

State Vets Loan Program In June Sets New Record

The Oregon state veterans' farm and home loan program set a new record in June when loans for the month exceeded the million-dollar mark for the first time, Director William F. Gaarenstroom of the Department of Veterans' Affairs announced this week.

June loans amounted to \$1,005,950, or \$66,450 more than the previous mark of \$939,470 established in September, 1948. The number of veterans granted loans in June also set a new record, with 236 approvals as against 218 for September 1948.

This figures out to an average loan of \$4262 to each veteran last month, compared to an over-all average of \$4009 since the program got under way in the fall of 1945.

The June figures increased the total of department loans to \$22,806,239 in grants to 5646 veterans for the five and one-half year period.

Loans for the first six months of 1950 amounted to \$4,271,750, a slight increase over the corresponding period last year and a 30 percent gain over the first half of 1948.

Gaarenstroom said the June record was not due so much to an increase in loans applied for as to a concerted effort by the loan division to catch up on its backlog.

The state veterans' loan program enables Oregon's World War II servicemen to borrow up to \$6000 at four percent interest to purchase their own homes or farms.

Applications are made through post or county service officers or by contacting the Department of Veterans' Affairs at 855 State Library Bldg., Salem, or 415 S. W. 11th avenue, Portland.

VFW AUXILIARY "PEACE WITH HONOR FOR AMERICA" CONTEST

When the panel of judges studied Beaverton high school students' essays in the VFW auxiliary contest, on the subject of "Peace with Honor for America," the task of selection was difficult. Paul Chapman was finally adjudged the contestant whose entry would be submitted in a statewide elimination. Statewide winners will compete to determine a national winner.

Because of the high quality of essays, the newspaper staff decided to publish them, so that readers could appreciate the thinking of the young generation.

Mary Nordstrom, Age 16
Route 1, Box 1000
Tigard, Oregon

Let us ask ourselves this question, is it possible to have Peace with Honor for America? Can we have Peace? Dating from earliest history man has striven for peace. The caveman could not find peace because of the aggressions of his brother. The walls of Jericho and Jerusalem were torn down, the Roman Empire crumbled and fell before its foe.

The Chinese had a wall. Because of this they thought they had peace and security. In our own time the French thought they, too, had peace and security because they could build a wall between themselves and their traditional enemy, and how quickly he went over it.

Up until a few months ago many in America thought because we seemed to have the exclusive possession of a chemical and physical secret which would produce an atomic explosion that we had peace and security, but that illusion has been dispelled.

No, there is no peace in a physical barrier, or anything approaching it. It only represents something that wards off behind in fear.

Next, Honor. What does Honor have to do with Peace for America? As defined by Webster, honor is that esteemed reverence of high respect, dignity, or distinction. Peace with Honor is a challenge of the highest measure to spiritual leadership. The responsibility leans on the people of economic leadership. They are the only people who can carry it successfully, for in their hands and minds are the means of transmitting the common daily experiences of our fellow citizens into manifestations of peace and honor as actual living forces.

Last of all we come to America—that great melting-pot of the world, that land which is known far and wide as the only true democracy. And what do the thousands of foreigners who journey here each year expect to find? I'll tell you what—they expect to find security, freedom, and a nation not polluted with prejudice of race, color or creed. But most of all they hope to find Peace, with Honor, in America.

There is one way, and one way only, for America to become a UTOPIA. What does UTOPIA in itself mean? I would like to spell it for you. The letter "U" belongs to only one word and that word is understanding. One of the greatest problems that America faces today is the misunderstanding of the value of the great American enterprise system. If this system is to work successfully all co-called "fundamental secrets" should be revealed so that each and every one of us may have a complete understanding.

Next we come to the letter "T". This stands for Truth. You could attempt from now until the end of time to define truth, but with the subject of peace and honor, the greatest truth is: They are not antagonistic, you cannot buy honor or by the sacrifice of peace. Both are inescapable spiritual atmospheres, without which men cannot grow to full stature and cannot find this thing we all seek, happiness.

Those who think they can sell their freedom, or any part of it, and buy honor are of all people the most deluded.

The letter "O" stands for a great many things but most of all for obedience. Have you ever been to a home where everything seemed to be so efficient and harmonious? But most of all was the reality of obedience; husband and wife, children to parents and even the dog seemed to obey every command. Yes, for America to have peace with honor, it would have to be as a smooth-running household. There could be no pondering or doubting of the way America was being run. For if there is doubt there is no peace and without peace there is no honor.

Now we come to the letter "P". This stands for perfection, the act of being perfect, flawless, faultless, an state of completion. If this is to be attained in America, we must perfect our religious, moral, social and political doctrines; to go a little further, each individual must attain supreme moral excellence.

The "I" belongs to a group of words which are very important. No man can be secure unless he is able to maintain his individual integrity, and there can be no peace without initiative, industry and imagination. I believe these points need no explaining as they are so obvious.

Now the final letter "A" which means assurance. In looking back over the letters I have previously defined, if each letter is completed and perfected in itself I can see the last and truly the key word assuring and guaranteeing Peace, with Honor, for America.

