

A.V.C. Launches Drive For Veteran Housing At Ft. Harrison

Asks Backing By All Local Civic Groups

Eventual Dwelling Space for 1000 Seen

The Indianapolis American Veterans committee formally launched its drive today to obtain Ft. Harrison for veterans' housing when the army abandons it July 1.

Dwelling space for 1000 families will become available there when the army leaves. Of this total, 95 units would be ready immediately and with slight alteration could be expanded into 162 family units.

The remainder of the buildings, providing space for more than 800 families, would require major alterations.

Survey Group Named

The A. V. C. named a committee, headed by Charles Feibleman, Indianapolis attorney, last night to survey methods of acquiring the property. It asked all other interested groups to join with it.

It also adopted a set of principles governing its program for converting the permanent and temporary structures at the fort into badly needed housing. These principles were:

ONE: "We do not want the housing at Ft. Harrison turned into a real estate speculation and sold as individual units at inflated prices."

TWO: "We do not want the usable housing at Ft. Harrison torn down and sold for surplus building materials."

THREE: "We do not want any veteran to have to buy stock in a corporation as a condition of getting a home there."

FOUR: "We want the housing at Ft. Harrison operated as a low-cost rental housing project, at rentals the average veteran and citizen can afford."

FIVE: "We want the housing at Ft. Harrison available to all members of the community, without discrimination as to race, creed or color, with priority for veterans and particularly for veterans with children."

Three Steps Outlined

Three possibilities for converting the army installations into veterans' housing were outlined at a meeting of the A. V. C. in the Indiana world war memorial last night.

It was pointed out that the project could be acquired through a private corporation, by a veterans' non-profit organization or by a federal agency which would lease it at low cost directly to veterans.

While the A. V. C. went on record as favoring either non-profit or federal operation of the proposed project, no specific plan has yet been adopted.

"To put up these structures for speculative sale would defeat the need of the veteran for housing. The average veteran doesn't want to buy at inflated prices. He wants to rent," Mr. Feibleman said.

Examine Fort Buildings

A committee of A. V. C. members toured the fort and examined installations yesterday, accompanied by J. Allen Dawson, Indianapolis realtor.

Officers quarters consists of well-built red-brick buildings which the A. V. C. committee found compare with some of the best homes in Indianapolis.

"There is nothing like this for rent in the city," Martin Lerner, Indianapolis businessman and committee member, said.

Outstanding features are five spacious single dwellings occupied by senior officers and their families; 14 duplexes occupied by 28 officers and their families; the bachelor officers' quarters consisting of four apartments and four single rooms; one spacious, ivy-covered brick apartment building now housing four families, and 15 duplexes now occupied by 30 non-commissioned and warrant officers and their families.

This is in addition to extensive brick barracks which the committee believed could be converted into apartment units, temporary wooden barracks similar to those erected by the city for veterans' emergency housing and two theaters, the post hospital and service clubs which could be used for community buildings.

4500 Lottery Tickets Found

Police today continued an investigation of a pool ticket seller who claimed a bullet hole in his arm was self-inflicted.

Searching the apartment of Paul Smock, 1330 N. Delaware st., apartment 104, yesterday, police found 4500 P. & S. lottery tickets. The tickets were hidden in a box behind a davenport, police said.

Smock, meanwhile, is awaiting a hearing April 9 on a charge of violating the 1935 firearms act. A charge of vagrancy against him was dismissed yesterday by Municipal Court Judge Alex Clark.

Smock was arrested by police Tuesday after he entered a downtown tavern with a gun stuck in his belt and a bullet wound in his arm. He refused to call police and when police caught up with him in a taxi-cab, claimed to have shot himself accidentally.

41 Years in Congress

WASHINGTON, April 3 (U. P.).—Rep. Adolph J. Sabath, the all-time dean of the house, will celebrate his 41st birthday tomorrow. He is serving his 41st year as Democratic representative of Illinois' fifth district in the heart of Chicago.



UP-STARTS—A Times' photographer knew he had stumbled on one of the sure signs of spring when he found these flower shoots pushing up through the ground.

Handbill Dispute Flares Up Again

Injunction Filed Against City Police

Charges of violating the disputed anti-handbill ordinance, filed against an Indianapolis attorney and a member of the A. F. of L. teamsters' union, were continued today in municipal court 4 to April 17.

