

Commander McNutt Lauds Oregon Legion For Its Accomplishments in 1929

Service to Disabled is Improved; More Attention Given Children; Americanism Ideal is Upheld

GREETINGS and well wishes to the American Legion of Oregon are contained in a special message received from Commander Paul McNutt, who is now in Europe on special business for the large organization which he heads.

"The American Legion of Oregon has been conspicuously successful in attaining its Departmental objectives," says Commander McNutt. "Through the cooperation of its officers and members, the Oregon Department has aided materially in advancing the national organization's four-fold program of unselfish service: Rehabilitation, Child Welfare, Americanism and National Defense.

"You have helped the American Legion include its first legislative approval. You have been a prominent factor in making the tenth year of Legion endeavor one of the most active in the history of our great organization.

"First on our program throughout the past year, as it has been since the inception of our organization, has been our service to the disabled. That service has been enlarged, improved and expedited. Great headway has been made in our fight for necessary increased hospital facilities. We cannot relax until that fight is won, which will be when an awakened public consciousness compels Congress to perform a duty in which it has shewn derelict.

Child Welfare Studied
"Second only to service to the disabled has been our effort to provide more adequately for child welfare. Substantial progress has marked our endeavor. Much advantageous legislation has been secured. Marked improvement has been registered in the execution of existing legislation. The American Legion has fulfilled its duty of guardianship for the orphans and dependent children of the war veteran.

"Third on our program has been Americanism. New goals have been achieved in our advancement of public education, development of junior baseball, promotion of the Boy Scout movement, assimilation of the foreign born, community service, disaster relief work, and elevation of the general standard of American citizenship.

"Fourth, but by no means least, has been our fight for an adequate national defense. Our most conspicuous effort was the successful fight for the passage of the cruiser bill. Tangible

gains have been made in our campaign for public support of the National Defense Act. The campaign must continue with vigor. The American Legion can declare no armistice with those who seek to destroy our nation by rendering it helpless. So long as our organization exists, its resources and its energies must be devoted to the task of seeing to it that this nation maintains a national defense adequate to protect the nation and the institutions under which it thrives.

Membership Increased
"Our membership has increased. Greater strength has enabled us to render greater service. It will continue to increase. And as we grow, let us never falter in our willingness to give all that we have to our country without thought of reward, save the accomplishment of a high purpose. For we have a high purpose, simply stated in the preamble of our constitution, so that all may see and understand. We stand for God and Country! No purpose is higher than that."

Minature Plane In Air for Time

SAN JOSE, Calif.—A record flight of 20 minutes was made by one of the airplanes entered in the model airplane contest conducted here recently. Kermit Van Evedy, of this city, constructed the plane which, during the record flight, attained an altitude estimated at 800 feet.

During the year 1927 the total amount of United States air mail was 1,222,843 pounds. In 1928 it leaped to 3,642,059 pounds.

CAPITOL WILL HOUSE MEETING

First Time in History of Legion That Such Spot Was Utilized

Legionnaires who are going to make the state capitol their business headquarters for the next three days may know it, and again they may not, but the fact remains; this is the first time in the history of Legion conventions in the United States that doors of a state house have been thrown open to them for meeting purposes.

Just how the inspiration to ask the state of Oregon for such a special favor dawned no one cares. It did. And the Salem Legion commission saw to it that resolutions were introduced into the senate at the last regular session asking use of the senate chamber and the house of representatives for the convention. Permission was readily granted, despite the unusualness of the special legislative enactment.

Hess Says Halls Ready
Secretary of State Hal Hess, as custodian of the solon's chambers, has seen to it that the big halls are in readiness for the Legion and Auxiliary for their first meetings today, and has also commandeered five or six state office rooms for use of the Legion committees. The ex-service men will use the house for their sessions, and the Auxiliary will meet in the senate chamber. Committees of the Auxiliary will hold their sessions in Eaton hall, on the Willamette campus nearby. Seats for 295 Legionnaires, the total number entitled to vote as delegates, have been provided.

Working with Secretary Hess in preparing the legislative chambers for the event have been committees from the Salem Post and Auxiliary, flowers and decorations having been left in their hands.

Although even more persons will be in session at the two conventions meeting than usual at the legislative sittings, the secretary of the state is expected to function as usual and with no interference from the hundreds of temporary occupants. But who says the switchboard operator, and elevator operators, not to mention the postman, won't notice the difference?

Go-Getter



This, ladies and gentlemen, is Ray Bassett, who, as adjutant of the Salem post, has an enviable record for getting things done.

AIRPORT OUTLAY IS BIG AMOUNT

Alhambra Field Going to be Excellent; Cost Goes to \$1,000,000

Airport investments totaling close to \$2,000,000 are being made by the Western Air Express, or for that company, according to figures just given out by officials of the air transport concern. The major investment is being made by Western Air Express at its new airport on Valley boulevard, near Alhambra, where more than \$1,000,000 is being expended.

