

### Plans For New Buildings Costing Millions Abandoned Through Fear Of Government Ban On Completion

By T. E. APPLIGATE  
NEW YORK — (AP) — Plans for millions of dollars of new commercial construction have been quietly abandoned in the past few weeks.

Reluctance of investors to risk possible federal ban on completion of the work is advanced as a reason for the action.

This is reported as indicating how deep the slash in such building activity will cut later this year.

These projects should be on the architects' boards now if a start on them is to be made this fall. But clients of two New York architectural firms are said to have canceled or deferred preliminary work on a total of \$80,000,000 of construction.

Such actions will intensify the slump in private building, a slump counted on by the government to stretch supplies of vital materials

for defense and military construction.

Myron L. Matthews, vice president of the Dow Service publishers of daily building reports, says private non-residential work is very active at present, but calls it a "temporary honeymoon."

"New construction projects are just not being fed into the hopper to keep the work going," this ana-



TRIBUTE TO THE G.I.'S—Here is a reproduction of the full-color painting being used by the Defense Department on the official poster for Armed Forces Day, May 19.

### Pedestrian Deaths In Oregon Increased in 1950

Oregon pedestrian fatalities climbed 30 percent last year as a total of 88 persons on foot died in traffic mishaps throughout the state, the secretary of state's traffic safety division has reported.

Pedestrian deaths in 1949 numbered 64.

Fifty-one percent of last year's pedestrian victims were 65 or over, accident records reveal, and 84 percent of all fatal pedestrian mishaps took place after dark.

The division said a violation of law or other unsafe action on the part of the driver was listed in 52 percent of all pedestrian accidents reported during the year.

Most dangerous pedestrian practices were stepping into the street from behind a parked car and crossing in the middle of the block, actions which cost 26 lives, the division reported.

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lyst of the industry says. "Potential investors in buildings now permitted by government regulations are not sure that they won't be banned by the time contracts are ready to let."

This condition, Matthews says, affects planning of almost every type of building where public money is not involved.

**Gain Despite Restrictions**  
Despite federal restrictions, overall construction expenditures so far this year have exceeded the pace for the same period of 1950, which set an all-time record.

Commercial projects — stores, offices, hotels, warehouses and the like — are restricted to those approved by the national production authority (NPA).

These, along with home building, are subject also to real estate credit controls imposed by the Federal Reserve board.

Available 1951 statistics give some evidence of what is to come.

New housing units in excess of 250,000 were reported started in the first three months. If the government's cut-back goal of "not more than 800,000" for the year is met, starts for the next nine months will be less than half the 1950 total for the same period.

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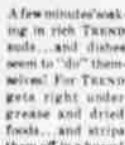


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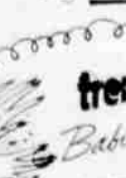
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