



—Star-Telegram Staff Photo.

EQUESTRIAN STATUE UNVEILED—Honor of removing the covering from a statue of Will Rogers went Saturday to the late humorist-philosopher's daughter-in-law, Mrs. James Rogers, left. Taking part in the Claremore, Okla., ceremony with her were (left to right) Amon Carter, Oklahoma's Governor Roy J. Turner, Sculptress Electra Waggoner Biggs of Vernon, Mrs. Carter and Oklahoma's U. S. Senator Robert S. Kerr.

Friends Gather at Oklahoma Shrine

Dedication of New Will Rogers Statue Another Stride in 2-State Friendship

BY JO WHITE.

Star-Telegram Staff Writer.

CLAREMORE, Okla., Nov. 4.—If Will Rogers was looking down on Claremore Saturday, he saw the friendship of Texas and Oklahoma cemented a little stronger.

A band of his Texas friends joined thousands of Oklahomans in paying homage to the late humorist-philosopher on what would have been his 71st birthday.

High point of the day-long celebration was the unveiling and dedication of a life-size statue of Rogers—a duplicate of the work of Sculptress Electra Waggoner Biggs which stands in front of Fort Worth's Will Rogers Memorial buildings.

The equestrian statue and a previously unannounced gift—a bust of Rogers, also created by the Vernon artist—were given by Amon Carter to the Will Rogers Memorial at Claremore.

The statue depicting Rogers astride his favorite roan horse, Soapsuds, stands on an island facing visitors approaching the attractive rambling stone museum erected in his memory in 1938.

Presentation of the larger gift was made in Carter's behalf by C. R. Smith of New York City, president of American Airlines. Raymond Buck, Fort Worth attorney, presented the bust for Carter.

Both gifts were accepted for citizens of Oklahoma by Gov. Roy J. Turner, who termed Rogers "the greatest citizen America has ever produced."

Governor Turner complimented Mrs. Biggs for the artistic excellence of the statue, then turned to Mr. and Mrs. Carter and added, "It is deeply gratifying to see friends from Will's adopted state join us in saluting him."

The statue was unveiled by Mrs. James B. Rogers, daughter-in-law of the world-famous humorist who

was killed in an air crash in Alaska Aug. 15, 1935.

This was the 12th year that relatives and friends of Rogers have gathered on the gently rolling hill overlooking Verdigris Valley to salute "the man who was everybody's neighbor." For several years Nov. 4 has been set aside as a state holiday in Oklahoma.

Saturday morning 24 high school bands from Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma marched with representatives of 18 local Roundup Clubs in a mile-long parade through downtown Claremore and out past the trim grounds of Oklahoma Military Academy to the memorial site.

There, at noon, they became part of a crowd estimated at 8,000

who ate a ton of barbecue furnished by ranchers of the county.

Carter, honor guest for the day, and other distinguished visitors were luncheon guests of Mrs. Paula Love of Claremore and her sister, Mrs. L. A. Eaton of Chelsea, Okla., nieces of Rogers.

The dedication was under direction of Philip Viles of Claremore, general chairman for the day's program, and was presided

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Phone Strike In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 4 (AP).—A crippling walkout of telephone workers in the St. Louis area was called off Saturday night.

The strike started Friday morning and had tied up non-dial telephone calls in the St. Louis area and seriously impaired the city's long-distance service.

D. L. McCowen, president of Southwestern Division 20, CIO Communications Workers, which represents workers of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, issued a call at 8:25 p. m. for employes to return to their jobs.

An estimated 5,000 employes of the company had been on strike. McCowen said he called the

Plans to Build Home for Aged Announced

Plans for the construction of the W. H. Grove Home for the Aged in accordance with the wishes expressed in the will of the late W. H. Grove were announced Saturday by Guy Price, vice president and trust officer of the Fort Worth National Bank, trustee of the Grove estate.

The home, scheduled for completion in mid-summer of 1951, will be located on a wooded, five-acre tract facing north in the 4700 block of Lancaster.

