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## Newsmen, Composers Honored at 'Pan' Alley

The political quips flew amok last night among some 1200 guests at the White House Correspondents Association dinner which honored President Johnson with its annual gay get-together in the Sheraton-Park Hotel.

The organization's 50th anniversary coincided ceremonially with the same milestone of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers as a generous country's top stage folks mingled with members of the President's Cabinet and other Federal bigwigs.

As might have been expected, it was beagle night from the gag-writers' standpoint and librettist Abe Burrows who emceed the show addressed his black-tie audience as "Friends, Romans and Beagles."

Advised by the man who introduced him that his remarks would be considered on the record, President Johnson addressed himself only briefly to an appraisal of his first six months in office.

"I've personally lived a lifetime in the last six months," he said. "I want it to be said that we were good stewards for the time we held (the office)."

He said he had been "strengthened and sustained" in his efforts to be a good President "by the prayers of the people."

The President followed his remarks by raising a glass in congratulatory toast to ASCAP and the Association on their birthdays.

In the same vein, the Association's incoming president, Allen L. Otten, of the Wall Street Journal, attributed to his dinner partner, President

Johnson, the explanation that he had lifted up that celebrated beagle by its ears "because it had no lapels."

The likes of Duke Ellington, Burrows and Harold Arlen provided vocal renditions of their own hit tunes, and the Association honored the President and several of its veteran members with gifts.

President Johnson received a pair of Sam Houston spurs fashioned by William de Mateo, silversmith at Colonial Williamsburg, Va. Alice B. Galt got a diamond wristwatch for her three decades of service with the Association.

David Lawrence, of the U.S. News and World Report, received a pair of gold cufflinks as the Association's only surviving charter member. William H. Knighton, of the Baltimore Sun and Edward T. Folliard, of The

Washington Post (whose birthday it was) were honored for their long Association memberships. Knighton got a silver cigarette case and Folliard was given an electric wristwatch.

In addition to Otten, who succeeded Merriman Smith of United Press International as Association president, other officers elected were:

Robert E. Thompson, of the Los Angeles Times, vice president; Carroll Kilpatrick, of The Washington Post, Frank Holeman, of the New York Daily News and Frank Cor-

mier, of the Associated Press, members of the executive committee.

Garnett D. Horner, of the Washington Star, was re-elected secretary and Edgar A. Poe, of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, was named to succeed himself as treasurer.