

CARSON-WILSON POST NEWS

VOL 13

TULSA, OKLAHOMA



FEBRUARY 4, 1949

No. 21

American Legion Auxiliary to Hold State-wide National Security Conference February 5 - 6 at Enid

The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Oklahoma, has scheduled a state-wide National Security Conference for this Saturday and Sunday in Enid, it is announced by Mrs. J. Sam Johnson, Edmond Department President.

The program will be opened with a dinner Saturday night when Dr. M. L. Wardell, of the University of Oklahoma, will be guest speaker. A dance and other entertainment is being planned by the Enid unit and post to conclude the evening. Open house will be held at the air field Sunday morning, followed by a buffet luncheon in the Legion hall at noon. The afternoon session will feature nationally known speakers.

Mrs. O. W. Hahn, Omaha, Neb., past national president of the American Legion Auxiliary and recently chief of women's affairs for the U. S. Occupation Zone in Germany, will address the conference. Other speakers include Oklahoma's representative to the

Legion Stag February 25

At the meeting Tuesday night the first, our entertainment Chairman, Bob Howe, announced that the Legion would hold another stag party on Friday, Feb. 25, 1949. If you missed the last one, you missed taking advantage of a real bargain for a dollar. Dinner-Show and other diversified entertainment—all for a dollar. This one will also be a dollar and will consist of about the same line-up. You can't go wrong for a dollar. We will give more about this later.

40 et 8 Building New Club Rooms

The 40 et 8 of the American Legion has organized a building corporation, appointed a building committee, adopted plans for new club rooms and the project is well under way.

This new club is located on the second floor, with a private street entrance at 17 East 3rd street in the Gillette building.

The building corporation consists of H. K. Nelson, president; J. B. Underwood, secretary; Otto Koenig, treasurer; Mike Saxon, Sr., trustee and Alex Faulkner, trustee.

The building committee, now in full swing, is headed by H. K. Nelson as chairman, with Mike Saxon and Leslie Spain helping wholeheartedly. The committee reports that the new club will be open about March 15 and all Legionnaires are welcome by card only.

Plan now to spend your noon hour in the new club, says H. K. Nelson as buffet luncheon will be served daily in this completely air conditioned building.

Nelson states that any one desiring to donate a little time in helping with the labor will be most welcome. Just report to 17 East 3rd street upstairs. The 40 et 8 also wishes to make known that they are selling bonds in denominations of \$5 on up to assist with the expenses.

Sanpete Barrage Post 31 of The American Legion at Manti, Utah, operates the town's volunteer fire department and hasn't lost a major building to a fire in 20 years.

START THE MUSIC

Says Mrs. Milly Carroll
Your Music Chairman

Attention Singers:

Let's get our trios and quartets organized so we can have the elimination contest in the Districts at the next convention. The Department contest will be in August probably, so we hope that each District will set up a prize for a winning trio and a winning quartet to compete against a winner from each District at the Department Convention.

The following tunes will be haunting the Districts; the contest numbers:

Trio—"I Heard a Forest Praying." Words by Sam Lewis, music by Peter de Rose. Arranged by Steckler. Published by Chapell & Co.

Quartet—"Beautiful Dreamer." Stephen Foster. Arranged by Riegger. Published by Harold Flammer.

Chorus—"Lullaby of Life." Leslie. Published by Fitzsimmons & Co.

Cash prizes may be yours for a song!

Rules of Music Contest

1. Membership of Trio or Quartet or Chorus must be members in good standing in the Unit. (Accompanist need not be member).

2. A "warm up" number will be required as well as the contest number.

3. Prizes of \$50 will be given by Department. If only Trios and Quartets enter the contest the awards will be:

\$25 to winning Trio.

\$25 to winning Quartet.

In the event we have Chorus competition also, the prizes will be:

\$20 to winning Chorus.

\$15 to winning Trio.

\$15 to winning Quartet.

4. Names of members of group winners of District contest must be sent to Department Headquarters immediately following the contest.

Turn in your name to Mrs. Milly Carroll. Call her after 6:00 p.m., at 5-1097. Let's have a winning Trio, Quartet and Chorus

Highlight of the Meeting

February 1, 1949

Tulsa has been awarded the Legion State Convention. The dates August 5, 6 and 7, 1949. Joe Herman has been appointed as General Chairman by the Commander. The State Department will function this year in all capacities of the Convention. The host city, Chairman will cooperate with the State Department.

The Auxiliary has been granted the use of the Dance Hall at the Hut, for a St. Patrick's day dance on Saturday night, March 12.

Legion 'Mag' Story Results In Dream Trip to Europe for Nashua Reporter

NASHUA, N. H.—The arrival in Nashua of the January, 1949, issue of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE created a sensational stir in the editorial offices of THE DAILY TELEGRAPH here.

A picture appearing on Page 21 of the magazine caused veteran Publisher B. E. Warren to summon his best staff writer to assign him to fly worthwith to Europe to get a story.

The picture showed Mayor Ouen of Colleville, France, displaying the front page of THE NASHUA DAILY TELEGRAPH of June 6, 1944, its D-Day special, which made local newspaper history in announcing the American invasion of the Normandy Beaches. The Colleville shot was one of 35 pictures illustrating the magazine's feature article on the "Normandy Invasion Route—As It Was, As It Is" by Art Weithas. Mayor Ouen was quoted as saying THE NASHUA TELEGRAPH tear sheet was his most prized possession. Colleville is a village, part of the Omaha Beach area where two American divisions landed.

