

American Legion Feted On Fortieth Birthday

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The American Legion, its seed planted in France in the twilight of the First World War, is celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Praised for service to veterans in the community, the Legion also has been criticized on charges of ultra-nationalism, governmental meddling and too much convention horseplay.

But its critics cannot deny the influence and power of the Legion with its 2,814,000 members.

The U.S. Army high command provided the spur for the birth of the Legion.

After Germany had been defeated, discontent arose in the American Expeditionary Force. The war was over and the doughboys wanted to go home.

The Army high command, seeking to rub out this discontent, called 20 National Guard and Reserve officers to a Paris meeting aimed at finding ways to end the soldiers' grumbling. There was talk and some recommendations.

But some officers were thinking farther ahead.

One was Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., son of the 26th President. Roosevelt had been thinking of a veterans' organization long before the high command moved to still the foot soldiers' complaints.

With Roosevelt the prime force, the 20 men formed a unit and

spread the word that a meeting would be held March 15, 1919 in Paris.

Some 1,000 officers and enlisted men flocked to Paris to a caucus, March 15-17, and the Legion was on its way.

In the United States, there followed an intensive campaign to acquaint veterans with the proposed organization. In St. Louis on May 6, 1919 the advance committee of each state made plans for a general caucus.

On the afternoon of May 8th, Roosevelt called the caucus to order.

Immediately, there was a stampede to elect him permanent chairman, against his wishes. He promptly resigned.

Roosevelt was said to have felt that the Legion would be hurt by having a person with such a well-known name as his at its helm. Finally elected chairman was Henry D. Lindsley of Texas.

The Legion was chartered by Act of Congress and the charter convention was held in Minneapolis Nov. 10-12, 1919.

This Saturday Legionnaires will return to downtown St. Louis to a plaque on a utility company wall—formerly the site of a theater where the Legion was born—and hold rededication ceremonies.

"DENNIS THE MENACE"



DON'T YOU HAVE A HUSBAND WHO SHAKES HIS FIST AND TURNS PURPLE WHEN KIDS JUMP THROUGH HIS HEDGE?!

Republican Senator Says Strauss Approval Seen

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Republican senator predicted today Lewis L. Strauss will win committee approval of his nomination to be secretary of commerce despite bitter opposition.

Strauss, already serving in the Cabinet under a recess appointment, resumes before the Senate Commerce Committee this afternoon his reply to charges made by Sen. Clinton P. Anderson (D-NM) and others.

The GOP senator, who asked that his name not be used, said he expects at least three or four of the committee's 11 Democrats to vote along with all six Republicans for Strauss' confirmation.

Sen. Everett Dirksen (R-Ill), Minority Senate leader, told newsmen after a White House conference Wednesday he earnestly hoped the committee vote would be favorable.

Dirksen echoed the hope of Committee Chairman Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) that hearings would be completed this week. Strauss' nomination, submitted by President Eisenhower Jan. 17, already has been before the committee for 110 days.

Government records indicate that that period already is one day longer than the total required for action on the nominations of all 13 previous secretaries of commerce since the office was created in 1913.

Anderson, chairman of the Senate-Atomic Energy Committee, long has been at odds with Strauss.

Strauss told the committee

Wednesday he apparently had been able to please all former chairmen of the committee except Anderson, and that Anderson's immediate predecessor, Rep. Carl Durham (D-NC), had offered to testify in his behalf.

Anderson has accused Strauss of telling the committee "unqualified falsehoods" and, as a former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, of inflating his contributions to atomic developments, of misleading the public, and of withholding information from Congress.

Strauss launched into his detailed reply to Anderson after an earlier complaint that he was being persecuted with false charges and cruel accusations.

Strauss testified that, contrary to what Anderson had said, he had never intentionally withheld information as chairman of the AEC from the Senate-Atomic Energy Committee.

He also denied that he had tried to create any myths about his accomplishments in pushing development of the H-bomb or of a system for detecting Soviet nuclear explosions.

Anderson, not a member of the Commerce Committee, was not permitted to ask Strauss any questions, but he sat beside Sen. Gale McGee (D-Wyo.), a committee member, and fed questions to him.

This led to one blow-up. Turning to Anderson, Strauss protested: "I didn't have the opportunity of cross-examining you during your testimony."

Then, as he started to go on, he put his hands to his head and said "Oh, forget it."



