

### Out-of-Doors Stuff

by LANS LENEVE

There is a movement afoot to disarm the citizens of America. Such a movement has been under way for fifty years. The Sullivan Law in effect in several eastern states, making it a grave offense for a citizen to even own a revolver, is one of the first accomplishments of this nationwide movement to deprive all citizens of their guns.

Several times legislation has bobbed up in many states asking that all citizens be deprived of their firearms. And to prove to you that there actually is a movement afoot to disarm each and every one of us, I furnish proof herewith, in the statement of the Attorney General of California, who recently said at a meeting of law enforcement officers, held in that state, that if the Government did not take steps to prevent our fighting forces from sending home battle souvenirs, that "our fifty years efforts in disarming the public may have proved futile."

This goes plainly to show that a movement has been going on for fifty years to disarm us; a statement to that effect being frankly admitted by such a high official as the above.

The same sort of would-be reformers that slipped over prohibition, while our boys were away during the first world war, are evidently just as busy today seeking to put across anti-firearm possession legislation, evidently figuring that with eleven million voters away, that they might be able to slip something over.

Statements have been made to the effect that our boys have learned to kill in the South Seas and elsewhere and that upon their return home that they are likely to turn into killers, to gangsters and start a crime wave, so that therefore, as citizens, after shedding their uniforms they should be deprived of their guns at home; that every citizen should turn in his gun, in order that peace may reign. What a wonderful setup that would prove for the gangster! All law-abiding citizens turning in their guns and the gangster naturally retaining his!

It would leave every home in America unprotected, every citizen unprotected. If every citizen were forced to arm himself it would cut down on crime, on holdups, for it is noticeable in the states where the

Sullivan Law was enacted that hold-ups are on the increase.

Those officials, and others as well, who claim that the boys who are fighting our fight for us will turn into common gangsters and killers upon their return home are not fit for public office or for American citizenship. Most of them are people who haven't the guts in the first place to don a uniform and are pulling down high salaries from states or Government, while at the same time, by remaining home, are seeking to rob our returning boys, by underhanded methods, of the very freedom and liberties for which they are fighting. They hide beneath our flag, seeking at the same time to rob us of Constitutional rights. They speak in awed whispers of crime waves, as though the respectable American citizen would share in them, while at the same time heaping insult upon our returning heroes by pointing to them as returning would-be gangsters. They seek to disarm, both the returning lads and all citizens—to lay us at the mercy of the gangster.

These same men would take away your shotgun, your rifle and your revolver, so that you might no longer enjoy to the fullest a trip into the woods, the fields or the marshes. They would rob you of your rightful heritage, trample that part of the Constitution of the United States which gives us right to bear arms.

It is something that should arouse the ire, of not only sportsmen, but of every red-blooded American citizen. And it is something that leads us to wonder that if at the start of the present war, it really was the Government which was advocating the turning in of civilians' firearms? It leads us to wonder if it actually is the Government's fault that the present ammunition shortage exists? There can be a lot of things accomplished by a bunch of crackpots over a period of fifty years. Remember prohibition?

Anyway, it is something to give serious thought to and when you cast your ballot at general election, be sure that the candidate you are voting for is a man in favor of your retaining your gun and not some spineless, hair-bained reformer, who would deprive you of it.

### Red Cross Notes

Coquille Red Cross will meet Friday, July 14, from 1:30 to 4:30 p. m. in Guild Hall to sew, knit, crochet, etc. There will be yarn for the knitters and cut-out, ready to sew—bed shirts, bath robes, kit bags, etc. The steady making of sock slippers is urged as these are being worn out at the rate of seven and eight pairs per person per week by hospital patients (nervous cases). In addition to Afghan squares to crochet at the general work table, there will be diapers to hem.

Mrs. Ida Owen made and brought in another cozy comfortable laprobe for some fortunate wheel chair convalescent.

Workers will please note that Coquille Red Cross float won the first prize of \$5.00 in the War Activity groups in the 4th of July parade. Those who helped decorate or participate in any way are thanked by the Unit. Thanks are also extended to George Burr and George Gilman for trucks loaned.

Russian Relief Headquarters in Portland has been contacted as to whether or not they will assume the charges from Coquille to Portland on a shipment of "good" used clothing. "We are particularly interested in Russian relief as their ships come directly to Portland and shipments do not need to be sent across country before being shipped as is the case of so many of the other reliefs," says Mrs. B. B. Keener, chairman of production. Then, too, this would enable us to help our ally as well as avoid having to cut up usable clothing into Afghan squares or quilt blocks as Coquille, at this time, has no needy cases.

A highly successful year of Red Cross work, under the supervision of Mrs. J. A. Berg and Mrs. Keener, has just been completed, considering the number of regular workers enrolled. However, judging from the 500 or more photos of local servicemen displayed in Penney's store window, it would seem that a great many more mothers, sisters and wives should become interested in some type of Red Cross work—sewing, knitting or surgical dressings and a cordial invitation is extended them. The Unit is aware of the fact that a certain number of these women work outside of their homes. Those women whose time is so completely taken up might help occasionally by contributions of yarn, heavy black thread, wash cloths, crochet cotton, used clothing, wool material, etc. When you help the Red Cross you are helping some service man at home or overseas by providing necessities and comforts for him.

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Washington, D. C., July 13—Money now held in the United States treasury to the credit of the states for the payment of unemployment compensation totals more than five billion dollars and the fund is growing at the rate of more than one billion dollars a year. It is sufficient to pay 60 percent to all employees covered the maximum amount for the maximum period permitted by state laws. The maximums run from \$15 to \$20 a week for periods of 16 to 20 weeks.

