

Ten Forty Times



DELMAR, NEW YORK

OCTOBER 1963

BOYS' STATE REPORT

Boys' State, sponsored by the American Legion, gives to boys an adventure in the practice of democratic government. Over one thousand New York State high school juniors are brought together on the Colgate University Campus at Hamilton, New York, to set up city, county, and state level governments by which they live for one week. This Herculean task is accomplished under the guidance of excellent counselors.

The delegates are assigned to a city and to one of the two political parties as the initial step in an exciting experience. Within the first two days, city party caucuses meet to select candidates for mayor, councilman, judge of municipal court, and other city offices. Elections are held, and city government immediately operates by passing ordinances, holding court proceedings, and performing other city functions. A citizen's first loyalty is to his city, and he marches to lunch, and to assembly and in the parade with this political unit: he is in the same group when he is drilled each day by United States Marine Corps members.

Three cities comprise a county. Candidates for board of supervisors, county judge, and others are elected in much the same way as they were in the city. This level then operates as soon as it is constituted.

Simultaneously with the establishment of these county governments, five candidates from each party in each city are arriving at the State Party Convention. Here delegates feel the tremendous enthusiasm which characterizes this eight hour long meeting. Party strategy and platform, convention rules and credentials, and nomination of candidates for governor, lieutenant-governor, attorneygeneral, and comptroller are among the

main issues on this agenda. Delegates consider the convention this highlight of the week. Electioneering, political rallies and finally secret voting in regular election booths culminate in the functioning of the State government.

The Senate and Assembly lose no time in drafting bills. Among the measures introduced are such bills as those dealing with conservation, distribution of educational funds, and ones concerning Boys' State. The citizens of every county take turns observing the Legislature in action.

Assemblies, with the large delegate band playing, are held each morning and evening. Morning speakers include such distinguished guests as a mayor, an assemblyman, a law enforcement officer, a judge, and a high State official. A very lively question and answer period follows, concluding with a review of current news. The evening assemblies, conducted by the counselors, cover various phases of government and other matters of interest.

The sports program, welcome intervals in busy days, includes swimming, track, tennis, and softball tournaments, but always the recreation remains secondary to any governmental interests or responsibilities of a citizen.

sibilities of a citizen.

Boys' State is a week of rewarding work. Government, music, sports, and free time combine to create fine memories of this unique experience for each delegate. A boy comes home with new friends from all parts of the State, with a real appreciation of his role as a future citizen, and with a better knowledge of how democratic government functions. I am happy to have been that boy for this year.

Tom Boehm

"DCCLV"

For the un-Romanized the heading for this item interpreted means 750. That's the quota the County Legion has assigned to Blanchard Post for the new Legion year which begins this month.

A number of "early birds" have sent their dues payment into the Post. A few of these did not have the current payment which is a little higher than last year. This means that the Legionnaire who has not paid the \$7.50 rate will have to be contacted—which all means extra work for the Membership Chairman who has a big enough job as it is to meet the

Post quota and keep Blanchard's record for membership retention and gains.

Because of a change in his career, Vice Commander Russ Adams has been relieved of the position of Membership Chairman which was given over by Commander Dalton to Vice Chairman Fred H. Stahlhut, 78 Palmer Avenue, Delmar. Fred's home phone number is HE 9-2867, or if you want to go to faraway places, Fred will take care of your dues and your travel itinerary at his place of business: Albany Glavin Travel Agency, 118 State Street, Albany.

BLANCHARD CALENDAR

SATURDAY, OCT. 5—Annual World Series TV-Clam Steam Day at the Post from noon until dusk.

Monday, Oct. 7—Our regular monthly meeting at 8:30 p.m. Refreshments.

Saturday, Oct. 12—Columbus Day Dance from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday, Oct. 14—Post Affairs Committee meets at 8:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 21—Mid-monthly regular meeting. Boys' State delegate reports. Refreshments follow. 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Oct. 24—County Legion meeting (place unannounced).

Monday, Oct. 28—Board of Directors to meet at 8:00 p.m.

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Yankees vs Clams

As this was written two things were certain. There was to be another World Series-TV Clam Steam at the Post on Saturday, October 5 and the New York Yankees were the American League champs for the 1963 season.

