

Musical Genius Stravinsky Dies

NEW YORK (AP) — Igor Stravinsky, called "the Einstein of musical art" and considered the foremost composer of the 20th century, died Tuesday. He was 88.

"The Greatest"
"The greatest composer of this century ... the last musical genius of the 20th century ... great enough to cast his shadow over all of 20th century music ... One of the great giants of the century."

These were among eulogies his contemporaries pronounced upon Stravinsky, following his death at his Fifth Avenue apartment. Russian Orthodox funeral services will be held here Friday, with burial later in the Russian corner of the Cemetery of San Michele in Venice.

Stravinsky had been in failing health for several years, with circulatory and

lung problems. Released from Lenox Hill hospital a week ago, his death was attributed simply to the failure of a tired and overburdened heart.

Russian-born into the realm of music June 18, 1882, Stravinsky was the son of a leading basso at the St. Petersburg opera. He studied under Rimsky-Korsakov, composer and orchestrator.

Wagner Alive
Richard Wagner was still alive, although he was to die the following year. His had been the dominant influence on 19th century music. Said Alexis Leger, French Nobel Prize winner and diplomat, in an assessment of Stravinsky:

"Europe was under the spell of Wagner. We had to be liberated, not so much from Wagner as from Wagnerism. Stravinsky appeared as a man of great

technical genius, and the mysterious instinct of the creator. We have been taking Stravinsky for granted for a long, long time. He is a giant, a great keystone and a far-reaching influence."

Erving Kolodin music critic and associate editor of the Saturday Review, said Stravinsky conceived "a world of rhythmic, sonorous and harmonic combinations which effectively bypassed almost all Wagnerian associations."

In 1908, Stravinsky wrote "Fireworks," for the marriage of Rimsky's daughter. It came to the attention of Serge Diaghilev of the Ballets Russes. He commissioned the 27-year-old Stravinsky to write the score for a ballet based upon a Russian legend.

"The Firebird"
The result in 1910 was "The Firebird," which led

Diaghilev to remark of Stravinsky: "Mark him well. He is a man on the eve of celebrity."

The following year, Stravinsky scored the ballet "Petrouchka" for Diaghilev. In 1913, came "The Rite of Spring," an innovative score which proved to be slightly ahead of its time. At its premiere in Paris, the savage primitiveness of the music caused members of the audience to fall upon one another with flailing canes, while boos and catcalls drowned out the orchestra. Stravinsky fled the theater.

However, "The Rite" won acceptance the following year as a break with the romanticism and sentimentality of the past.

Stravinsky went on to write upwards of 100 more pieces of music. His "Agon," commissioned by the New York City Ballet, premiered

on his 75th birthday. His first television core, "The Flood," was shown four days before his 80th birthday.

At the age of 79, Stravinsky went on a conducting tour of Africa. And a few months later he toured America, Israel, Russia and other countries of Europe.

The visit to Russia was Stravinsky's first since he left there in 1914. He became a citizen of France in 1934. In 1940, Stravinsky came to the United States, settling in Beverly Hills. He became an American citizen in 1945.

In the spring of 1969, Stravinsky left California with his second wife, bound for a new life in Paris. But, instead, they paused in New York and never left.

Small, at 5-feet-4, and always frail, Stravinsky nevertheless was a workhorse for most of his life.



(United Press International Cablephoto)

Premier Alexei N. Kosygin submits to the 24th Communist Party Congress Tuesday a sweeping five-year plan for raising the national living standard with more bread and clothes but not at the expense of steel and rockets.

Kosygin Promises Soviets Both Guns and Butter

MOSCOW (AP) — Premier Alexei N. Kosygin has promised the Soviet people to make their life "more prosperous, more meaningful and interesting" in the next five years by boosting the production of consumer goods more than 40 per cent.

More Defense Spending
At the same time, he declared Tuesday, defense spending must increase as well because of the "American Imperialists" and their "disgraceful, dirty, bandit war" in Indochina.