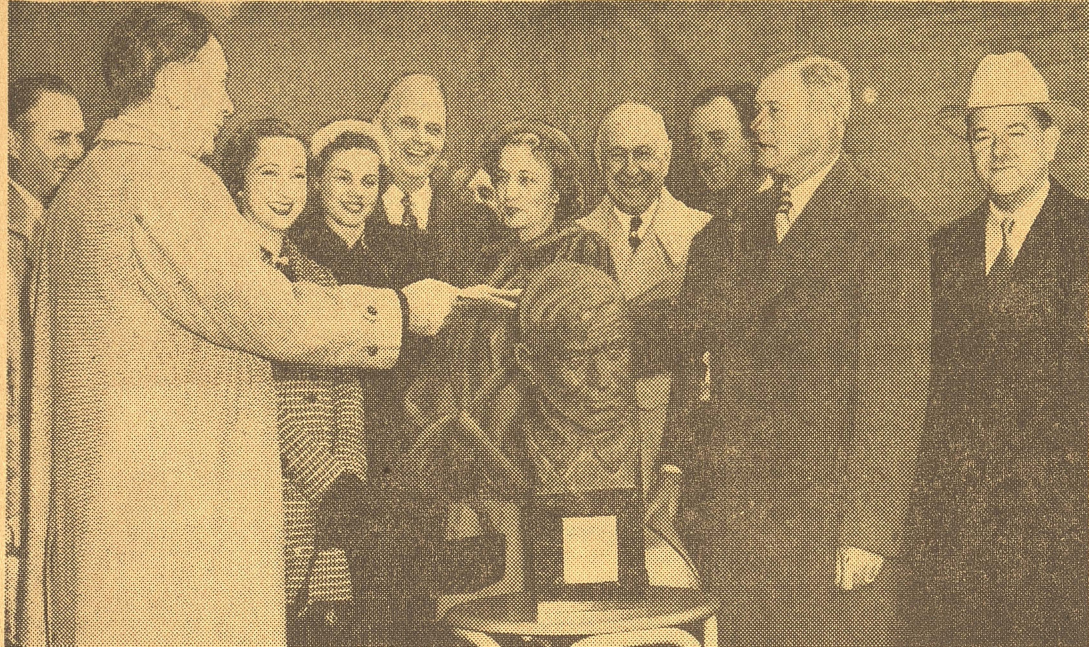
When completed and furnished, the 15-bedroom structure will cost in excess of \$125,000. The one-story building was designed to provide its elderly occupants

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IN TODAY'S STAR-TELEGRAM

The Fabulous Shaw; Page 4, Sec. 1.

Republicans hope for victory in Panhandle; Page 12, Sec. 1.



TITLE PASSES—Raymond Buck of Fort Worth, second from left, hands Governor Roy J. Turner a sheaf of papers which he facetiously called the "title" to a bust of Will Rogers in the foreground. Looking on, left to right, are John Biggs of Vernon, Mrs. Biggs, Mrs. James Rogers, U. S. Senator Robert S. Kerr, Mrs. Amon Carter, Amon Carter, John B. Rogers and C. R. Smith.

MORE ABOUT WILL ROGERS STATUE

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over by a Tulsa newspaperman, Glenn Condon, who has been master of ceremonies at each yearly program since ground was broken for the memorial in 1937.

During the acceptance speeches, U. S. Senator Robert S. Kerr brought laughter from the crowd with his references to Carter's "foreign" citizenship.

"If he were an Oklahoman, I'd say he was probably the greatest man in the United States today. As it is, I'll have to limit it and call him the greatest OUTSIDE Oklahoma," Kerr quipped.

"Amon Carter told me once that the past war was won by Texas and outlying states. I question that, because I don't believe there are any states that can out-lie Texas."

After the unveiling, which was broadcast by Radio Station KRMG at Tulsa and was filmed by Pathe newsreel cameramen, representatives of the 350-member Will Rogers Roundup Club of Claremore placed a wreath at the foot of the statue.

Then four boyhood friends of Rogers—Gordon Lane of Clare-

more and Dal Walker, Ed Wofford and Charlie Harris, all of Oologah—rode past the replica in a silent tribute.

Members of the Rogers family also held their annual reunion during the day Saturday.

