

Phipps candidate for commander of American Legion in the state

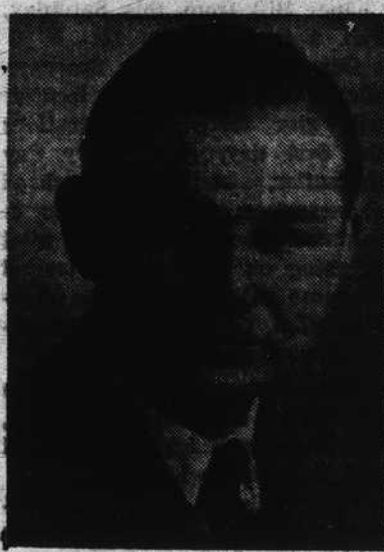
Chapel Hill attorney L. J. Phipps, a 44-year member of the American Legion, has announced his candidacy for North Carolina Department Commander of that veterans organization.

At present the State Historian of the Legion, he will seek the top leadership in the 42,000-member 300-post Tar Heel department at the annual state convention in Charlotte June 19-23. Another Chapel Hillian, Paul Robertson, was North Carolina Department Commander in 1955. The present commander is Leslie R. Brady of Newton. To date no candidates have announced for commander except Phipps.

During World War One Phipps volunteered for service in the

Army and was assigned to the Student Army Training Corps at the University of North Carolina, where he was a student. He later served in the infantry. When Chapel Hill Post No. Six of the American Legion was chartered in August, 1919, he was one of 15 charter members, and has been an active member of the local group since that time.

In 1933 he was Chapel Hill Post Commander, and has since then and before held numerous offices in it. In 1950 he was State Commissioner of the American Legion junior baseball program, was for two years state judge advocate, and has been Chairman of the State Con-



JUDGE L. J. PHIPPS

stitution and Bylaws Committee, in addition to holding various district offices.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University, he is Judge of the Orange County Recorder's Court, Chairman of the Orange County Democratic Executive Committee, a past President of the Chapel Hill Rotary Club, an active Baptist layman, and has been a leader in numerous local civic and youth movements.

lane University in 1950, and taught at Winthrop College, S. C., in the 1959-60 academic year. He also studied at the University of Rennes in Germany as a Fulbright Scholar.

Playmakers show opens next Wednesday . . .

John Crockett becomes a rhino each night in satiric comedy

By GORDON CLARK

There's a fellow here whose respect for the rhinoceros is pretty unshakable. He's actor John Crockett, and he has to become one of the roaring, robust pachyderms in 15 minutes flat every night.

Crockett is playing Jean, the role that rocketed Zero Mostel to stardom on Broadway, in The Carolina Playmakers tour production of "Rhinoceros." The Eugene Ionesco satiric comedy will run at the Playmakers Theatre here Feb. 13-17 before going to several North Carolina and Georgia cities.

This exhausting role isn't the kind that Crockett — or any other actor — gets to play very often, and it's bringing about some changes in his life. For one thing, he has to do physical exercises on stage, and this requires some outside practice.

"My wife — she's a former physical education teacher — has been teaching me how to do 'push-ups,'" Crockett says. "My stomach still drags a little, but I'm improving!"

The 31-year-old University of

North Carolina actor and his family (he is the father of two girls) live in Chapel Hill. He is administration assistant with The Carolina Playmakers and his wife is a high school teacher.

Tickets for the Chapel Hill run of "Rhinoceros" will become available to the public tomorrow, Feb. 7, at the Playmakers business office (214 Abernethy Hall) and at Ledbetter-Pickard, both in Chapel Hill. All seats are reserved at \$2 each.

Curtain time is 8:30 each evening, with an additional matinee performance on Sun., Feb. 17, at 2:30 p. m.

LINCOLN DAY PARTY SET

The Chapel Hill Women's Republican Club will sponsor a Lincoln Day Card Party next Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 2 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Robert Lester, So. Columbia St. and Westwood Drive. Co-Hostesses are Mrs. Ranson Taylor and Mrs. Harry Atkins. Prizes and refreshments, all are welcome. For reservations please call Mrs. Carrington Phillips 968-1152. Thank you very much.

Grad student teacher sought, feared suicide

A University graduate student French instructor, feared a suicide victim, was being sought by Chapel Hill police and University authorities last night.

He is Robert Lee Brand, 27, of 110 Carr St., a local resident since 1960, and native of Shawnee, Okla. Brand was reportedly last seen about 6 p. m. Tuesday walking toward downtown Chapel Hill on N. Columbia St. near his rooming place on Carr St. Police Chief W. D. Blake said he had been given a note, apparently written by Brand and left in the room of a girl friend, which indicated that he planned to commit suicide. The actual contents of the note were withheld.

Chief Blake said that his force and University authorities had spent the day Wednesday searching buildings, the campus, and woods around the community, but had turned up no clue. He added that the investigation to date had not revealed any tendencies on the part of the missing man toward suicide. The local bus station, taxicab operators, and the airport had also been checked in vain, Chief Blake said.

Described by his colleagues as "an excellent student and teacher," Brand attended Oklahoma Baptist College in Shawnee, received the M. A. Degree at Tu-



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