On the shores of San Francisco a second high airport, costing approximately \$800,000, is being constructed as the San Francisco terminal of Western Air Express. At Albuquerque, N. M., \$75,000 is being spent on a new airport. At Salt Lake City improvements costing \$50,000 have been made at the municipal airport.

At Kansas City \$75,000 is being expended on improvements. At Kingman an investment of \$35,000 is being made. At Amarillo \$50,000 is being expended.

The airport being constructed by Western Air on Valley boulevard will be the main terminal of the company and it is destined to be one of the finest airports in the world. The site of 188 acres was purchased from the City of Pasadena. The improvements have advanced to such an extent that the company has abandoned its previous terminal at Wall field and is now operating its planes off the Valley boulevard airport, which is to be officially known as Western Air Express airport.

Unique among the improvements is a hangar built in hexagon shape with six doors, each 126 feet wide. The doors are operated by electricity and all six may be opened within 30 seconds. The hexagon hangar is believed to be the largest airplane hangar in the world and is the first of the design to be constructed. It was conceived by C. C. Cole, superintendent of operations for Western Air Express, and W. Y. Eaves, of the Eaves Construction Company. In size it? ? ?

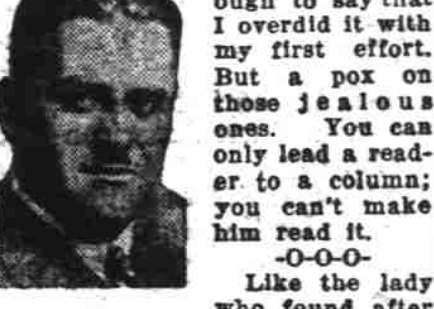
The state of Idaho now owns an airplane. It is being used as necessity arises by highway engineers for preliminary surveys.

Through the Jerryscope . .

Written especially for the Legionnaires visiting the 11 annual state convention

By JERRY OWEN
Editor, The Oregon Legionnaire
National President American Legion Press Association

This job of writing a column isn't like making love to a widow—you can overdo it.



And there are those unkind enough to say that I overdid it with my first effort. But a pox on those jealous ones. You can only lead a reader to a column; you can't make him read it.

Like the lady who found after she got on the beach that she had put her sun-suit on backwards, I am most embarrassed at the request of Sheldon Sackett that I contribute something to his great family journal.

In the first place, I'm not funny like *Eagle White*, and none of the *Capital Post* drum corps. Not even to look at. Except on occasions. And I'd rather hear nothing about them.

And then, I'm circumscribed. As copier of a column of honey in *The Oregon Legionnaire*, I have the satisfaction of knowing my audience. What I might say to 12,000 Legionnaires and those members of the Auxiliary who don't burn the sheet as soon as the postman sticks it in their mailbox might conceivably be out of place in a home and fireside paper such as this great medium of the Willamette Valley sector.

And another thing. I can use nice big type—10 point at least—and lots of asterisks in my own column, thus covering white space at an astonishing pace without writing much.

But here I'm doing the best I can and you will admit that I've covered quite a bit of space already without saying anything. And when am I going to start? Listen, friends, when one has nothing to say, the longer he takes to say it.

Salem has never before been host to an American Legion convention. Probably it's just as well that the Capital City waited for 11 years after the well known war. Some of us bewhiskered old timers can recall the unrestrained rove (That's a good word; I like it) and enthusiasm that nearly wrecked some of the communities that acted as hosts to earlier conclaves of what was then an infant organization of young men who had not all been weaned from the bottle.

But now the boys are much older, much more sedate, much less given to whoopee and noisiness. (Yeh, and I'll bet Friday night will make me out a liar!)

I can look back with pleasant, albeit hazy (Please get off my foot!) memories of some of the conventions in the "good ol' days." But I won't, except to mention en passant (I think that's French, Gabe) the fact that Prineville never recovered its equilibrium after the thundering herd passed through that last-frontier some years ago. Crumbling ruins of the once palatial Ochoco Inn marked the spot where headquarters were established.

I'm told that the Marion Hotel has withstood the onslaughts of various legislatures and their accompanying lobbies with rare fortitude for so, these many years and has come through virtually scatheless. So it may be that a quiet little convention of several thousand birds engaged in re-lit'rin' the stirring days of '17 and '18 may roll over it unnoticed. Did I say unnoticed? Well, hardly that.

A few hints to the citizenry of Salem may not be amiss in this emergency. It is not necessary to stay indoors during the morning hours when business sessions are being held in the state capitol building. And it is reasonably safe to venture out in the early evening, properly armed. After midnight, unless special police squads are furnished, sorties of citizens will be staged at their own peril.