Co-Chairmen for the event are Hank Voorhees and Dick Lenseth. The tickets again this year will be \$4.00 each. The program commences at noon. Besides the clams there will be lots of other eats and lager and before and after the Series game is on TV, there'll be games and other activities. Tickets may be bought early from Hank or Dick or Art Quinn at the Post Bar or Activities Chairman Gene Fitzpatrick—or come right along to the Post on Saturday, October 5th and join the party.

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Hail, Columbus

The Post's first dance of the up-coming season takes place on Columbus Day, Saturday, October 12th, announces Vice Commander - Activities Chairman Gene Fitzpatrick.

To head up this event he has made Ken Stinson the Chairman. The music for the occasion will be furnished by The Downbeats, who have previously served the Post with their appealing dance rhythms. The dance music starts at 10:00 p.m. and lasts until 2:00 a.m. Chairman Stinson says "come early with your party in order to get a convenient table on the dance floor. We promise you a happy evening."

BLANCHARD POST Phone: HEmlock 9-9819

Commander Richard P. Dalton Vice Commanders Fred H. Stahlhut Russell L. Adams Eugene F. Fitzpatrick Adjutant Charles J. O'Hara Finance Officer Paul D. Nelson Chmn. Board of Directors: Harold C. Barkhuff Editor Alexander J. Woehrle Advertising Kenneth B. Jopp

MARY'S CORNER

Happy New Auxiliary Year! As news for Mary's corner goes to press, the date is a day prior to the September meeting when the election and installation of officers for the coming year will take place. Congratulations and appreciation are extended to President Mary, her officers, committee chairmen and all who have worked hard and earnestly in accomplishing a fine record for the year now ending.

In the next issue of the 1040 TIMES a list of the elected officers will be published, as well as Committee Chairmanship appointments. To those members who will have accepted the responsibility of these jobs let us pledge our loyal support. A good beginning would be a sincere resolution on the part of each and every member to attend as many of the monthly meetings as possible. This sometimes means a sacrifice, but nothing is more heartening or inspiring to a president and her fellow officers than to have the meetings well attended. You will be surprised, too, to find how rewarding it is to actively participate in carrying out the many worthwhile Auxiliary programs.

The item of first importance as the new year begins is to get dues paid at as early a date as possible and, at the same time, try to interest other friends to join our ranks also. If you do not hear otherwise, check the October issue of the 1040 TIMES for the name of the Membership Chairman and put your check for \$2.50 in the mail pronto! Help your Auxiliary to hit its quota early in order to be eligible for a Department citation.

Date for the Annual Fall Card Party has been set for Tuesday evening, Oct. 8 at 8:00 p.m. in the Post Rooms. Ring this date on your calendar now. Plan a table and let's fill our hall to capacity for a real successful affair. Balancing the budget depends a great deal on the success of our card parties. You'll enjoy it and the committees will bless you!

At the first meeting, September 17, Mary Conner gave her report on the Department Convention held in Rochester during the summer. Also, we always look forward to the annual visit from our Girl Stater who, this year, was Miss Jean

Hinkelman. In charge of refreshments will be Kay Mosmen, assisted by Grace Von Ronne, Peg Butman, Kathy Buker, Helen Kemnitzer and Mad Lawler.

We'll be looking for you the third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 p.m.!

Kay Mosmen

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Needle In The Haystack

As a feature service for our advertisers we have devised a little gimmick this month. Selected ones have an envelope which will be given to the first Blanchard Legionnaire who goes to one of the advertisers and says to the owner or the manager: "I saw your ad in the 1040 TIMES." The recipient of the envelope will be required to present his Legion Membership Card for identification and leave his or her name with the advertiser who will notify Blanchard Post that the envelope has been released. Inside the envelope will be instructions as to what to do with it.

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MERCIFUL DONORS

Blood Bank Chairman Warren Moessner has shown his leadership quality by being among the first three to respond to his campaign to raise the Post's Blood Bank Account at Albany Medical Center.

His co-donors this past month were Vice Commander Gene Fitzpatrick and

Charles Redmond.

