

TEXAS TO HOLD 2 MONTH PARTY FOR STATEHOOD

Austin, Tex. (U.P.)—Texas will extend its "centennial of statehood" observance from Dec. 29, 1945, until Feb. 19, 1946.

The long observance period is due to a conflict in the dates on which Texas and the U. S. Supreme Court hold that the Republic of Texas ceased to exist and became a part of the United States of America.

Dec. 29, 1945, was held to be the official annexation time in a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in a tax case. Texans cling to the later date because it was on Feb. 19, 1846, that the Lone Star Flag of Texas was hauled down over the capitol and the Stars and Stripes run up.

In ceremonies that day, Anson Jones, last president of the Republic of Texas, turned over affairs to Pinchney Henderson, first Governor of the State of Texas.

The federal court ruling on the earlier date was based on the fact that the President of the United States on Dec. 29, 1845, signed the joint resolution for admission of Texas to the Union.

The intervening months were used in election of state officers to replace those of the Republic of Texas.

The celebration will be entirely different from that of Texas' centennial of independence, celebrated in 1936. There will be no exposition, no historical monuments and markers such as were features of the 1936 observance.

Instead of series of public and school activities pointed to stress agriculture and Texas and

Their Judges Now on Trial



Four who went on trial before fleeing Nazi judges and later were hung for their part in an attempt to assassinate Hitler in July, 1944, were among 5000 persons either shot or hung for the plot. Trial pictures taken by Nazi cameramen show Field Marshal Von Wittleben (upper left) forced to wear oversized trousers as a gesture of humiliation; Count Von Leonrod (upper right), an Army staff major; Count Werner Von der Schulenberg (lower left), and Chaplain Wehrle (lower right), who advised plotters that murder of the tyrant would be no crime, but who pleaded for mercy in court. Collier's Magazine photos from Acme

SCIENTISTS SEEK BROADCASTING TO ANY GIVEN POINT

Chicago (U.P.)—Science, attempting to bridge the gap between the longest light waves and the shortest sound waves, may one day discover how to direct a broadcast to a single point, focussing it as precisely as a small stream of light.

Dr. Phillips Thomas, Westinghouse Electric research engineer, recently stated that ultra short-wave radio development has reached a temporary barrier which he said would last only a short time.

"In our efforts to bridge this gap between radio and light waves," he said, "we apparently have reached an impasse. But in every other case when science has reached an impasse, some way around the obstacle has been found."

"Were it possible to still further shorten wave lengths and still obtain reasonable amounts of power, our radio waves would begin to act like light waves," he said. "They could be reflected from small mirrors, condensed by small lenses into narrow beams like light beams. Instead of broadcasting them indiscriminately into space, they could be sent to only one receiving point. This would solve the problem always with us in long-wave radio, that of secrecy."

Present limitations seem to lie in the vacuum tube, Thomas

Runaway



(Acme Telephoto) Richard Mason, 14, of Pekin, Ill., who ran away from home with cat and \$1500 of his grandfather's money, is questioned in police station after his arrest in a Chicago hotel. Manager became suspicious of cat and the boy's unexplained spending money.

pointed out, and once those limitations are passed, a new field of expansion will be opened for further work in shortening sound waves, he said.

600,000 MORE TO GAIN DISCHARGE

Washington, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—An additional 600,000 army men and women became eligible for discharge today, and the United Press learned that nearly one-half of all combat divisions have been inactivated.

The critical point score needed by enlisted men for separation dropped to 50 while male officers not in the medical service now need a total of 70. These point changes were an-

nounced previously by the war department.

Length of service requirements for discharge were reduced to these totals: enlisted men 42 months, male officers 48 months, enlisted Wacs 30 months and Wac officers 39 months. Medical and dental corps officers are now eligible for discharge at the age of 48 while Wacs married to discharged veterans may be separated on application.

To Portland — Departing for Portland yesterday to attend a New Year's eve Phi Gamma Delta fraternity dance were Pat Thompson, Margaret Anne Brown and William Leever.

They will visit a fraternity brother of Leever's in Salem before going on to Portland.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.



It is our earnest hope that when all the vol-ums have been written about this decade, history will prove 1946 to have been a turning point toward man's greater happiness and enriched living in every way. GREETINGS!

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HERE IS THE ISSUE

Is American Business To Be Based On Free Competition Or Is It To Become Socialized, With All Activities Controlled And Regimented?

General Motors has faced what it believes is a highly critical issue. It has made its decision. It is important that the public understand the issue. The issue at stake transcends the interests of General Motors. There is involved something far more consequential—a most vital principle.

Is American business in the future, as in the past, to be conducted as a competitive system? or is the determination of the essential economic factors, such as costs, prices, profits, etc., upon which business success and progress depend, to be made politically by some governmental agency instead of by the management appointed by the owners of the business for that purpose?

America is at the crossroads! It must reserve the freedom of each unit of American business to determine its own destinies. Or it must transfer to some governmental bureaucracy or agency or to a union, the responsibility of management that has been the very keystone of American business. Shall this responsibility be surrendered? That is the decision the American people face. America must choose!

General Motors has made its choice. It refuses to subscribe to what it believes will ultimately become, through the process of evolution, the death of the American system of competitive enterprise. It will not participate voluntarily in what stands out particlarly clear at the end of the road—a regimented economy. If this is what the American people want, they must make that choice through their accredited representatives in Congress. General Motors declines for itself to take such a great responsibility.