Forty years in newspaper work have given Publisher Warren a nose for news. He told his reporter, "Go to Colleville. Find out how Mayor Ouen got the copy of the invasion issue of THE NASHUA TELEGRAPH. Why is it his most prized possession?"

The reporter is off on the dream trip. He took off by air from Boston, Mass.

Good Listening

(KVOO will carry this broadcast at 6 o'clock p.m., on Feb. 12)

From the tomb of Abraham Lincoln at Springfield, Ill., The American Legion will present a special Lincoln Day program over the coast to coast network of the National Broadcasting Company, Feb. 12. Speakers on the program will be the National Commander of The American Legion, Perry Brown; the National President of the American Legion Auxiliary, Mrs. Hubert A.

Goode, and the Governor of Illinois, Adlai E. Stevenson. Commander William G. Burns of the Illinois Department of the Legion will introduce the speakers. The program will be on the air from—

12:15 to 12:30 p.m., E.S.T.
11:15 to 11:30 a.m., C.S.T.
10:15 to 10:30 a.m., M.S.T.
9:15 to 9:30 a.m., P.S.T.

Past National Commander Jas. F. O'Neil has been appointed as chairman of the Publications Commission of The American Legion by National Commander Perry Brown.

Extra-Curricular 'Navcad' Activity



There's plenty of good, wholesome food at every "chow down" period for Naval Aviation Cadets in training at Pensacola Naval Air Station and seconds are always in order. Pensacola Naval Air Station, the "Annapolis of the Air," is the focus of the recently reactivated Naval Aviation Cadet training program, which is open to healthy, single young men between 18 and 25, with at least two years of college. Upon graduation they are commissioned ensigns in the Naval Reserve, or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps Reserve, are awarded their wings and assigned to two years' active duty.

(Official Navy Photograph)

DANCE

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Illinois Disabled Vets Get Special Auto Tags

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—Special li-
cense plates for disabled war vet-
erans who are driving especially
equipped automobiles are being
issued in 1949 by the state of Illi-
nois. The plates, according to Sec-
retary of State Edward J. Barrett,
contain the words "Disabled Vet-
eran" at the top and the license
number is preceded by the capital
letter "V." They are issued to
any veteran who has a driver's li-
cense carrying a restriction on it
which requires his vehicle to be
equipped with special attachments
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AMERICAN LEGION TO OPPOSE V.A. HOSPITAL CURTAILMENT PROGRAM

Reevaluation of the Veterans Administration hospital expansion program in the light of experience gained in the three years since the end of the war has indicated a need for changes in the program, Carl R. Gray, Jr., Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, said last week. Gray's statement was issued simultaneously with delivery of the President's budget message in which he recommended that the VA hospital program be drastically cut.

It appeared certain that the cut in hospital construction would not be effected by the Administration without strenuous opposition on the part of the major veterans' organizations and some Members of Congress. Spokesmen for the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have already warned they are ready to fight against any economies at the expense of the disabled veterans.

Study has shown that estimated needs for hospital beds made during and immediately after the war were considerably larger than actually has proven necessary, although admission policies have been such that more than two out of three patients are admitted for non-service-connected ailments, Gray said.

On the strength of develop-
ments and based on careful re-
study of 64 individual projects
not yet under contract, the Presi-
dent has ordered a reduction of
16,000 beds, including temporary
and emergency beds. To effect
this, the VA plans the cancella-
tion of 24 new hospitals and re-
duction in the size of 14 others.

None of the hospitals is beyond
the planning stage. The VA cur-
rently has 31 new hospitals in
various stages of construction.

"The new building program,"
Gray said, "will not result in a
single service-connected veteran
being denied immediate hospital-
ization."

The change in plans was made
after a careful restudy of the VA
hospital program, Gray indicated,
and even under the curtailed pro-
gram, the VA will be able to ad-
mit an even larger proportion of
non-service-connected patients
than at present.

"There are no changes contem-
plated in the present liberal pol-
icy of hospitalization," Gray de-
clared.

Reasons For Cancellation

Principal reasons for cancella-
tion of proposed construction are:
1. Inability of the VA to fully
staff its present hospitals and a
further definite shortage of pro-
fessional personnel to staff new
hospitals.
2. Estimated possible maximum

load of service-connected patients
is 51,000, leaving more than
twice as many other beds avail-
able to other veteran patients.

3. Temporary hospitals taken
over from the armed forces at the
end of the war are remaining
serviceable beyond original esti-
mates and will not need immedi-
ate replacement as had been con-
templated.

4. The delay will give the VA
a full opportunity, in the light of
experience with World War II
patients, to develop further a
program which meets the lasting
needs of all veterans. Gray point-
ed out that at present the VA has
110,433 beds in its own hospitals,
but due to lack of doctors, nurses,
technicians and other personnel,
operates only 103,533 beds with
about 93,000 patients.

Meanwhile, the VA will be left
with a building program, much
of which is not yet under con-
tract, but of which 31 projects
now are being built, which will
provide an additional 37,000 beds
in permanent construction. Some
of the new hospitals and additions
to existing hospitals will be off-
set by emergency and temporary
beds now in use which will be
closed as beds in new construc-
tion become available. Also, as
new beds become available, the
VA will be enabled to close some
of the temporary hospitals now
in use and which are operated at
a cost far in excess of costs in the
new hospitals.

