

## NO LONGER A HOP, SKIP, SKEDADDLE Old Soldier, 102, Figures Indianapolis Too Long Hike

By HENRY MINARD

Seattle, Aug. 19 (AP)—A very, very old soldier, who now knows he can't attend the final reunion of his Civil War buddies next week, looked up at his doctor today, finally defeated, and piped with a century-old voice:

"Calculate it's just too darn long a hike to Indianapolis for a man turned home-body, anyway."

But Hiram Gale, 102, wasn't fooling anyone. Least of all, his nurses and doctor. They remembered last Fourth of July when the strains from a band brought him hopping to the window.

Once national commander of the grand army of the republic, Gale, added with forced indifference, "that town's no longer the hop, skip and skeddaddle it was to get to in '65." He referred to the scene of the first, and now last, reunion.

The last call for the "men in blue" will sound in that city Aug. 23. The once 400,000-strong northern army has been whittled down by more than four-score years to 17. Only six of those, including Gale—just last week—were expected to attend the 83rd and last encampment.

Now, with Gale ordered to remain in bed by his doctor, the fast-thinning ranks this year at Indianapolis will be only five abreast, one deep.

Those still planning to attend are Charles Chappel, 101, Long Beach, Cal.; James A. Hard, 108, Rochester, N. Y.; Joseph Clove, 102, Pontiac, Mich.; Theodore Penland, 100, the present national commander from Portland, Ore., and Albert Woolson, 102, Duluth, Minn.

He was glad the conversation finally switched to the future.

Asked about marrying again, the thrice-married Gale brightened and said, "I might consider it at that, son, if a nice old girl with plenty of money and a big home came along."

The former newspaper publisher, who switched to real estate in late years, finally retired at 100 years of age from a 48-hour-a-week job. "Cause I was too young to be cooped up in an office," he explained.

From then on he indulged even more in his favorite hobby—salmon fishing. The spry centenarian once elbowed his way through a cluster of people looking at a large salmon on display here.

"Don't rightly remember his weight—but he measured two feet 'tween the eyes."

The ancient soldier, whose elixir for long life has been "all bad habits in moderation," fingered his diamond-studded commander medal today as he propped himself against the pillow of his hospital bed and slipped for a moment back into the past.

In all his service during the war between the states, he only made corporal. Then it took him 80 more years to become GAR commander in chief in 1945.

"I really came up the hard way," he said.

## State May Have to Depend On Property Tax for Revenue

By JAMES D. OLSON

Unless tax probers can devise new sources of state revenues, satisfactory to the electorate, the 1951 legislature will be forced to rely on state taxes on property to raise sufficient funds to cover state needs.

This was revealed in a tabulation of figures issued by the state tax commission in connection with the 1949-50 state tax levy, showing that \$29,747,414.22 must be diverted from the corporate tax fund to meet the state budget requirements of approximately \$77,000,000 for the present fiscal year ending June 30, 1950.

The state tax commission estimates that \$18,000,000 will be collected in taxes from corporations during the present fiscal year and if this estimate is correct, the corporate excise tax fund will have \$7,487,760.46 at the end of the year, instead of \$37,235,174.68.

**Much Money Earmarked**  
The personal income tax fund, if tax collections are not reduced, should total \$83,672,192.47 during the present year but from this fund existing law requires distributions for higher education, veterans loan and education fund, the basic school fund, a \$15,000,000 cushion and the county school fund.

When these obligations are met the fund will be down to \$31,471,163.55 at the end of the year. Should the voters approve the additional basic school tax of \$30 a census child at the November 1950 election, at least another \$10 million will be added to the approximate \$17 million now authorized for this fund.

There will be no state property tax either this fiscal year or during the next, but what will happen in the years to follow is what is worrying both the legislative interim tax committee and the members of the state tax commission.

The interim committee, headed by Sen. Howard Belton of Canby, is preparing to hold meetings in various parts of the state during the next 12 months, after which the committee will hold a series of sessions in Salem to prepare its findings.

**Office Also Probes**  
In the meantime, the tax commission under the direction of the state board of control, likewise will probe possible tax sources as well as study the tax setup of the state, with a report to be made to the board of control.

At its first meeting the board of control tax study committee named Carl Chambers, chairman, and Ray Smith, vice chairman. Both are tax commissioners. William M. Collier, chief auditor of the tax commission was named secretary. The committee will meet again on August 31 in the office of State Treasurer Walter Pearson.

Pearls are sometimes formed around worms.

## Oiling of Highway Three Way Affair

Dallas—Re-oiling of the Orr's Corner road from the Dallas city limits to the junction of Highway 99W near Monmouth is about half completed in a project undertaken by the county.

Because of the damage done by the winter freeze it was necessary to rip up the road bed and do a "three-lift" job on the highway. Most of the rest of the

road required two coats of the new surface.

Breakdowns of county equipment, principally the "booster" for heating oil, has slowed the work, but with continued good weather, the county crews expect to finish soon. One-way traffic is being maintained on the road while work is in progress.

It is estimated that nearly 25,000 gallons of oil will be used on the project.

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