

Somber Last Curtain Is Drawn for Rogers

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 23 (AP).—
The somber last curtain was drawn
together for Will Rogers Friday.

His body was sealed away in a
crypt at Forest Lawn Memorial
Park late Thursday after a brief
ceremony at the Wee Kirk o' the
Heather.

It will rest there for a while,
until Mrs. Rogers takes it back to
Oklahoma to be interred beside the
bodies of his father and mother in
the Chelsea Cemetery.

While the rites were being said
the life of the whole community
stopped. Business paused. Public
offices were closed. More than two-
score Hollywood film studios were
silent. And countless thousands of
people participated, in one way or
another, in the homage to the home-
spun philosopher-wit.

Starting at 7 o'clock in the morn-
ing, some 50,000 persons filed past

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LAST CURTAIN FIGHT IS BEGUN

DRAWN FOR ROGERS

FOR 12-CENT COTTON LOAN

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his body, lying in state in a grove of trees at Forest Lawn. An even greater number failed to gain entrance. The body lay for five hours, and a cordon of police moved the crowd as fast as possible.

10,000 Gather at Bowl.

But there wasn't enough time.

In the afternoon, while a few invited guests went to the private services at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, 10,000 gathered at the Hollywood Bowl, and an unnumbered host assembled in the movie studios, and the Community Presbyterian Church in Beverly Hills.

It was probably the greatest tribute ever paid a private citizen.

At the chapel a mountain of flowers was massed, the wreaths, figures, bouquets and funeral pieces coming from all over the country. Some represented a city or State; many were sent by organizations, from groups of aviators, the Baseball Writers Association of America, the Grand British Veterans, the government of Soviet Russia, the chuck wagon trailers and "the boys from the stables." Far less than half could be placed inside the chapel. The entire lawn, outside, stretching down the whole side of the hill, was blanketed with them.

More typical of Rogers were the songs sung in his memory.

Minister Is Affected.

At the private services, John Boles, film actor, sang the cowboy-philosopher's favorite, "Old Faithful," at one studio, James Melton, radio star, sang "Home on the Range"; at another Joe Morrison, actor-singer, "The Last Roundup"; and at still another, Nino Martini, celebrated oper singer "Agnus Dei."

Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher, former pastor of Tremont Temple Baptist Church, Boston, and Temple Baptist, Los Angeles, seemed deeply affected as he led the service at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, describing Rogers as he had known him.

"He has been the one figure in the life of our Nation who has drawn to himself the admiration and love of all classes of people," Rev. Mr. Brougher said.

The clergyman read Will Rogers' own introduction to a book, written by the cowboy-artist Charley Russell.

"I guess God needed a good man in a hurry," Rev. Mr. Brougher read as his voice broke, and tears welled into his eyes.

His audience represented a wide cross-section of American life. Members of the Government of the United States, the Army and the Navy, the business world, the film-industry—all were there. Postmaster General Farley, Admiral W. P. Tarrant and Brig. Gen. H. H. Arnold sat beside Mary Pickford, Ed-die Cantor and Clark Gable.

Bill Hart Comes Alone.

Rogers' old friend, William S. Hart, came and left alone. In another chair was Stepin Fetchit, the negro film comedian.

A quartet sang "O Gentle Presence," with its reassuring refrain, "Lo, I Am With You Always." An organ sobbed, softly. The service was over.

At the same time in the Hollywood Bowl, another intimate friend of Rogers, the author, Rupert Hughes, was presiding over a public service.

He said "to become a dictator

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market was halted by the end of the first hour when profit taking and short covering brought about a mild rally from early lows.

After opening down more than \$4.50 a bale for some options, the market rallied and recovered about \$1.25 of the early losses.

Liverpool in Line.

The Liverpool market quickly fell into line with the sharply lower prices in the New York exchange after the American market opened.

After declining 24 to 34 points, however, the market closed a little above the lowest, with net losses of 14 to 41 points (equivalent to \$1.45 to \$3.20 a bale.)

Under the loan system, the cotton grower has two possible alternatives. If the price is comparatively high, he can sell his cotton, pay back the Government loan plus interest, carrying and other charges, and then keep the difference. If the price is lower than loan figures, plus carrying charges, he can fail to pay the Government, and the Government keeps the cotton. The loan on the 1934 crop was 12 cents a pound.