The Post's Blood Bank has gone to a perilous low of only one and a half pints. With the recent donations, the account has risen, as of this writing, to three pints, although a pint is taken from each individual. For each pint donated the system of the Blood Bank is to credit the donating organization with a half pint and the other half pint is donated to the Medical Center Blook Bank for admin-

istering the program.

Chairman Moessner has received 18 "promises" from prospective donors. To

them and to all others he has this advice to give them about arranging for the blood donation:

1. A donor should call the Blood Bank at 462-7521 and report the wish to donate a pint of blood for the American Legion Blanchard Post account;

2. A time will be set and the donor should be on schedule for the 'donation';

3. Make sure at the time the blood is given that it is credited to the account for Blanchard Post:

4. Report to Chairman Moessner that the blood was given. Warren's home telephone is HE 9-2288;

5. Be guided by the Blood Bank's working hours which are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays and Sundays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There are no Saturday appointments.

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THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL

I was very impressed with my recent sojurn as a patient in the Albany VA Hospital, so much so in fact that I feel I should acquaint my fellow Legionnaires with the many advantages its facilities offers. Each patient is given the best attention by the entire staff. Tests include x-ray, blood, urine, teeth, eyes, heart, plus any extra x-rays or tests that are peculiar to the patient.

Food is wholesome and nourishing, and according to your diet you may have as much as you wish. If you are an ambulatory patient you go to the mess hall for meals, which are served cafeteria style. You make your own bed, and run a few errands for the nurses, or push a few wheel-chair cases around if needed.

If time hangs heavy, pool tables, ping pong and TV are available. Bingo and first run movies are played on alternate nights. The PX in the basement sells just about everything you might need, including cigarettes at \$2.10 a carton. The cafeteria in the basement is open to patients and the public. Here an excellent soda fountain is available.

Should you wish to improve your skills while a patient, a Craft Therapy program includes typing, the art of printing and manual arts, plus working in wood. If ceramics is your hobby you may participate by contacting your ward physician. Having a birthday while a patient you will receive a birthday cake with all the trimmings. Feel religious? Protestant, Catholic and Jewish chaplains are in constant attendance. Representatives of all veterans organizations visit you daily with a hand shake and a hand out.

Kenneth B. Jopp Ward 8C, Rm. 814

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Congrats

For his promotion to Group Commander of the 8313 Air Force Reserve Recovery Group, a salute from his brother Legionnaires of Blanchard Post is given to Lt. Col. Richard W. Platt of Delmar, N. Y.

Painted Post

At the behest of the House Committee action was approved at the last Post meeting to have a painting and refurbishing job done on the exterior of the building. The extent of the work is beyond the limits of volunteer help, so a contract was negotiated to have it done by N. J. Mosmen & Son.

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TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE

With this article we begin, and hope to continue, a monthly newsletter on current matters of vital concern to all of us who love our country. We have felt for some time that there should be established an American Affairs Council to present the international picture with an American slant in contrast to the internationalist tint given by the World Affairs Council of the Foreign Policy Association.

It was indeed refreshing to find the American Legion once again at the 1963 National Convention taking a strong stand on the Cuban threat to the Western Hemisphere.

Five years ago the Castro movement consisted of a mere handful of guerrillas in the Sierra Maestra Mountains. At that time we might have prevented the establishment of a firm Communist beachhead on our very shores if we had listened to the warnings of our ambassadors in Latin America and of our intelligence agencies. They warned us that Castro, while perhaps not a conclusively proven Communist himself, was nevertheless surrounded by chief lieutenants who were Moscow trained, and that his movement, as a whole, was to a dangerous degree under Communist influence.

Had we listened to these warnings, we would have striven to bring about an orderly transition from the Batista regime to a democratic and constitutional regime, directed against Castro as well as the extreme right. But, unfortunately, there were those in the State Department at the time who were prone to accept as gospel the evaluation of the Castro movement which found its way into the

staid columns of the New York TIMES through the pen of Herbert Matthews.

Mr. Matthews assured the American public that Castro was not a Communist and that the Castro movement was not Communist-dominated; and Matthews built up a hero image of Castro in which all the virtues of Robin Hood and Thomas Jefferson, of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, were combined in a single man. Thus the American public was hoodwinked and there was no effort to warn the Cuban people, the overwhelming majority of whom were anti-Communist, of the dangerous degree of control which Moscow-trained Communists exercised in the Castro movement.

As the American Legion has again pointed out, we cannot expect the Castro dictatorship to die on the vine. The most cogent argument against such a thesis was made by the internationally famous liberal historian, Salvador de Madariaga with this statement in his recent book Between the Bear and the Eagle: "The argument that Castro had better be left alone and given enough rope to hang himself is worthless. The experience of other nations fallen into the unscrupulous hands of the Communist party allows of no such optimism. Time could only make of Cuba an impregnable base for Communism to spread all over Latin America. The Latin American governments who shilly-shally are only preparing the rope with which they will be hanged. Castro must go soon.

We concur wholeheartedly. The security of the United States and the Western Hemisphere is in the balance.

Committee on Americanism

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IMPACT

The attendance at Blanchard Post meetings often are notable for their smallness. This at times becomes disturbing for the Post officers and the few who do attend, especially on those nights when a speaker has been scheduled. Such an occasion occurred last June when the speaker was U. S. Naval Reserve Commander, E. W. Anderson. The Com-

mander had a strong message to give about the need for qualified personnel to recruit and train in the U. S. Navy of today. In the small audience that night was newly-elected Vice Commander Russ Adams, attending his first meeting as an officer of the Post. He got the message. Russ is now on active duty with the United States Navy.

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New Service Officer

The appointment of George Sykes as the Post Service Officer has been announced by Commander Dalton. George who is on the staff of the U.S. Veteran's Hospital in Albany, is highly qualified to fill this position. Anyone who has any questions connected with military service should present them to George who will find the answers to them. In this connection, George reminds us, "it is the Legion's responsibility first to handle the service-connected matters of its own members and next to extend to the exservicemen in the community who are not Legionnaires whatever attention they require relating to ex-service matters. In this way we have an opportunity to serve our brother-veterans and get more members into the American Legion."

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

For the year 1963-1964 Commander Dalton has named the following to head up the committees. In making the list, Dick said: "This is a top-notch group of leaders. Most of them are re-appointed to their committees because of their good work in the past. I know they will accomplish their mission again this year. I have but one additional chore for them. That is to get some of the newer Legionnaires in our Post interested in the activities of the Legion and of our Post."

Membership-Vice Com...Fred Stahlhut
Activities-Vice Com...Gene Fitzpatrick
Meetings (program)...Joseph Canizarro
Service Officer.......George Sykes
Budget..William Segur, George Butman
Blood Bank......Warren Moessner
Refreshments.......Albert Davis
Graves Registration.....Tom Patterson

Athletic Officer......Clarence Lephart Color Guard and Firing Squad:

Richard Lenseth

Baseball: 'Barney' Greene, Joe Von Ronne Oratorical Mark Scurrah Americanism William Johnston, Jr. Boys' State:

William Hazell, Whitman Daniels Sick Call and Relief.....Hugh Stowers 1040 Times..Alexander Woehrle, Editor Kenneth Jopp, Advertising

Bowling....Fred Buker, Charles Wiley Memorial Day.....Robert E. Mulligan Ice Rink: 'Hank' Voorhees, Ralph Stilan Indoor Sports......Michael Norton Legion Camp....Arnold 'Bud' Mosmen Community Ambassador Committee:

Eugene Fitzpatrick

Publicity Herbert Drew

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What To Do

At the last meeting the question was brought up about how to notify the Post when a member is on the sick list. In charge of this program is Hugh Stowers of 6 Wellington Road, Elsmere. His home phone is HE 9-3848. Hugh works at the Armory Garage in Albany. When he learns about someone on the sick list he

promptly dispatches a get-well card and makes a report at the next Post meeting. This information is passed along to the 1040 TIMES for a "Sick Call" report. Post members should advise their kinfolk about this so that the information can be reported to Chairman Stowers or to the Post by mail or telephoning the Post at HE 9-9819.

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