

Claremore Awaits Rogers Day Crowd

Final preparations were in order today for the 1950 Memorial Services in memory of Oklahoma's most famous son—Will Rogers. Phil Viles, general chairman of this year's services, said that all committee heads had completed their work on various phases of the observance, and that Claremore was ready to play "host to countless thousands starting tomorrow morning. Hotels, and tourist courts, received the advance vanguard of the expected throngs today and all indications were that this year's observance would more than likely top previous memorial services.

Officials said that a large number of dignitaries including Gov. Roy J. Turner and Sen. Robert S. Kerr are supposed to be present. Invitations have been sent to city officials of surrounding towns. Shorty Cliff, parade marshal, said that 11 convertible automobiles have been acquired. The dignitaries will ride in the parade.

1st Degree Murder Indictment Sought

WASHINGTON —(UP)— Federal prosecutors said today they will seek a first degree murder indictment early next week against Oscar Collazo for the killing of a White House officer in the attempted assassination of President Truman.

They refused to say whether simultaneous indictments would be sought against any other persons for helping the 37-year-old Puerto Rican Nationalist in his fantastic attempt on the president's life.

The riddled body of Collazo's partner in the Blair House gun battle, Griselio Torresola, lay unclaimed in the morgue here. Torresola's pretty young widow and his six months old daughter were taken into custody by federal agents in New York this morning.

No charges were placed against Mrs. Torresola, but Collazo's 40-year-old wife Rosa already is in jail on \$50,000 bond, charged with conspiring in the attempted assassination.

No Snow Here But Mercury Is Down

Snow and sleet peppered down on a number of Oklahoma towns today but Claremore escaped with only a cold trace of rain. The rain began falling here during the night and sprinkled at intervals until noon today. It had stopped at noon but the skies were still overcast with clouds.

The mercury in Rogers county sank to 43 degrees.

Enid, Perry, Pawnee and Oklahoma City reported rain early this morning. Oklahoma City reported rain and snow all during the morning.

The highway department reported no snow in the Panhandle, which usually catches it first, but a 40-mile-an-hour wind was whistling through that section.

The mercury dived to 28 at Guymon during the night and stood at 30 at both Guymon and Boise City at 8 a.m. Lows in the Panhandle tonight were expected to go to 20 degrees.

Many highways were slippery. Patrolmen here said that SH 20 east of Claremore was slick and predicted at least one accident before the day was over.

The predictions were for possible showers in the eastern part of the state—the only section for which more rain is seen.

Johnston Murray To Visit Here Saturday

Johnston Murray will pay a visit to several Rogers county communities Saturday, Democratic headquarters said today.

He will visit Oologah at 9 a.m. and Talala at 10 a.m. and will spend the remainder of the day in Claremore.

Money Order Forgers Sentenced In Tulsa

Prison sentences totaling 80 years have been handed out to a 28-year-old ex-convict in a Tulsa federal court.

The ex-convict is George J. Hurley, Saratoga Springs, New York, who was charged with six different cases of attempting to pass altered United States money orders. His initial sentence is six years and a day.

Hurley was nabbed here recently by Deputy Sheriff Bill Bryant after an accomplice, Louise A. Siejwa, of Woolridge, N.J., attempted to pass such a money order at the local Western Auto store.

Western Auto employes became suspicious and notified authorities. Postmaster Bourke Bayless identified the two.

The woman was sentenced to a concurrent term of four years on 16 counts.

Plenty of barbeque will be on hand. Rogers county ranchers have donated a ton of dressed beef for the occasion. The American Legion and volunteers worked all day today fixing sandwiches. They expect to have 8,000 ready by noon Saturday.

Members of the Lions club have been urged to report to the memorial at 11 a.m. or as soon as the parade is over, President John McKeever said. The Lions club will be in charge of serving the sandwiches. Coffee is being donated by the Cain Coffee company and milk by Beatrice Foods.

All activities, with the exception of those at the rodeo grounds, will be at the memorial this year. In former years some have been held at Will Rogers park. Officials decided this year to keep the crowd together.

The commemoration will begin with ceremonies by the Pochontas club at the memorial at 10 a.m. The parade will follow at 10:45 sharp. It will form at Seminole avenue and will go down Will Rogers boulevard to the memorial.

Police Chief Buck Wright said that cars were to be off the street by 6 a.m. Any left will be towed away, he said.

Over 20 bands have accepted invitations to march in the parade. Claremore, Catoosa, Chelsea, OMA, and Collinsville will be among them.