JOHN MATHIS

JAMES CHANCE

New Principal To Take Over

John Mathis, principal of Chiloquin High School for six years, has been named principal of Merrill High School beginning at opening of the fall term. Information on his transfer was given this week by Carrol Howe, Klamath County school superintendent.

Mathis will succeed James Chance, who is leaving the teaching profession to go into another field of employment.

The new Merrill administrator attended Pacific University, Forest Grove, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, served as a lieutenant in the Navy during World War II in the South Pacific, and upon his discharge from the service, completed his college work at Pacific in 1947.

He filled a post as teacher-coach at Independence for three years, served two years in the same capacity at Monmouth and for one year at Henley before becoming principal at Chiloquin. He

received his masters at Oregon State College in 1952 and administrative credentials at the University of Oregon last year.

Chance is completing his sixth year in education in Klamath County, having been at Bly and Merrill for three years in each post. His three-year term as chairman of the District 5 "B" Athletic Committee expires this year. He began teaching in 1937 in Payette, Idaho, served in the Army as staff sergeant, chief clerk of headquarters at Fort Bliss, Texas and was discharged as a sergeant major. Chance has held administrative posts for 10 years.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? STRATFORD-ON-AVON, England (UPI)—The council of this William Shakespeare shrine city decided Tuesday night to change the word "lavatories" on tourist directional signs to "convenience."

Star To Shed Actor Mate

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Uncertainty over the fate of the three-year marriage of Anita Ekberg and British Actor Anthony Steel has ended with her suing for divorce.

The Swedish actress charged him with extreme cruelty in her complaint, filed Wednesday. Miss Ekberg, 27, and Steel, 39, were married in Florence, Italy, in 1956. They have been apart since Jan. 15 and she has been making films in Italy.

When she returned to the United States recently she disclosed they were separated but she said she hadn't decided whether she would seek a divorce. The buxom blonde and Steel held a conference last week to determine if there was any way of reconciling their differences.

Superior Court was asked to approve a property settlement, details of which were not disclosed.

ACTRESS RECOVERING LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP)—Actress Debra Paget is recovering from what was described as lung congestion caused by exhaustion. She collapsed after a strenuous dance routine at the Flamingo hotel Tuesday night.

A spokesman said she will be released from the hospital in a day or two but it isn't known whether she will be able to resume her act.

All-White Grand Jury Indicts Youths For Rape

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A grand jury of 18 white men indicted four white youths Wednesday for raping a slender Negro co-ed.

The jurors heard witnesses including the 19-year-old victim for nearly seven hours before filing into a hushed courtroom and handing their presentment to Circuit Judge W. May Walker.

Only once before in Florida history has a rape case drawn such wide attention. That was in 1949 when four Negroes were accused of raping a 17-year-old married white girl.

The courtroom gallery was almost filled with Negroes yesterday — many of whom had kept their segregated seats all day, but there was no demonstration when Walker announced the indictments had been returned. White spectators also were silent.

The four will be arraigned Friday and a trial date set. They are Patrick G. Scarborough, 20, Air Force man on leave from an Alaska base; Willton T. Collinsworth, 24, married telephone lineman; David Ervin Beagles, 18, a high school student; and Ollie Stoutmire, 16, a distant relative of Police Chief Frank Stoutmire of Tallahassee.

They have confessed finding the victim, her escort and another Negro couple parked early Saturday morning after a college dance, taking her to a lonely spot at gunpoint and raping her by turns.

Rape can bring the death penalty but never in Florida history has a white man gone to the electric chair for assaulting a Negro. Several Negroes have died for raping white women.

None of the four Negroes accused in the 1949 case was executed although one was killed by a posse and a second was shot to death by a sheriff who said he tried to escape en route to his trial.

A third was sentenced to life imprisonment after a jury recommended mercy because he was only 17. The fourth, Walter Lee Irvin, was convicted twice and sentenced to death but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

Word that the four white men were indicted was received calmly by students at Florida A. and M. University where the victim is enrolled. Earlier the students had boycotted classes and held mass rallies to protest the attack.

Officials at first had planned to lay the case before the June grand jury but mounting public interest led to reconvening the December jury so immediate action could be taken.

The victim, slight and apparently still shaken by her experience, was attended by a nurse and was helped from a car to the courthouse by two companions. She looked straight ahead as she entered the building. Under Florida law, she may not be identified.

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NM Tot Back With Mother After Kidnaping Episode

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—Sleepy little Mitchell Johnson snuggled into his mother's arms late Wednesday, back home from a nightmare probably he won't remember much about.

