

# CLICK

THE NATIONAL PICTURE MONTHLY

August, 1943  
p. 20

## Inside Washington's Exclusive Press Club

Tomorrow's News Is Gathered,  
Discussed and Often Written in This  
Famous Newsmen's Rendezvous



### HOT NEWS BURNS THE WIRES OF THE PRESS CLUB TELEPHONES NIGHT AND DAY

**T**he National Press Club, located in Washington, D. C., started in 1908—with only 40 members. Today more than 2,500 newspaper men and their associates belong to this highly interesting—and exclusive—organization. There is no question but that this club has had the most distinguished membership of any such organization in the United States—perhaps the world. Every president of this country, beginning with Theodore Roosevelt, has been a member. Numerous senators dine regularly in the Press Club restaurant and once, during prohibition, Edward Windsor, who was at that time Prince of Wales, managed to get some forbidden Scotch from obliging members.

In this bar, as well as in the lounge, the dining room, the library, and pool room, you will find columnists and senators, magazine writers and government officials. But mostly you will find Washington correspondents from all the states and from many foreign countries. It is here that you pick up a remark which may lead to a big story—here that a man with a story comes to meet a man who can write it and get it printed.

The club has two functions: it provides working facilities and offers a congenial social life. On the working side, it supplies a news ticker service, a typewriter room, an excellent research library and a battery of telephones. On the social side there are pool rooms, a card room where a man can always find a poker game, a good dining room—and the bar.

There is nothing like the National Press Club in the world. Into it comes the information of the hour; out of it goes the news of the world.

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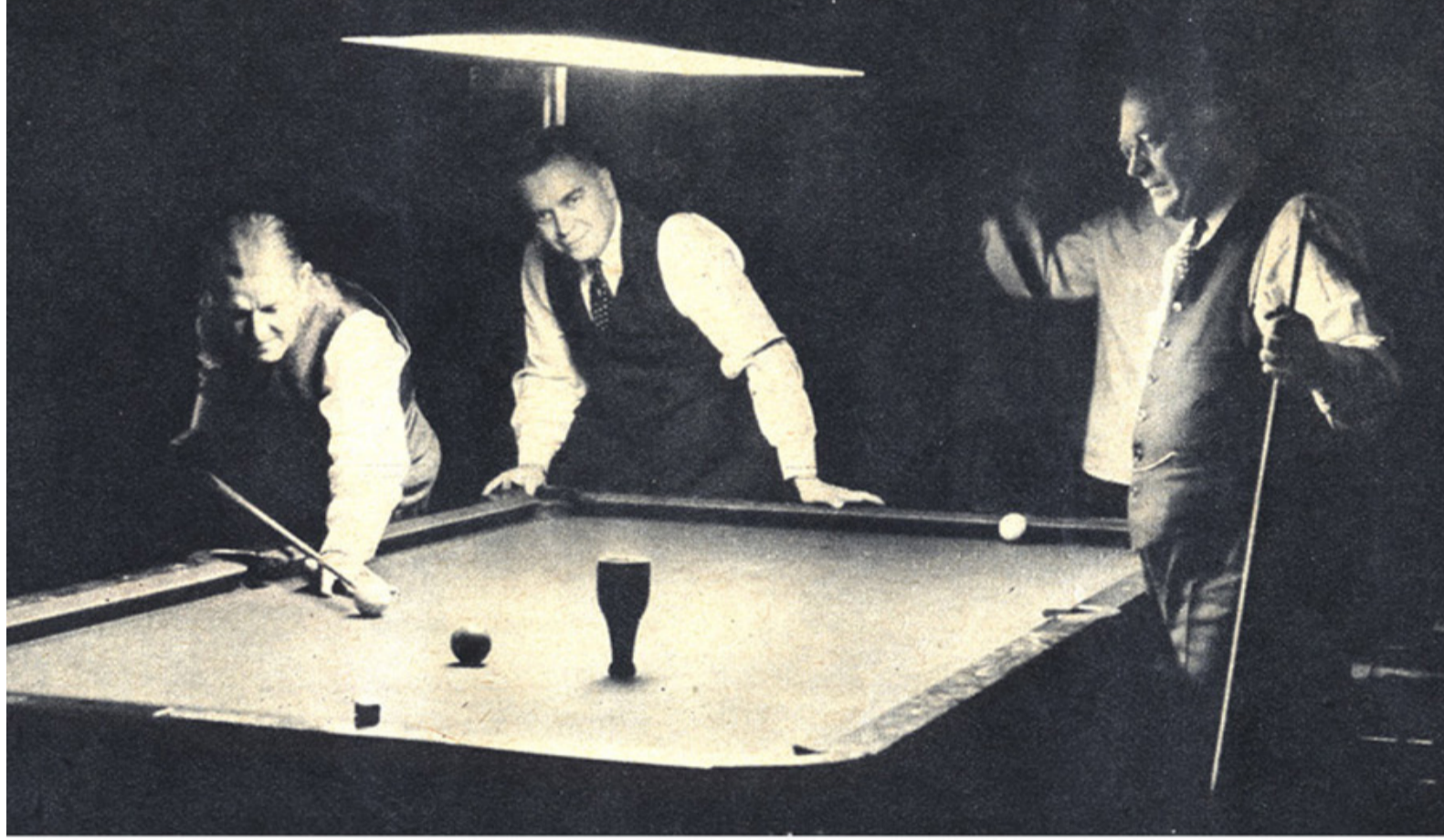
## Newsmen's Rendezvous



**THE ENTRANCE** to the Press Club has a switchboard so that the operator on duty can note who goes in and out. He also handles personal calls for busy newspapermen. The assistant manager (taking the mail out of a box) usually stands by the entrance to keep non-members from crashing the club rooms.