Problem of Personnel

In emphasizing the problem of
staffing new hospitals, Gray
pointed out that particular atten-
tion had been given to this in car-
rying out the President's order to
reduce the over-all program. He

cited the nation-wide shortage of
physicians, dentists, nurses and
other vitally needed personnel,
declaring that the VA's recent ex-
perience had amply demonstrat-
ed the necessity of locating new
hospitals in places where such
professional resources are avail-
able.

"In accordance with the policy
of the VA, we have sought a dis-
tribution of beds that will main-
tain a constant proportion of beds
to veteran population as far as is
possible in view of the staffing
problems," Gray asserted.

The present program of hospital
expansion, he indicated, was based
on estimates of future patient
loads made immediately after the
war when no satisfactory basis for
forecasting was yet available.
Estimates were deliberately made
on the liberal side, he declared.

Estimates Too High

"In the light of more than
three years of experience since
the ends of the war," Gray said,
"it is evident that the estimates
of bed requirements were consid-
erably too high."

"To construct new hospitals
which we can not staff, and there-
fore can not put into use," Gray
added, "would be an indefensible
waste of public monies." He said
that elimination of the proposed
new beds would result in a sav-
ing of \$280,000,000.

Projects scheduled to be elim-
inated under the terms of the
President's order are:

New York, 1,000 beds; Harris-
burg, Pa., 200; Charlotte, N. C.,
500; Salisbury, N. C. 921; Ameri-
cus, Ga., 250; Chattanooga, Tenn.,
500; Gainesville, Fla., 1,000;
Greenville, S. C., 200; Memphis,

(Continued on Page 3)

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LEGION TO OPPOSE HOSPITAL CURTAILMENT

(Continued from Page 2)

Tenn., 1,000; Tallahassee, Fla., 100; Thomasville, Ga., 100; Grand Rapids, Mich., 200; Toledo, Ohio, 1,000; Decatur, Ill., 250; Duluth, Minn., 200; Norman, Okla., 750; El Paso, Texas, 500; Houston, Texas, 1,000, cancelled, with beds replaced by the VA taking over Houston U. S. Naval Hospital; Mound Bayou, Miss., 200; Tupelo, Miss., 200; Klamath Falls, Ore., 200; San Diego, Calif., 200; Columbia, S. C., 200; Detroit, Mich., 500.

Legion Serves Notice

The American Legion served notice last Thursday that the Nation's largest veterans' organization will "strenuously fight" curtailment of the Veterans Administration hospital construction program.

John H. Welsh, of Newtonville, Mass., chairman of the Legion's National Rehabilitation Commission, criticized the move as an attempt to cut Government costs at the expense of veterans and reaffirmed the Legion's stand "in behalf of adequate veterans' hospitals and beds for veterans."

The complete text of Chairman Walsh's statement, issued through the Legion's Washington headquarters, follows:

"The march of economy in Government expenditures at the expense of veterans is on again.

"The attack upon the U. S. Government's program for hospitalizing veterans, initiated three years ago, has reached its initial objective. Supported by proposals of the American Hospital Association, the recommendation of the Hoover Commission's committee on federal medical services, and an alleged plea for economy

in Government spending, the drive to drastically reduce this benefit is now officially announced.

"As chairman of the National Rehabilitation Commission, I reaffirm the American Legion's long-time stand in behalf of adequate veterans hospitals and beds for veterans.

At a time when there are 2,000,000 veterans of both World Wars being compensated for service-incurred and aggravated disabilities, when thousands of new claims are pending adjudication, and when nearly 15,000 veterans are awaiting hospital admission, we will strenuously fight curtailment of the VA hospital construction program.

Look At Record

"Much has been said against the admission policy where two out of three patients are admitted for so-called non-service-connected ailments. What do the records show? The latest VA report on veterans remaining in hospitals shows that out of 103,000 such veterans, 35,000 are listed as service-connected; 38,000 are suffering from tuberculosis, psychotic or neuropsychiatric ailments listed as non-service-connected, and 30,000 in the general medical and surgical group, most of whom are chronic cases. What is to become of them? What will be the situation 5 or 10 years hence, when some of the insidious ailments encountered in World War II take their toll in increasing numbers?

"Veterans will continue to need hospital care. Even now there are hundreds of them in private, city, county and State institutions, all of which are crowded. If the Government does not provide for the veteran through the VA, who will?

"The cause of the Nation's defenders will not be adequately served by substituting for hospitalization and other benefits, administered by a single agency, any expanded program of social security benefits or national bureau of health. The American Legion stands firm on the foundation built by Congress in establishing the VA, and in launching the veterans hospitalization program."

Lives Saved in Flood by Relief Preparedness Of Legion Post

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. — This Berkshire city of 22,000 recovering from its worst flood, today thanked the Frank R. Stiles Post 125 of The American Legion for valorous hip-boot, water-front services that kept loss of human life out of the disaster toll.

The Hoosic River, ordinarily a picturesque mountain stream, fed by records rains, suddenly went on a rampage at 1 o'clock in the morning. By 2:30 a. m., a state of emergency was declared by the Adams selectmen.

