CARSON-WILSON POST NEWS

VOL 13

TULSA, OKLAHOMA



MARCH 11, 1949

No. 26

Legion Birthday and Membership Banquet to Be Held March 15th

THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Next Tuesday night will be a night for big celebration at the post. Post members will celebrate the Legion's thirtieth birthday as well as the end of the second phase of the membership campaign. A dinner will be served by the ladies of the Auxiliary at nears completion of its second 6:30 which will be followed by a very entertaining and informative special Americanism program arranged by Program Chairman, Mrs. E. L. Cole.

Our Toastmaster will be Legionnaire Charlie Clark. Special guest-speaker will be Legionnaire Hess Crossland, prominent attorney. Mr. Crossland served 18 months in the European Theater and was stationed in England, France, Luxomburg, Belgium and Germany. Captains of the membership teams, Roger Lavery and Bob Howe will report on the progress of the membership campaign.

After the dinner has been served the cutting of the hugh "Lustron" Home birthday cake will take placethis cake is a birthday gift from To Aid Ponca Home the Auxiliary to the Legion, however, the Auxiliary will share in special table is set in Gold Decorations honoring them. Compresidents. This day in the life for the Ponca City Home School. of the American Legion is a fond memory proving that United we stand. Let us all salute the at the house to escort people and American Legion and wish for all a Happy Birthday.

dinner may get tickets that eve- few of his leisure hours in helpning at the hut for seventy-five ing this worthwhile project. cents. Those who do not desire to participate in the program will be admitted free. All members of the post are encouraged to attend this gala celebration and to April 9th. we are sure that it will be time well spent.

that are being made for an even the porcelain enamel finish. brighter future.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST VETERANS ORGANIZATION

historic caucus of 1,000 AEF dele- for more comfortable living. gates in Paris, France, March 15 States founded by fighting men clotheswasher, automatic water

Many posts throughout the nation will observe the 1949 anniversary of The American Legion by going over the top on their standard for living. "A home current membership quotas. Its birthday is traditionally a milestone in the annual enrollment ful convenience and permanence

National Commander Perry Brown pointed out The Ameri-(Continued on Page 5)

It was announced at the Tuesthe disbursing of it. The Gold day meeting that John Hubbell Star Mothers have been invited of Pawhuska will contribute the as our very special guests and a proceeds from the showing of his new "Lustron" home to the Post. This fund, it was decided, will be manders are to be guests of past used to pay off the Post's quota

Members of the Post are going to be asked to spend a few hours act as ticket salesmen. Guy Belford said that every member Those desiring to attend the should be able to contribute a

For the small admission fee of to attend the dinner but do want 25c Tulsans will have an opportunity to see the latest innovation in low cost housing. The house will be shown from March 11th

The "Lustron" home is all steel inside and out and is porcelain On this, the thirtieth birthday enameled for beauty, permanence, of the Legion, we have tried to low maintenance and long life. summarize some of the outstand- The only materials needed for ing accomplishments of the Le- cleaning the entire house are gion during its thirty years of soap, water and a damp cloth. service to the veteran. We shall Sunlight, salt water, chemical also try to look into the plans fumes or smoke will not affect

The "Lustron" home has five rooms, plus a large utility room. Floor space is over 1,000 square Growing larger year by year feet. Easy sliding interior doors as new posts are chartered daily, increases the amount of usable The Legion was founded at the floor space, giving extra room

It comes to you complete, into 17, 1919. It is the only major cluding built-in bookcase and veterans' society in the United cabinets, combination dishwasher heater, radiant heating system, bathroom fixtures and screens.

> Leading architects throughout the country are calling it "a new that is easier to live in, easier to keep clean. A home of cheerbeyond anything previously developed in dwelling construction".

Legionnaires should make it a can Legion was working on its point to inform their friends in from cards turned in by team the market for a home to see it.

Post Membership Reaches 2,690

As the membership campaign phase Elmer Chandler, Adjutant, reported that the post membership now stands at 2,690 and that some cards are not yet tabulated. Break down of individual activity of the teams, according to office records, is as follows:

HOT SHOTS Captain Roger Lavery—* Lt. Ralph Harrison-2 Lt. Sam Craig—* Lt. Walter Deppe-1 Lt. Sam Burnham-* J. B. Allred—2 Jim Bewley-2 C. L. R. Barnett-3 Troy Baker—3 Fred Bullock-1 Clinton Bohannon-3 Hess Crossland—1 S. H. Easter-1 Georgette M. Egan-1 Alex Faulkner—3 Joe Faulkner-5 C. O. Gittinger—2 Bert Hurst-1 Otto Koenig-1 W. F. Long-3 Richard Lang-5 Jim Moss—2 Harry E. Mitchell-8 Garrett Newman—2 Harry A. Pope-5 Brad Risinger-5

