

# History Lives in Washington Statues

## Americans Dote on Nation's Monuments to Its Heroes

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WASHINGTON.—If you haven't anything else to do, just take a seat beside me on this bench for a moment. I think this is one of the nicest "little parks" in the world. It doesn't take its name from the gentleman on the horse right over there in the center, behind the iron pickets. I don't know why. Of course, he is only a replica. The original is in a square in the city he defended from the British—in the "vieux carre" of New Orleans.

He was GENERAL Jackson then. We think of him as President Jackson now. And we make fun of the horse he's sitting on, that prancing steed with his feet planted so firmly in the air ("like a liberal congressman," as one of the old conservatives used to say). It took many pounds of lead in Andy's horse's tail to keep the two of them in balance, they tell me.

But don't think the horse's hind feet are not firmly planted! The one man who tried to move them brought down an avalanche on his head, and gave a President of the United States a real headache.

It happened this way: There is a statue of George Washington tucked off on a circle in a neighborhood which has neither the distinguished past nor the glorious present of Lafayette Square. Back in the regime of President Harding, that statue was taken down for a little repair. A newspaperman, hard up for a feature, sat down and wrote himself quite a piece. His name was John Russell Young, and he is now commissioner (mayor) of the District of Columbia. In his piece, he suggested that when Washington was prettied up and returned to public view, he should be placed in the center of Lafayette park. Andy Jackson, Young thought, could be relegated to Washington's former relatively obscure position in Washington Circle. Local officials agreed.

Then the deluge. The story was widely printed and it seemed that every Democrat in the United States was personally affronted. The presidential secretaries had bales of mail to answer. The climax came when a long-forgotten Andrew Jackson patriotic and marching club, which appeared to be very much alive and kicking, threatened to descend on Washington in a body. The President had to issue a public statement saying that Andy was safe.

But I didn't intend to run on about Andy. The park is not, as I said, named after him. It's named after that young man you see over there on the southeast corner — looking right across Pennsylvania avenue into the window of the No. 1 guest chamber of the White House. His name is Marquis Marie Joseph Paul Yves Rich Gilbert du Motier de Lafayette. Yes, we're in Lafayette park.

Over there on the northeast corner is another Frenchman, Field Marshal Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau. Over there on the northwest, opposite the Decatur House where Commodore Stephen Decatur died after being shot in a duel with a fellow officer (Commodore Barron) out at Bladensburg, is Baron Friedrich Wilhelm August Heinrich von Steuben, who was as useful to General Washington, in his way, as Lafayette was in his.

### Kosciuszko Statue Stirs Reminiscences

But that brings me to the statue I was really going to talk about: Tadeusz Andrzej Bonaventura Kosciuszko, standing on the fourth corner of the park across from the house which once belonged to James Madison. Dolly lived there after her husband died.

The other day, a dispatch came in from Warsaw which said that the minister of education of the Communist-dominated Polish government had ordered there would be no more "salacious chattering jokes and significant smiling" in Polish schools and universities.

I got to reminiscing on the air about how I had been told Polish students acted in the days when Poland was divided between Russia, Austria and Germany. Teaching of Polish history was suppressed, and the Russian secret police then were as brutal (if not quite as efficient) as the Communist police in Poland are today.

It seems a Polish teacher in those days occasionally would slip into his lecture some subtle anti-Russian or patriotic remark. There wouldn't be the slightest response from the students. The teacher would go right ahead, and then, after a perfectly innocent sentence of some kind, he'd pause (and probably do a little "significant smiling"). Then the students would fairly raise the roof with applause and cheers—delayed action.

I mentioned that on the air, as I said, and commented that

every time I passed by the statue of Kosciuszko, I could hear a faint murmur. I had no doubt it was Kosciuszko telling what he would do today if he could just get down from his pedestal.

A number of people wrote in about that. They always do when I mention the statues. People are interested in statues even though they have gone out of style as monuments. You know, the Du Pont family took the bust of old Admiral Samuel F. Du Pont out of the famous circle named after him, and replaced it with the present beautiful memorial fountain. Some Washingtonians were deeply offended and the national parks service was kept busy for several days answering phone calls and letters from indignant citizens.