They were arrested yesterday in the latest development of a four-month-old strike at the Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Inc.

Andrew Jacobs, attorney representing the union, and Harvey Keesling, a member, were stopped by Police Capt. Edward Rous while they were distributing copies of a Veterans of Foreign Wars resolution supporting the strike.

A few hours later, the union filed an injunction suit in federal court, asking that city authorities be prevented temporarily from arresting additional persons under the ordinance.

Both sides welcomed a legal clarification of the ordinance, which prohibits distribution in any form of literature addressed to the general public.

An Exception

An exception is advertising literature fastened securely to doors of residences.

Police Chief Howard Sanders said he would arrest anyone seen tacking a political poster on a utility pole, an indication that the controversial ordinance also applies to this widespread practice.

Mr. Jacobs said Mayor Tyndall had ordered the arrests. He criticized Prosecutor Judson L. Stark for not showing similar speed in the issuance of an affidavit against James Yuncker, president of the local bottling company, charging discrimination of union employees.

Mr. Stark said he has been too busy to study the law on this point. He declared he was "as sympathetic to labor as Mr. Jacobs is," denying that the delay was intentional.

St. Joseph's Students On Easter Vacation

Sixteen Indianapolis students at St. Joseph's college, Rensselaer, Ind., are on Easter vacation this week. The spring holidays end April 9.

The students are:

Charles P. Ball, 4227 Cottage ave.; Robert T. Burns, 2437 N. New Jersey st.; John Canaway, 2514 Holt rd.; Warren and William D. Freeman, 317 E. 94th st.; John L. Grande, 907 Grande ave.; Ralph Janney, 515 E. North st.; Norman E. Kerchner, 5066 W. 18th st.; Robert M. Kremp, 528 N. Oxford st.; Gerald T. Leahy Jr., 4800 Mary lane; Francis P. and William P. McCallin, 283 N. Arsenal ave.; John P. Weaver, 114 N. Lithwood ave.; and James C. Welch, 4310 Broadway.

INDIA AMBASSADOR CHOSEN

WASHINGTON, April 3 (U. P.).—President Truman has asked Henry P. Grady, of San Francisco, assistant secretary of state from 1939 to 1941, to be the first United States ambassador to India, it was revealed today.

Public Agency Urged To Purchase Ft. Harrison

Capehart to Confer With Housing Chief; Says Deal Will Cost Millions

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Administrator Raymond M. Foley of the national housing agency was unable to confer with Senator Homer E. Capehart (R. Ind.) today regarding possible use of Ft. Harrison for housing or hospital purposes.

The conference has been tentatively set for tomorrow. Senator Capehart said that in his opinion a conference with Mr. Foley, who also is commissioner of the federal housing administration, is the first essential step necessary to any housing plan for the abandoned fort.

"It will take millions to swing such a deal," Senator Capehart said. "So it seems to me that when the war department turns over Ft. Harrison to the war assets administration as surplus some public housing agency will have to take over first before any non-profit corporation could bid for veterans."

"The good housing area at Ft. Harrison is small in comparison with the large acreage involved. It encompasses some fine farming land and maybe some good industrial sites."

With the army moved out of Ft.



SPRING CHECKUP—Four-year-old Paul John Barrett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barrett, 617 N. New Jersey st., gets his tricycle in shape for the neighborhood races.

3 New State Parks Assured

Addition of three new parks to the Indiana state park system within the next two years was regarded today as a virtual certainty by the state department of conservation.

Department Director John H. Nigh said that action of the 1947 general assembly in appropriating \$990,550 for state park improvement "practically guarantees addition of the Whitewater, Mississinewa and Chain-O-Lakes parks."

Specific appropriations for all three areas, now being acquired by civic groups, were included in the park grant. Sums for primary improvement were approved for the Mississinewa and Chain-O-Lakes parks, and \$200,000 set aside for construction of a 200-acre Whitewater lake in Union county.

The new areas would mark the first addition to the state park system since 1942 when Tippecanoe river and Versailles parks were acquired from the department of interior.

2-Way Dash Fails Holdup Attempt

BOSTON, April 3 (U. P.).—Isadore Goldfarb, 49, was taking inventory in his cleaning supplies store last night. His 22-year-old son, Joseph, had just put \$5000 in the store safe. A gunman who rushed in said:

"This is a stick-up."