A large number of roundup clubs will also ride in the parade. R.T. Dashner, Will Rogers Roundup club president, said a \$100 trophy will be given to the best dressed club. A \$75 trophy will be presented the second best.

A member of the Will Rogers club will escort the other clubs during the parade. This is a new arrangement, he said.

Barbeque will be served to all. At first it was planned to serve only the bandsmen and roundup clubs but enough beef was acquired to feed the entire crowd, as has been the custom in the past.

Serving will begin at noon. Johnny Lee Wills will broadcast from the memorial at 12:30 p.m. before the statue "Riding Into the Sunset," is unveiled. Mrs. Jimmie Rogers, of Beverly Hills, Calif., will do the unveiling. She is a daughter-in-law of Will Rogers. She and Jimmie will be special guests.

The statue will be presented to the memorial by C.R. Smith. It is being given by Amon G. Carter, Fort Worth publisher. The statue was executed by world famous Electra Waggoner, of New York. It required five years to complete.

After the statue is unveiled and dedicated, the United Daughters of the Confederacy will dedicate a plaque at the memorial. Many high-ranking UDC officers will be present.

A steer and calf roping contest and a cutting-horse contest will be held at the rodeo grounds after the plaque is dedicated. The contests, sponsored by the Will Rogers roundup club, have drawn the top 30 ropers in the nation. Many of them competed here during the Will Rogers rodeo this summer.

Among them are Jess Goodspeed, Toots Mansfield, Shoat Webster, Dick Truitt and Everett Shaw. Sen. H.D. Binns, of Coalgate, will be arena director.

Some 50 steers, furnished by Wick Adair, Ada, have been acquired.

Two dances are planned for Saturday night. Bob Wills will furnish the music for one at the armory. The other will be straight square dancing at the Will Rogers Roundup club houses. Both will begin at 9 p.m.

The parade and unveiling of the statue will be recorded on film by a crew from Warner Bros.

Seventeen old timers who rode the range with the late cowboy humorist will be given special places on the speakers' platform. They are Charlie Starr, Dave Faulkner and W.E. Sunday,

Road Amendment Petitions Vanish From Capitol

OKLAHOMA CITY — (UP) — Some 270,000 signatures, enough to fill two large packing boxes and put two "good roads" amendments on Tuesday's general election ballots have vanished from the state capitol.

The signatures were collected in 1946 on more than 14,000 pamphlets as an initiative petition for amendments to provide a four-man bi-partisan highway commission and to end the use of gasoline taxes for anything except highway projects.

No one knows how long the bulky papers have been missing but it is believed they were misplaced before opponents withdrew a protest of their sufficiency before the supreme court in 1949.

Irvin Hurst, Oklahoma City, attorney for supporters of the amendment, discovered the loss this morning.

Claremore Man Is Cited In Reports

Lt. Ben F. Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Boyd, was cited in news reports from the Korean front yesterday for successful operations against the enemy near the Manchurian border.

Boyd, a member of the First Cavalry Division, lead a platoon of his 47 men into the mountains to try and rescue members of his unit who were trapped by Communist forces. He reported that his men finally succeeded in getting back out of the trap, but only after losing 20 men.

Boyd left here around the first of October to join the forces in Korea. He is a graduate of OMA and went to West Point as an honor student from the local academy.

Talala Reports No Hallowe'en Damage

Talala residents said today that there was not a single window soaped or a bit of mischief done at Talala Hallowe'en night.

They believe that this is because planned entertainment was given the children.

The entertainment was a party given at the high school. It was sponsored by the Talala American Legion Auxiliary.

Claremore; Ed Wofford, Charlie Wofford, Charles Harris, A.W. Hurd, Dal Walker and Herb McSpadden, Oologah; George Franklin, Vinita; Charlie Melhin, Alluwe; Joe Bartles, Dewey; John Dawson, Talala; Bob Miller, Pryor; Dr. Orange Starr, Drumright; Christian Gulager, Tahlequah and T.R. 'Ted' McSpadden, Nowata.

All businesses will remain closed for the parade. Cleaning establishments will remain closed all day.

