

Vets' Mail Bag

As a service to veterans in the community, this newspaper will publish a weekly column of questions most frequently asked contact men of the Veterans Administration in this area. For more detailed information, veterans should contact or write to the nearest VA contact unit at P. O. Bldg., Rm. 216, Longview.

Q. I received a disability pension. Is my pension subject to change if I take a position?

A. No. Disabled veterans are encouraged to do such work as their disability permits. This does not affect the amount of their pensions because they are based on the veteran's disability as determined by the Veterans Administration rating schedule. Such pensions are subject to change only as the disability itself changes.

Q. Can I get a guaranteed loan to pay off a debt that is past due?

A. Yes, under certain conditions. Full information may be secured from the lender or from a VA loan guarantee officer.

Q. Why is it necessary to have the property appraised before I can get a guaranteed loan?

A. The law requires that the purchase price paid or to be paid for the property or the cost of construction, alterations and improvements, must not be more than the reasonable value thereof as determined by proper appraisal made by an appraiser designated by the VA. This provision and the appraisal it entails are requirements by congress for the protection of veterans.

Q. I received a bad conduct discharge. Am I eligible for any benefits under the Servicemen's Readjustment act (The GI bill)?

A. As you hold neither an honorable nor a dishonorable discharge from the armed services, it would be necessary for you to contact your nearest VA office for a decision as to whether you were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable—or you may apply to your branch of the service for a review of your discharge.

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charge.

Q. I was disabled as a result of my World War II service in the Merchant Marine. Am I entitled to vocational rehabilitation?

A. Not from the Veterans Administration as you are not a veteran of the U.S. military service. However, you may secure it from the Federal-State rehabilitation program under the Federal Security Administration.

Ex-Sergeant Tells News Of Dakota Neighbors; Body Cast Is Removed

RIVERVIEW — Ex-Sergeant Aaron Albrecht of New England, North Dakota, spent Thursday and Friday at the J. A. Wirtz home. The Albrecht and Wirtz homesteads were only one-half mile apart on the Dakota prairies when Aaron was a school boy and he brought much interesting news to his old neighbors. He also gave a graphic account of incidents of his sergeant days.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lindsley and children, Joanne and Kenneth, were at Sweet Home July 4th to see little Gary Smith who is doing nicely. The doctors planned to remove the body cast the following day.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Millsap and children were in Portland Saturday and gathered cherries at the Baker home near there.

Mrs. Ida Condit is spending the week at Mist with her daughter, Mrs. Walter Mathews, and family.

Evelyn Krieger of Keasey spent from Monday until Wednesday with her friend, Joanne Lindsley. House guests at the J. W. Nichols home during the past week were their daughter, Miss Joanne, of San Francisco and her friend, Mrs. Britt Schweitzer, also of S.F. and a Eugene friend, Miss Margie Robinson.

Mrs. Ann Pomeroy of Portland is spending several days at the Lee White home here.

The Forum

FROM OLD SCRAP BOOK

A Big Dollar met a small Penny, newly coined, and having a nice clean face. Said the Dollar, in a pompous manner: "You look as though you were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable—or you may apply to your branch of the service for a review of your discharge."

The Penny answered modestly: "I am what I am, and can claim no more."

At that the dollar swelled up and said, "I am patriotic. See, I have the emblem of Liberty on my bosom and I am also trustworthy, because the United States Government has placed on me, 'In God We Trust.'"

After a little silence the Penny said: "But I am more pious than you are. I go to church oftener than you do."

G. F. BROWN.

Three thousand five hundred lives are lost each year through fires on farms and in rural communities of the United States. This rural loss is about one-third of the total national loss of lives due to fires. **KEEP OREGON GREEN.**

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THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE By PILGRIM

IT'S A PLEASURE, I'M SURE.

IN AUSTRALIA FAILURE TO VOTE IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE UP TO \$7

ONE-EIGHTH OF A TON OF COAL IS NEEDED TO MAKE A BARREL OF GASOLINE

NEARLY 80% OF U.S. INDUSTRIAL LABOR IS EMPLOYED IN SMALL PLANTS WITH LESS THAN 1000 EMPLOYEES

THE EGYPTIANS BREWED BEER FROM BARLEY AS EARLY AS 3,000 B.C.

THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES COVER NEARLY 5,000 SQUARE MILES

OUT OF THE WOODS BY JIM STEVENS

Tree Farm Raider . . .

The boomer (otherwise known as "Aplodontia" and "mountain beaver") has become a real problem on the tree farms that forest land owners have developed during recent years. Particularly where seedlings have been planted by hand on burned areas has the boomer demonstrated his destructive genius.

At night in the winter months the slant-eyed rodent will sally forth and follow the paths through ferns and other tough ground cover, which the tree planters have obligingly made for him. Every few feet he will encounter a tree seedling. With his buck teeth nippers he'll strip it into a naked stem—skin it alive. To a boomer the most succulent morsel is fiber from inside the bark of a baby tree. He will uncover the roots of a Douglas fir six inches in diameter, and strip the roots, killing the tree.

