

25 YEARS AGO

JULY 7, 1927.

Miss Florence Levinson of Chicago is spending two weeks in the home of her sister, Mrs. Russell Hinderer.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Slabaugh and family of Goshen spent the Fourth in the home of the former's brother, Court Slabaugh.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. McDonald

of Wolcottville, Ind., spent the Fourth with Mrs. J. D. Pfingst. Mrs. McDonald is a sister of the late J. D. Pfingst.

Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Bowld and son Billy, and Mrs. C. H. Halsey of Memphis, Tenn., arrived here by auto Saturday to spend a few weeks in the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bowld.

Dr. and Mrs. F. W. Brian of

Bloomington, Ill., Mrs. J. H. Deeter and son Eymann of Lorain, O., and Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Bachman of New Paris, were guests over Sunday and the Fourth in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Bachman.

Mrs. M. H. Mills and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Campbell of Bowling Green, Ohio and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wall of Toledo, O., spent several days with Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Buchholz. Mrs. Mills and

Mrs. Buchholz are sisters.

Mrs. D. L. Brown and Mrs. Wilmet Jones attended the funeral of Mrs. Esther Sealf in Goshen.

Mr. and Mrs. Bertram Whitehead entertained Sunday for Mr. and Mrs. Harry Strieby of Elgin, Ill., Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence DeWart and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd DeWart and family of Milford, and Mrs. Rebecca Dewart and son Lester.

CAPITOL**REPORT**

(By Charles A. Halleck, Congressman, 2nd District.)

(Note: With the 82nd Congress moving toward adjournment or recess later this week, this will be the last of the current series of Capitol Reports. Should the Congress go back into session later this year, they will be resumed.)

A half dozen or so election reform bills have been proposed for last minute consideration by the Congress. They have been the subject of careful examination by the House Subcommittee on Elections, on which I serve as ranking Republican member.

A complicating factor is re-

lected in a brief prepared for the subcommittee by the American Law Section of Congress. This brief sets out that a question of constitutionality exists on whether the Federal government can suspend State registration or poll tax requirements.

It is possible that final action will not be taken before the Congress goes home. This will not mean, however, that all service personnel will thereby lose their right to vote in the national elections.

Actually, only two states—North Carolina and New Mexico—do not have provisions for absentee voting for service personnel.

Moreover, the record of our first attempt to provide a Federal ballot for members of the armed forces during World War II does not indicate any widespread need for such machinery.

In 1944 Congress enacted Public Law 277. Under this statute the states were given an option as to whether or not they would accept Federal ballots. Twenty agreed, although all 48 certified that they had state provisions for absentee voting.

So the government printed 7,600,000 Federal ballots for the 1944 election. Not until later was it learned how overly-optimistic this estimate of need really was.

A post-election check disclosed that only 98,823 of them were voted.

Another significant study revealed that in ten states which had authorized use of the Federal ballots 28,136 were used—representing 2.2 per cent of eligible servicemen voters. At the same time in these states 446,074 G. I.'s—34.6 per cent of those qualified to vote, used their regular state ballots.

I don't want to be misunderstood in this matter. The right to vote is a precious American privilege, and it shouldn't be denied anyone. But the matter of determining eligibility and of setting up appropriate machinery to safeguard the integrity of elections traditionally has been a state prerogative. The Congress, it seems to me, should proceed carefully toward the enactment of any legislation that would encroach on that right. Do we want to wind up with Federal control of the ballot box. I think not.

Service personnel, incidentally, aren't the only ones who sometimes temporarily lost their right to vote.

I have a letter on my desk from a Second District resident who is being moved by his company to another state. Because of residence requirements he won't be able to vote in the national election, a situation which he strongly resents.

And yet, establishment of residence as a voting requisite has developed, through necessity, as a vital part of the balloting machinery.

There are quirks in our election laws which should be ironed out. Uniformity of state laws is highly desirable, but there is no sound reason why these things can't be worked out through state cooperation.

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Miller, are the parents of a daughter, weighing seven pounds, one and one-half ounces, born at 10:02 a. m. Monday at the McDonald hospital, Warsaw.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Gordon, a son, Brent Duane, on Sunday at Goshen hospital.

NOTICE!

Old friends and school mates are invited to attend the reunion for Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Grubb from California, at the Hex Grange hall on Sunday, July 6th. A basket dinner at noon.

A field day at the Purdue University Sand Farm near Culver will be held Aug. 22, according to George Enfield, extension agronomist.

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SYRACUSE LAKE

Front St. — Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kleinknight were week end hosts to Ed's niece, Mrs. Don Nicholson, Mr. Nicholson and Kathy, of Indianapolis.

The Alva Nicholas' had week end guests, Mr. and Mrs. George William and son Steven, of Elkhart. Mr. and Mrs. William returned home and Steven remained for a week's visit. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Ayres from Connecticut, and also Mr. Lew Schafer.

House guests of the Nicholas' are Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Smith of Cincinnati, until Wednesday when they must return as they are booked at the "Erin". The Smith's are "The Three Keys" in musicland and play several instruments.

ANNUAL PICNIC

OF LOCAL W. C. T. U.

The annual W. C. T. U. picnic will be held at the City Park next Tuesday, July 8th. A basket dinner will be held at 12 o'clock.

Members may bring guests and enjoy the afternoon program.

Current events for roll call.

Election of officers at this meeting.

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