

Phobia' Fears News and Notes From Camp White

By SID HOLLINGSWORTH

This column is addressed mainly to veterans. The Veterans administration is literally swamped these days with requests of all kinds by mail and otherwise.

"Help the VA to Help You!" is the plea that has been set out. And this report will give some of the reasons and a few of the answers.

"There are three main ways of helping," it is stated. "Number one, when a veteran writes to VA. Number two, when a veteran visits a VA office, and number three, when a veteran applies to the VA for a particular benefit."

According to a recent estimate, approximately 100 million letters a year arrive at VA mail rooms. Most of those letters have to be answered and all have to be handled by the post office department.

A little careful consideration will help both of these agencies.

Those who "forget" to put their name when they write the VA. Serial number and branch of the armed forces also will help. Also, give your latest permanent address. And be sure to include your C-number.

Concerning the important matter of the receipt of checks delivered at the post office, the VA advises as follows:

"Let's assume you are going to receive a monthly check from the VA. Month after month, your VA check arrives on time. That's the way we at the VA want it. But mistakes do happen.

"So, let's say your VA check gets lost. Maybe someone stole it from your letterbox. Tell the VA immediately as soon as you discover the loss.

"Suppose you change your address. Tell your local post office and the VA right away, giving both old and new address.

"It's possible also for a veteran to get a check for the wrong amount. If so, tell the VA right away. Do not cash an incorrect VA check. By telling the VA, you avoid having to repay extra money to which you are not entitled."

If you have to write to VA about a benefit or some other problem, do not write to VA's national headquarters in Washington. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, it's the long way round.

"Letters sent to Washington headquarters have to be sent back to the regional office where your individual records are kept. So for most everything, except GI insurance, write to your VA regional office."

If the matter is a GI insurance problem, the letter should be sent to the VA district office where regular premium payments are sent.

The new pension law, which goes into effect July 1,

is creating a considerable amount of confusion. The heavy burden naturally falls on the central office in Washington, and this is one reason why this "decentralization" of business is in progress.

Every effort is being made at the present time to effect an easy transition to the new pension program. Most of the veterans at this domiciliary have elected to remain under the old law, as an option provided in the new statute.

However, the management at White City felt called upon to hold a mass meeting in the theater recently in order to check the spread of unfounded rumors about the effects of the new law.

The meeting was addressed by Assistant Manager Banks I. Paul, Domiciliary Officer Glenn, and Contact Officer S. T. Bennett, who gave a full report on the new law as it applies in matters of income and deductions.

The Veterans administration information service with headquarters in Seattle finds it important enough to remind veterans to take proper care of their military discharge.

"Have it recorded at your county courthouse; have certified copies made, or photostats; then be sure to keep the original discharge in a safe place," an announcement states.

Electronic computers are being tested by the VA and the bureau of standards in the study of heart disease. A recent report states the computers give "much more complete information about the heart than electro-cardiograms."

Six-Year-Old Darts In Front of Car

Joyce Valerie Holmes, 6-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hote Holmes, 1012 East Main st., Medford, darted into a car Saturday as she crossed North Central ave. from the south side of East Fifth st., Medford police said.

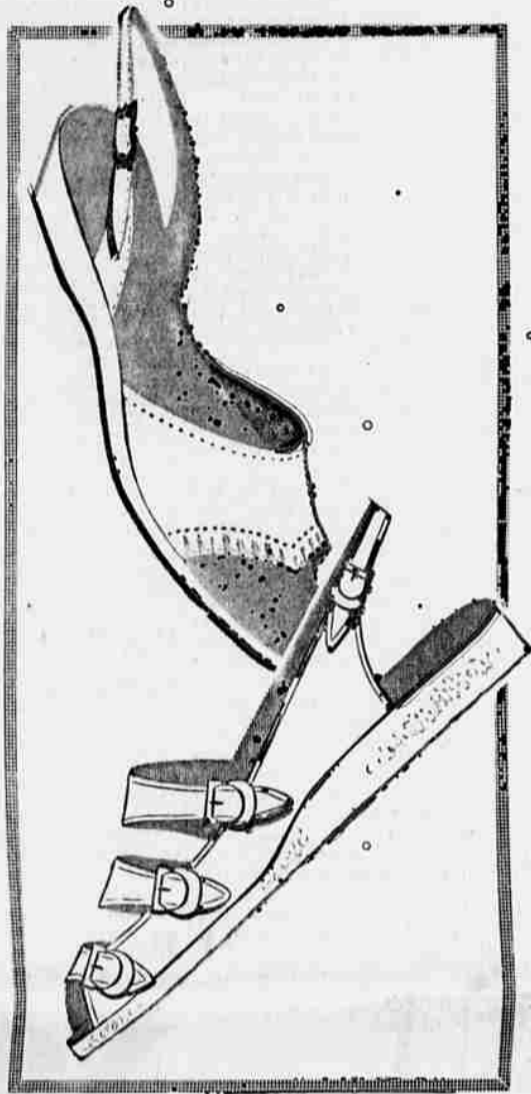
The girl seemed to have only a bruised upper lip, according to police. The girl's father told police the driver, Bobby Franklin Craig, 18, of 301 First st., Phoenix, was not to blame. The girl apparently darted toward the east curb of North Central ave., when she hit the car, police said.

Dog Just Ignored Would-Be Matador

Miami, Fla. - A lot of fancy cape waving may fool a bull, but it won't keep a dog from chasing a mechanical rabbit.

Lee Gregory, 22, a spectator, jumped onto a dog racing track and waved his coat wildly in front of racing greyhound Spin Bark.

Spin Bark merely ran around him, and won the race.

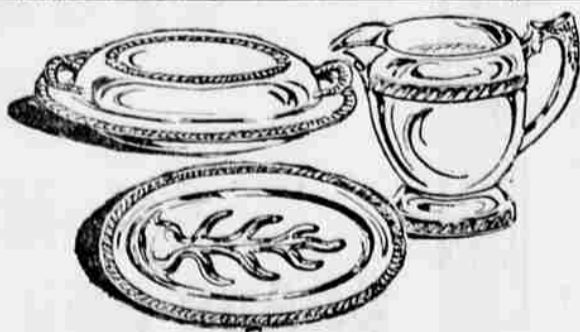


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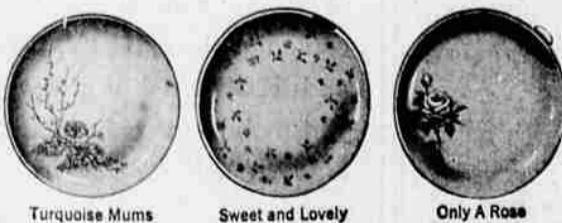


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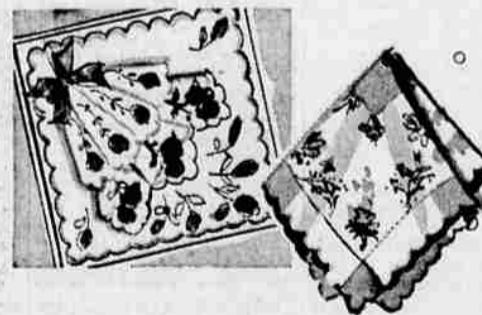
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