Such forays of the boomer usually go beyond satisfaction of his hunger. Once started on a row of planted seedlings, he is either too stupid to know when to stop, or he is a natural-born devastator. He is apt to destroy all seedlings in a row before he backtracks for a day of rest.

The boomer is strictly nocturnal. No hours or so of exposure to hot sunlight will kill him. He is a sucker for deception. One forester had his planter crew in a boomer-infested area cover each seedling with fern leaves. The planting was practically unmolested.

A Pure Rat . . .

Under any name, this nocturnal animal is a real rodent. As a beaver he is an imitation and a runt, seldom packing more than three pounds. He sports four large buck teeth. He is narrow between the eyes, which slant. The eyes, boring at you like two nail points, belie his buck-toothed grin.

The boomer's habitat is mainly the Douglas fir region. He is a devilish destroyer of forest seedlings. For years he kept himself pretty well hidden, and his ravaging of second-growth was so occasional that it was not taken very seriously. Big, tough timber beasts, such as the mink, coyote and wildcat, kept the boomer under cover. Predatory animal hunters reduced his natural enemies. The boomer multiplied. His tribe spread as it increased. It filtered into all necks of the woods.

The boomer could live on skunk cabbage and bracken fern sprouts. Well, why doesn't he? Because, probably, he enjoys killing baby trees—the dumb rat.

Boomer Control . . .

The boomer's fur and skin are worthless, so no commercial trapping of the animal can be expected. No one will advocate restocking of the forests with wild-

Dad Gets Lost Boy

Chubby Bill toddled along unmindful of the wet bushes, and the falling darkness. Then came a dad who had youngsters of his own and picked up Billy and made for a phone. Yes, the police wanted a stray boy and in no time a car rolled in and Chubby's father had the fellow in his arms. So it was that Billy was saved from drifting off in the chill night and to what fate?

And do our older folks drift away? Do they stay out late of a night? And when they get in and at midnight maybe, are not our hearts glad? So we can sense it, what our Lord meant when He told of the Ninety and Nine all safe in the fold and of how the shepherd tramped the hills searching for the one that was lost. We need this Bible picture to get over on God's ground and see ourselves as heaven sees us, with God's heart yearning to have us safe with himself.

And there is the Good Shepherd, our Lord Jesus, who came to seek and to save that which was lost. He gave up His life for the man lowest down and the man farthest away. To as many as receive Him as dying for their sins, He gives the right to name themselves the sons of God. Herein is love—not that we loved God but that he loved us and gave his Son to die for our sins. So God would have us home.

Don Taylor.

S. W. McChesney Ra., Portland 1, Oregon. This space paid for by a Portland family.

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Events in Oregon

CHERRY LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$750,000

HOOD RIVER—Of a cherry crop estimated at 110 to 120 cars, only 11 had been shipped from Hood River valley by last week according to reports from the AGA, Duckwall brothers and Stadelman Fruit. Financial loss to local cherry growers because of rain spoilage this season were being estimated at around \$750,000.

OREGON COAST GOLF TOURNEY PLANNED

SEASIDE — Several hundred golfers are expected to participate in the Oregon Coast amateur golf tournament, scheduled for the Gearhart golf course for August 12 to 19, inclusive. The event is expected to be one of the most important events of the year, and in addition to those entered it is expected to draw hundreds of spectators.

TILLAMOOK MILK PRICE RAISES

TILLAMOOK—In order to take the place of the milk subsidy which has been offered to milk producers during the period of OPA local milk distributors have adjusted their milk prices upward as of July 11, 1946.

The price to the milk producers is thus equalized with those prices being paid to those producers shipping to the Portland market. The retail price will be 16 1/2 cents per quart.

WASHINGTON SNAPSHOTS

GOP House Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, contends that American private enterprise could do more to relieve the housing shortage than the administrations huge emergency program with its vast subsidies.

Mr. Martin is recalling that Housing Expediter Wilson Wyatt, who has \$400,000,000 to be used to subsidize production of building materials, has announced the goal of his efforts for 1946 as 700,00 conventional type dwelling units.

Figures Cited

But, adds the congressman, the bureau of labor statistics says that in the first three months of this year 171,000 building permits were issued for conventional type dwelling units, and that 150,000 units actually were under construction.

The bureau also estimated that in the month of April, 65,000 units were started.

"These figures clearly show that private industry on its own than the expediter expected to obtain," Mr. Martin points out.

"Give the American people half a chance—and they will take care of the housing shortage with the same energy and the same speed they showed in supplying the enormous demands of the war effort."

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Services on Saturday:
10:00 a.m.—Sabbath school.
11:00 a.m.—Gospel service.
A cordial invitation is extended to visitors.

EVANGELICAL —Rev. Allen H. Backer, Minister
9:45 — Sunday school program
11:00 — Morning worship service.
7:00 — Junior Endeavor and Evangelical Youth Fellowship.
3:00 p.m.—Evangelistic service.
8:00 p.m. Thursday—Prayer meeting.

LATTER DAY SAINTS
Sunday school convenes at 10 a.m. at 925 Rose Ave under the direction of Charles Long, Branch President, Polly H. Lynch, Superintendent.
7:00 P.M. — Evening Sacrament

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