> Total-63. JET FIGHTERS

Storm Foster-1

Captain Bob Howell—3 Lt. J. E. Simpson—12 Lt. Floyd Long-* Lt. Paul O'Neil-* Lt. N. H. Davis-* Duck Arnell—1 W. H. Bassett-2 M. S. Bernard-1 Robert D. Brown-5 Glenn H. Coddington-3 C. C. Cain, Jr.-1 Herschel Chism, Jr.-1 Bob Elliott-1 Oscar Erickson—2 Jack Farringer—2 Eddie Gambill-2 Gus Gunn-2 Joe Herman-3 Harry L. S. Halley-2 Denny Howe-1 Jim Hunt-6 Jimmy King, Sr.-4 H. B. Kay-2 Dexter Moss, Jr.-4 E. J. Taylor-4 Chick Woodard-1 Linus Walker—11 George Williams-4 O. D. Waters-3

These figures were compiled (Continued on Page 5)

Total-83.

WHAT LEGION MEMBERSHIP

This March 15th is our 30th to enroll in the membership of Birthday. And so - harking back such a great organization, to 1919 when the American Legion was first inaugurated, I want years have demonstrated the wisdom of working together for a PURPOSE.

The well being and success of any organization is membership. A membership in the American Legion is important to every Veteran. Veterans need the Legion and the program for which we stand must be carried on, particularly at a time when the world is more or less unsettled and in a turmoil - the problems facing us must be kept in balance and worked out by knowledgeable ORED GLORY. Legionnaires. Today I hope you will make a challenge to yourself

I need not make a resume of the program, for I am certain that to stress the importance that most everyone knows, who has read the Preamble, just the particular duties of each member and the responsibilities my office include.

To every Veteran who has the slightest interest in world affairs and particularly the great FREE-DOM we want to keep, a special invitation is extended to you to become a member. It is my job to keep us together, and in the many hours I spend in Legion work, I feel it a tribute to ALL OF THOSE WHO REST IN HON-

Guy P. Belford, Jr., Commander.

Payments to Vets Are Free of Tax

Gratuity payments to veterans for benefits administered by Veterans Administration are tax-free and need not be considered in computing income tax.

Tax-exempt VA payments include the following: Subsistence allowances for veterans training in schools, on farms and on-thejob under the GI Bill of Rights and Public Law 16; payments by the VA to be applied to veterans' GI loans. Under the GI Bill, VA pays the lender an amount equivalent to 4 per cent of the guaranteed portion of the loan to be credited to the veteran's account.

Also readjustment allowances, paid under provisions of the GI Bill, for veterans' periods of unemployment and self-employment. Disability compensation and pensions paid to veterans for both service-connected and nonservice-connected disabilities. Grants for paraplegic veterans for homes designed for wheelchair living. World War I emergency officers' retirement pay.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Cambill are the proud possessors of a new granddaughter.

Don't Forget About the Bigger and Better Stag, Friday, March 25th

Carson-Wilson News To Recognize **Outstanding Service**

At the suggestion of J. Earl Simpson, the Carson-Wilson News will soon start a new column naming the "Legionnaire of the Week."

Guy Belford will appoint an impartial committee which will closely watch the accomplishments of members of the Post and then make a report which will be printed in this paper.

We feel that recognition of outstanding work will be an incentive to better serve the Post.

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CARSON-WILSON POST NEWS

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2 contraction O

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ELMER CHANDLER, Service Officer Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. LEGION HUT, 1120 East 8th St. Phone 5-7696

Post meets every Tuesday evening at Visiting Legionnaires are Welcome.

By his appointment as the new Secretary of Defense, succeeding James V. Forrestal, Louis Johnson of Clarksburg, W. Va., has become the first past national commander of The American Legion to achieve cabinet rank.

Omaha, Neb., Post 1 retains its title as largest-American Legion post in the world, having enrolled 16,072 members during 1948 and topping the list of 76 posts throughout the nation, each of which got 2,000 or more members.

the Raymond B. Stout Post 129 of The American Legion at Hillsboro, Ohio, were destroyed in a fire which gutted the 72-year-old town hall there, used by the post as a clubhouse.

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New Bills of Interest To Veterans As Introduced By 81st Congress

By Mrs. Rogers, of Massachusetts. Referred to Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To provide that veterans now receiving compensation for certain socalled presumptive disabilities equivalent to 75 per cent of the amount to which they were previously entitled shall henceforth have such compensation restored to 100 per cent thereof, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted, etc., That part of the second proviso of section 28, By Mr. Battle, of Alabama. Re-Public Law No. 141, 73d Congress, March 28, 1934, (48 Stat. 524; U S. C., title 38, sec. 722), which limits payment of compensation thereunder to 75 per cent of the payments otherwise authorized, is hereby repealed, and the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to pay 100 per cent of the compensation otherwise authorized under Public Law No. 141, 73d Congress.