The disaster relief organization of the Frank R. Stiles Post 125 leaped into action. With water running three feet deep in the business section, walls collapsing, landslides reported, and 400 families marooned, Post Commander Ernest Rasaco led his American Legion "minute men" into the work of the rescue.

The Legionnaires commandeered nine power boats for the emergency tasks. Six of them were swamped and lost by nightfall. But refugees were saved. The American Legion clubhouse was thrown open to all the victims. Under Commander Rasaco's di-

rection, Legionnaires and townspeople filled 2,000 sand bags to hold the flood in check along store fronts on River Street.

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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE GATHERS MOMENTUM

At the end of the second week, The JET FIGHTERS and the HOT SHOTS have picked up a little steam but the drive in spots is weak on both teams. Too many GOOSE-EGGS after the members' names. Some few individuals on both teams have really taken this thing to heart and the report will show of whom I speak. Why don't some of the Goose Eggs do something about it or request the adjutant that they be dropped from the team. Cold water on a sore back won't help. We need your help and need it bad as the Commander has set his goal for 1949 at four thousand and we are just half way at this writing. There are plenty of potential members all over this town that would join the Legion if they were asked. How about your next door neighbor, or the man across the desk from you in the office. Working on this theory a member of one of the teams went out to a company and came back with ten new members and another one did the same thing with another company. So it can be done with just a little effort. **WON'T YOU PLEASE PUT FORTH JUST A LITTLE EFFORT—FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION.**

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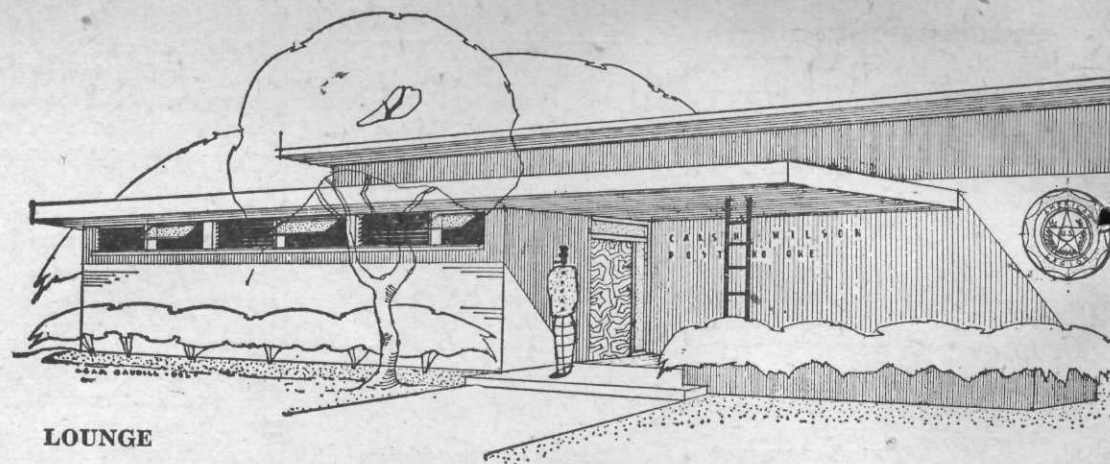
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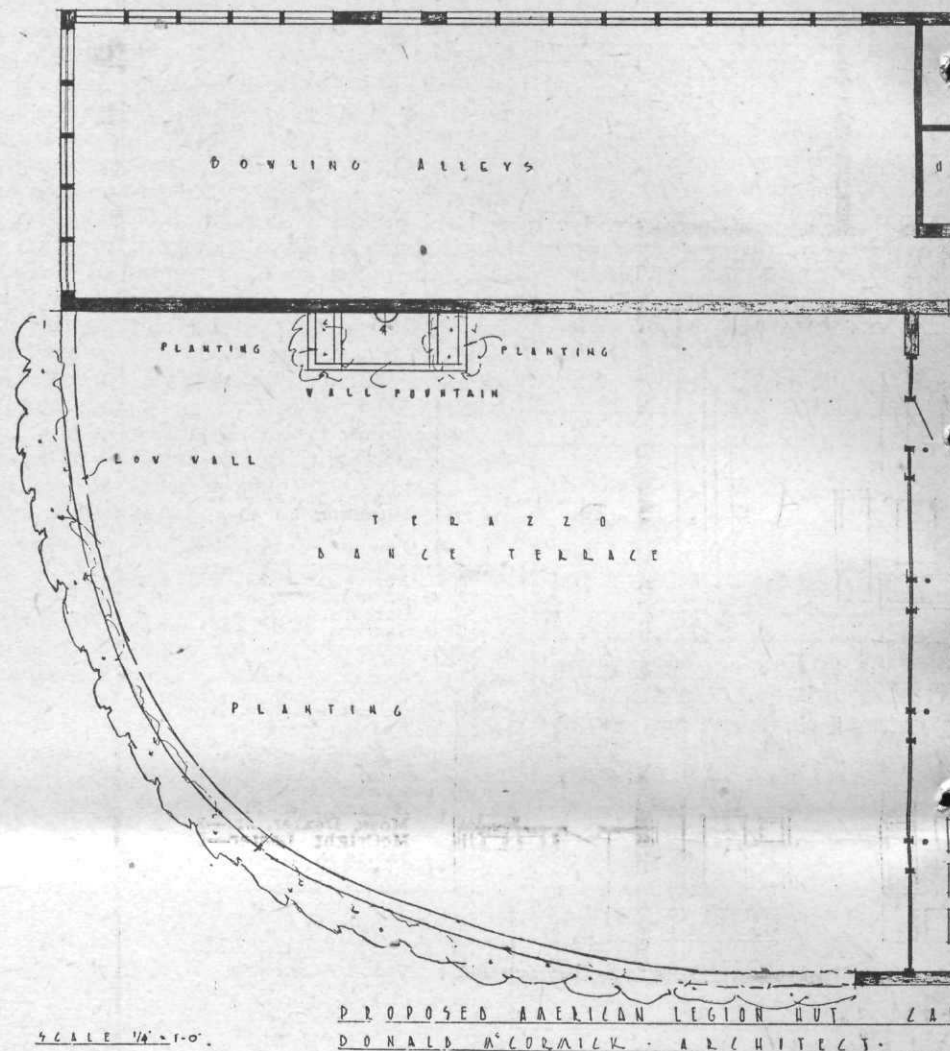
HOT SHOTS

