

Veterans Program And Activities To Be Increased

With the number of veterans returning to civilian life constantly increasing, the United States Employment Service will expand its veterans' programs and activities immediately to assure adequate and special service to veterans, Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, said today.

While veterans have been placed by USES in more than 80,000 jobs up to June of this year, it is necessary that the operating organization of the employment service be strengthened and that the specialized service to veterans be stepped up, Mr. McNutt said.

"It is the intent of the law and the will of the American people, as expressed through their elected representatives in Congress, that there shall be maximum job opportunity for veterans," he continued. "The task of placing veterans in new jobs has been delegated to USES and we are determined that nothing shall be left undone in carrying out our responsibility. The veteran has served his country and the country has the responsibility to serve the veteran because in the transition from soldier to civilian all other things fade in importance when compared with a suitable job."

The special service to veterans include a veterans' employment representative in each State, a veterans' employment representative in each local USES office throughout the country, trained personnel to interview, counsel and refer veterans to jobs and to furnish veterans with information concerning other agencies set up to serve them. It also is contemplated to speed up place-

ment procedures to reduce the amount of time a veteran spends in the USES office. Insofar as possible, USES personnel handling veterans' placement activities will be veterans themselves.

More than 1,000,000 veterans of the present war have sought employment, job counseling or other information at United States Employment Service offices, Mr. McNutt reported.

Of the total number of veterans applying to USES, approximately one-fourth were physically disabled and required selective placement techniques, as do all handicapped workers, WMC pointed out.

"The USES program is to give the veteran the maximum job opportunity," Mr. McNutt said. "In connection with the disabled service men, we believe that almost every such veteran can become a highly productive worker, if he is placed on a job the physical demands of which match his physical capacities."

"Other veterans requiring special services are those who had no experience previous to entering the armed services. The USES job counseling facilities have been of help to large numbers of such veterans in connection with job training, educational opportunities and employment prospects in various fields."

"Employment interviewers attempt to match the veteran's previous skills or those he acquired in service with related occupations in civilian life. Some skills, such as truck driving, cooking and baking, have obvious civilian job counterparts. To place in civilian jobs such other military and naval personnel as ex-bombardiers, navigators and infantrymen, with no previous work experience, WMC in conjunction with the War and Navy Department has developed special aids."

"While the first principle of USES is to refer the best quali-



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fied applicant-veteran or non-veteran to the job, we want to see that the veteran is offered the maximum job opportunity. Veterans seeking jobs are not now required to apply to USES, since they are removed from WMC controls. Many return directly to their old jobs, but the majority released so far have registered with USES. We expect this number to increase with each passing month and USES stands ready to do its utmost to speed the return of the discharged veteran to civilian life."

A mother took her small son to the Egyptian room of a New York museum. After they had looked at the ancient objects on display there, the boy complained, "I see mummies all around, but where are the pup-pies?" —Parade.

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Memphis Colored Citizens Honor Race Air Ace

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—As a tribute to Capt. Luke Weathers, Negro air ace and native of Memphis, Negro citizens of this city purchased \$200,000 worth of War Bonds at a dinner and a rally held in his honor here last week. The \$20,000 purchase carried the total War Bond purchases of Memphis Negroes above the \$1,000,000 mark.

The city-wide, all-day War Bond program was designated "Captain Luke Weathers Day," and War Bond purchases were spurred by the slogan, "Buy a Bond for Luke Weathers Day." A victory scroll, dedicated to this Army Air Forces officer, was inscribed by all persons purchasing War Bonds during the week of June 25. The scroll will be hung on the walls of Beale Avenue Auditorium.

Captain Weathers and a squadron of pilots flew to Memphis from the Tuskegee Army Air Forces Field to participate in the War Bond activities. Prior to the War Bond rally at Handy Park, the fliers "bombed" the city with leaflets announcing a par-

ade, which preceded the meeting. The day's activities ended with a Victory Ball at Beale Avenue Auditorium.

The "Captain Luke Weathers Day" was planned by Lt. George W. Lee, chairman of the Negro Division of the Shelby County War Finance Committee, assisted by a citizens' committee composed of Robert Wright, Maurice Hulburt, Nat Williams, Hollis Price and the Rev. W. T. Brewster, St. Several organizations and institutions cooperated in the promotion.

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