H. R. 288 By Mrs. Rogers, of Massachusetts. Referred to Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To encourage employment of veterans with pensionable or compensable service-connected disabilities through Federal reimbursement to any employer, inon account of disability or death arising out of such employment.

Be it enacted, etc., That where under any law of a State, Terri-i bia, workmen's compensation benefits are paid for disability or death arising out of the employment of any veteran entitled to or receiving compensation, pension, or retired pay, for serv-All equipment and records of hereby authorized and directed to exceed the amount to which such

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reimburse, out of the appropriations of the Veterans Administration, any employer, insurer, or fund, in an amount equal to any lump sum paid, or, if paid in monthly installments, an amount equal to the total sum of such monthly installments paid: Provided. That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, in making reimbursement of monthly installments, is hereby authorized to reimburse on a quarterly or semiannual basis.

H. R. 137 ferred to Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

To make the educational benefits of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 available to the children of persons who died in active service or who died as a result of wounds received in World War II.

Be it enacted, etc., That paragraph 2 of part VIII of Veterans Regulation No. 1(a), as amended, is amended-

(1) by inserting "(a)" after "2."; and

(2) by adding the following new subparagraph:

"(b)) In case any person who would have been eligible for benefits under this part shall have while serving in the active military or naval service on or after surer, or fund, of amounts of Sept. 16, 1940, either (1) lost his workmen's compensation paid life prior to Jan. 1, 1948, or (2) received wounds which resulted in his death prior to Jan. 1, 1948, the children of such person shall be eligible for and entitled to all benefits (including the right to tory, or possession of the United have paid the tuition and fees of States, or the District of Colum- an approved institution and to receive a subsistence allowance while pursuing an approved course) to which such person would have been entitled: Provided, That in no case shall the total amount paid by the Adminice-connected disability, the Ad- istrator for the education or trainministrator of Veterans' Affairs is ing of the children of such person

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person would alone have been entitled."

H. R. 287

By Mrs. Rogers, of Massachusetts, Referred to Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

To provide four years of college education, or the equivalent, to the children of persons whose death resulted from service in the armed forces during World War II.

Be it enacted, etc., That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to make available education at an approved college or other institution supplying education beyond the high school level for a period not to exceed four years to any child of a person who served in the armed forces of the United States at any time between Sept. 15, 1940, and Jan. 2, 1947, and who either (1) died while in such service, or (2) died or dies at any time prior to or subsequent to the enactment of this act as a result of a disability incurred during such service.

Sec. 2. The Administrator shall pay to the educational institution in which any such child is enrolled and pursuing a course under this act the customary tuition and such fees as are customarily charged.

Sec. 3. For the period in which he is enrolled in and pursuing a course under this act, such child shall receive a subsistence allowance of \$75 per month in lieu of the war orphan's pension or any other pension or compensation payable under the laws and regulations administered by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

Assistant National Adjutant R. R. Poston has been named to a new post of associate director of the National Legislative Commission of The American Legion.

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YOU SHOULD KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR **NSLI TOTAL DISABILITY INCOME BENEFITS**

The Insurance Act of 1946 (Public Law 589, 79th Cong.) authorized a Total Disability Income Provision to be added to National Service Life Insurance. Under the terms of that provision, an insured veteran may receive \$5 per month for each \$1,000 NSLI carried, if he is totally disabled for six consecutive months or longer. Payment will begin on the first day of the seventh consecutive month of total disability and will continue during the entire disability period.

The total disability provision the amount of insurance in force, showing good health and the exity provision must be paid. Even for at least 6 consecutive months. though a veteran may be disabled (provided the disability is not total), he may acquire the income provision will not dedisability coverage if, before Jan. crease the face value of the NSLI 1, 1950, satisfactory proof is presented showing that the disability was actually incurred in service between Oct. 8, 1940, and September 2, 1945. The "good health" requirement will be waived under such circumstances.

If the application for total disability income is approved by the VA, and the insured veteran thereafter becomes totally disabled as the result of any disease or injury while the disability waiver feature of the insurance is in force, the veteran will receive \$5 per month for each \$1,000 of total disability income provision. insurance carried. But, such disability insurance will not begin until the veteran has been disabled for six consecutive months. To qualify for these payments,

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may be added to insurance al- the total disability must occur ready in force, or it may be em- prior to the 60th birthday (or bebodied in newly acquired NSLI. fore the maturity of a 20-year Coverage may be based on not endowment policy prior to age less than \$1,000 nor more than 60). In addition, the total disability must occur after the date other than extended term insur- of application, or the effective ance, in full multiples of \$500. date, if later, and the insurance To qualify for such additional must be in force under premiumcoverage, a veteran must com- paying conditions. Claim for such plete VA Form 9-1606 and sub-total disability income and due mit it to the VA office handling proof must be made, not later his current insurance records. than one year from the due date Evidence must be presented of the first premium in default, showing that the insured has suftra premium for the total disabil- fered continuous total disability

> The benefits which may be received under the total disability contract. If a veteran remains totally disabled for five years and has \$10,000 insurance, he will have received \$3,000 in disability benefits and the beneficiary of the insurance may still collect the proceeds of the insurance upon the death of the insured veteran.

Furthermore, all N.S.L.I. contracts provide for a waiver of insurance premiums during a period of total disability, if the insured is totally disabled for six consecutive months or more. The same provision applies to the Thus, the Federal Government pays the premiums and also pays the veteran a monthly benefit while he continues in a disabled status. Application for the waiver must be made and the insured must continue to pay all premiums (regular and disability) until notified by the VA of the waiver approval. However, such premiums paid by the insured during the waiver period will be refunded either to the insured or to the beneficiary if the insured veteran should die before he is paid such refund.

The premium rate for total disability income insurance varies according to the type of insurance and whether the insurance is added to an existing plan or is a provision in a new contract. Any VA office can advise as to the rates that must be paid for the particular veteran's age and type of coverage; it can also supply VA Pamphlet 9-3, which contains premium tables and other facts about this special type of protection.

By way of example, assume that an insured veteran is 30 years of age and wished to add the total disability income provision to a \$5,000 term NSLI contract by paying \$1.25 per month,

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the veteran may qualify for \$25 per month in the event he becomes totally disabled. Or, assume the veteran wishes to add the disability insurance to a 20payment life contract, which has been in effect for five years (60 months)-which means that the insured converted as of his 25th birthday. The added monthly premium will be only \$1.90, or he may pay \$22.50 annual premium-in addition to the regular \$125.50 annual premium.

Any veteran who wishes to acquire extra security for himself and his family-in the unfortunate event that a disability prevents him from earning a livelihood-should carefully weigh the advantages of the total disability income provision of National Service Life Insurance.

An early investigation of the entire problem of adequate hospital facilities for veterans has been promised American Legion officials by Representative John E. Rankin, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

North Dakota is the 1949 winner of the John G. Emery American Legion department membership trophy with South Dakota as the runner-up.

West Virginia has beaten Virginia in their 1949 American Legion Department membership contest which ended Feb. 15th.

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Historian
Executive Committee
MRS. JOHN B. ALLRED
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.

The annual spring "Comingout" Dance will be held Saturday night at Legion Hut, 1120 East Conducting Services Eighth-10 p.m. to 2 p.m.-according to Mrs. Cecil (Clara) Jones, Dance Chairman.

This dance is open to the public and the proceeds to go to the ing their duty in assisting at fungeneral fund of the auxiliary. erals. Joe said that most of the Tickets can be had by calling legionnaires, when called upon to Mrs. John B. Allred, or Mrs. Cecil Jones. Walter Bray and his Cres- to do so. He stressed that in cent City Band will play.

Hostesses announced by Mrs. Jones are: J. Earl Simpson, Mrs. Legion's program and should not Sam Burnham, Mrs. N. H. Davis, be neglected. He urged coopera-Mrs. E. B. Benton, Mrs. Guy P. tion of all members when called Belford, Jr., Mrs. Ralph Harrison, upon to serve. Mrs. Floyd Watts, Mrs. O. D. Waters, Mrs. Harry Kehr, Miss Ruth Rabbit, Mrs. Milly Carroll, Mrs. Sam Craig, Miss Evelyn Long, Mrs. E. L. Cole, Mrs. Anna Petty, Mozelle Williams, Esther Jackson, and Mrs. Eteen Benepe.

Membership Chairman, Mrs. C. O. Gittinger, reports the follow-

Dorothy Neal Team Total, 24 members.

Members turned in Monday,

Mrs. Sam Craig-1 Mrs. E. L. Cole-2 Mrs. C. O. Gittinger-2 Mrs. Tankersley—2

Mrs. Eddie Gambill—7 Mozelle Williams Team total, 23 members.

Members turned in Monday, March 7th:

Mozelle Williams-1 Gene Sullivan-1 Mrs. H. Blain Lacy-2 Mrs. Cottington—1 Esther Jackson-1

Our sympathy goes to Mrs. Bertha Hyer in the passing of her father last week.

The American Legion will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its birth, March 15 to 17, with gay parties by its 17,260 posts from coast to coast.

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Raymond Fields **Quits Legion Job**

Fields, Oklahoma newspaper publisher, resigned today as director of public relations for the American Legion.

Harry Guinivan, who had been Fields' assistant, will become acting director until May, when a director will be named by the public relations commission.

Fields had been director since August, 1945.

He said he would go to New Albany, Ind., where he has a radio station due to come on the air April 10. From there, he will return to Oklahoma, where he publishes several papers.

