, such as librarians, and leaders and specialists (who are college trained) in music, drama, and other arts, as well as crafts who contribute to the welfare and morale of our soldier sons and daughters as well as personnel of the Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. At the present time, only half of these trained specialists are protected by civil service.

[From the Baltimore American, Sunday, May 7, 1961]

WASHINGTON WONDERLAND—MUSICAL CONGRESSMAN ATTACKS CORNER ON ARTS

(By Ruth Montgomery, Hearst Headline Service)

WASHINGTON, May 6.—All heck has broken loose in the fine arts division of the Kennedy administration.

A Republican Congressman who was singing in opera before First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy was born has dared to challenge the New Frontier's corner on "the arts."

Representative Carroll Kearns, of Pennsylvania, the only legislator who holds an honorary doctor of music degree, has stirred up such a hornet's nest that he has Democrats fighting with each other, and the National Symphony Orchestra shrieking like a wounded banshee, while he and Jackie write flattering les belles lettres to each other.

Meanwhile, Kearns' staffers are gleefully insinuating that the wife of Democratic Representative Richard Bolling, of Missouri, swiped Kearns' idea for a Committee of the Arts to win herself a prize at the recent "Salute to the Arts" luncheon at the Woman's National Democratic Club.

The cauldron began to bubble last February when Kearns wrote to Mrs. Kennedy, suggesting that she and ex-prexy Ike serve as cochairmen of a National Committee for the Arts. If fine arts are to be advanced as they should, he added, such a committee must be created to work for passage of legislation already introduced by Eisenhower and the new administration.

Jackie replied virtually by return mail, with a gracious letter thanking him for his "stimulating" suggestions. She said that "both the President and I are interested" in his proposals, and that after studying his ideas further she will be in touch with him.

Kearns, bitten by the bug of helpfulness, next wrote a lengthy letter to Mrs. Bolling. Noting that she was staging a "Salute to the Arts" luncheon for Democratic ladies, he broke the news that the Kennedy administration did not discover the arts.

President Eisenhower, he pointed out, is the father of the National Cultural Center Act, and also of the International Cultural Exchange.