Peace, like honor, is not created by law, nor is it a physical thing, nor can it be brought about by

any man-made device. It is spiritual leadership of the highest measure. There is no such thing as national peace, only small groups of peaceful men and women.

Today we must develop enough groups of individuals all over America with faith in peace to overpower those who would delude us for their own selfish gains, for hope of power, deprive us of our only hope of peace with honor.

We must help the American people find this responsibility of citizenship. We must develop in ourselves the kind of devotion which will inspire us in order that peace and honor, that inseparable common atmosphere, may be preserved for ourselves and our posterity.

In the face of the common demand for peace, remember that Christ says, "He who seeks to save his life shall lose it, and he who loses his life shall find it."

Jean Hansen, Age 16
1346 Hyland Road,
Beaverton, Oregon

Peace? What is peace? Could we, the younger generation, born during a depression and living in a time of war, know of peace. We can not know peace in its full meaning. We say we have peace now. It is a peace to know we have won victory but this alone is not peace.

In the world today there is suffering and even fighting in some parts. We Americans can not have peace with honor about us when the world is in such a need of us, with the fear of the atom bomb and maybe a war with Russia.

World peace must come first, and then America a peaceful nation should be our plan. To know what peace is we must look the word up. In the dictionary we find peace listed as: a state of rest or calm, as freedom from war or disorder.

For a Bible definition we find peace as the gift of God's love. Well, you may say, what is God punishing us for in not giving us peace. To answer this is very easy. What does a father say to his children about Christmas time? "Be good little children and I will give you a nice present." Our heavenly Father has said he will give us peace as a gift.

He also said, "Be good and obey my will." Have we been good little children and obeyed God? The answer to that could only be no. For we have not received the gift promised. We can, however, receive that gift if we do obey.

In God's commandment did it say—"Gain all you can for your-

selves while on earth even though it may mean the lives of many?" No, He said your time on earth is limited and what you earn on earth you can not take with you. "Be kind to your neighbor and do good for them that curse you."

America has always been a peaceable nation and this should not be too hard for her to do.

The world is like children at play. One nation wants to be head; the other does too. One wants all the pretty things; the other must have them also. Then comes the "I'll tell my big brother on you." Our line is, "I'll tell Uncle Sam on you."

Each country seeks after land, wealth, and power over one another. There is no need of an earthly ruler when God is at the throne. If only the world could know this and instead of making for war, she would in reality make for peace.

Next we need to understand honor. Honor to me means walking down the street with your head held high knowing everyone is as good as you and you need not be ashamed. This could not be done if we should walk down the streets of some European country.

If you saw some child with no food and little clothing could you feel at ease? Even in our own country today some people are ashamed to walk down the street with a colored person or one of a different religion. This should not be, for are we all not created equal?

Many of the boys in the battle front have said they turned to God when they needed Him. Don't you think many of their prayers must have been, "Help us out here."

Lord, but most of all, don't let our kids go through what we have gone through." It is up to us to give the boys their wish.

When the pilgrims came to our country they were to have a place of worship for all, a country of peace and honor. Yet we do not have it today. Our forefathers made a Constitution which the United States has followed and if this could be done for the world and the world work as a big nation, couldn't we then have peace? There would, no doubt, be ways in which this could not work as a whole like the United States but we could try.

I think that once we have world peace we will have peace here too and not until we do for if the world should go into war today the United States could not sit back and be peaceable. We are no longer a isolationistic country. Before we have world peace or peace in America we must have a battle, not a battle with guns or bombs, but a war against hatred and greed.

This battle should be fought with a Bible under one arm and a prayer on the lips of every one. When and if this battle could ever be won, I am sure our Father would look down and say, "What won your battle, you darling children? Then you shall have your gift, for you have won it." God will Bless American. Stand beside her and Guide her.

Could this not be the pray of all America in Sara Teasdale's poem.

"PEACE"
Peace flows into me
As the tide to the pool by the shore;

Summer Most Popular Months For Vacationing

Recent surveys have shown approximately 50 per cent of all vacation trips taken by American families are taken during the months of June, July and August, the Oregon State Motor association reports.

Following closely on this period is autumn with 26 per cent; spring with 12.5 per cent and winter with 11 per cent.

Surveys of American vacation habits indicate people of this nation spend seven billion dollars annually on their vacation trips. Oregon's share of this "tourist take" in 1949 was \$118,900,000.

Forty-one per cent of the tourists' expenditures go for food and lodging which, in Oregon, in 1949, meant a total of \$45,850,000 spent for this purpose.

Seventy-nine per cent of the vacationing Americans travel by private automobile and they travel an average of 928 miles per trip, spending \$959,300,000 for gasoline, oil and automobile accessories.

It is mine forevermore.
It will not ebb like the sea.
I am the pool of blue
That worships the vivid sky;
My hopes were heaven high
They are all fulfilled in you
I am the pool of gold
When sunset burns and dies—
You are my deepening skies;
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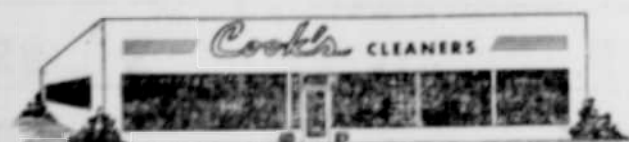
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