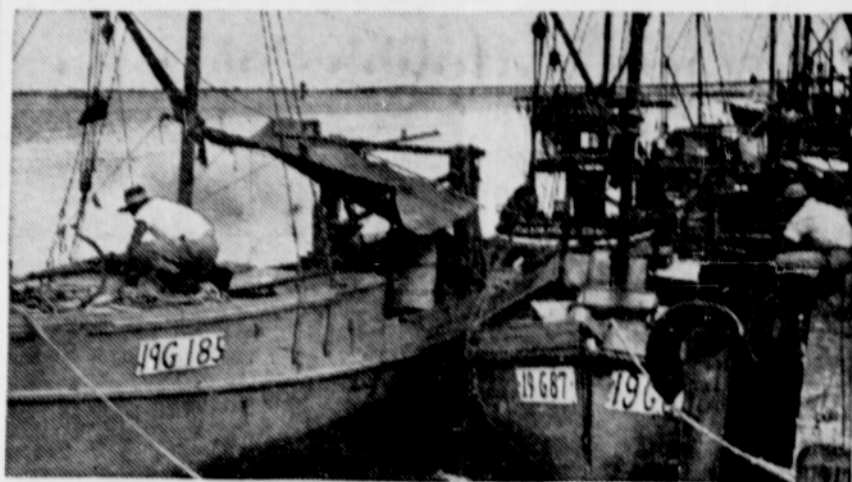
In fact about the only complaints the national parks service has been receiving of late years have been concerned with the upkeep of the 77 statues entrusted to its care. Some Washingtonians call up to rebuke the service for the greenish tinge creeping over some of them, like Kosciuszko's. It is bronze and weather turns it green, which most sculptors feel adds to its beauty, so the service doesn't worry too much.

There wasn't much money for the national parks during World War II to pretty up Washington's statuary. About all the service could manage was a yearly washing of each statue (it takes several men a whole day for the laundering job). But this year congress gave the service \$10,000 for trucking equipment, hoses, masonry repairs, plumbing fixtures for the fountains and other monuments.

They have another \$10,000 to spend on structural repairs—to replace missing arms, legs and chunks hacked out by souvenir hunters, for statues have their ghouls, too. But most of the finger breaking, it is believed, is done by perverted youth. On the whole, people like statues.



This is the Washington statue of Kosciuszko, Polish patriot, general and statesman, who served as George Washington's adjutant and laid out the fortifications at West Point. There is another monument to him at West Point.



FLORIDA OYSTER FLEET . . . Fishermen are busying themselves again along Florida gulf ports bringing in the first of the 1947-48 oyster haul. Here "oysterers" secure their craft after a long day's hunting in Apalachicola bay.

### NEWS REVIEW

## Corn Estimate Lowered; Aid Europe Now, Plea

### REPEAT: Less Corn

The 1947 corn crop, estimates of which have been shrinking like a \$10 suit ever since August, was reduced by another 33 million bushels in the department of agriculture's September report.

Total estimate cuts since August 1 were 256 million bushels, and the expected output this year now has been placed at 2,463,913,000 bushels.

There was more potential bad news, said the department: In case

### MEAT SUPPLY

Meat production can be maintained at a high level in the next year, despite the curtailed corn crop, animal feeding authorities declare. Extensive and efficient use of vegetable oil meal and other products will enable farmers to produce pork freely at less cost than if corn were used exclusively in feeding.

an early frost should blanket the corn belt, another reduction would be likely.

Crop reporting board said that "it now seems likely that at least 75 per cent of all corn in the 12 corn belt states will have matured by the average date of the first killing frost," but warned that if it were a week early, it would catch about 40 per cent of all corn at an immature stage. If frost came a week later, only a 15 per cent loss would be registered.

Latest estimates also foretold a sharp reduction in the record wheat crop. Output was set at 1,408,602,000 bushels, as compared with the August 1 prediction of 1,435,551,000 bushels.

### HEADLINERS

IN NEW YORK . . . Margaret Truman, coloratura soprano, was unanimously approved by the board of governors for membership in the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) as a junior vocalist in good standing.

IN TOKYO . . . Hidekei Tojo, former Japanese premier, now on trial for his life as a war criminal, peered in to the future, chose an epitaph for his tombstone: "By Buddha's grace all sins committed while living are absolved."

IN LONDON . . . Elliodor M. Libonati, visiting Legionnaire from Chicago, paused in front of No. 10 Downing street, the prime minister's residence, wickedly waved a handful of dollar bills in the air, attracted no takers.