Funeral Details Lax in

At the March 8th meeting Joe Herman once again reported that Legionnaires were not performserve on funeral details refused paying our respects to departed comrades was a vital part of the

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Disrespect to the Flag Inexcusable

A few days ago the editorial staff of this paper received the following letter from one of our members and we feel that it will bare publishing.

"I think that any red blooded American, whether he be a veteran or just a plain American citizen should raise up in protest against the way our American flag is desecrated.

On a recent election day, an officer friend of mine, who is a veteran of four years of fighting Officers' Association. in the South Pacific was literally boiling when he came to work. He said that as he came in on Eleventh street on the bus and INDIANAPOLIS. - Raymond passed a particular church he was astounded to see the flag carelessly thrown over an old harrow or some such implement that had been used in the church yard. hoped that this situation would be corrected by evening, but as he went home he observed that it was in the same slouchy position, so he took some pictures of it and I must say that it makes your blood boil to look at them.

Perhaps this is only a case of carelessness, but it seems to me that the emblem for which our boys fought and died should be worthy of a little more respect."

Editor's Comment

It also makes our blood boil to hear of such occurances. We certainly agree that the emblem for which our buddies fought and died should be worthy of utmost respect. While disrespect to the flag may be "only a case of carelessness" we wonder what those same persons guilty of disrespect would do if the United States government officials violated the principles behind that flag thru only carelessless."

Disrespect to the flag is never excusable through carelessness or not and we feel that any legionnaire who sees the American flag being disecrated, worn out, or improperly flown should take proper action in correcting the situation. He should try to contact the owner or report the irreverence to proper authorities.

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BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The American Legion will hold its third annual national basketball tournament in Beaver Falls. Pa., March 31 to April 2.

PAST LEGION COMMANDERS

Thirteen past department commanders of the American Legion are now serving in the 81st Congress, four in the Senate and nine in the House.

Earl Marifield of Los Angeles, department service officer of California American Legion, has been elected as the new president of the Department Service

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WORLD BLDG.

Legion Birthday

(Continued from Page 1) third million in 1949 membership today and was more than 45,000 members ahead of the corresponding period a year ago.

LEGION'S GROWTH Commander Perry called attention to the growing stability of The American Legion as reflected by the record building boom among its posts. More than 550 posts acquired their own clubhouses during 1948, he said, either through building or by purchase. Since January 1, more than 100 additional posts have reported building operations.

"We are approaching a 50 per cent home ownership among our 17,260 posts," Commander Brown "This is a tremendous factor in the growing stability of The American Legion. A post that owns its home is a post there to stay. It has a permanent base of operations.

Keeping pace with its posts, the national organization of The American Legion now is making plans for the cornerstone laying of the \$2,000,000 new headquarters building in Indianapolis on May 5. General Dwight D. Eisenhower has been invited to officiate at this ceremony.

Since 1919, Commander Brown said, Legionnaires have paid into The American Legion more than \$150,000,000 in annual dues which have become the basis of its present prosperity. Total assets of The American Legion including all the real estate holdings, treasuries and funds of all kinds of its national, state, district, county and post organizations are estimated at well over \$100,000,000 today.

The national organization now and an operating budget of \$3,-500,000. This is suplemented by full-time personnel employed by the 58 departments and by a great number of posts. A total of 76 posts enrolled 2,000 or more members during 1948. Most of these big posts maintain paid staffs.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS On its 30th birth anniversary

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and year out . . .

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wherever you need it . . .

The American Legion can count a great many accomplishments in the three decades of its ex-

It has achieved recognition as the nation's foremost champion of national security and Ameri-

It was responsible for the creation of the first Veterans' Bureau, now the Veterans Administration, and for nearly all of the state and federal structure of veterans' legislation. Its legislative successes included nearly all of the laws dealing with benefits for disabled veterans, war widows and orphans; the World War I adjusted service compensation; the GI Bill of Rights for World War II veterans; mustering-out pay for WW II veterans; terminal leave pay for the enlisted personnel of the armed forces; federal aid up to \$10,000 for paraplegic veterans for building houses especially adapted for wheel chair living; legislation providing free automobiles for amputee veterans of WW II; and virtually all laws setting up veterans' preference rights in civil service employment.

It originated American Education Week which has been observed annually since 1921 to focus public attention on the needs and accomplishments of American schools. It sponsors such outstanding youth-training programs as American Legion Junior Baseball, Boys' State, national high school oratorical contest and the school medal awards.

It raised a \$5,000,000 endowment fund in 1925, now increased to \$7,000,000, the income from which supports its national child welfare and rehabilitation services. It has expended since 1925 nearly \$70,000,000 in direct fihas a paid staff of 455 workers nancial aid to needy children of veterans, most of this money going for food, clothing and medical treatments.

