

Along Azalea Row

By Mrs. E. F. Rapraeger

There is a strange fragrance in the air when it rains and the warm wet wind from the south blows over the land. The rains this autumn have been long delayed and the first storm, blowing the clouds and rain before her, was more than welcome.

In late autumn and winter, our typical climate consists of a flow of moist warm air across the North Pacific ocean which brings considerable rain, followed by periods of crisp, crystal-clear days when the wind blows from landward. Normally, the rain falls from the first of November to the first of April amounts to 54 inches, November being the wettest, followed in order by January, December, February, March.

When the first rain came this autumn, people listened to the gentle patter of it, and they stood out of doors to feel it on their faces. Soon the tempo of the rain will increase. One day a succession of storms will extend from here to Japan and arrive on our coast in rapid-fire order—Bing, Bing, Bing—one after another. Then people will ask, "Will it never quit raining?" Hard to please, aren't we?

The rains that come to us are twice blest, once by Him who gives and again by us who receive. Heaven is kind to us. A rain is a common experience, yet it is also one of the most remarkable. Every living thing on this earth benefits from rain. The rains quicken the streams, they fill underground reservoirs, the mellow topsoil absorbs it like a

sponge, the fields and forests are greened by it. This by no means completes the list but enough has been said to explain the very direct effect of rainfall upon the living.

One bad feature of a rainstorm is that rascals such as Mr. Drop, Mr. Soak and Mr. Squall make perfect pests of themselves. Maybe you heard what they did during the last storm.

"I say there, Mr. Drip, you rascal, what did you do during the last storm?"

"I was very subtle this time," snickered Mr. Drip. "Some of us found a hole in a roof and we dripped on the ceiling until the plaster broke loose. You should have seen the people jump out of bed, scared to death." Roars of laughter.)

"There was nothing subtle about me," said Mr. Squall. "I busted a couple of windows and then I made a big puddle on the floor when I got inside." (Loud guffaws and raucous laughter.)

"And how about you, Mr. Soak?"

"I spent the day up the Chetco with some loggers and fishermen. I really soaked them. When they walked, their boots went squish-squash, their feet were so wet." (Cheers.)

"Did you see the Coldgerm family or ol' man Flu?"

"Oh, yes, they were up there. The Coldgerms are planning to come to Brookings for the winter social season after spending the summer in a farmer's nose. Their home is cozy but getting rather congested. One of their boys, an ambitious youngster, crawled up the nose of a tourist from Portland and hopes to infect the entire city." (Wild cheers and more laughter.)

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Veterans' Bonus Application 'Til December 1

With the Oregon veteran's bonus deadline less than a week away, a decided upsurge in claims filed has been noted in the past several days, the Department of Veterans' Affairs reported today. The last date to apply is Monday, Dec. 1, 1952.

H. A. Saalfeld, bonus supervisor for the state veterans' department said veterans and survivors of deceased ex-servicemen have been applying at the rate of about 300 a day, or double the previous volume. Some 10,000 veterans have yet to apply.

The bonus supervisor said numerous inquiries indicate that some veterans think if they don't receive their bonus checks by Dec. 1, they won't be paid. Such is not the case," Saalfeld declared. The date of Dec. 1 is the deadline for applying, not for payment of the bonus. The important thing is that veterans, or the surviving unremarried widow, children or parents of deceased veterans get their applications in the mail on or before Monday, Dec. 1.

While certified copies of mili-

tary discharge papers must be submitted to support the bonus application, veterans were advised that they should submit the application alone if time prevents them from obtaining the supporting documents before the deadline. When this is done, the applicant should attach a note to his application stating that the document will be submitted as soon as available.

The bonus division is concentrating on clearing up some 9000 back-logged applications where evidence of foreign duty, residence, or other items are missing.

Brookings-Harbor area applicants can secure application at the post office or Malcolm Brain-

ard, V.F.W. service officer, Post No. 966, Brookings. Survivor applications should contact county service officer for assistance as various types of certifications are needed, depending on the particular case. County service officer C. E. Seger, home office, first house north of Federal Forest station in Gold Beach. Open evenings for benefit of those employed throughout the day.

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Erskine Miller returned home on Sunday from Portland, where they had spent the previous week.

Art Forsberg came home from the Crescent City hospital this last weekend and now is recuperating nicely.

PAUL RONNIGER, M. D.

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"BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN OF CONSERVATISM"

By L. C. O'BRIEN

"THE VOICE OF ONE AMERICAN"

(This is the Second Article of a Series)
(Continued From Last Week)

The placing of our squalid, helpless predicament in a slapstick vaudeville by Mr. Stevenson and his unctuous, confused prattle and mud throwing hysteria was only the moribund exit of an irredeemable democratic error and the exposing of his theatrical talent however this past election was to decide, not only the destiny of our beloved country, but the destiny of mankind and unquestionably this colossal burden is beyond the realm of the theatrical profession. However, on the other hand, how can Mr. Eisenhower possibly lead the nation down that stated straight road to peace, prosperity and security while running the gauntlet of conservatism, exploitation, militarism and political corruption, plus individual greed, while using the same old confused theories of mummified antiquity which have been tried and proven futile in every generation since the cave man period, theories of hieroglyphic origin, which ironically, have been unchanged. We are living in a modern age while practicing the basic machinations of savages. This inconceivable ignorance is radically and drastically clashing with advanced military science and is the precursor to a heinous boomerang of military might and our obliteration.

After analyzing the orations and childish theories of our leading intellectuals and their associates, I have carefully compared and weighed their potential value, and after unbiased checking each minute detail, I still find that their theories do not waver from the same old conservative rut of militarism, exploitation, greed and individual gain. Under the people's present frame of mind there is no escaping the strangling tourniquet of military troglodytism. If the people do not change their ways of thinking, and their contentious practices and climb out of this blundering, inconceivable rut they will surely wind up in a diabolical military and political program.

(TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK)