

Talk isn't cheap when Ronald Reagan speaks

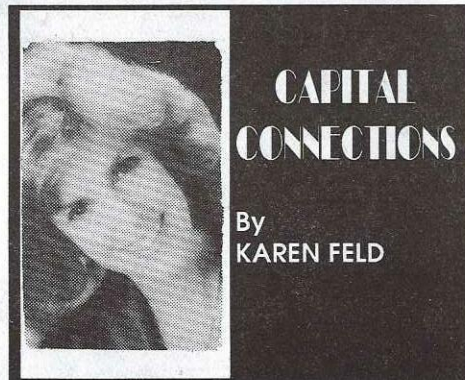
Ronald Reagan's speaking price has suddenly soared from \$50,000 to \$65,000 a pop. Usually a former president would be in greater demand immediately after leaving office. Apparently, say insiders, the Reagans are trying to discourage groups from requesting him. In a business where engagements are generally booked months or even a year or more ahead, Reagan won't make any commitments past September.

But even that hasn't deterred many takers. Of course, he and the former first lady were criticized last fall when they reportedly accepted \$2 million from a Japanese media conglomerate to give two 20-minute speeches.

Traffic was rerouted in Georgetown the other day as the made-for-TV film, "Potomac Fever," starring Barbara Eden, Heather Locklear and Dave Eliot as a U.S. senator, was shot on location. Joe Alsop's house was used as the senator's residence.

Georgetown has been the location for such films as "The Exorcist," "No Way Out," "Chances Are," "St. Elmo's Fire" and "All The President's Men," just to remind you of a few. It's become a popular film location. Unlike other film crews, the "Potomac Fever" crew didn't make a contribution to the neighborhood beautification fund. Chic residents are in a tizzy.

Lorna Luft, daughter of the legendary Judy Garland, and her



husband, Jake Hooker, are expecting their second child, a little girl, in September. Ironically, just when Lorna's popularity on the concert circuit has revived, she'll have to take maternity leave. Her sister, Liza, still commands top dollar.

There's nothing wrong with a few nips and tucks these days. Even Jack Kent Cooke, the 77-year-old owner of the Washington Redskins,

quietly had his face lifted in California this winter. The very vain gent, say friends, stayed in for weeks and conducted business as usual by telephone.

But that's not all. Cooke had a vasectomy last September, says one who knows. He's apparently not taking any more chances since his female companion is 40 years his junior. One child support battle must be enough. He and his ex-wife,

Suzanne, have been back and forth over child support payments for his 2-year-old daughter, Jacqueline.

The few remaining loyalists to D.C. Mayor Marion Barry held a breakfast to raise money for his legal defense fund, sort of a "welcome back" on his return after seven weeks of addiction treatment in West Palm Beach and South Carolina.