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Sick and Visitation Report

Jerald Schuman is reported to be much better and may be home from the hospital in a couple of

Perry Big Johns has been released from the Muskogee hos-

According to hospital authorities the following men have been admitted to the hospital at Muskogee in the past two weeks. Eddie C. Collins, Donald Welch, Vernon L. Guyer, Fred Rex Olenberger, Valentine Allen, Austin Coleman, Frank H. Mitchel, Harvey Jones, and Sam Chalmers. We understand Chalmers was admitted for a possible amputation of his left leg.

After two months hospitalization Wade Whiteside has been released. Joe Jarboe is better but still is not strong enough to attend the meetings. Eddie Gambill is much improved but is very much in need of rest. Ernie Goin is recovering from an amputation of his leg.

Post Membership-

(Continued from Page 1) members and cover the period from February 19 to March 9. We were glad to hear that the first district is now in second place in the department membership contest. Elmer Chandler explained that a great part of this was due to the hard work of the Tulsa post. It was suggested at last week's meeting that different firms in Tulsa be called upon by team members and that we encourage competition between business firms. Mention was made that Cox Motor Company and Doenges Motor Company have signed all eligible members. * Report not available.

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American Legion makes "Fight of Its Life" nect their cases. All of you know that is true." To Preserve Hospitalization and G. I. Care

Washington, D. C.—The American Legion is going to make "the fight of its life" to preserve the right of specialized hospitalization and government care of all disabled and needy veterans.

This was the theme with which The American Legion opened 26th annual national rehabilitation conference here. It was attended by more than 600 key rehabilitation leaders from every state of the Union, Alaska and Hawaii. All were aroused to a fighting pitch over the attacks on veterans' rights now shaping up under a mask of economy.

The sessions were opened with a fighting speech by Robert M. but they are coming. We have vice-chairman of the National Rehabilitation Commission of The or another at veterans, at vetpunches in vigorously attacking \$280,000,000 slash in the hospital building program of the Veterans Administration.

His talk frequently interrupted by applause, vice-chairman Mc-Curdy also turned his guns on The American Medical Association which he charged was sniping at specialized veterans' hospitalization solely because its members were after fees from sick veterans under its "program based on the dollar."

McCurdy's Charges

Challenging the validity of facts and figures being used by the government and others in attacking veterans' rights, vicechairman McCurdy charged:

1-In 1940, the government, after expert study, agreed there should be 100,000 beds by 1950 for some 4,000,000 veterans of World War I and such a building program was approved. Today, however, the government is figuring on only 129,000 beds by 1960 for a combined two-war veteran population of 18,800,000! If the government was right in 1940, it cannot be right now. Today's view is depriving the veteran of World War II of his rights to adequate care.

2.- The fallacy of the government's policy of cutting back the VA building program on the ground that additional hospitals are not needed is shown by the critical civilian sick bed shortage. In Los Angeles County, California, a \$75,000 survey has just led to the launching of a program to raise \$87,000,000 by 1952 to build additional civilian hospitals. Yet in the face of such a hospital shortage there, the government comes along and now is closing the McCormack General Hospital at Pasadena with its 500 beds. The veterans hospitalized there have no place to go.

3.-The overall picture of nonservice veteran hospitalization is men and you working service ofgrossly distorted. Actually there ficers know more than I do, is minimum of unentitled benefiting. A great deal of disability exists that is known to be of service origin but which under present strict requirements cannot be proved

4.—VA figures on the hospital waiting lists do not give an accurate picture. Thousands of veterans over the nation who are neurospychiatric (NP) cases are in state institutions because they can't get VA beds.

Warns of Attack

Declaring that fighting men are national heroes only until they take their uniforms off when they are forgotten, McCurdy said:

"That time has arrived. Again we have an attack on veterans which is starting like the one that culminated in the Economy Act of 1933. It takes the form as it did then. First the propaganda mill started. We have not had many articles in magazines yet

McCurdy of Pasadena, California, had many newspaper stories that have been aimed for one purpose American Legion. He pulled no erans' benefits, and at expenditures for veterans. We have again the facts and figures advanced by the loose use of figures on the the government to justify the cost of the care of the veteran. These costs have not been reconciled with the costs of other things that our government has seen fit to spend money for."

> Reviewing the government's 1940 program of 100,000 beds by 1950 for 4,000,000 World War I veterans, now cutback to 129,000 beds by 1960 for 18,800,000 veterans of two wars, McCurdy said:

> "I want to call your attention to the fact The American Legion is asking only for a continuation of a policy that was adopted in 1940 after expert study. We are asking for a continuation of a policy that was in force and effect for nine years. We believe the men and women who fought in World War II are equally entitled to the benefits and privileges and care to which veterans of World War I were entitled and that includes hospitalization."