The loud and ceaseless thumping you will notice at all hours of the day and certainly all hours of the night—especially the smaller ones—is not distant thunder. Nor is it an echo of the rolling barrages of war-time. It's a disease. From it, all drum corps members suffer and it breaks out with peculiar virulence at Legion conventions. Delicate ear-drums should be protected by cotton batting. Hiding the head under bed-clothes is also advised. No method has yet been devised to eliminate the nuisance.

Large groups of excited persons gathered on street corners and loudly haranguing do not indicate the imminence of a riot. It is probably Scapoose delegates trying to convince the Baker contingent that the 1930 convention should be held in Amity.

Don't jump to conclusions. The staggering youth and loud-mouthed crap-shooter displaying ribbons and interfering with traffic are not necessarily Legionnaires. A little figuring will convince you that one was probably 12 and the other seven years of age at the

MARSHFIELD MAY WIN

Corps Practices Nights and on Sundays

BIG IMPROVEMENT SEEN

MARSHFIELD, August 7.—If consistent practice and effort count for anything, then the Marshfield American Legion drum corps stands a favorable chance of winning first place at Salem this week, when nearly all corps of the state, the host city excluded, will compete for honors.

For weeks the Marshfield corps members have held nightly and Sunday practices, drilling for hours and long after darkness has fallen.

Before they left for Salem the bugling, drumming and maneuvering was as near perfection as is possible for the members to attain. They are now far superior in their work to last year when they won a high place in state competition at Medford.

The great majority of those who plan to attend from here will leave Coos Bay Tuesday and Wednesday.

Successful Year
The American Legion, department of Oregon, has just finished the most successful year it has had in its ten years of existence. It has carried out a very exten-

sive program and has participated in all community activities throughout the state and its 100 posts have been a big factor in the development of the state and community interest under the leadership of Ben S. Fisher of Marshfield, as state commander.

One of the most outstanding accomplishments of the legion has been the establishing of the "Oregon system" for taking care of the sick and disabled at the United States Veterans' hospital at Portland. This new hospital was dedicated in March and the legion and auxiliary have established a full time service officer to take care of the sick and disabled and their families while in the hospital. In addition to this they have supplied the veteran with all of his needs and furnished him with clothing and secured a job upon being discharged from the hospital.

The legion has completed a year of extensive service among the children of ex-service men after a careful survey the legion is pleased to announce that there is not a single child of ex-service men in need in the entire state.

AMPHIBIAN PLANES TO SPEED SERVICE

Flying time of the transcontinental air mail planes, which has recently been cut to 31 hours between the coasts, will be further reduced by the use of auxiliary amphibian planes at both the Chicago and New York terminals. Test flights have already been started at the former city with planes, which meet the inbound land craft at Chicago's municipal airport and fly uptown, landing the mail sacks in Lake Michigan within ten minutes of the post office. Fifty minutes has previously been required to move the west and east coast air mail from the landing field to the post office by motor truck. The amphibian planes fly the distance in nine minutes.

New York City air mail is landed at either Newark or Hadley Field, N. J., forty-five minutes and two hours respectively by truck from the Manhattan post office. By ferrying the mail from either of these airports, in planes which can land in the North River, within six or seven minutes of the central post office, from one to two hours will be saved in the dispatch of letters over the 2,680 miles transcontinental airway. Air passenger services have also started a similar service at Chicago.

Numerous improvements on the airport of Ogden, Utah, are contemplated. A contract already has been let for building of a pipe line to water the field.

made molasses who can understand what he thinks is French; Rex Parelins of Portland who is happier close to an Indian reservation; Helms Fluhrer of Medford who is literally up in the air in his new joy-riding plane; Jimmie—but I just happened to think, I'm not getting paid for this junk so why try to fill any more space? I might get a bill for type-setting.

\$100 CAS HAWARD TO DRUM CORPS WINNER

Three cash awards go to the first three winners in the general legion drum corps competition Friday night.

First place is to receive \$100 in cash. Winners of second honors are to receive \$60 in cash while the third place award is to be \$40 in cash.

In addition, corps are to share \$1,000 for their expenses, the pro rata distribution being made on a basis of the number of men and the number of miles traveled. Salem has thus provided \$1200 in cash for the competition and in addition four prized trophies will be distributed to the winners in the competition.

Regular daily passenger service has been established between New York and Boston by Colonial Air Transport.

Buddies Welcome To Salem



Commercial Cigar Store

W. R. Kane

CIGARS, CONFECTIONS, CARD ROOM, MAGAZINES



Vick Brothers

Oakland and Pontiac Distributors, extend to the Legionnaires and Ladies Auxiliary a most cordial greeting.

Welcome Legionnaires and Auxiliary Members to Salem



The MARION HOTEL

Salem

Oregon