

2nd Annual American Legion Armistice Day Race

Monday, 11 Nov 1935 at Legion Hall in Uptown Butte

Armistice Day activities started Sunday evening and lasted through midnight Monday. Activities included the “forget-me-not” sale – a sale of red poppies hand-made by veterans, the funds from which will go to assist those veterans still under medical care from injuries received in war.

There were open-house reunions of “buddies in arms” and a stag banquet with more than 100 enjoying a complete meal of turkey & trimmings and “a galaxy of out-of-town entertainers” providing music, dancing, comedy, and *no* speeches in a manner befitting heroes.

Also there was a foot race, a push-mobile contest for boys, Legionnaires’ teaching strategies for peace at local schools, and the celebrations were topped off with the Armistice Ball.

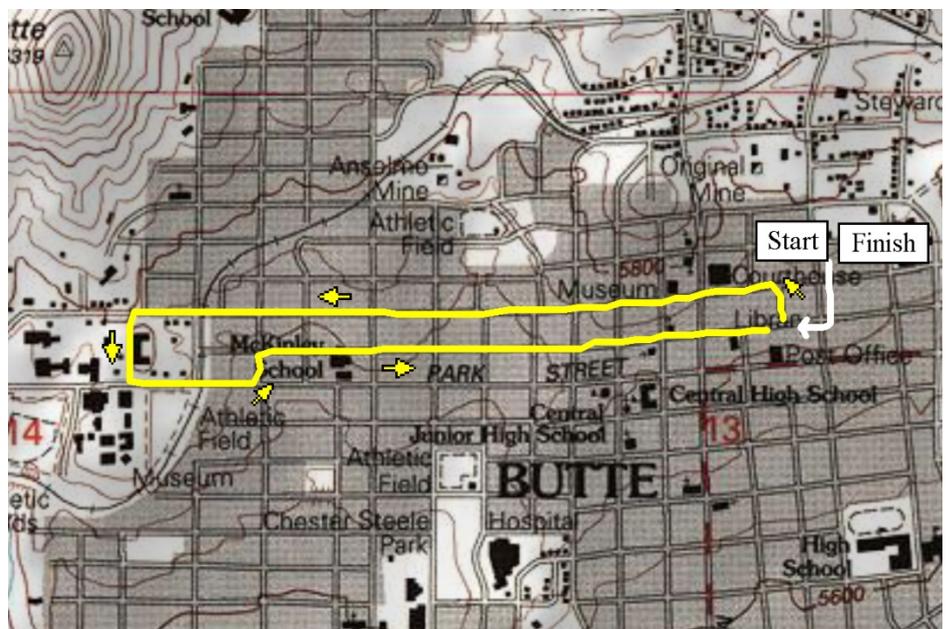
Monday morning activities started at 10:49 a.m. with the Legionnaires’ 11-mortar bombardment. Rounds were fired on the minute, with the last sounding at 11 a.m. and followed by one minute of silence to remember great sacrifices paid by soldiers who protected our country.

The Armistice Day Race and the push-mobile contest each got underway at 4 p.m. in the business district with several hundred spectators looking on. There were three push-mobile entries, and there were seven runners.

The following is an account of the race as later retold by Butte historian, Patrick Kearney. Patrick is also the nephew of James Kearney, who finished second in the race.



The second annual [Armistice] Day Race produced a new course and the first close finish in the event. The course was changed when the runners headed west on Granite. Instead of going north on Excelsior to Woolman the runners kept going straight on Granite until they reached the Montana School of Mines. They raced around the campus buildings then down Park to Emmett, north to Broadway and east to the Legion Hall. Seven runners started the race which quickly developed into a two person duel between Butte High student, Jack Pachico, and former Christian Brothers High graduate, Jim Kearney, who competed for the Sky High Athletic Club. Kearney led most of the race with Pachico in close burst. Pachico outkicked Kearney on Broadway Street and won by a couple of strides.



The first four race finishers will be awarded trophies at the next Legionnaires’ meeting. No finish times were reported. Prizes were donated by the Montana Hardware company, the Central Hardware company, the US Building and Loan, and the Butte Bottlers Supply company.

Individual standings: 1, Jack Pachico, BH; 2, James Kearney, Sky High; 3, Henry Tyvand, BH; 4, Benny Crowley, BH; 5, John Dougherty, BH; 6, Maurice Risdon, BH; 7, Leo Benz, BH.