> Non-Service Connection McCurdy asserted that if the government goes through with its VA hospital building cutback program, "we are just not going to have the beds to take care of veterans in need of hospitaliza-

> Attacking the charges that there are too many non-service connected cases now in VA hospitals, McCurdy said:

"They say these are non-service connected. Now, who are the non-service connected? By nonservice connected as applied in the government report, it means those veterans who are in the hospitals and who have not proven that their disabilities were due to service. You men are all working men in rehabilitation. I pose this question to you: 'How many do you know who draw compensation that you do not think are entitled to compensation? How many men do you know who have actually beat the rap?' I do not know any. I know dozens of whose disabilities we know are directly due to service and yet who cannot meet the requirements of the law to service-con-

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In conclusion, McCurdy said: "We are headed for a battle. But we are coming out with a program. I want you to go into this fight swinging. Don't let yourself get discouraged when you are again called treasury raiders. We have an issue that will unite the servicemen and women of our country. That is the proper care and hospitalization of our disabled and needy. If you can take it, if you can carry on, we cannot be licked."

Omaha Retains Title of Biggest Post in Legion

Indianapolis, Ind. — Omaha, Nebraska, Post 1 retains its title of largest American Legion Post in the world. It enrolled a final 1948 membership of 16,072.

A total of 76 posts mustered more than 2,000 members each during 1948, according to a nation-wide survey based on reports of state adjutants, just completed by national headquarters of The American Legion here. These 76 posts had a combined 1948 membership of 258,830.

The Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham Post 1 of Denver, Colorado, again the runner-up with 10,442 members. Memphis, Tenn., Post 1 is third with 8,279 members, and Harrisburg, Pa., Post 27 is fourth with 6,397.

Seven posts mustered more than 5,000 members each, three were over 4,000 each, 17 passed the 3,000 mark and 45 ranged from 2,015 to 2,901.

Mississippi Post Will Sponsor Fishing Rodeo

Gulfport, Miss.-The first annual Mississippi Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo will be sponsored by the Joe Graham Post 119 of The American Legion here, July 1 to 7, with Horace G. Towell as general chairman. The post will invite several other Mississippi cities to participate in the weeklong event. There will be a daily prize. The major prizes will be awarded on the final day.

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New Patman Housing Bill to Aid Cooperatives Gets Legion Okay

Washington, D. C .- A new cooperating housing bill designed to serve middle and low income families and providing special consideration for World War II veterans today had the backing of The American Legion in the 81st Congress.

The measure was H. R. 2811, introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Wright Patman, Democrat of Texas, a Legionnaire. It would facilitate the establishment and financing of housing cooperatives and authorize direct government loans at four per cent interest if financing cannot be obtained from private sources. The entire program would be managed by a new federal agency, to be known as the Cooperative Housing Administration. It would operate under the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Taylor Commends Bill

National Legislative Director John Thomas Taylor, of The American Legion, described the Patman Bill as "the first sound answer to the housing problem of the average family." He said this legislation would carry into effect one of the major housing mandates adopted by The American Legion at its 1948 national convention in Miami, Florida.

"This bill would enable the veteran in the middle income group to obtain adequate housing at a price he can afford to pay," Taylor stated.

The Patman Bill would give additional federal assistance to three types of cooperatives. They would be the cooperative that builds houses to sell; the mutualhome-ownership type in which families share in multiple living units; and the rental cooperatives which build single or multiple units to rent to members of the group or to non-members who are veterans. Other provisions would enable authorized cooperatives to secure development loans of not more than five per cent of the estimated total cost of a project; direct the FHA to insure loans up to 90% of their value on units costing \$8,000 or less; and loans to veterans belonging to the cooperative would carry an additional 10 per cent of insurance, making possible 100 per cent coverage on low cost projects.

Thieves who broke into the clubrooms of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Post 923 of The American Legion in Chicago, Ill., escaped with \$940 in cash and almost \$300 in supplies.

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Forty and Eight Club Construction Progresses

After seeing the new Forty and Eight Club, one of Tulsa's club is without a doubt going to be one of Tulsa's finest.

Your reporters saw the club again last Thursday and fully agree with that statement. Amazing progress is being made daily toward its completion. H. K. Nelson estimated that three or four weeks more may be needed before it will be entirely finished for the great opening.

The lighting is almost finished ever seen. Technically the lighting is called "cold cathode" lighting and has the appearance of neon. It is an indirect lighting brought into the ceiling and bar and can be controlled to be bright or dim. The rose and soft white light it gives will be very rest-The wall behind the bar will be mirrored panels, separating these panels will be cold cathode fixtures. The center of the mirrored wall will feature a lighted "Forty and Eight" emblem on sion Assn., will hold a special glass with a light shining from meeting in the Akdar Temple

The floor of the club will be of durable asphalt tile. The walls lay plans for the annual national will be painted predominantly, a convention to be held here Nov. pale green and white. Tables 4, 5 and 6. are incorporating a new and durable material, known as formica. president, urged association mem-This material will resist burns | bers from World Wars I and II by cigarettes, acids or stains.