INCIDENTALLY

Raincoats and topcoats are the order for the day . . . local stores report a huge increase in the sale of them today . . . Emory Morris, Chelsea, reports growing a pumpkin even larger than Joe Ben Simmons' 65 pounder at Inola . . . Morris says his pumpkin weighs 83 pounds! . . . Who can beat that? . . . Bill Duncan, sophomore at the Chilocco indian school, was on the honor roll for the first six weeks term . . . Clyde Frank Casey, son of the David Caseys, has pledged Beta Tau Beta at Southwestern State College at Weatherford . . . June Hendrickson, daughter of the W. L. Hendricksons, has been elected president of the Young Women's Auxiliary at Connors college . . . Mrs. Bill Wilson celebrates her birthday November 4th, too . . . she didn't say which one . . . And another fish story . . . P. E. Gray caught two fish on one hook at Lake Claremore this week . . . The Progress invites Troy Smith and guest to be its guest to see "Treasure Island" showing today and Saturday at the Yale theatre . . . Please pick up tickets and pay tax at the box office.

Will Rogers Was Just Another Cowboy At Oologah Roping Contest In 1904

BY MYRON A. HURD

The crowd looked upon Will Rogers as just another cowboy at the 1904 roping contest at Oologah, and Soapsuds was just another cowhorse, although both of them were admittedly very good. The roping contest was the usual sort gotten up by local cowboys and cowmen to provide entertainment at a Fourth of July celebration or Anti-horse-thief picnic.

A roping contest was fun for everybody. It provided an excuse for cowboys to quit roping calves or steers as a part of their days work and rope them just for the heck of it, or to see who was the best. There was usually a pot of \$25 to \$50 made up to induce cowboys to enter the contest.

The arena for a roping contest was the area enclosed by a quarter-mile circle of surreys, buggies, wagons and men and women on horseback. A wild steer often jumped out of or through the enclosure, even when it meant jumping over the dashboard of a buggy or surrey filled with ladies all dressed up in their fineries. It was the skill of the participant and the thrills and spills that provided the amusement.

My dad, A. W. Hurd of Oologah, was present at this 1904 roping contest and he says there were three events which highlighted it, with Will Rogers and Soapsuds providing the best part of the show.

They cut out a big steer for Will, who made a quick catch, but the rope snapped at the saddle horn when he tried to throw the steer. Will reached down and grabbed the loose end of the rope, threw a loop around the saddle horn, and made another run to throw the steer, but the rope snapped at the steers horns.

Will gave the rope a flip which threw the loose end into the air, and he grabbed it as he rode after the steer, and tied a new loop in the rope. He nearly ran the steer over part of the crowd before he got his third loop on him. The next time Will started to throw the steer, he caught him at the end of the rope just as the steer had all four feet off the ground and popped the steer around like a whip crack, nearly breaking his neck. It was a real display of skill and horsemanship.

The second incident happened to Jim Wofford, brother of Ed Wofford of Oologah. He was riding John Lipe's favorite cow pony, which was rather light for the big steers. Wofford threw himself forward in the saddle for the impact of the steer hitting end of the rope, hoping to help the horse throw the steer. His rope broke and, catching both Wofford and his horse off balance, they piled up on the ground, breaking Jim's foot.

The third incident happened to Otis Skidmore, father of Henry Skidmore, Claremore policeman and former Rogers county sheriff. Skidmore was riding a rangey horse from the Texas plains. When he roped his steer, the animal suddenly swerved to the right, jerking sideways on Skidmore's saddle, jerking it around on the side of Skidmore's horse, and throwing him headlong into a buffalo wallow. He nearly

knocked the hole dry, but he came up out of the water and mud on the run and tried to bulldog the steer.

Such were the events which comprised a part of the amusement of adults a half century ago. It was a sort of rough and tumble life, yet it was all a part of a days work in the days when beef steers dotted the prairies from horizon to horizon. According to old time friends of Will Rogers, he enjoyed every minute of a rodeo or roping contest. His competitive spirit was keen. He rode hard and played hard and took his spills and thrills with the best of them and possibly a little more recklessly than most of them. The presence of Will Rogers at a roping contest was always certain to make it more interesting.

Four Tibetan Ministers Killed

NEW DELHI, India — (UP) Four Tibetan cabinet ministers have been killed while fighting with the tiny Tibetan army against an estimated 21,000 Chinese communist invaders, reports from the frontier said today.

Tibetan sources at the Indian border city of Kalinpong said the invasion column was only 150 miles from Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, on Tuesday and was advancing steadily against light opposition.

There was no response from China to India's latest note protesting the invasion. It warned Mao Tze - Tung's regime that thrust was endangering Indo-Chinese relations and strongly urged an immediate cease fire.

Sources close to the Indian government said India might recall its ambassador from Peiping unless the communists halt their march into Tibet and peacefully negotiate their claim to sovereignty over the state.

The text of the note and a preceding one expressing regret and surprise at the invasion was released last night.