In a four-hour report to the Soviet Communist party congress on 1971-75 economic guidelines, Kosygin pointedly avoided boasting of overtaking the United States. His predecessor, Nikita S. Khrushchev, had predicted that the Soviet Union would outrun the United States economically by 1970.

"A long and stubborn struggle lies ahead" in economic competition with America, he said. Without setting a target date, he asserted he is nevertheless confident that communism will eventually defeat capitalism.

Kosygin's economic planners apparently have embarked on a campaign to satisfy the hunger of the Soviet consumer, mindful perhaps of the violent reaction to widespread poverty in Poland last winter.

The Soviet people have been the poorest-clad and worst-fed of all populations of industrialized countries.

Specific Targets
Kosygin listed a number of specific targets for improving the lot of the average man:

—Availability of meat, fish,

eggs and vegetables to increase 40-60 per cent.

—The worker's average monthly salary to jump 20-22 per cent.

—Improvement of working conditions for Soviet women. The main task of the five-year plan, he said, is to "ensure a considerable rise" in living standards.

"Never have such vast monetary and material resources been allocated for the development of agriculture and industries that manufacture goods for the population," he told the 4943 congress delegates.

House Unit Okays Benefits Boost

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Ways and Means Committee tentatively has approved automatic increases in Social Security benefits, geared to the cost of living.

Preliminary Decision
This, it was learned Tuesday, is one of the preliminary decisions made as the committee completed the outline of a welfare-social security bill on which it has been working since January. All decisions are subject to change when the committee reviews the draft bill, beginning April 20.

If the officially measured cost of living in a year increased by as much as 3 per cent, a corresponding increase would automatically apply to benefits. To pay for the system, the wage base for the payroll tax would be increased at the same time

in proportion to the national increase in average wages.

No automatic benefit increase would be effective if Congress had legislated a special increase during the preceding year.

The minimum Social Security payment, now \$70.40 a month for an individual, would be increased for persons long engaged before retirement in covered, employment. For 20 years such service, for example, the minimum would be \$100; for 30 years, \$150.

For the first time, persons retired for disability would be eligible for Medicare. The eligibility would begin after they had been on the disability rolls for two years and would not apply to their wives or other dependents. Medicare now applies to the aged only.

Belchertown Aide Jailed in Beating

NORTHAMPTON — Gerald Lovern, 22, of Pelham, a Belchertown State School employe, was sentenced to three months in jail Tuesday after he pleaded guilty to beating a patient.

Mistreatment
Lovern, an attendant at Belchertown, retracted innocent pleas and admitted charges of assault and battery and mistreatment of a patient at his trial in Northampton District Court.

He immediately began serving two concurrent three-month sentences in Hampshire County Jail.

State police arrested Lovern Feb. 22 after they received a complaint from officials at the school. He was committed to Northampton State Hospital for a mental examination after a preliminary court hearing.

Lovern was one of several attendants working the second shift in K-Building at the time of the admitted incidents the week of Feb. 15.

Apple Picker
Herbert Burrage, a supervisor at the school, testified earlier that Lovern, a former apple picker, department store employe and laborer, was given the job at Belchertown without any training in the care and handling of retarded patients.