Byrnes said he would propose an amendment to the third deficiency appropriation bill directing the Commodity Credit Corporation to advance farmers 12 cents a pound.

Saying he was assured of support of Senator Bankhead, Byrnes added he was confident his proposal would have the backing of other Southern Senators.

Sees Wallace Victory.

Bankhead and Senator George of Georgia had issued statements sharply criticizing the Administration for its new cotton plan.

Referring openly for the first time to the struggle which has been fought between farm administration officials and members of Congress over the loan policy, Bankhead, author of the Bankhead Cotton Control Act, said "it is evident Secretary Wallace, Chester Davis and cotton shippers won a victory."

TEXAS COMMISSIONER CRITICIZES 9-CENT LOAN.

AUSTIN, Aug. 23.—The Government's 9-cent cotton loan announcement was condemned as "confusing and impractical" in a statement Friday by Texas Commissioner of Agriculture J. E. McDonald.

He pointed out that 9 cents is 2½ cents under the market price, while the 1935 crop, because of numerous adverse conditions, was estimated to have cost "well above 12 cents" to produce.

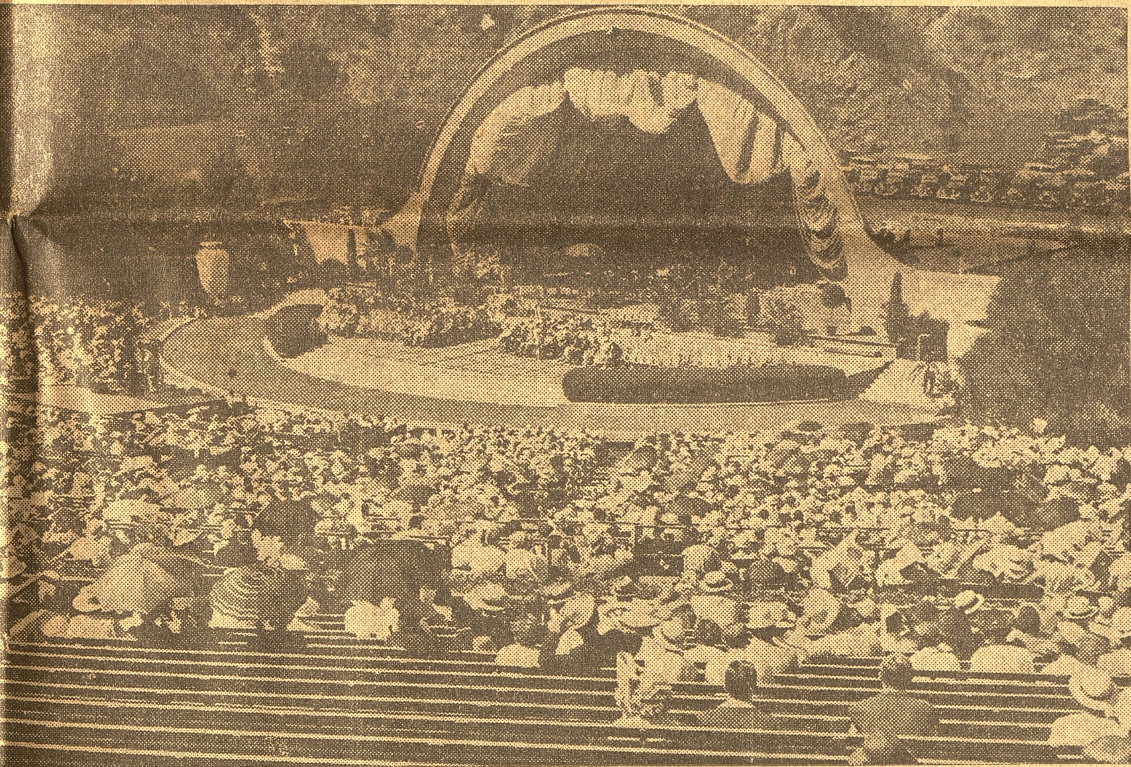
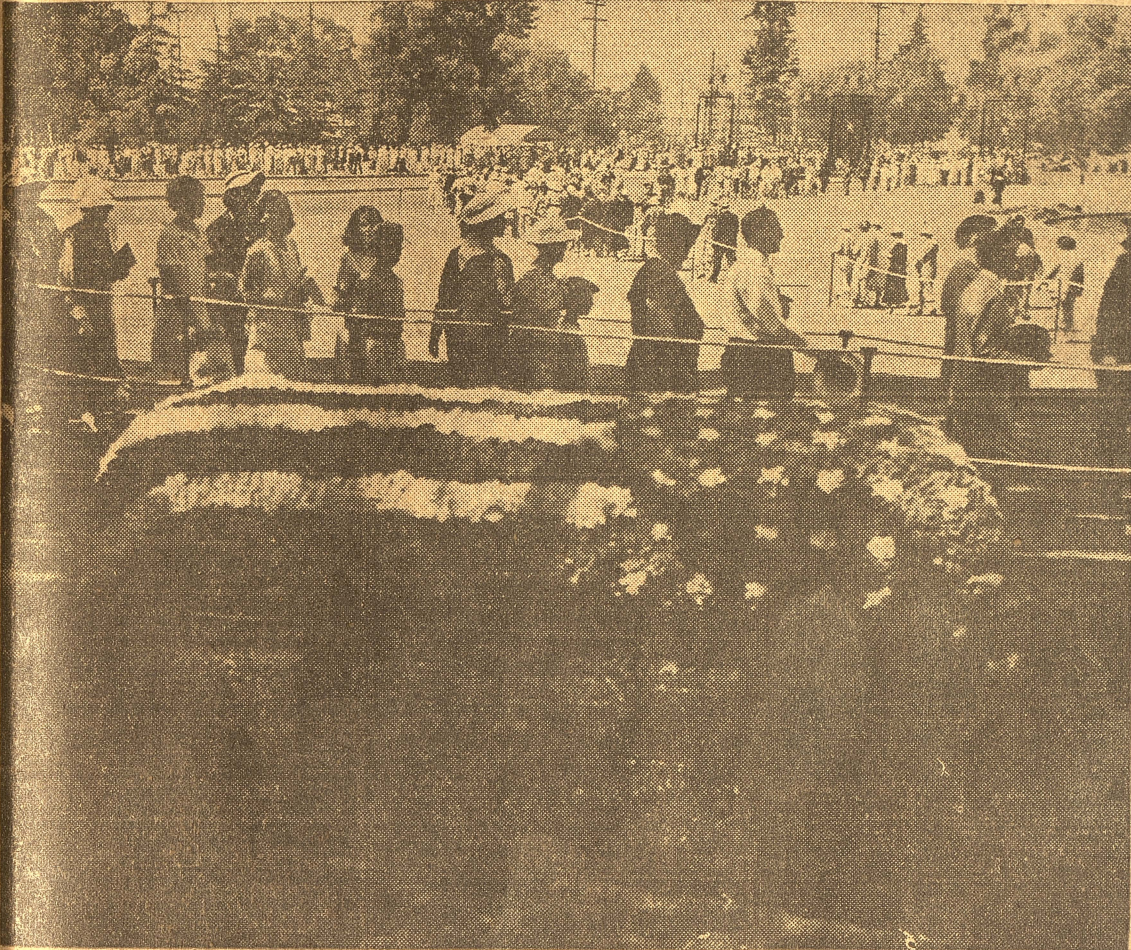
in this country, a man would have to kill Will Rogers, or anyone like him. That's why I call him a peacetime soldier."

At Beverly Hills, where Rogers was the first mayor, and in the movie studios, loving friends paid their heart-felt homage to his memory.

Services likewise were held in Claremore and Chelsea, Okla., to whom the famous actor was just a "home town boy made good." At thousands of theaters over the country there was a respectful pause during the services.

Will Rogers had taken his last curtain.

Huge Throng Pays Last Tribute to Will Rogers



Forming a line two miles long, more than 100,000 mourners filed by the bier of Will Rogers (top) to pay their last farewell to the man who gave them wisdom, joy and laughter. From all walks of life they

came to pass by the casket, with its covering of an American flag, fashioned of flowers, as it lay in the cool shade of the trees in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Cal. Part of the throng that attended in

—International Illustrated News. Hollywood Bowl is shown (bottom) as it listened to a program of beautiful sincerity. Rupert Hughes, author, delivered the eulogy, Conrad Nagel, actor, read a prose selection, and Lawrence Tibbett sang.