The 1½-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson was flown back from Dallas where his 16-year-old baby-sitter took him.

It all started last Monday when the baby sitter, Betty Smithy, a snub-nosed fugitive from the Girls

Welfare Home in Albuquerque, wandered off with the little boy. She had been sitting with him in the Johnson's home at Placitas, a mountain village northeast of Albuquerque.

"I don't know why I did it," the orphaned teenager said in Dallas after her arrest.

Mrs. Johnson had been working as a psychologist at the girls-institution. She said she resigned Friday and received permission to take Betty home with her.

Her attempts to give Mitchell to strangers in a drugstore in Dallas led to recovery of the baby. Betty was found by police in a cafeteria in downtown Dallas.

An airlines employe carried Mitchell from the plane in Albuquerque to his mother. As he reached for her, the little redhead murmured, "mama, mama."

Mrs. Johnson, wan from worry, said, "I knew he was safe."

Then she said, "I'm so relieved."

As for the Smithy girl, held in Dallas, Mrs. Johnson said, "I'm so grateful she took good care of my baby."

Tuesday Rites Set By Eddie

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Eddie Fisher plans to marry Elizabeth Taylor in Las Vegas, Nev. next Tuesday — the day after he gets his Nevada divorce from Debbie Reynolds.

The singer changed his wedding day, originally set for Thursday, to make sure Mike Todd Jr., son of Miss Taylor's late husband, would be on hand as best man. Todd has to be in Spain next Thursday.

Fisher, making a Las Vegas hotel appearance, expects to get a Nevada divorce Monday, the day his six-week legal residence ends. Miss Reynolds said she would not contest it.

This will be Fisher's second marriage and Miss Taylor's fourth. The dark-haired actress was divorced from Hotel Heir Nick Hilton and Actor Michael Wilding. Her third husband, showman Mike Todd died in a plane crash last year.

Chief Signs Jobless Bill

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Mark Hatfield signed into law Wednesday the bill to extend unemployment compensation coverage to employers of one person. It will bring about 10,000 employers under the law.

The law now applies only to employers of two or more persons. He also signed bills to require that farm labor contractors be licensed, and to permit the use of a drug called naline to detect narcotic addiction.

The narcotic bill also permits five-year probation periods during which treatment can be given addicts.

3 Indicted For Fraud

DETROIT (AP) — Three more indictments were returned Wednesday by a federal grand jury which is investigating what officials have said was a contest fraud against newspapers.

The indictments dealt with alleged fraud against The Oregonian in Portland, Ore. The three indicted are Walter Rex Johnston III, 33, Detroit car salesman; Joseph Dyson, 30, London, Ont.; and Harry Balk, 33, Detroit entertainment booking agent.

The government says these three were in on a plot to set up a dummy newspaper to buy puzzles and answers from two contest agencies. Answers were supplied to individuals who were required to share their winnings with the plotters, the government said.

GUM CHEWERS BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)—Hungarian Communists, after years of poking fun at gum-chewing Americans, are going to start making their own chewing gum. A cookie factory in Győr will open a gum section to supply some of the local demand that has been filled by American gift packages and official imports from Communist China and Israel.

Indians Seek Work Halt

YAKIMA (AP) — A group of Indians seeks to halt construction on the huge John Day Dam on the grounds it would flood their ancestral hunting, fishing and food gathering grounds.

An injunction against the project on the Columbia River was sought in U.S. District Court Wednesday by Chief Henry Thompson of the Mid-Columbia tribes, Chief Willie John Culpas of the Kah-mill-pah tribe and 32 tribal members. Named as defendants were the contractors, Morrison-Knudsen Co. and Le Boeuf & Dougherty, Inc.; Col. Allan F. Clark Jr., division head of the Army Engineers and others.

The suit contends the Kah-mill-pah tribe has always fished, hunted game and gathered roots and berries along the shores of the Columbia between Bonneville Dam and Lake Roosevelt. Rights to these ancient fishing grounds were respected by other members of the Mid-Columbia confederation and other Yakima Indian Nation tribes, the complaint said.

An 1855 treaty between the Yakima Nation and the United States did not cede these lands to the federal government but rather reserved exclusive fish rights and pasturing privileges for the Indians, the suit contended.

The fishing grounds were valued at \$100,000 and the hunting, rooting and berrying areas at another \$100,000.

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