Besides Mrs. Love and Mrs. Eaton and the James B. Rogerses, who came from their 20,000-acre cattle ranch near Bakersfield, Cal., for the occasion, there were present two sisters of the late Mrs. Will Rogers—Mmes. Bruce Quisenberry of Joplin, Mo., and Cora Marshall of Lubbock; four other nieces, Mmes. W. C. Pool of Claremore, W. W. Milam of Langley, James T. Neal of Tulsa and Eddie Hedges of Wichita, Kan., and three nephews, Herbert T. and M. R. McSpadden of Chelsea and Gunter Lane of Guntersville.

The Rogers' only daughter, Mary (now Mrs. Walter Brooks) telephoned from Washington, D. C., at noon, expressing regret at missing the day of honors to her father.

Two plane loads of Texas visitors were met at the Claremore Airport by the Chelsea High

School band and a welcoming committee, composed of Mrs. Eaton, Viles, Mrs. R. T. Dashner, representing the local Roundup Club, Chamber of Commerce President Bryan Blocker, Jack Johnson, and Col. Homer Ledbetter, president of the Oklahoma Military Academy.

One plane brought the Fort Worth party of Buck, Smith, C. T. McLaughlin of Snyder, Dr. Hodges McKnight and Mr. and Mrs. Carter.

The second plane brought Sculptress Electra Waggoner Biggs and her husband, John Biggs, from Vernon.

After the dedication, guests' attention shifted to rodeo activities held at the arena on Lake Claremore, north of the city. Saturday night Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys furnished music for a dance at the Claremore armory.

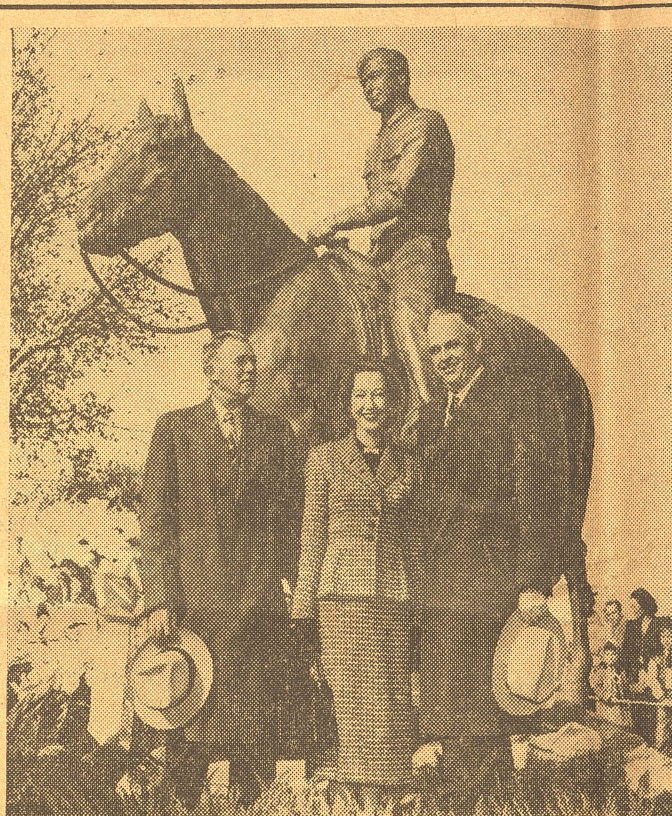
Cuban Composer Dies

HAVANA, Nov. 4 (AP).—Eliseo Grenet, 57, composer of popular Cuban music, died Friday night of a cerebral hemorrhage.



Star-Telegram Photos by William Davis.

SHROUDS FALL AWAY—Mrs. James Rogers, daughter-in-law of the late Will Rogers, pulls at the cord which held a covering cloth over the statue of her famous father-in-law.



TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE PRAISED—Sculptress Electra Waggoner Biggs receives the congratulations of Governor Turner, left, and Senator Kerr for her skill in "capturing the kindly spirit" of Will Rogers in the statue.



TURNER JOINS FAMILY REUNION—Governor Turner, left, pauses to discuss Will Rogers Day activities with members of Rogers' family—Mmes. Bob Love, L. A. Eaton and James Rogers, and behind, Love and Rogers.