**TALKING SHOP** in bar: Lt. Comdr. Osgood Roberts (left): Paul Wooton, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*; Paul Ramsey, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, now a foreign correspondent in London; Major George Durno, who went with Roosevelt to Africa; W. C. Murphy, Jr., *Philadelphia Inquirer*; Lt. Col. Harold B. Hinton.



**THE POOL ROOM** is usually occupied far into the night. The game played here is "bottle pool"—billiards and pool with the bottle placed on the table as an obstacle. There are not many youngsters left around the club these days; more than 25 per cent of the active membership is with the armed forces.



**TYPICAL OF THE CORRESPONDENTS** who use the Press Club for both business and pleasure is Lorenzo Martin of the *Louisville Times* (Louisville, Ky.). Martin is shown in his office on the twelfth floor of the Press Building. Like many correspondents, he enjoys club facilities without leaving the building.

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## Newsmen's Rendezvous



**IT IS NOT UNUSUAL** to find Senators in the diningroom with newspapermen friends. When a columnist recently asked a waiter, "Is this the best steak you have?" the waiter replied, "Boss, that's the only steak!" Above, columnist Ray Tucker is shown dining with Senator John H. Danaher (Rep., Conn.).



**PRESS CLUB CANTEEN SUPPLIES ENTERTAINMENT BEER TO 600 SOLDIERS AND SAILORS EVERY SATURDAY. BELOW, CYNDA GLEN FROM THE TROIKA LEADS THE SINGING**



**MANY CLUB MEMBERS** use the typewriter room on the mezzanine floor of the club. For some newspaper men the club serves as an office. All their phone calls come there. Maintaining regular office hours, they write their copy, eat their meals and occasionally catch up on lost sleep on a couch in the library.

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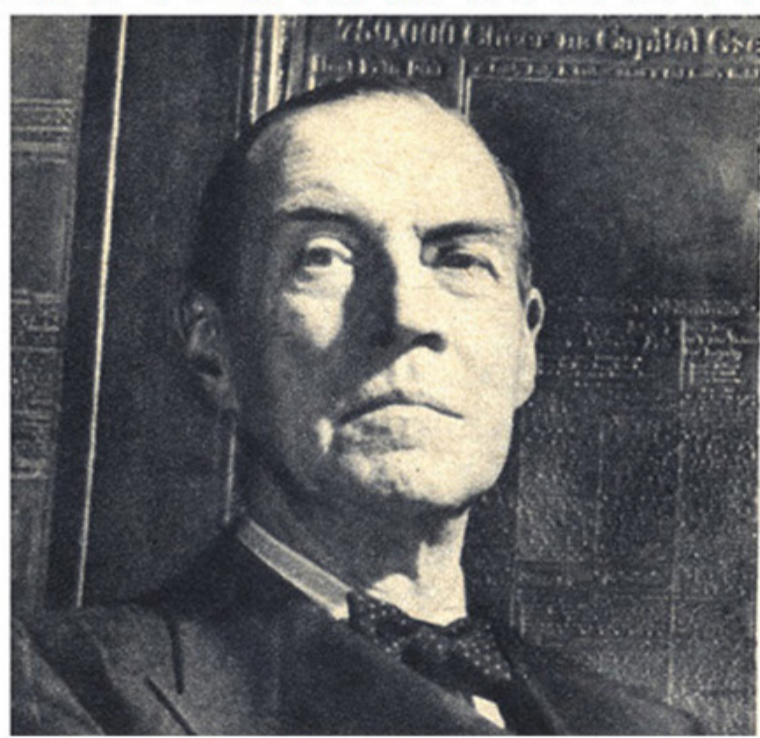


**WOMEN GUESTS OF THE PRESS CLUB** include Lee Carson, who is a feature writer for International News Service and her luncheon companion, Mary Hornaday, the chairman of Mrs. Roosevelt's frequent press conferences.



**PRESS RELEASES** from private and government sources are available to club members. They are placed daily on a table near the entrance. Most of the newspapermen ignore them because they prefer to dig up their own stories.

## **INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS**



**SIR WILLMOTT H. LEWIS**  
**LONDON TIMES**



**LAURENCE TODD**  
**TASS, U.S.S.R. NEWS**



**DAVID LU**  
**NEWS AGENCY, CHINA**



**ROBERT T. ELSON**  
**OTTAWA CITIZEN**