IN TALLAHASSEE . . . Sen. Claude Pepper (Dem., Fla.) opened his mouth to say that if the Democratic party should feel that he could render "greater service in some other way, I would be greatly influenced by that feeling," turned around to find that his friends were



Tojo

booming him for vice-presidential nomination.

IN MILWAUKEE . . . Mrs. Lucy Nostrand stepped from a bus at a busy intersection, was knocked to the pavement by a hit-and-run cow, a refugee from a meat company shipment.

### URGENT: Stopgap Aid

George Marshall, U. S. secretary of state, was trying his best to pile up pressure for a special session of congress this autumn to finance immediate interim aid to keep Europe on its feet until Marshall's 20-billion-dollar, long-range rehabilitation plan begins functioning.

Stymied by Republican leaders who were either downright opposed or indifferent to an emergency session before January, Marshall was taking his case to the people, attempting to rally public opinion behind him.

Intolerable cold and hunger are the immediate threats facing Europe, he said. The crisis calls for "urgent consideration."

What would it cost this time? Marshall said that there was as yet no estimate of stop-gap needs, but he didn't deny reports that William L. Clayton, undersecretary of state, had cabled from Europe a request for a special session of congress to vote 2.5 billion dollars for aid now.

The special session was far from assured. If it came to a showdown, GOP leaders probably would oppose it openly, and they could, if they wished, stifle any economic aid legislation.

### GOP VICTORY: Straw in Wind?

Jubilant Republicans were making much of Franklin H. Lichtenwalter's resounding victory over labor-supported Phil H. Storch, Democratic candidate, in a special election to fill Pennsylvania's eighth district seat in congress.

The issue, naturally, was the Taft-Hartley labor law, and the outcome was a two-to-one acceptance by the voters of the law and what it signifies. If Pennsylvania is as much a political weathervane as it is claimed to be, the Lichtenwalter victory forecasts a cold, bleak wind from the north for Democrats in 1948.

Republican hoop-la called the vote "a smashing rebuke to the radical labor bosses who chose to make the Taft-Hartley labor management act the paramount issue of the election."

### Army Shrinking

Alarmed war department officials have estimated that the army's postwar strength has sunk to a new low of 965,000 officers and men, 105,000 below its authorized quota.

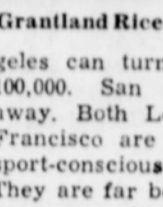
The army lost 75,000 officers and men during July and August and gained back only 50,000 through its recruiting campaign, thus suffering a net loss of 25,000 since July 1, when strength was 80,000 below the authorized level.



THERE is a certain change due in the setup of baseball's two major loops.

No sane person who knows sport can deny that Los Angeles and San Francisco are far better sporting centers than most of the major league cities, now occupying the "Standing of the Clubs."

Los Angeles in many ways is well beyond New York and Chicago. On a general average, it outdraws both at racing and football, to name two leading sports. I've seen 93,000 at a Rose Bowl game in nearby Pasadena and on the same afternoon, over 65,000 were at the Santa Anita race track. Given any sort of competition in football, Los Angeles can turn out from 80,000 to 100,000. San Francisco isn't far away. Both Los Angeles and San Francisco are also sport-keen and sport-conscious to a high degree. They are far beyond at least 10 Big League centers. For that matter, Baltimore is also a much better big-league spot than many teams now listed.



Grantland Rice

When you look over attendance records at Browns park in St. Louis, ranging from 400 to 1,100, you get the answer.

The shift has to come at an early date, a fact which a number of sleepy or half-awake big league magnates will have to swallow, no matter how little they like the medicine.

There has been a big change in major league baseball which can have some interesting developments. A few years ago only the winner in a big city could pass the one million attendance mark in one year. You had to have a winner, or at least a good ball club, to make any money. Today, cellar champions or cellar challengers can pass the one million roundup. Owners no longer need good ball clubs to have big years. This easily can lead to a big letdown in the way of any financial incentive.

### Sectional Strength

Football began in the East, where, for more than 30 years, Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Pennsylvania had most of the All-Americans and the strongest teams.

The first strong outside challenge came from Hurry-Up-Yost's fast and powerful Wolverines around 1901. But, even then the East was well in the lead, when you look back to the days of Tom Shevlin, Gordon Brown and big Jim Hogan of Yale, DeWitt of Princeton, Graydon of Harvard and many others who wore the Orange and Black or the Red and Blue. From 1901 through 1904, Michigan was the national leader.