In the Washington fund as of April 30 there was \$104,452,000, and in the Oregon fund \$52,270,000 on May 25. These are the figures in a senate subcommittee on postwar planning report, which recommends expansion of the system to include federal workers, maritime workers and employers of one or more persons. It is also recommended that the federal government guarantee the solvency of state unemployment compensation funds, although existing funds are believed to be adequate to meet any probable emergency.

The subcommittee refused to approve proposals either to increase the amount of weekly benefits or the period over which they are paid on the ground that there should be a distinct advantage in employment as against the benefits drawn on account of unemployment. In other words, there is no disposition to reward idleness. The committee does feel, however, that maritime workers should be entitled to the same benefits to which others are eligible and that civilian employees of the federal government should also be included, the federal government paying into the state fund the same as any other employer. It is reiterated in the report that inclusion of farm labor and domestic employees is impracticable.

The unemployment compensation program is not to be confused with recent enactments for the benefit of veterans of world war No. 2, which is at the rate of \$50 a week, regardless of the number of dependents, for a period of 52 weeks within the two years following their discharge. However, there is already a proposal before the senate to increase this to \$25 a week for one dependent, \$30 a week for two dependents and \$35 a week for three or more. There are other changes in existing compensation laws proposed in the senate bill to be effective for two years after the cessation of hostilities, but not much support has appeared for this measure.

Arguing on the resolution offered by Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania to abolish the electoral college method of electing a president and vice president, Senator Pepper of Florida called attention to the inequities of the present plan as exemplified by the disproportionate representation given the southern states and he cited this example: Under the present system the 12 southern states have 138 electoral votes, or 25.2 per cent of the total, yet in the last presidential election these 12 states cast only 8,642,000 votes for president, or but 12 percent of the total vote of the nation. In 1940 Texas cast but little more than one million votes for president yet had 23 votes in the electoral college, while California with 3,208,000 votes for president had but 22 votes in the electoral college. The explanation, of course, is that electoral college representation is based on population and in the southern states a very large part of the population is denied the privilege of voting. A similar resolution has been introduced in the house and both will come up for debate when congress reconvenes August 1. In three instances presidents have been elected who did not receive a majority of the popular vote.

According to a report by the subcommittee of the senate committee on Judiciary there is enough alcohol on hand or being currently produced over and above the output of industrial alcohol to permit the allocation of 20,000,000 gallons for beverage purposes during the balance of this year. The report charges that WPB estimates of industrial alcohol production have been too low while estimates of requirements have been too high. In this connection it may be remarked that direct military requirements this year are not expected to exceed 20,000,000 gallons and that an allotment of 40,000,000 gallons has been made to lend-lease. The committee believes this quantity could be reduced without injury to the war effort.

### 'Priority Referral' Manpower Program Widely Endorsed

Widespread endorsement of the national war manpower commission program of "priority referral" on all male labor, which became effective in the Marshfield area as well as 25 other Oregon districts July 6, is indicated by word received here by Ethan Grant, local temporary manager of the United States employment service.

Statements by high officers of the army, navy, government agencies and labor categorically state that the extension of the new "labor budget" program, developed since last November in the Portland-Vancouver area, will hasten unconditional surrender, have been sent Grant by L. C. Stoll, state manpower director.

For example, Robert P. Patterson, under secretary of war, states that "properly placed and utilized, there is enough manpower in the country to meet all its requirements for munitions of war and civilian goods and services. Yet all its requirements for munitions of war and civilian goods and services. Yet the manpower situation today is such that vital war industries requiring able bodied workers are likely to confront serious difficulties in manning the plants."

Indicating that the manpower priority referral program is the only way such difficulties can be overcome, Patterson added that "all of us are aware of the problems the extension of these programs entails. We are well aware also that they can be made to work only if they receive general public support. We are asking earnestly for that support and are confident that we will get it."

Ralph A. Bard, assistant secretary of the navy, declared that, because it is necessary "not only to construct new vessels but also to maintain, service and repair naval craft... additional workers must be engaged... and workers who are presently employed must stay on the job."

"This priorities referral plan offers American workers the opportunity to work in jobs that need to be filled first," Barr stressed, adding that "you, too, have a chance to serve."

Charles E. Wilson, vice chairman of the war production board, endorsed the priority referral program by saying that, "because it holds out the promise of speeding the end of the war by speeding up production now hobbled by manpower shortages, it is the duty of management, labor and the public generally to do everything possible to make it work."

Both William Green, president of the American federation of labor, and Philip Murray, president of the C. I. O., heartily endorse the extension of the labor controls. "The American federation of labor accepts the program of priority job referrals and employment ceilings just announced by the war manpower commission," said Green. "Such action is made necessary by the fact that the pressure of war needs is bound to become heavier and heavier, instead of lighter, in the coming months. Every American must realize this."

### More Service Men's Wives Are Enlisting in the WAVES

More wives of service men are now enlisting in the WAVES than at any time in the two-year history of this women's service of the Navy in Oregon, which indicates the over-all popularity of women in the armed services among men in uniform, according to Chief Specialist Paul Connet, of the Marshfield Navy recruiting station which handles WAVES applications in this area. Latest enlistment reports for Oregon show that 27 per cent of recent groups of young women departing for the WAVES indoctrination school at Hunter college, New York City, are married women whose husbands are in the armed services. A year ago only 3 per cent of the enlistments were women with husbands in uniform.

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Whether taxes should be reduced or increased in the postwar period will be considered by a joint committee of three Democrats and three Republicans each from the house and senate in collaboration with the treasury department and internal revenue bureau. The compiling of information is already in progress and will continue until sufficient data have been gathered to form the basis for a new tax bill to be introduced shortly after the first of the year.

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