Captain

- Ralph Harrison—44
Lt. 1. Walter Deppe—4
2. Sam Burnham—7
3. Sam Craig—0
4 Roger Lavery—10

Members

- Allred, J. B.—2
Allen, Edna—0
Aaron, William—0
Bewley, Jim—0
Brewer, E. D.—0
Barnett, C. L. R.—11
Baker, Troy—3
Bullock, Fred—4
Bohannon, Clinton J.—2
Belford, Guy, Jr.—14
Burns, L. A.—0
Chaffin, Leslie A.—1
Crossland, Hess—0
Chapman, L. O.—3
Davis, Bob—0
Easter, S. H.—1
England, Fred—0
Egan, Georgette M.—3
Earley, Hank—0
Fales, Warren S.—1
Faulkner, Joe—1
Faulkner, Alex—4
Fry, John L., Jr.—0
Galloway, Bert—0
Gittinger, C. O.—2
Griffith, F. F.—0
Holden, Charles A.—0
Hurst, J. E. Burt—0
Hickman, Dr. C. S.—0
Howe, Sam—0
Harolson, Ralph—0
Hynes, J. D.—0
Jarvis, Robert W.—0
Johnson, Wm. B.—0
King, Robert—0
King, Kenneth C.—1
Koenig, Otto—10
Kile, Don C.—0
Long, W. J. F.—1
Lang, Richard—2
Leman, Janeal—0
Moss, Jim—9
Mitchell, Harry O.—9
Newman, Garrett—2
Norton, Joe—1
Pope, Harry A.—3
Rocka, Bob—3
Risinger, Brad—1
Rupe, Pat—0
Storm, Foster—1
Saxon, Mike, Sr.—1
Victory, C. C.—1
Webb, Carl H.—1
Total—157



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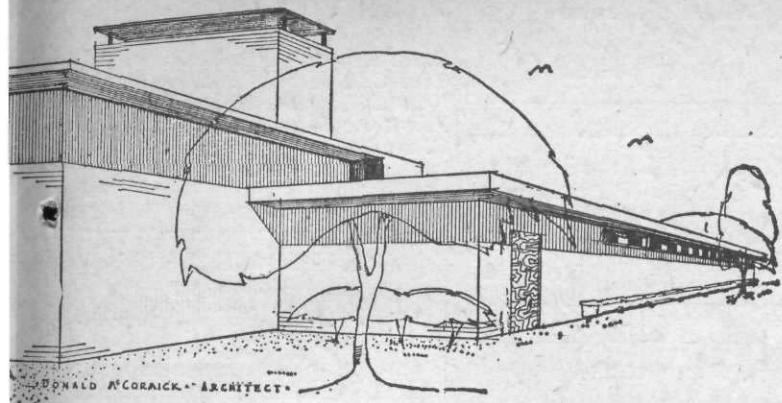
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Bill and

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BOWLING ALLEY

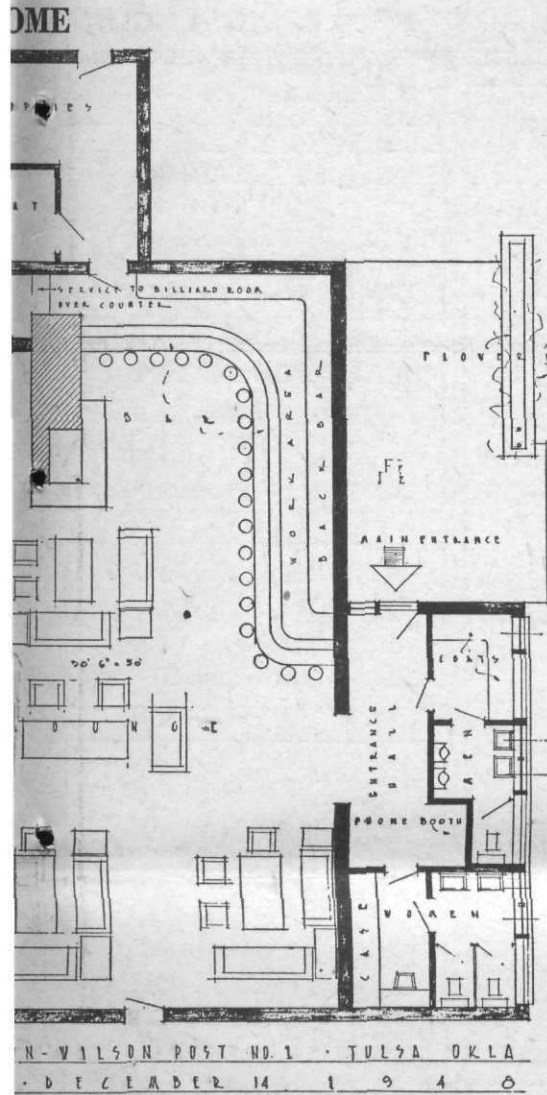
JET FIGHTERS

Captain

- J. Earl Simpson—13
- Lt. 1. Bob Howe—4
- 2. Floyd Long—3
- 3. Paul O. Neal—8
- 4. N. H. Davis—14