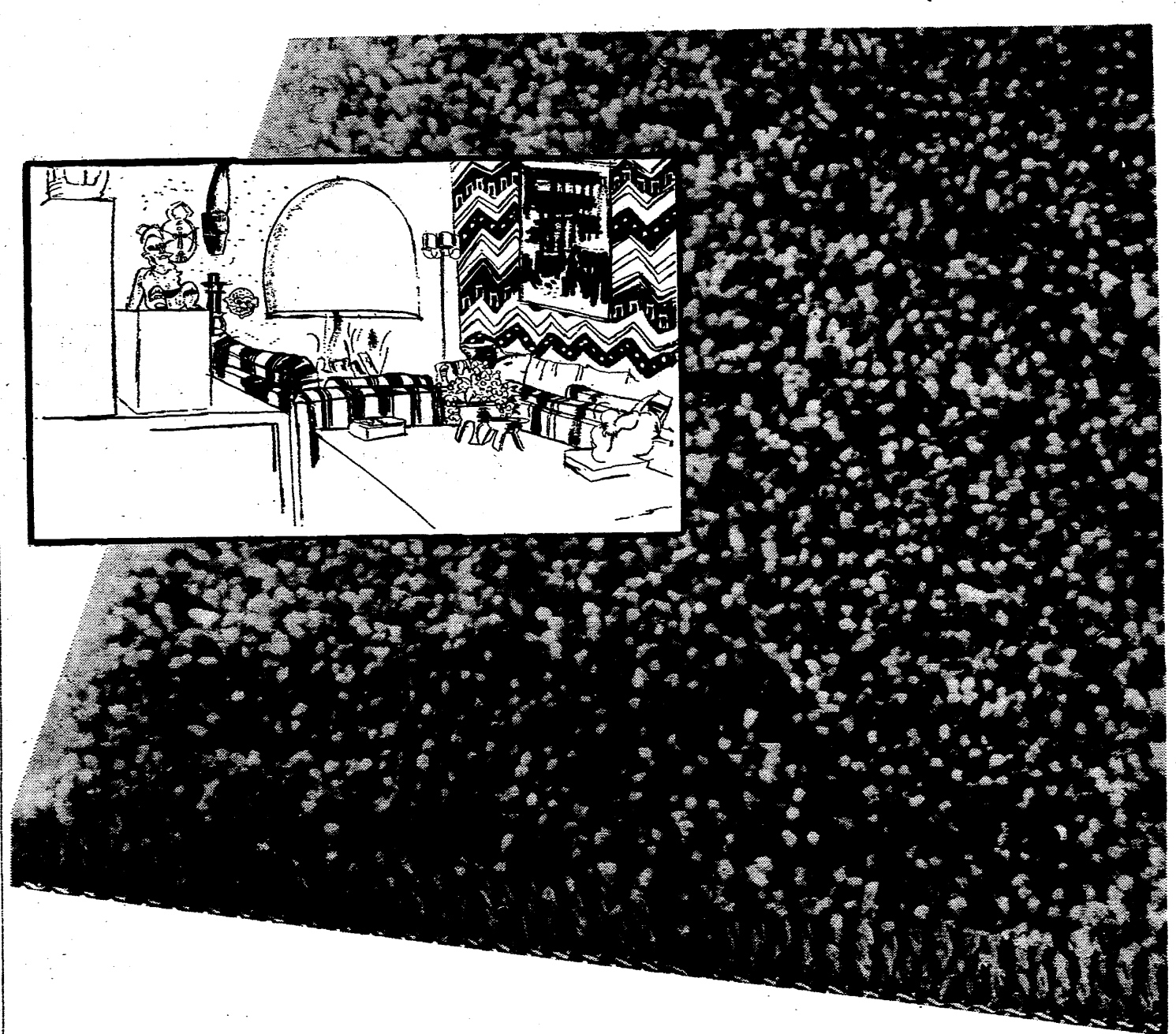
Ronald Machado of Belchertown, a co-worker of Lovern's, testified in the preliminary hearing he had seen Lovern kick a patient in the head when he did not respond to an order to get up from the floor. Machado also testified that Lovern had hit the same patient with his fist, struck another patient in the stomach, and threw lighted cigaret butts on the ward floor and watched while patients ate or smoked them.

Another attendant, David Menard of Chicopee, testified at the same time that he had seen Lovern use a wet towel to strike patients coming from showers "to show them which way to go."

On one occasion, Menard said, he shouted at Lovern "What the hell are you doing, trying to kill him?"

Both Menard and Machado said inmates needed firm direction but they said they used a strong grip on the arm to enforce instructions, rather than the "punitive approach" they said was used by Lovern.

Another witness, Trooper Edward Harrington of the Northampton state police barracks, testified that Lovern admitted to him striking patients with "an open hand" and using his feet "to guide" them, but that he did not feel he was hurting them.



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