

## Some Of Texas Barbecues Are Not So Rugged

By MERRIMAN SMITH  
UPI White House Reporter  
JOHNSON CITY, Tex. (UPI)

—Backstairs at the Texas White House:

Some of the rootin' tootin' Texas barbecues are not quite as rugged as they appear.

Take the barbecue given last Sunday by President Johnson at Stonewall, Tex., for West German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard. The big slabs of beef which dripped so succently over charcoal fires outside the school gymnasium where the party was held actually were pre-cooked at a commercial plant

which specializes in this sort of thing.

The barbecue cooks, colorful in their Levi's, checkered shirts, broad-rimmed hats and boots, said the meat was "about 65 per cent cooked at the plant" and then quick-frozen. On the morning of the barbecue, the meat was trucked to the site of the party and placed over the charcoal.

"By the time we get the meat warmed up, the other 35 per cent of the cooking is done," a

cook said.

There was nothing pre-cooked or frozen, however, about the big spareribs barbecue'd on the Johnson ranch for about 200 guests last week. The LBJ ranch spareribs were cooked over wood fires and the slow process took from early morning until almost four o'clock in the afternoon.

The brand on the President's cattle is "JO" and in addition, his registered Herefords carry

serial numbers tattooed in their ears, as well as on their horns. When Johnson first set up his herd, he wanted "J" (Bar-Jay Bar) as his brand. It turned out, however, that this brand had been registered years before by another cattleman. Whereupon Johnson borrowed the "JO" brand from an uncle.

Johnson at last Sunday's barbecue when he pulled out all stops in talking about Secretary of State Dean Rusk and White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger.

Of Rusk, the President said,

"keen, analytical, patient, kind, courteous and courageous—one of the greatest men of our time—my strong right arm."

And he applied his accolade to Salinger:

"One of the most trusted, able and loyal people working

for the government... I don't know what I would have done without him, day and night, for the last month."

End Adv for Wed PMs Jan. 1.

## Predicts Comeback In Roof-Thatching

## Dr. Wells Is Under Pressure To Enter Race

By EUGENE J. CADOU  
United Press International  
INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — This is the season for what Undersecretary of Agriculture Charles S. Murphy once described as "turbulence in the crystal ball."

Pundits, taxi drivers, television announcers and others equipped with occult powers have been telling us what we can expect in the year ahead.

At the same time, pundits, taxi drivers, television announcers and others equipped with bifocal hindsight have been explaining what happened in the just past.

Among them, they have pretty well preempted the field, but I refuse to be left out. And so, as my contribution to the year-end wave of forecasting and reviewing, I predict that roof-thatching will make a comeback in 1964.

### Thatching On Upwing

This ancient craft already is on the upwing in England. A thatched roof, which may cost as much as \$1,200, has become a sort of status symbol in the mother country.

According to the National Geographic Society, English thatchers are getting more business than they can handle. There is even a shortage of thatch.

It is only a question of time before thatching becomes fashionable in this country. And when it does, it will go a long way toward solving our economic problems.

There is, for example, the pressing matter of finding employment for workers who lose their jobs because of automation. Thatching could be the answer.

It takes a skilled thatcher upwards of two months to thatch an average sized cottage in England. He uses a mallet, knife, shears and something called a leggett which is used to beat the thatch into place.

### Spent A Year

At that rate, a thatcher would spend a year on a ranch style home in the U.S. suburbs. At least until someone invented an electronic leggett.

And what of farmers sorely beset by surplus production of corn, cotton and other crops? Let them grow thatch.

It takes some four million reeds in five-foot lengths to cover a cottage roof. Think what would be needed for a thatched roof split level!

It is true that America is a backward nation as far as the art of thatching is concerned, but that handicap can be overcome.

### Casually Right Printed Pattern



Welsh is sure to receive visits from many of the hopefuls within the next few days. Nearly all agree that if Welsh can't nominate his successor candidate because this is the last year of his regime, he can almost veto the chances of any aspirant.

There likewise may be meetings with such gubernatorial confidantes as John Hurt, Indianapolis and Martinsville attorney; Richard Martin, Welsh's publicity head, and Jack New, his executive secretary.

The governor announced some time ago that he will proclaim his choice for the nomination and will expect state workers to go along with him.



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by Marian Martin

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