Congress Plans Revival Of G I Allowances

By JAMES MARLOW

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON — The goverment, during World War II, gave allowances to the members of the armed forces below the rank of comissioned officers.

For example: if a private, daafted into the service, had a wife and set aside $22 of his pay each month, the government added $28 to it, giving the wife a total of $50 a month.

And if he rad children, he didn't have to put up any money for them. The government gave the first child $30 a month, and all other children $20 each.

Congress abolished these family allowances in October, 1949, when, at the same time, it raised servicemen's pay. But now, with the country re-arming, congress is thinking of renewing these allowances and even increasing them.

Starting Point

A bill to do that is being considered by the house armed services committee. This is just a starting point. So this bill has a long way to go before it can become law.

The bill as it stands—it may be changed—would work this way:

A serviceman has a wife. If he set aside $30 of his monthly pay for her, the government would add $45, giving the wife a total of $75. And the government would give each child $25.

Under the old law dependent parents and brothers and sisters of a serviceman got money from the government. Under the bill being considered parents would get money, but not brothers or sisters.

Take the army for an example of non-commissioned men and commissioned officers. The non-commissioned men start as recruits and go up to sergeant. The commissioned officers start with the rank of second lieutenant and go up to general.

The officers, of course, are better paid than the non-commissioned servicemen. Under the old law they got no family allowances. Nor would they get any under the bill in the house.

But officers did, and do get allowanced from the government for food and lodging for themselves and their families.

Why didn't congress provide allowances for the men being drafted now? For one good reason:

Under the present law only men between 19 and 26 can be drafted and none with dependents can be drafted. Having a dependent is reason for deferment.

Unecessary

This seemed all right because until the Korean crisis the draft itself had been unnecessary. The armed forces were getting all the men they needed by voluntary enlistments. And they weren't taking any recruits with dependents.

But now 100,000 draftees will be taken in the next couple of months, and the number may go higher. And— the armed services are calling to active duty national guard units and members of the reserves.

Some of these guardsmen and reservists will certain have families which will suffer when the breadwinner is called to active service—unless they get a family allowance.

McMinnville Teacher Gets State School Post

SALEM — (AP) —Mrs. Velma J. Pearson, principal of Columbus school in McMinnville, was appointed today as an elementary supervisor in the state department of education.

She replacer Miss Alice Heenan, who resigned to become supervising teacher at the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth.

The appointment was made by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction.

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