



VOICE OF AMERICA

U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY
WASHINGTON 20547

6/10/76

John Stockmyer
2611 N.E. 69th Terr.
Gladstone, Mo. 64119

Dear Mr. Stockmyer:

I thoroughly enjoyed the interview you had with Bill about your unique teaching device. The enclosed "Speaking of Youth" script, which is for your personal files, includes the story written from that interview and was made available to VOA's 37 language services.

Unfortunately, I cannot tell you how many of the services used the script. Our computer system which reports script usage on a monthly basis frequently runs several months behind and isn't very accurate.

I can say, however that the "Speaking of Youth" program has a pretty good usage record...and if past performance can be used as a yardstick, I would estimate that between 12 and 18 of our services used the "Time Machine" story. I'm sorry that I can't provide more specific information to you.

In any event, I wish you good luck with your project.

Sincerely,

Matthew Schneider

APRIL 27, 1976

CALLIOPE MAN (SCHNEIDER)
THE TIME MACHINE (WOODGATES)
THE BIG SURF (WOODGATES)

ANNCR: AND NOW, THE VOICE OF AMERICA PRESENTS SPEAKING OF YOUTH. YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FACE MUCH THE SAME PROBLEMS, HAVE MUCH THE SAME ASPIRATIONS...BUT HOW THESE PROBLEMS ARE MET, HOW THESE ASPIRATIONS ARE ACHIEVED MAY VARY FROM NATION TO NATION. TO GIVE OUR LISTENERS SOME IDEA OF WHAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE DOING, HOW THEY ARE DEALING WITH QUESTIONS PARTICULAR TO THEMSELVES, WE NOW BRING YOU ANOTHER IN OUR SERIES SPEAKING OF YOUTH.

CALLIOPE MAN (3-3302 SCHNEIDER)

ANNCR: IN 1855 A YOUNG MAN IN THE NORTHEASTERN STATE OF VERMONT INVENTED WHAT HE CALLED THE "AMERICAN STEAM PIANO." THE DEVICE WAS INTENDED TO BE PLAYED IN CHURCHES, REPLACING BELLS AS THE TRADITIONAL WAY OF CALLING WORSHIPERS TO SERVICES. THE IDEA NEVER CAUGHT ON, SO THE INVENTOR INSTALLED HIS CONTRAPTION ON AN EXCURSION BOAT THAT STEAMED AROUND MANHATTAN ISLAND IN NEW YORK. THE RAUCUOUS-SOUNDING INSTRUMENT, THEN CALLED A "CALLIOPE," QUICKLY ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS A POPULAR ATTRACTION AND COULD SOON BE FOUND IN CIRCUSES AND RIVER STEAMBOATS ALL OVER AMERICA. YOUTH EDITOR _____ REPORTS THAT MORE THAN 120 YEARS AFTER ITS INVENTION, ANOTHER YOUNG MAN IS REVIVING THE ART OF BUILDING STEAM CALLIOPEs.

TAPE: CUT ONE -- MUSIC-III FULL BRIEFLY, THEN FADE UNDER AND OUT BEHIND

THE TIME MACHINE (3-3302 WOODGATES)

TAPE: CUT SIX -- TIME MACHINE COUNTDOWN, IN FULL, ESTABLISH,
FADE OUT

ANNCR: THAT COUNTDOWN MARKS THE BEGINNING OF A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE, A TRIP IN A TIME MACHINE BACK TO ANCIENT HISTORY. THE MACHINE CAN TAKE ITS PASSENGER BACK TO ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME WITHOUT EVER LEAVING KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, WHERE IT WAS BUILT. SPEAKING OF YOUTH EDITOR _____ HAS MORE ON THE TIME MACHINE AND ITS PURPOSE:

EDITOR: THE TIME MACHINE WAS BUILT AT KANSAS CITY'S MAPLE WOODS COMMUNITY COLLEGE LAST YEAR. IT IS THE INVENTION OF JOHN STOCKMEYER, A HISTORY INSTRUCTOR THERE WHO FEELS THE MACHINE IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO EXCITE OTHERWISE BORED STUDENTS IN THE SUBJECT OF ANCIENT HISTORY:

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- STOCKMEYER

"THE REAL TROUBLE WITH HISTORY AS FAR AS MOST STUDENTS ARE CONCERNED IS THAT EVERYBODY IN THE PAST IS DEAD AND HAS BEEN FOR A VERY LONG TIME. SO, THE PEOPLE WHO ARE YOUNG AND LIVING JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAD MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE. WHILE EVERYTHING WE HAVE TODAY MAY HAVE BEEN BUILT ON WHAT WAS DISCOVERED IN THE PAST, THEY DON'T SEE IT THAT WAY, PARTICULARLY IF YOU'RE EIGHTEEN OR NINETEEN. YOU SORT OF HAVE THE BUILT-IN IDEA THAT THE WORLD WAS CREATED AND EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED UNTIL NOW WAS IN PREPARATION FOR YOUR BIRTH AND FOR YOUR LIFE. IF YOU CAN INVOLVE THEM AND MAKE THEM SEE THAT THOSE PEOPLE WERE ACTUALLY REAL AND HAD THE SAME EMOTIONS THAT PEOPLE DO TODAY, IT REALLY HELPS THEM TO BECOME MORE INTERESTED IN HISTORY."