Then Mr. Goldfarb dashed out a back door. His son leaped through a side window. The gunman fled out the front door, empty handed.

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SIDEWALK SCENE—Spring vacation means roller skating for Shirley Higgins, 1033 S. Randolph st.; Barbara Hays, 1020 Villa ave., and Denise Royer, 1037 S. State st.

Wedding of Blind Elopers Delayed

License Held Up By State Laws

The whirlwind courtship of a blind couple whose elopement started a search in two states was slowed today by Indiana marriage laws.

Charles Owens, 42, Cincinnati, and his bride-to-be, Florence Frutchee, 29, Columbus, O., are waiting at the home of Mr. Owens's sister, Mrs. William Lively, 821 Lexington ave., for results of their blood test.

They plan to be married at the Lively home as soon as they can get a license.

"We'd like to get married soon but we can wait," Mr. Owens said. "A blind person learns patience."

With them waited his big German shepherd, Captain, who guided them after they fled from Columbus to Indianapolis Tuesday.

Didn't Tell Parents

Miss Frutchee slipped away from her Columbus home without informing her parents. Ohio and Indiana police traced them to Indianapolis. Train conductors and taxi dispatchers remembered the blind couple and their big dog.

They met two years ago at a convention for the sightless and have carried on a Braille correspondence since. They planned their elopement by mail and Mr. Owens went to Columbus to get his bride. They said they didn't

Couple Picks Up

60-Year-Old Romance

ST. MARY'S, Mo., April 3 (U. P.).—Easter Sunday will be a happy day in the lives of Richard Moore and Mary Adelaide O'Mara.

The two were engaged 60 years ago and recently picked up their romance where they left off when they "drifted apart" at that time. He's 81. She's 79.

11 Are Killed, 5 Injured In Fireworks Plant Blast

CLINTON, Mo., April 3 (U. P.).—The flaming deaths of 11 workers in an explosion-ripped fireworks plant was attributed today to a small blaze of unknown origin. The blaze touched off gunpowder used in making Fourth of July "buzz bombs."

Five other workers were injured, three critically. Twelve escaped, when fire and explosion leveled all but the front wall of the one-story Brown Manufacturing Co. plant on the city's eastern outskirts yesterday.

Mrs. Morton Johnson, 49, died early today of burns. She was the 11th victim of the blast.

Race for Door

Some of the workers began to race for the door when they saw the tiny blaze. Others knew nothing until the explosion hit.

Three victims were blown out of the building. Their bodies were found in a drainage ditch 25 feet away. The other charred bodies were recovered from the ruins.

Husbands and wives worked side by side in the plant. J. W. Moyer, 70, and his wife, Edna, 60, Deepwater, Mo., were killed.

Two workers, Floyd Shepherd and W. K. Belton, escaped. When they couldn't find their wives outside, they started to run back into the plant to rescue them. Mr. Belton perished in the flames, not knowing that his wife was safe outside.

Speculators grabbed Mr. Shepherd

and held him while he screamed "I want to go back."

His wife was burned to death. When Mrs. Belton got to the street outside she looked back.

"I saw a woman collapse in the doorway. Her hair and clothes were afire. It was the most horrible thing I ever saw."

Boy Scout Beaten By Youths in Car

Police today investigated the mysterious beating of a north side boy by older youths riding in a station wagon.

Ronald Rice, 14, of 5365 N. New Jersey st., told police he was riding his bicycle at 5800 N. Delaware st. last night when a jeep station wagon pulled up beside him. A boy about 17 stepped out, knocked him off his bicycle and hit him several times, he said.

The station wagon, in which several other youths were riding, sped north. Mrs. George Heidenreich, 5768 N. Delaware st., said she heard the boy's screams and saw the station wagon speed away.

The boy was returning from Boy Scout court of honor where he had received a merit badge. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Raymond Rice.

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Cotton Twill Overalls



2.85

Made of sturdy, sanforized cotton twill, they're right for sun, sand and suds! Designed to really take the hard wear an active youngster gives them. Navy, brown, tan, maize. Sizes 3 to 8.

• Short sleeved white seersucker shirt, with shoulder loops to anchor overall straps, 1.00.

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