Old Capitol to Become Memorial to War Dead

BY E. M. CLINTON
(The Times-Picayune Staff Correspondent)

Baton Rouge, La. — The old state capitol building here, which has twice served as the seat of local government, will be formally dedicated Tuesday as the state's memorial to the dead of World War II.

Establishment of the memorial was effected in the 1946 session of the legislature, and some veterans organizations have been making use of the building ever since.

Ceremonies set for Tuesday include participation by all the veteran organizations and Louisiana gold star mothers will be special guests.

Politics continued to play a part in practically every conversation around the capital last week, although the principal candidates were stumping widely separated parts of the state.

Except for the Sam Jones chart talk, the campaign is not far off the routine, with candidates pointing with pride at their records and viewing with alarm the records of their opponents.

Developments expected by the "inside" dopesters here include the filling out of the Jones ticket with candidates for state auditor and for commissioner of agriculture to join the campaign party; possible withdrawal of one or more candidates from one of the leading tickets; the rumor mill tactics of another candidate to boomerang even more than they have to date; and several new alignments with parish tickets, which may cause eyebrows to raise in some circles.

Lee Laycock aimed a blast at Governor Jimmie Davis and Auditor L. B. Baynard when he opened his fight for the auditorship last week. Laycock charged that Davis had blocked possible endorsement by Sam Jones. He is running as an independent, pledged to work for the abolition of his office if he is elected.

Attorney General Fred S. LeBlanc was praised in a resolution adopted unanimously by a national conference of attorneys general in Boston last week for "his inspiring and effective leadership in efforts to give the state title to submerged and reclaimed lands."

His activities along that line have been his chief talking point as he stumps the state for re-election.

Appointment of J. L. V. Grenier, Thibodaux, to the director of highways post, announced a week ago by Gov. Davis, surprised even some of the department insiders.

Planes had been made for a press conference to enable acting director Robert Richardson to get acquainted with the writing fraternity last Monday and the appointment eliminated the necessity for that. Reaction to the appointment has been favorable around the capital, based on his background and experience in road and other construction.

The International Exhibition and Sweet Potato Show, which ends at Louisiana State university today, attracted three nationally known speakers. Federal Attorney General Tom Clark, and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson made addresses there, and former Vice-President Henry Wallace is due there November 16.

The editorial blast by a Mississippi editor, aimed at LSU and particularly at Dr. Harold W. Stoke, citing "excessive" drinking at the Ole Miss-LSU football game, drew sharp criticism from many sources during the week.

By his own admission, the editor sat on the Mississippi side of the stadium, and box office records indicate that most of the tickets on that side went to Mississippians.

Dr. Stoke's answer, prompt and to the point, promised an investigation of the charge and corrective measures if their need is indicated, but presumed that, if the investigation failed to back up the claims, the McComb editor would retract his statement.