EDITOR: WHAT THE STUDENTS TAKE PART IN DOES SEEM VERY REAL. THEY SEE A CRO-MAGNON MAN RIPPED APART BY WOLVES, TWO GREEK LOVERS FROM ATHENS ENDURING THE PELOPONNESIAN WAR AND THE FIRST CENTURY ROMAN POET CATULLUS RECITING SLANDEROUS LINES AGAINST CAESAR. BUT THIS TIME TRIP, SPECIAL AS IT SOUNDS,

EDITOR: IS ONLY FOR STOCKMEYER'S SPECIAL STUDENTS. NONE OF THEM
(CONT'D) IS GIVEN A TICKET FOR THE RIDE INTO THE PAST WITHOUT
EARNING IT. THE PRICE IS USUALLY A TOP SCORE ON A TEST
OR MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN GENERAL CLASS WORK. THE TRIP
LASTS ABOUT TEN MINUTES AND COVERS FACTUAL AREAS STUDIED
IN THE LECTURES AND READINGS. DONNING A WHITE LABORATORY
COAT, THE STUDENT ENTERS THE IRON TANK WHICH BECOMES
COMPLETELY DARK WHEN THE HATCH IS CLOSED. WEARING HEAD-
PHONES AND A SPECIAL MASK, HE CAN THEN HEAR AND EVEN
SMELL THE PINE FORRESTS OF ROME, THE PERFUMED GIRLS OF
GREECE OR THE SMOKEY BATTLEFIELDS OF THE PELOPONNESUS.
THE VISUAL SCENES ARE IN THREE DIMENSIONS, BROUGHT ABOUT
BY A TECHNIQUE WHICH CAME TO STOCKMEYER LATE ONE NIGHT:

TAPE: CUT EIGHT - STOCKMEYER

"IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT IF YOU LOOK THROUGH A ROLLED UP
PIECE OF PAPER OR THROUGH A TUDE OF ANY KIND WITH ONE
EYE, THAT FOR SOME REASON IT MAKES A NORMAL TWO
DIMENSIONAL IMAGE APPEAR THREE DIMENSIONAL. SO, WE
WERE ABLE, WITH A LOT OF STUDENT HELP AND WITH MONEY FROM
A GRANT, TO BUILD A TIME MACHINE. A MACHINE WHICH YOU
ENTER, THEN, LOOKING OUT THROUGH A COUPLE OF TUBES IN
ONE DIRECTION OR THE OTHER -- MUCH LIKE YOU WOULD DO IN
A SPACE CAPSULE, OR A BATHSPHERE TO EXPLORE THE OCEAN --
YOU CAN LOOK OUT AND SEE THE PAST MATERIALISING BEFORE
YOUR VERY EYES."

EDITOR: PRODUCED AND FILMED ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS, THE TIME
MACHINE HAS BEEN A LEARNING TOOL FOR OTHER MAPLE WOODS
STUDENTS....THOSE IN THE THEATER DEPARTMENT. THEY HAVE
ENJOYED FILMING, DIRECTING, COSTUMING AND DESIGNING THE
VARIOUS HISTORIC SCENES IN THE TEN MINUTE TRIP. AND IT
LOOKS LIKE THEY WILL HAVE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCH
ACTIVITIES. STOCKMEYER SAYS HE IS PLANNING TO FILM:

EDITOR: THE 1883 ERUPTION OF THE INDONESIAN VOLCANO ON KRAKATOA,
 (CONT'D) REPLETE WITH A TIDAL WAVE. WHEN HE'S FINISHED WITH THAT,
 HE WILL BEGIN FILMING THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, FOR
 WHICH HE ALREADY HAS ONE SCENE DEVISED:

TAPE: CUT NINE -- STOCKMEYER

"WE'RE GOING TO DO A MONASTERY, I THINK, WITH THE BARBARIANS BREAKING IN EVERYWHERE. I THOUGHT WE WOULD START WITH A SEQUENCE OF THE MONKS IN PRAYER, WITH CHANTING AND BELLS AND THAT TYPE OF THING, AND THEN PERHAPS A DESPERATE ROMAN SOLDIER RUSHING IN AND THEN THE BARBARIANS COMING IN AND KILLING EVERYONE. I THINK THAT'S KIND OF DRAMATIC!"

EDITOR: STOCKMEYER SAYS HE'S LOOKING FOR A BLOODY AROMA TO MAKE THAT SCENE ALL THE MORE REALISTIC FOR THOSE FUTURE STUDENTS OF HIS WHO WILL BE STUDIOUS ENOUGH TO EARN A TRIP IN TIME.

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THE BIG SURF (3-3302 WOODGATES)

ANNCR: WHENEVER SURFERS GATHER AND TALK ABOUT "THE BIG SURF," YOU PROBABLY MIGHT THINK THEY MEAN "WI-NEE-MEE" HAWAII, OR SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, OR THE AUSTRALIAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COASTS. CHANCES ARE THAT YOU WILL BE RIGHT, BUT YOU MIGHT ALSO BE WRONG...THEY COULD BE TALKING ABOUT THE BIG SURF AT TEMPE, ARIZONA, LOCATED MORE THAN 600 KILOMETERS FROM THE NEAREST OCEAN! SPEAKING OF YOUTH EDITOR _____ TELLS US WHAT KIND OF SURF IS OUT THERE:

EDITOR: THE SOUND AND SIGHT OF WAVES CURLING TOWARDS THE SHORELINE WERE NEVER KNOWN IN THE ARIZONA DESERT UNTIL ABOUT SEVEN YEARS AGO WHEN A UNIQUE LAGOON WAS BUILT WHICH FEATURES.. OF ALL THINGS...SURF. THE LAGOON COVERS ABOUT ONE HECTARE