It may be said that this is an exaggeration. It is not! All business questions are interrelated. Costs, prices, wages, profits, schedules, investments must be the responsibility of management. Political determination of such relationships means regimentation.

The idea of ability to pay, whatever its validity may be, is not applicable to an individual business within an industry as a basis for raising its wages beyond the going rate.

Would the implications of such a principle. Who would risk the money to develop or expand a business under such circumstances? Where would be the incentive to do a more efficient job? Would it

be intelligent to destroy the incentive for efficiency? Would it not be more intelligent to subscribe to the principle that no one should be forced to pay more than the going rate. Should General Motors, assuming it is more efficient, be required to pay more for materials, for transportation, for services or for wages than its competition? And how much more determined by a political governmental agency?

Do you subscribe to the belief that you should pay for what you buy or the services you use on the basis of your financial resources? It is clear that this is the principle involved

The President of the United States has appointed a fact-finding board to inquire into the circumstances involved in the demands of the UAW-CIO upon General Motors and to make recommendations related thereto. General Motors stood ready to supply the board with all necessary data regarding wage rates, employees' earnings, hours of employment and all other relevant information regarding wages and employment. However, the board has ruled that General Motors' ability to pay will be considered as a factor in determining an increase in wages. This would require an appraisal of costs, prices, prospective volume of business, investment factors, expenses and the entire forward operating program of the business. Thus the board would assume the most vital functions of management.

General Motors is not contending that it has or has not the ability to pay. It always has paid liberal wages. It has attempted through protracted collective bargaining sessions to determine what is fair and equitable today. It has made a fair and liberal offer to the union.

Notwithstanding the importance of re-establishing employment and resuming production at the earliest possible moment, the above reasons have made it impossible for General Motors to participate in the proceedings of the board under the procedures as now established, and it has therefore withdrawn from the hearings. It takes that position with great regret. But it does so in the sincere belief that this action is in the long-term interest of employes, consumers, investors, and of the public as well—and of higher standards for all.

C. E. WILSON
President.

ALFRED P. SLOAN, Jr.
Chairman.

GENERAL MOTORS

More And Better Things For More People



They gave their own blood

As every good soldier eventually lays aside his uniform, so must we lay aside our wartime mementoes.

There's the Army-Navy "E" flag with its four stars our Richmond Refinery people won for production; the Treasury flag our employes won for almost 100 per cent bond buying; the Coast Guard banner the Company received for port security service; and, above all, our service flag with its 8,006 stars.

But before filing away the record, we'd like to tell you of another war contribution by the men and women of this Company, one for which the figures have only recently been rounded up.

They gave 12,000 pints of blood.

The original goal was one pint for each Standard Oilier in the service. Our people had passed that mark, and were half way along a second lap when the Japanese surrendered.

What's more, with only five blood banks available—all located in metropolitan centers—many of our people had no chance to share in this effort. Their share was made up by Standard Oiliers who gave blood again and again—and sometimes again.

Two donors gave 18 pints each, one gave 17 pints, and four gave 16 pints each. But this supply of plasma and whole blood came in the main from a large group. How many lives it saved, none knows. Yet certainly such a record might do credit to a Florence Nightingale.

Our people formed their own committees, set their own goals, and gave their own blood. As a company, our only claim to distinction in this matter is that such people work for us. To them goes our final wartime salute.



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American history are being planned.

Eagles Planning Elaborate Party Tonight At Hall

Elaborate plans have been made by Medford Eagles for the annual New Year's Eve party to be held tonight at the hall. The party will be formal and the committee in charge states that there will be fun-makers, the traditional party hats and that a gay evening is assured.

Dancing is to begin at 9 p. m. Thursday night a homecoming party for members of the lodge recently returned from army and navy service will be held following the usual lodge meeting. About 135 members of the order have been in the various branches of the armed forces. A program, to be followed by refreshments, is planned.

MINESWEEPER SUNK BY MINE OFF JAPAN COAST

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—The U. S. navy announced today that the heavy minesweeper U.S.S. Minivet sank with a "moderate loss of life" off the coast of Kyushu, Japan, Saturday after striking a mine.

The Minivet had been supervising mine-sweeping operations by Japanese vessels, cleaning up Japanese and American minefields. Her normal crew was nine officers and 82 enlisted men. Air and sea rescue operations began immediately.

BIRTHS

SHEHAB—To Mr. and Mrs. Phil, 245 So. Central, Dec. 30, 1945, a girl, seven pounds, at Osteopathic Clinic.

CAB RIDE BEATS CRUSH

Indianapolis (U.P.)—It takes a little pull to get space on a train, President Herman B. Wells of Indiana University discovered recently. A friend, a general division superintendent for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, arranged for Wells to ride the cab of a fast diesel locomotive from Mitchell, Ind., to Cincinnati when Wells found the train too crowded.

There are 1,000 chapters of the American Disabled Veterans in the United States comprised of men who participated in the Spanish American war and World Wars No. 1 and 2.

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WLB EXISTENCE ENDING TONIGHT

Washington, Dec. 31—(U.P.)—The war labor board, which has handled thousands of wartime disputes and wage cases, goes out of existence at midnight tonight.

It will be replaced by the labor department's wage stabilization board, which will rule only on wage raises where price relief is sought.

More than 1,200 WLB employes go off the government payroll tonight. The remaining 800 will work for the WSB.

Six new homes are being constructed in Basin, Wyo., for what is termed the town's biggest building boom in the last 15 years.



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