

## Decide on Gas Rate Fight Before Jan. 23

City councils and village boards of 11 communities of the north shore area will be asked to take action on a proposed plan of procedure in the gas rate fight before Friday, Jan. 23, it was announced last week following a meeting of the Municipalities Association Executive committee.

At this meeting a complete report

of work to date on the gas rate fight was offered by Frederick Dickinson and plans mapped for letting bids for a comprehensive survey of North Shore Gas company activities.

Mr. Dickinson reported that three concerns had been approached for the survey. Before any bids are let, however, the stand of all city councils and village boards will be determined.

The cost of the engineering survey will be shared by all communities embracing it. It is expected that

such cost will be small because of the large number of cities sharing the expense.

This cost will also be distributed according to the number of consumers that each community has.

Civic leaders say that one way to help the average state's difficulties would be to abolish one branch of the legislature and have only one house in the law making body. That would remedy at least half of the difficulty.

## Shortage of Beds Keeps Veteran In State Institution

Montague Rasmussen, Lake county service officer, has received the following bulletin, which he thinks explains the great need for more beds and more hospitals for the ex-service men.

Waterbury, Vt.—A case showing the need of more Veterans' Bureau hospitals, which the American Legion is now urging in congress, is reported here by Harry N. Cutting, department service officer of the Legion in Vermont, as typical of thousands of veterans in distress:

"This case is in Barre, Vt. The veteran was a granite cutter, earning good money, rearing a family and paying for a home. Then trouble appeared out of a clear sky, and the man became mentally ill, for no known reason, and had to be taken to the Vermont State Hospital in Waterbury.

"Of course his income stopped, but not the expenses, as he and his wife had an equity in their home, and therefore he couldn't be placed in the hospital as a state patient, free. His maintenance had to be paid. This was \$7 a week. It had to come out of the equity in their home. The living expenses of the family had to come out of the equity, too — what were not paid for by the American Legion and Auxiliary.

"An application for disability allowance was filed, and granted. The wife will get \$40 a month from that source. At the same time, an application was filed for the veteran's transfer to the Veterans' hospital at Northampton, but that has not gone through yet, on account of lack of room. As long as he stays in the Vermont State Hospital, his maintenance will eat up most of that \$40 a month that his family needs. These nervous and mental cases are the ones which have to wait the longest, when we all know that they need hospitalization just as quickly as a case of tuberculosis or any other ailment.

"The Bureau rule is that service-connected cases have the preference. That would be fine, if we, or anybody else, could tell for a certainty what cases are NOT service connected. Men are breaking down every day from the effects of what they went through in France, and the law sets January 1, 1925, as the late date on which these break-down cases can be connected with service. The first step in the right direction is more hospitals; the next step would be to liberalize the rules of service-connected cases, so that the veteran shall have the benefit of service-connected cases, so that the veteran shall really have the benefit of every reasonable doubt, as we have been told so often."

## Lingle Murder Suspect Formerly at Great Lakes

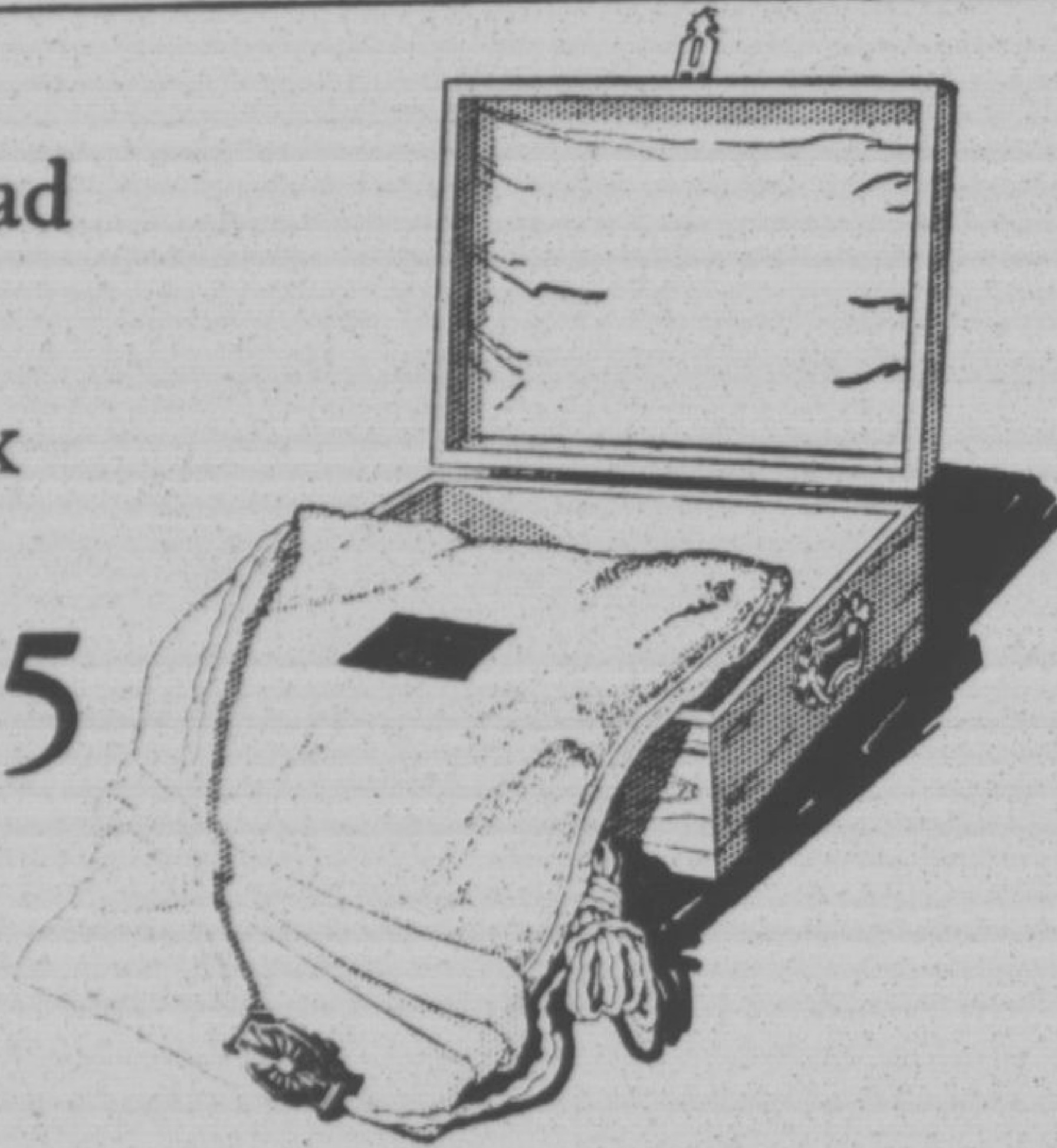
Leo Brothers, St. Louis gangster whose capture was made public last week after an eight month sensational hunt for the slayer of Alfred J. "Jack" Lingle, was discovered to be the same Leo Brothers, who was known in Waukegan during the war days when he was stationed for a period of training on Great Lakes.

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