Frigidaire air conditioning system has already been installed to completely air condition the entire club and auxiliary room.

We are sorry to report that sale of bonds to help in buying fixtures for the club has been very slow. All members of the Legion and Forty and Eight are encouraged to invest in these bonds. Nelson emphasizes that the bonds are being sold by a Forty and Eight building corporation and that members are not being asked to donate money as these bonds will be repaid within three years. They may be purchased at the club at 171/2 E. 3rd.

BASEBALL CONFERENCES

The American Legion has scheduled four 1949 Junior Baseball area conferences at New York City, February 13; at Chattanooga, Tenn., February 15; at Omaha, Nebr., February 17, and in San Francisco, Calif., February 20.

PRETTY YOUNG GRANDPA

John A. Phillips, 36, adjutant of the Blayney-Miner Post No. 412, at Olin, Iowa, believes he is the youngest grandfather in the American Legion.



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Post Endorses Low Rental Unit Plan

The Commander explained at last Tuesday's meeting that the leading restaurants and night Federal Government has a proclub operators commented: This gram which will make funds available for the construction of low cost rental units in Tulsa. These units would be built with Federal funds and would be controlled by the City of Tulsa. Guy further explained, however, that before cities in Oklahoma could apply for the funds, the State Legislature must first pass an 'Enabling Act."

A motion was approved at the meeting to urge the Legislature to and is the most unusual I have pass this Act as soon as possible. If the State does not pass this legislation now, it will be two years before the opportunity will be available again.

Most people in capital circles believe it will pass without much

Tulsan 90th Division Members Will Meet

The Tulsa chapter, 90th Divibuilding at 7:30 p.m. Thursday to perfect the local chapter and

Joe T. Parkinson, Tulsa chapter to attend. Howard Hopps, Oklahoma City, national president and Alex Schell, Plano, Texas, immediate past president, will

The national organization, Parkinson explained, is made up of members the nation over, but that before World War II, members were from Oklahoma and Texas only. The 1945 national convention was held in Tulsa.

The American Legion is buying 25,000 U.S. flags and shipping them to Europe for the decoration on Memorial Day of WW I

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Vet Joblessness More Than Double

Unemployment among war veterans has more than doubled in the past four months, the Veterans Administration said last week.

Spokesman for the agency pointed out, however, that much of the increase in joblessness is Jim Bewley, Color Bearer. seasonal, since major construction projects lay off workers during the winter.

As of January 31, the agency said 570,539 World War II veterans were drawing "readjustment J. F. Herman, Pallbearer. allowances" — u n e m p l oyment checks up to \$20 a week each. Payments during the month totaled \$37,921,000.

A month earlier 354,711 veterans were receiving the checks, John Lovejoy, Chaplain. whereas in October only 230,000 were on the jobless lists.

The peak weekly average of veterans claiming the unemployment allowances were 1,800,000 in July, 1946. In July, 1947, the average was 750,000 and by last July it had declined to 400,000.

About 8,000,000 of the Nation's 14,500,000 World War II veterans have received one or more unemployment checks, the agency said. Payments from the start of the program in September, 1944, through last November 30, totaled \$2,781,201,814.

Samoa was the sharp exception to the recent jobless trend. Last October, 304 Samon veterans were drawing unemployment checks, but on January 31, not one was on the list.

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-TAPS-

ROBERT R. McNALLY

Buried March 7, Catholic Cemetery, Legion in charge J. F. Herman, Commander. George Hanniger, Chaplain. Dutch Henninger, Bugler. D. C. Covington, Color Bearer. Tom Arrington, Color Guard. Garrett Nelson, Color Guard. George Hanniger, Pall Bearer. Bob Nelson, Pallbearer. John Riffe, Pallbearer. Dutch Henninger, Pallbearer.

Pfc. HAROLD SPRIGGS Buried March 5, Memorial Cemetery, Legion in charge J. F. Herman, Commander. LeRoy Henninger, Bugler. Jim Bewley, Color Bearer. C. C. Franks, Color Guard. G. L. Chastain, Color Guard. John Rife, C. C. Cain, Bob Wilson, Alex Wilson, Lundy Crowder, A. B. Chism, Pallbearers.

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The Maryland American Legion has pledged \$33,000 to the state rheumatic fever and heart fund and each of the department's 202 posts will seek to raise its share immediately.

Work on the new \$100,000 home of the George W. Manhart Post 391 of The American Legion at Sacramento, California, is expected by June 15, 1949.

Legionnaires of Adak in the Aleutian Islands have contributed \$1,000 to the child welfare program of the Alaska American Le-

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