Twenty years ago, the tide turned westward as Stanford, Southern California and California came along with such able coaches as Pop Warner, Howard Jones and Andy Smith. These were great days on the Pacific slope, where such teams as Ohio State, Pittsburgh, Army and others were badly man-handled by western speed and power.

In the last few years, there has been another shift. The two strongest football sections in the country today are the Midwest and the South. The argument between these two sections, in the last few years, has developed more smoke than a burning oil well, with a considerable amount of flame attached.

The leader in the Midwestern uprising was Notre Dame, with Knute Rockne leading the charge. But Notre Dame has since been joined by Michigan, Ohio State, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and others who have shown solid strength.

There is one debate that is full of ringing tones and vocal cataclysms. How would the 10 best teams from the South finish against the Big Nine, plus Notre Dame?

For reasons of their own, these two rival football sectors leave out the East, the Far West and the Southwest, in the matter of general team strength.

### South Caught Up Fast

After a slow start, the South first derived its upward move from such coaches as Dan McGugin, Wallace Wade, Bernie Bierman, Frank Thomas, Jack Heisman and Bill Alexander. Later Bob Neyland came along to add new coaching strength; also Carl Snively and a few others.

Once under way, the South moved in a hurry to take its place around the front row, long after the Midwest had moved up.

What chance would the 10 best teams from Dixie have against the Big Nine and Notre Dame? Notre Dame would give the Midwest a rousing breakaway from the barrier.

But the South has a stout argument to offer. Her 10 selections would come from Georgia, North Carolina, L.S.U., Alabama, Duke, Kentucky, Tulane, Vanderbilt, Tennessee, Auburn, Mississippi and Mississippi State, North Carolina State, Virginia and one or two others.

### Telling Fortunes at Parties Lots of Fun



### Card Fortunes Thrill

WHETHER you're planning a charity bazaar or a party of your own, you can always count on a fortune-telling booth to keep the crowd entertained.

Bedeck yourself in a colorful turban and dangling earrings; get out a deck of cards, dice, dominoes, a crystal ball or the tea leaves—and you're set for some fun!

Our Weekly Newspaper Service booklet No. 65 explains fortune-telling by six fascinating methods. Send 25 cents (coin) for "Let Me Tell Your Fortune" to Weekly Newspaper Service, 243 West 17th St., New York 11, N. Y. Print name, address, booklet title and No. 65.

### Gagged Nagging Women

Women in the Seventeenth century were often tried for nagging. If they were convicted, they were led through the streets wearing iron muzzles over their heads with mouthpieces that formed a gag.

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JUST A DASH IN FEATHERS... OR SPREAD ON ROOSTS

### COLD-BLOODED FORECAST

## Coal Shortage Looms for U.S.

Take a tip from the coal producers: Unless your furnace burns oil, it will be a good idea to keep a little sunshine in your smile and warmth in your heart this winter.

Because, from the standpoint of obtaining coal, it looks like the winter of 1947-48 will be the toughest in at least six years. Producers already are admitting drearily that there is little chance that fuel shortages, inconvenience and suffering can be put aside.

Reasons for this uninviting outlook are three, in particular:

1. Unparalleled demand in a peacetime period which even record production (600 million tons) will not fully satiate. Attempts are being made to stockpile, but to little

avail. Industrial stocks are the lowest in years; retail supplies on hand are only fair.

2. Unprecedented shortage of railroad cars. Never, in history of the solid fuels industry, were so few cars available to move so much coal to so many consumers.

3. Domestic buyer indifference to pleas that they fill their bins during summer months. That apathy is accounted for by higher retail prices of coal, combined with the prolonged heat wave which lulled the householder into a false sense of security.

At the same time, paradoxical though it may seem, coal production this year will reach a level surpassed only by the output in 1944

when the nation was at the height of its war effort.

Even if miners dug and machined an average of only 10 million tons a week during the remaining weeks of 1947, production would be 45 million tons higher than the 532 million total in 1946.

Because of strikes, idle time, car shortages and a shorter work week, the mines have lost somewhere between 35 and 50 million tons of production so far this year.

Concerning prices, the most likely prospect is for them to go up again. Dealers say that the customer appears ready to take higher charges for his coal as something unavoidable, but he doesn't like it.