

FAMED STATUE OF ROGERS TO BE DEDICATED

Sculpture of Humorist to Be Unveiled at Birthday Fete

World's Own Service

CLAREMORE, Oct. 28—C. R. Smith, president of American Airlines, will make the dedicatory address at the unveiling of a new statue of Will Rogers at his memorial here Saturday, anniversary of the late humorist's birthday.

Smith will present the equestrian statue on behalf of Amon C. Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, who donated it to the memorial for the 12th annual Will Rogers Day observance.

Gov. Roy J. Turner, will make the acceptance speech for the life-size statue of Will Rogers astride his favorite horse, "Soapsuds," for the state.

Carter, a longtime friend of Rogers, notified Will Rogers Memorial commission members he will be present for the unveiling and dedication.

SON WILL ATTEND

Mrs. James B. Rogers, daughter-in-law of Will Rogers and wife of Rogers' youngest son, Jimmie, will unveil the statue at the ceremonies. They will be the only members of the family present.

Sen. Robert S. Kerr, has indicated he will also attend the presentation of the new statue and also Seth Richards, Fort Worth oil man.

The statue is a cast of the original owned by Carter, entitled, "Riding Into the Sunset," and was done in 1942 by Electra Waggoner, noted Texas and New York sculptress.

Only one other cast of the original has been made. It stands on the campus of Texas Tech college at Lubbock, and was dedicated in March of this year.

EVENT TO BE FILMED

The statue here has been set in place in an island west of the memorial building, and is so placed where it will face the cars as they drive into the grounds.

The ceremony is scheduled for 1:15 p. m. and will be filmed by Warner Bros. Pathe news cameramen from Hollywood.

Glenn Condon, Tulsa newspaper man, who has presided at every program at the memorial since the ground breaking ceremony in 1937, will be master of ceremonies. The Oklahoma Military band will play western melodies during the program.

An all-day celebration has been planned by the Will Rogers day committee, headed by Phillip Viles, chairman, marking the state's favorite son's 71st birth date.

TO PRESENT BOOK

Formal activities will start at 10 a. m. with the annual memorial services in the foyer of the memorial and at Rogers' tomb by the Pochontas club, an organization of ladies who grew up with Rogers.

Aside from placing a wreath on the tomb, the ladies will present the first copy of a book they have written, "As I Recollect," to the memorial. It will be accepted by N. G. Henthorne, chairman of the Will Rogers Memorial commission and editor of The Tulsa Word.

Other members of the commission are Ewing Halsell, Vinita, treasurer; W. M. Harrison, Oklahoma, City, secretary; Morton R. Harrison, Tulsa; W. E. Sunday, Claremore; Bill Rogers, Beverly Hills, Calif., and Ralph Talbot, Tulsa.

At 10:45 a big parade will wind through downtown Claremore and proceed out to the memorial. The parade will feature 30 high school bands from neighboring cities and more than 20 visiting Roundup clubs.

CEREMONY PLANNED

Leading the caravan of bands, floats and mounted horsemen in costumes, will be 17 men and women who were childhood friends of the "Cherokee Kid." They include:

Mrs. Mildred Mulhall Acton, Guthrie; George Franklin, Vinita; Ed Wofford, Charlie Harris, Charlie Wofford, A. W. Hurd and Dal Walker, Oologah; Charlie Mehlin, Aluwee; T. R. McSpadden, Nowata; Joe Barltes, Dewey; John Dawson, Talala; Bob Miller, Pryor; Dr. Orange Stark, Drumright; Charlie Starr, W. E. Sunday and Dave Faulkner, Claremore, and Christian Gulager, Tahlequah.

A special ceremony in honor of these old-timers is to be held at the ceremony following the unveiling and dedication of the statue.

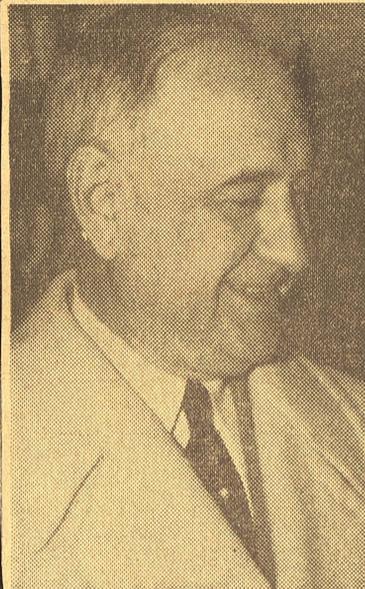
At 12:30 p. m. Johnnie Lee Wills and his band from Tulsa will make their regular 30-minute broadcast over KVOO from the memorial.

TO DEDICATE PLAQUE

Following the statue dedication program at 1:15 p. m. the Oklahoma division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy will dedicate a new plaque at the memorial. Clem Rogers, Will's father, was a member of Gen. Waitie's Cherokee Mounted division, Co. G.

At 2:30 p. m. the Will Rogers Roundup club of Claremore will hold a steer roping contest and other rodeo activities at the arena at Lake Claremore north of the city.

There will be a quarter horse sale at 7:30 p. m. at the Rogers county sales barn, and a dance at 9 p. m. at the armory will close out the day's festivities. Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys from Hollywood will play for the dance.



NEW STATUE

A statue of the late Will Rogers, Oklahoma's beloved humorist, astride "Soapsuds," his favorite pony, is hoisted onto its base at the Rogers Memorial, Claremore. It will be unveiled at a ceremony next Saturday at the annual Rogers birthday observance. The statue, "Riding Into the Sunset," was given to the memorial by Amon C. Carter, below, publisher of the Fort Worth, Tex. Star Telegram, oilman and philanthropist. The Claremore statue is a cast of the original that stands in front of Will Rogers auditorium in the Texas city. This photo of Carter was taken at the time the memorial was dedicated.