

A Plea For Fair Play

This message is a warning against the false and malicious propaganda being used by those who are opposed, for selfish reasons, to immediate cash payment of Adjusted Compensation Certificates (the so-called bonus) issued to World War veterans by the federal government.

In 1924, the Congress of the United States passed the Adjusted Compensation Act, officially admitting that a debt was due to the World War veteran, in recognition of his sacrifices. It was agreed that Uncle Sam would compensate the veteran on an equal basis, for his time and labors while in the services, with the lowest paid wage earner who remained at home. Congress decided that the extra sum of \$1.00 per day for home service and \$1.25 for overseas service would constitute a fair and reasonable adjustment. Instead of giving him his amount in actual cash, back in 1924, Congress gave the veterans a certificate — or a promise to pay — in 1945.

Therefore, with this Act placed on the statute books of the federal government in 1924, the question of whether or not the World War veteran is entitled to an adjustment is no longer an issue. This question was definitely answered by Congress in 1924.

This is the question that the next session of Congress will be called upon to answer: Shall the federal government at this time give to the World War veteran, cash in exchange for his certificate, or shall the World War veteran be forced to wait until 1945 before his certificate becomes negotiable?

Those who oppose immediate cash payment of this confessed debt to the veteran are trying to frighten the general public with the impression that payment of this obligation, at the present time, will create a dangerous monetary inflation and that the country will be flooded with "fiat currency."

We contend that these allegations are pure falsehoods. This deliberate attempt to mislead the public with confusing predictions of chaos and panic must be ignored by all clear thinking citizens on the basis of the following self-evident facts.

This government is embarked upon a program that contemplates the spending of 20 billion dollars for direct and indirect relief purposes in a manner that will increase the purchasing power of the masses. During the past year, this government has already spent 7 billion dollars toward this goal. Your attention is called to the fact that this has been accomplished without the creation of "fiat currency" and without harmful currency inflation!

The amount involved in this obligation is only \$2,200,000,000. This money will go directly into the hands of three and one-half million veterans. These three and one-half million veterans represent at least twelve million persons — wives and children in need of food, clothing, shelter and other necessities. Every line of trade and industry will immediately benefit from this distribution. Every penny will go directly into business channels.

This is one expenditure by the federal government that will create no new political jobs. None of this money will be used to pay the salaries of politicians engaged in party organization fence building.

Overseas veterans who are willing to give their active support to the fight for immediate cash payment of the so-called bonus, and other phases of our national program, are invited to become members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. For application blanks and details write or phone

Commander
Post No. 1412

Ellis B. Fuller,
482 West Third Street

Here are twelve reasons why Congress should enact legislation granting immediate cash payment of Adjusted Compensation Certificates:

1. Payment of this obligation will remove thousands of veterans from federal government relief rolls.
2. With each veteran receiving approximately \$500.00 in cash, these men and their families can be removed from the relief rolls of local community chests and charity organizations.
3. By paying this obligation to the World War veterans now, the federal government will accomplish two objectives—payment of a portion of our national debt which must be paid eventually and the distribution of funds that will provide much needed relief.
4. Payment of this debt to the veteran at the present time will reduce the national debt because this obligation is already a part of the national debt.
5. Unless immediate cash payment is authorized, the balance due World War veterans on their certificates will be consumed by compound interest and they will receive virtually nothing in 1945.
6. The proposed distribution of \$2,200,000,000 for this purpose is in exact accord with the relief policies of the present Administration, and offers no chance for graft or favoritism.
7. With the funds already made available by the government's gold revaluation policy, no increase in taxation and no bond issue will be necessary.
8. The sum of \$2,200,000,000 can easily be paid to veterans by the federal government from the profits of \$2,800,000,000 earned on the government's policy of gold revaluation.
9. Economists admit present gold reserves will permit the issuance of new currency for the payment of this debt—thus saving the federal government one billion dollars, the amount that must be raised by 1945 under the existing plan.
10. The money involved will create added buying power for the purchase of necessities for at least 12 million persons—which includes three and one-half million veterans and their dependents.
11. A total of ten million dollars will be saved by the federal government in administration expenses of the Adjusted Compensation Act between now and 1945.
12. The distribution of \$2,200,000,000 can be accomplished with no expense to the federal government through the creation of new bureaus, commissions or political pay-rolls.

In behalf of all World War veterans and their dependents, and in the interests of sound economics, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States appeals for the united support and co-operation of all fair minded citizens. We ask non-veterans, as well as veterans, to write letters today urging support of this issue to all members of Congress from this district. Every member of the House and Senate must be impressed with the fact that public sentiment is enthusiastically in favor of immediate cash payment of the so-called bonus.

This message is sponsored by citizens and taxpayers of this community who are members of Coquille Valley Post, No. 1412, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the merchants listed below. Every member of this organization is an overseas veteran with an honorable discharge in recognition of his loyalty and patriotism, in time of war, as well as in peace.

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