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### OLDEST EX-SENATOR HAS BIRTHDAY

Blind Robert L. Owen (left) oldest living ex-senator, from Oklahoma, celebrated his 89th birthday anniversary at a luncheon in Washington Saturday, cutting the cake with the assistance of Thomas P. Gore, also blind, who served with Owen as first senators from Oklahoma after its admission to the union in 1907.

## Ex-Senator Robert L. Owen Honored On 90th Birthday

World Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Robert L. Owen, who came to Washington as U. S. senator from Oklahoma in December, 1907, two months after the Sooner state joined the union, was honored today by the present congressional delegation as he entered his 90th year.

Among those present was Thomas P. Gore, who went to the senate with Owen. The men are the only living members of the senate of 1907.

In the private dining room of the speaker of the house of representatives, Oklahoma congressmen, their wives, and a few friends of Owen and Gore gathered at luncheon to praise Owen and to reminisce of the days when there were no radio, electric light or automobiles.

"Just as these came true," Owen said, "so will a universal language." Owen thus used the opportunity to plead for the cause to which he now devotes all his attention, a global language.

A large cake containing a single red candle which Owen later blew out, was brought into the room by three waiters as the guests sang, "Happy Birthday, Dear Senator."

Present also were the wives of Owen and Gore, the present senators from Oklahoma, Elmer Thomas, and Mrs. Thomas, Edward H. Moore, and former Sen. Josh Lee, member of the civil aeronautics board.

Among the major achievements of Owen was his work in guiding through the senate in 1912 a bill to create the federal reserve system. Sen. Carter Glass, then a member of the house, led its passage by the house. The bill was entitled the Owen-Glass bill.

Senator Owen had his finger prints on all important legislation

that was passed through the senate during the 13 years he was in office," Gore said in a brief tribute.

Owen served in the senate until 1925 when he declined to run because, he explained today, "I had some things I wanted to do."

"He acted," Gore said, "his belief that the best way to kill time was to use it."

Speaking briefly, Owen pleaded for a world based on justice, friendship and love. He said that to beget nobleness in others, one must be noble himself.

"Just as hate begets hate, so love begets love, and nobility begets nobility," he said.

Owen listed material progress he had seen achieved as the development of the railway, hard-surface highway, telephone, telegraph, radio, phonograph, electric light, airplane. He said that the biggest enemy facing the world is ignorance.

To combat this, he said, was the aim of his "global language." A plan to achieve "one language in which all men could converse from one end of the world to the other. The accomplishment of this is my objective," Owen said.

The system, based partly on phonetics, has been developed for English and Spanish. It is being worked out for Russian, Chinese, German and other tongues, Owen said.

After a few hours study a person should be able to make himself understood in any language, Owen said.

Copies of the system for Chinese have been presented to Gen-

## FURLoughS SPUR STORK

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—The stork has been much busier in this war than in World war I.

One reason, says census bureau expert John D. Durand, is that various European nations have deliberately granted more furloughs for married men to visit their homes.

Another reason is that both European countries and the United States have paid allotments to servicemen's dependents in this war.

In the United States the birth rate has stayed so high for three years that the population effect of the war has been a large net gain. For every soldier or sailor killed in the war, six "war babies" have been born—in addition to the number of babies that would normally have been expected under the prewar birth rate.

In the first World war the principal belligerent countries, after a short initial boom in births, had very low birth rates.

Even in the United States the birth rate showed a tendency to drop in the latter part of 1918 and in early 1919.

### America May Sell Huge Arms Stores to Europeans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (AP)—Prospect that American armies switching from Europe to the Pacific theater will leave huge stores of arms and supplies raises the question: "What's to be done with the stuff?"

Speculation here is that great quantities will be sold to armies of liberated countries and thus contribute to easier political stabilization.

erallissimo Chiang Kal-Shek, through Gen. Patrick Hurley, Owen said. Premier Stalin soon will have a copy of the Russian version, Owen said.

Owen said he had given Gov. Robert Kerr a medal originally presented to his grandfather by Thomas Jefferson in 1809. Handed down to Owen, the medal is to be placed in the state museum by Kerr, Owen said, so that its code should become a way of life for Oklahomans.

The code lies in the encribed words, "peace and friendship."

Rep. Jed Johnson of sixth district, presided. Rep. Victor Wickersham of the seventh district arranged the luncheon. Attending were Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Wickersham; Rep. Ross Rizley of the eighth district and Mrs. Rizley; Rep. William G. Stigler of the second district; Rep. Paul Stewart of the third district; Rep. Lyle H. Boren, of the fourth district; Rep. Mike Monroney of the fifth district; Royce H. Savage, U. S. district judge in Tulsa; Marie Moore Stewart, of Oklahoma City, with the Democratic national committee; Harvey Walker, professor of political science at Ohio State university, who said his father homesteaded in Oklahoma in 1904 and his grandfather before that; G. H. Woodward, who works with Owen's law office in Washington, formerly of Tulsa; Herbert Broughton a friend of Owen; Dr. Janet Meade, professor of languages at the University of Virginia; Lieut. E. W. Kingsbury; Miss Hazel Comstock, employe of the Reconstruction Finance corporation and chairman of the music committee of the Oklahoma State society.