

Veterans Benefits Proposals Up for Vote in Twelve States

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Bonuses and other benefits for World War II veterans will be put up to the voters of 12 states at the Nov. 2 election.

The cost to taxpayers, if all are approved, may total \$1,000,000,000. This would be in addition to \$1,529,000,000 in bonuses already voted by nine states—Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont—and benefits paid by Alaska and Hawaii.

Three other states have taken incomplete steps to set up bonus payments.

Bonus Bill

North Dakota, in a referendum last June, authorized the 1949 legislature to pass a \$27,000,000 bonus bill.

In Pennsylvania, a \$500,000,000 bond issue for bonuses has been approved by one session of the legislature. Approval by the 1949 session would put it before the voters as a referendum in November, 1949.

Bond Issue

Louisiana will ballot on a constitutional amendment next month to authorize a \$80,000,000 bond issue to finance bonuses ranging from \$50 to \$250. The legislature already has given its approval. Louisianians will also vote on a second amendment dealing with veterans' homestead exemptions.

Here are thumbnail sketches of other veterans' programs coming up for a vote on Nov. 2:

California — A constitutional amendment giving war veterans a \$5,000 or less benefit determined by assessed instead of actual valuation.

Indiana — A bonus referendum not binding on the 1949 legislature. Voters may check their preference of one of five alternate proposals for financing an estimated \$143,000,000 program which would permit an average payment of \$369.

Iowa — A referendum on an \$85,000,000 bond issue to pay bonuses ranging from \$40 to \$500. The referendum would carry approval to levy a general property tax, if necessary.

Minnesota — A constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide a bonus and raise money to finance it. Details would be left to the lawmakers.

Missouri — A constitutional amendment to increase the two per cent retail sales tax to three per cent until a sum of \$135,000,000 has been raised to pay a maximum \$400 bonus.

Nebraska — A referendum to provide maximum bonuses of \$350, to be financed with a 3½ mill levy on tangible property for five years.

North Dakota — A constitutional amendment to authorize a two-mill levy for a veterans' postwar rehabilitation fund.

Oregon — An initiative for a maximum \$500 bonus, to be paid on a basis of \$15 for each month of domestic service and \$25 for each month overseas.

South Dakota — A constitutional amendment to permit a \$30,000,000 indebtedness to finance a bonus on the basis of a \$650 maximum for overseas service and \$500 for stateside duty.

Wisconsin — A referendum, advisory to the legislature, on the question of a three per cent retail sales tax to raise \$200,000,000 for bonuses.

Washington — An initiative to provide a bonus based on \$10 a month for stateside and \$15 for overseas service. It would be financed by a \$100,000,000 bond issue to be retired by a 10 per cent tax on all retail tobacco sales.

Timely Home Run Saves Holdup Victim's Ring

CHICAGO — (AP) — A home run saved Clarence Carlson's \$1600 diamond ring.

Carlson had parked his automobile near a softball game. A bandit slugged him and started to remove the ring from his finger.

Just then a batter in the softball game hit a home run. Outfielders chased the ball toward Carlson's car.

The bandit fled without the ring, thinking the outfielders were after him.

France Views 'Thanks' Train

PARIS — (AP) — France got its first look this week at two cars of the "Thank-You-Train" due to sail in November with gifts for the United States.

The gifts are in return for aid sent here since 1939.

Both cars are of the "40 men and eight horses" type familiar to American veterans. They were contributed by the nationalized French railroad system.

The committee organizing the train has refurbished the cars and painted them gaily with tricolor stripes and the shields of French provinces.

The cars are still empty, but the train of 49 will be filled and shipped to New York on three French liberty ships before the end of November, a committee spokesman said. There will be one car for each state. The 49th, for the District of Columbia, will be "something special," the spokesman added.

Contributions so far include reproductions from Saint-Die of what is said to be the first word ever printed on a French press—the word "America." Le Mons will contribute samples of the French silversmiths' art.

Shooting Ends Program Fight

RAVENNA, O. — (AP) — A farmer who prefers comedian Jack Benny to a give-away prize program on the radio shot and killed his tenant, Sheriff George Shields reported Wednesday.

In fact, said Shields, it was an argument over those programs that led J. A. McDonald, a 76-year-old widower, to shoot Jackson W. Bailey, 68, Tuesday.

This was Shields' version: Last Oct. 10, McDonald wanted to tune in the Benny show. Bailey and his wife preferred a give-away program. The Baileys won the argument but a quarrel followed.

The bad feeling continued. Then yesterday the radio program incident came up again and McDonald got his shotgun. The Baileys went to a room where they kept a rifle but did not shoot it.

For his part, McDonald insists the shooting was accidental. Shields' office said a charge will be filed against him this week.

Mussolini was a swimmer, aviator, speedboat driver, motorcyclist, and horseman. He began each day with a horseback ride.

Shipbuilding Revival Talked

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Maritime Commission will consider soon in a closed session the need for revival of shipbuilding on the Pacific Coast.

Commissioner Joseph K. Carson, Jr., notified Sen. Magnuson (D-Wash.) he has suggested to his fellow members that they consider the need of regionally allocating ship construction. Under such a plan West Coast shipyards could get a share along with those on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts.

Defense Measure

Carson expressed belief revival of Pacific Coast shipbuilding is needed as a national defense measure. It would aid in maintenance of shipyards developed during the war, he said. He added it also would provide employment for skilled workers and prevent overcrowding of Eastern and Gulf shipbuilding facilities.

Carson told Magnuson that the commission has authority under the 1936 Merchant Marine Act to order regional allocation of ship construction.

He did not express an opinion on what the commission may do.

Five muskrats were introduced into Europe from North America in 1905. Today there are more than 100,000,000 on the continent.

University Theatre Season to Open

The eight-day run of "The Petrified Forest" by Robert Sherwood, staged by the University Theatre, will open Friday at 8 p.m., according to LeJeune Griffith, business manager for Oregon's University Theatre.

The play will star Louis Volger and Louise Clouston in leading roles and Cliff James and Norman Hall. Reservations may be made by calling 3300, Extension 401. Season tickets are still on sale and may be obtained until Oct. 30 in Johnson Hall. A season ticket entitles the holder to attend six performances and includes the spectacle performance at McArthur Court. The price of the season ticket is \$5.

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