Members

- Arnell, Dick—0
- Barrow, Allen E.—1
- Bassett, W. H.—0
- Bernard, M. S.—23
- Blackford, Cal—2
- Brown, Robt E.—1
- Brooks, Charles L.—0
- Beals, Harold—0
- Burdge, L. L.—3
- Balay, George—0
- Coddington, Glenn H.—3
- Covington, N. D.—2
- Cain, C. C., Jr.—0
- Clark, Charles—0
- Camp, Clarence R.—0
- Cochran, John—2
- Calkins, A. B.—0
- Chism, Herschel, Jr.—2
- Degen, Sol—1
- Ditchkus, Mike—1
- Douglas, G. N.—0
- Erickson, Oscar—0
- Eckman, Grant L.—0
- Farringer, Jack—0
- Gaddis, Irene—0
- Gambill, Eddie—1
- Garrett, C. M.—0
- Gunn, Gus—0
- Herman, Joe—2
- Halley, Harry—7
- Howe, Denny—0
- Hotchkiss, Robt. L.—1
- Harris, W. H.—0
- Higgins, J. C., Sr.—0
- Hunt, Jim—3
- King, Jimmy, Sr.—1
- Kay, H. V.—5
- Knight, Earl M.—0
- Moss, Dexter, Jr.—2
- McCrigh, Lester—1
- Jarvis, A. R.—0
- Hill, Leonard J.—0
- Porter, Jack—1
- Prigmore, Chas. T.—0
- Taylor, E. J.—3
- Tankersley, R. N.—1
- Tucker, Ralph W.—2
- Veach, Virgil—2
- Woodard, Chick—4
- Walker, Linus—3
- Wienecke, Ed—1
- Williams, Geo.—3
- Waters, O. D.—6
- Total 132



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If you have not paid your 1949 Membership Dues, this will be your last issue of the Post News, until such time as they are paid.

All you have to do is call one of these fine Legionnaires listed on one of these teams (sure you know one of them) and they will be more than glad to come by and pick up your \$3.50. Let's help the Legion get a new home and help these hard-working teams—one of them that is—to get a swell steak dinner—the losing team will eat mush.

Auxiliary:—

If you desire to receive the Post News in the future it will be necessary to notify the editor at P. O. Box 2480 or your membership Chairman, giving your full name and address. Thank you.

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Fifteen States Ready To Distribute Bonus

The amount of money piling up for veterans' bonuses is near the two-billion-dollar mark — and it may go higher in 1949.

A survey by the Associated Press at the start of a new legislative season shows:

Nine States now are paying out \$1,540,256,000 to 4,750,000 World War II vets or their survivors.

Voters in six other States have approved plans to give about 452 million dollars to approximately 956,000 former GIs, but the cash has not yet been distributed.

Bonus programs involving around 640 million dollars have cleared the first hurdles in two more States.

Proposals to make cash awards to men and women who served in the armed forces are expected to be presented to lawmakers in at least seven additional States in the weeks ahead.

Thus, as the new year begins, 15 States are paying or preparing to pay \$1,992,256,000 to 5,706,000 living veterans or the next of kin of their dead buddies.

If there is fast and favorable action in the two States where the bonus already has passed the first tests—Indiana and Pennsylvania—the total could be raised to about \$2,632,256,000 in 1949.

These two—and other States—may get into the bonus column. Or they may not. Bonus propositions got approval of voters in six States in last November's election but were defeated in Nebraska, Oregon, Wisconsin and Missouri.

The nine States already paying bonuses are: Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Illinois, Michigan, New

York, Connecticut and Ohio. A recent tally showed they had distributed 4,112,543 checks for a total of \$1,207,000,000.

Bonus plans have been approved in referenda in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Louisiana and Washington. But, before payments can be made, legislatures must iron out financial and other details, or officials must set up machinery to handle claims.

Indianans voted in favor of a bonus last Fall but the result was not binding on the men who hold the State's purse strings. Thus, the lawmakers must decide if they want to make grants and, if so, where they will get the funds. The State Chamber of Commerce figured a bonus would cost about 140 million dollars.

In 1947 Pennsylvania Legislature approved a 500-million-dollar bonus bond issue proposal, but before the plan can go into effect, it must be approved by the 1949 legislature and in a State-wide vote.

Bonus bills or petitions are expected to be laid before lawmakers this year in Arizona, California, Colorado, Maine, Maryland, West Virginia and Delaware, and may be presented in Tennessee, Texas, New Jersey and Missouri.

The programs already in operation vary in detail. Under most of them, the checks go to men and women who served in the armed forces and who were bona fide residents of the State before they entered the service.

Amounts authorized range from \$4,256,000 in Vermont to 400 million dollars in New York. The

maximum sum that can be collected by a vet runs the scale from \$100 in New Hampshire to \$893 in Illinois. The Illinois average is \$375.

The most common way to raise the money is a bond issue. Then new or higher taxes have to be imposed to pay the interest and principal on the bonds.

Twenty States provided bonuses in the wake of World War I. But the total came to only a bit more than 400 million dollars.

Jack R. C. Cann, former editor of The National Legionnaire, has been transferred by the National Public Relations Division of The American Legion from its Indianapolis office to the Washington D. C., office.

The Farley W. Moody Post 34 of The American Legion at Tuscaloosa, Ala., will award a loving cup to the most popular policeman there, the winner to be determined by the number of letters received by the post.

Department Commander William C. McGraw of the Texas American Legion is also doubling this year as the head of Variety Clubs International, composed of 8,500 showmen representing 17,000 theaters.

The Baseball Magazine in its February, 1949, issues, carries a commendatory review of American Legion Junior Baseball, listing all its graduates who have made good in the major and minor leagues.

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Week's Legion News In A Nut Shell

The American Legion has
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ball area conferences at New
York City, February 13, at Chat-
tanooga, Tenn., Feb. 15, at Omaha,
Nebr., Feb. 17 and in San Fran-
cisco, Calif., Feb. 20.

"Making Democracy Work" has
been selected as the general
theme for 1949 American Educa-
tion Week, Nov. 6 to 12, by The
American Legion in conference
with three co-sponsoring organi-
zations.

The enrollment deadline for the
fourth term of The American Le-
gion Extension Institute was ex-
tended to Feb. 15, 1949.

The American Legion will spon-
sor its fourth annual Boys' Forum
of National Government on the
campus of American University
in Washington, D. C., July 29 to
August 4, 1949.

The National Service Officers
Association of The American Le-
gion will hold its annual meeting
and election of officers in Wash-
ington, D. C., March 1, 1949.

Child welfare leaders of The
American Legion and its affili-
ated groups from eight Atlantic
Seaboard states and Puerto Rico
will assemble in Baltimore, Md.,
Feb. 11 and 12 for their annual
Area B Conference.

National Commander Perry
Brown of The American Legion
will dedicate the \$200,000 addi-
tion to the clubhouse of Fairfield
Post 11 at Lancaster, Ohio, March
20.

The James H. Teel Post 105 of
The American Legion at Bartles-
ville, Okla., got a \$100,000 gift to-
ward the building of its new club-
house, donor's name unrevealed.

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EVELYN LONG

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MRS. GLENN H. CODDINGTON
MRS. RUSSELL SULLIVAN
Meetings First and Third Tuesday
of the month, 1120 East 8th Street,
Legion Hut, at 8 P. M.

Spring is in the air—new spring bonnets in the store windows—snow under foot but not for long—Auxiliary members are planning a Spring Dance to be held sometime during the month of March (date to be announced later.)

Commander Belford spoke to us about helping the Legion furnish our new Lounge—so we voted to use the proceeds of the Check-Room and the Kitchen to be accumulated and when the lounge room is ready to be furnished, the accumulated money is to be spent for the furnishings. Since so many Auxiliary members were in accord with Commander Belford's entreaty, we ask that you do not overlook the fact that some work is involved, so do not fail to volunteer for your Saturday night in the Check-Room or the Kitchen. Notify Mrs. Sam Craig or Mozelle Williams.

We were happy to welcome new members Tuesday evening at our meeting—Mrs. R. K. "Eteen" Benepe, also Mrs. Malone and Mrs. Broach.

We are sorry Mrs. Lloyd Markham did not locate her billfold, but glad to have her new address, 909A S. Detroit. (Secretary, please note.)

We are sorry to learn of Mr. J. F. Jarboe's illness—he is in St. John's hospital.

Mrs. Joe (Octavia) Johnson advises she heard from Mrs. Ernest Goins and she advised that Mr. Goins is being brought back to the Veterans hospital in Muskogee soon.

One hundred Valentines will be sent to the veterans in the Muskogee hospital for their use.

Junior Activities—Juniors from 0 to 12 inclusive, will be under the leadership of Mrs. E. L. Cole. From 13 to 18 will be under the leadership of Mrs. Dorothy Neal. Mrs. Neal is a new member and let's all volunteer our assistance or the use of our home or games and furnish refreshments she might need. This also should be done to help Mrs. Cole.

Thanks to Adelaide Henninger for the nice cake she furnished for the Junior party. It was a thoughtful gesture. Let's all keep on the alert for thoughtfulness to one another.

Past National Vice Commander Hughes B. Davis, 60, of The American Legion passed away at Oklahoma City, Okla., after a lengthy illness.

River Park Post 303 of The American Legion at South Bend, Ind., suffered a \$10,000 loss when fire swept the basement of its clubhouse.

American Legion posts at Anadarko and Wewoka, Okla., have purchased "iron lungs" for their communities.

Rev. Mr. Thomas Grice

National Chaplain, The American Legion
(Biographical Sketch)

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Grice, 68, retired Methodist minister of Camarillo, Calif., was elected national chaplain of The American Legion for 1948-49 by the 30th national convention at Miami, Fla., Oct. 21, 1948, as the climax of 30 years of devoted service at the post, district and department levels of the world's largest veterans' organization.

His election as national chaplain brought him fulfillment of a life-long ambition to officiate at The American Legion's annual Armistice Day ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. He achieved this ambition on Nov. 11, 1948.



REV. MR. THOMAS GRICE
National Chaplain, The American Legion (1948-49)

He was born in Staffordshire, England, July 2, 1880, the son of Benjamin and Caroline Grice. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, and the Methodist College at Belfast. He came to the United States at the age of 24 because his father had urged him "My son, when you grow up, you go to America—that's a man's country!" His first destination

was Duluth, Minn. He was graduated from the Minnesota School of Theology. He became a minister in the Northern Minnesota Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He served the church in the pioneer section of Northern Minnesota. He moved to California in 1915 and transferred to the Methodist ministry of the Southern California Conference in 1916.

The Rev. Mr. Grice was pastor of the First Methodist Church at San Pedro, Calif., when he enlisted there for military service in World War I. He trained at Camp Zachary Taylor at Louisville, Ky. He became the first Methodist Chaplain from California to be sent to France in World War I. He served first with the 153rd Infantry. Later he was 2nd Army Corps Chaplain. He reached the rank of a Captain Chaplain. Returning to the United States after the Armistice he served as chaplain in the Transportation Debarkation Service at Hoboken, N. J., and as senior chaplain of Embarkation Hospital No. 1 there. Later he was detailed to write "The Story of the Combat Chaplains in the A. E. F." for the War College, Washington, D. C.

Following his discharge on Sept. 14, 1919, he returned to San Pedro where he was instrumental in organizing the first service men's clubs for the 40,000 men of the Battleship Fleet and auxiliaries of the United States stationed there. He secured the gift of \$850,000 from the national YMCA for an Army and Navy YMCA building with dormitories and clubrooms at San Pedro for the enlisted men from Fort McArthur and the Battleship Fleet.

Immediately upon his return home, the Rev. Mr. Grice affiliated himself with San Pedro Post 65 of The American Legion. He became the first post chaplain. Later he held pastorates at South Pasadena, Long Beach, Oxnard and the Simi Valley and was active in American Legion posts there. He is now a member of the Simi Valley Post 448 at Simi, Calif. He has raised the money

and built four churches in Southern California. He served as department chaplain of the California American Legion during 1933-34, as department chairman of Americanism and as department chairman of the Naturalization Committee. He served two terms as 16th District Americanism Chairman and as County Council Commander of Ventura County. He has been a delegate to many national and nearly all department conventions.

Active in civic affairs, Chaplain Grice has served as master of the Long Beach Lodge of Council Masons, as chaplain of the San Pedro Masonic Lodge, as grand chaplain of the Grand Council of Masons of California. He is a member of Rotary International, the Los Angeles Scottish Rite, being a 32nd degree Mason, and a Knights Templar at Pasadena. He is now president of the State Board of Trustees of the Camarillo State Hospital for Mental Illness, president of the Ventura County YMCA and president of the Frazier Mountain Youth Camp for boys and girls of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

During World War II he sought to enter active military service but was rejected on account of age. He then enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the 27th Regiment of the California State Guard, serving both as a chaplain and public relations officer without a commission.

His first wife passed away at Oxnard, Calif., in 1934. He married Mrs. Virginia Mitchell of Oxnard in January of 1948.

The service department of Omaha, Neb., Post 1, world's largest American Legion post, received 5,662 calls for assistance and information in 1948 which cost the post \$39,479.33 to furnish free.

Union, S. C., Post 22 of The American Legion, appropriately has announced plans to erect a monument to an unknown Northern soldier of the War Between the States buried there.

...TAPS...

Pvt. Arnold G. Simmons
ASN 18161099

Killed April 3, 1945, while serving with General Patton.

Body arrived Saturday, January 29. Funeral Wednesday, February 2 at 2 p. m., Moore Funeral Chapel.

Burial Legion Plot Memorial Park, Carson-Wilson Post No. in charge graveside rights.

Commander, Joseph F. Herman
Chaplain, O. W. Waters.

Bugler, LeRoy Henninger.

Contact Officer, Frank H. Crawley.

Colors, John Rife, J. D. Hyne

Guards: Cal Blackford, De Covington. In charge C. Sheldon.

Pallbearers and Firing Squad: C. L. Chastain, T. F. Stroud, Tom Aarington, Lundy Crowder, Dick Lang, A. B. Calkins, Dr. S. Hickman in charge.

Sick and Visitation

Hershel Chism, Jr., Chairman

Armendo B. Elias, is in the Veterans hospital at Topeka.

Joe Jarbo, is in 543 St. John. Joe is a member of the Legion and also the 40 et 8 and would like to have some of his comrades come and visit him.

All of the following are in Veterans hospital at Muskogee:

James A. Vincent, Sander Hubbard, John A. Reiter, William H. Wing, James B. Billingsley, Walter J. Benke, pneumonia.

Comrade Floyd Long, Chef de Gare of the 40 et 8, was released from the hospital on the 29th after an operation on his hand. He is now convalescing at his home. Call him up.

The Captain Oscar Brady Post 298 of The American Legion at Battle Creek, Mich., has purchased a 70-year residential landmark for conversion into a modern clubhouse.

JOHN W. SALYER, D.M.D.

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