Their strong wording, plus Vice-Premier Valabhbhai Sardar Patel's friendly references toward the United States in a speech this week indicated that India might swing the balance of power in Asia toward the west unless the Chinese Reds change their way.

India so far has been Red China's strongest non-communist supporter in the United Nations.

Border reports said the communist invasion column mostly comprised Chinese irregulars and local recruits under Gen. Liu Wen-Hui, former governor of the east Tibetan province of Kham. Trained for six months and speaking Tibetan, they were urged to avoid force as far as possible and try to win over the population with courtesy.

VOTE YES

STATE QUESTION NO. 347

Calling a

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Better Government at Less Cost To Taxpayers

League of Women Voters of Oklahoma

Will Rogers Library Receives New Books For Children, Adults

The Will Rogers Library recently received a new group of books, for both adults and children.

One book, "No Time To Look Back," by Leslie Greener, was donated to the library by Rev. Davis Cecil, who recently reviewed it.

New children's books are: "Ferry of Deep Valley," by M.H. Lovelace, "Pirate Brig," by Mildred Wirt, "Sun In The Morning," by Elizabeth Cadell, "Joan Foster, Senior," by A. R. Colver, "Cowgirl Kate," by Enid Johnson, "Texas Tomboy," by Lois Lenski,

"Lost Treasure Box," by Helen Rushmore, "Treasure at First Base," by Eleanor Clymer, "On the Banks of Plum Creek," by L. I. Wilder, "Golden Arrow," by Bill Martin, "Betsy's Little Star," by Carolyn Haywood, "Doctor Dolittle and the Green Canary," by Hugh Lofting,

"Indians of the Long House," by Sonia Bleeker, "Owls," by H. S. Zim, "Ruby Throat, the Humming Bird," by R. M. McClung, "Hitsory Can Be Fun," by Munro Leaf, and "Aviation from the Ground," by J.J. Floherty.

More—Will Rogers

Recent books for adult readers are: "Signature of the Sun," edited by Mabel Major, "Belles on Their Toes," by Frank Gilbreth, "The Spanish Gardened," by A. J. Cronin, "How to Paint and Wallpapar," by Kay Hardy, "The Simple Art of Murder," by Raymond Chandler, "No Time To Look Back," by Leslie Greener.

"Gay Parties for all Occasions" by E. O. Harbin, "Prize Stories of 1950," edited by Herschel Brickell, "Life's Picture History of World War II," "Holiday Craft and Fun," by Joseph Leeming, "Bennett's Welcome," by Inglis Fletcher, "Sweet and Bitter Land," by Joseph Wayne, "Silent Dust," by Bruno Fischer, "How to Help Your Child in School," by Mary Frank,

"The Little World of Don 'Camillo'," "Son of a Hundred Kings," by Thomas B. Costain, "How I Raised Myself from Failure to Success," by Frank Bettger, "Through a Glass Darkly," by Helen McCloy, "Stillmeadow Seasons," by Gladys Taber, "Montana, Here I Be!", by Dan Cushman, and "City in the Dawn," by Hervey Allen.

God Needed Him Too

So he saddled his pony and rode
away,
To the West, down the long,
long trail,
That leads to the land of our
yesteryears,
With all of their heartaches and
all of their tears,
Where shadows are soft and
pale.

And you hear not the jingle of
bit and spur,
Nor the patter of hoofs on the
earth;
Nor the whine of the wind o'er a
wind-swept plain,
As it tosses the forelock and
and tousles the mane,
Nor the squeak of a saddle
girth.

And we stand on the crest of the
Great Divide,
Numbed to silence, with heads
bent low;
For just now when the world
wears a snarl and a sneer,
And man eyes his brother with
mistrust and fear,
He's gone, and we needed him
so.

I have seen Jesus' portrait, by
masters and men
In ev'ry tone, posture and style;
Though his face expressed sym-
pathy, sorrow and love,
And peace, sweet peace, like that
up above,
Not once did His face wear a
smile.

So God in His Heaven, so won-
drous and bright,
Where clouds never darken the
sky,
Surrounded by angels, and souls
of His choice,
Must have needed the laughter
in Will Rogers' voice,
And the smile in our Will Rog-
ers' eye.

—Bob Richardson



WILL ROGERS—Claremore's favorite son, and the favorite son of all Oklahoma for that matter, was never one to forget his home town. He took advantage of his many opportunities to put in a plug for Claremore. Some mention of Claremore appeared in every motion picture he made. He is pictured above with a jug of radium water "which can cure you of everything but being a democrat."