

# 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.** Are insurance benefits received by the parent considered income in determining eligibility for compensation?

**A.** In determining dependency, amounts received by the mother or father from any insurance under the War Risk Insurance act, or the World War Veterans act of 1924 as amended, or the National Service Life Insurance act as amended will be disregarded.

**Q.** Can I obtain a loan to purchase a business if I am employed? I wish to purchase a small grocery store which I will manage but would like to continue on my present job until I am assured of a satisfactory income.

**A.** You are eligible for a loan guaranty if you plan to conduct the business yourself, either on a full or part-time basis.

**Q.** If I have obtained a guaranteed loan to purchase a farm, am I still eligible to receive the self-employed veteran's readjustment allowance?

**A.** Yes. You may obtain the monthly allowance, depending on the length of your military service, up to a maximum of 10 2/5 months. The payments guarantee to the farmer a minimum net income of \$100 a month during the period of his entitlement.

**Q.** What is the time limit for applying for educational benefits under the G.I. bill?

**A.** Education may not extend beyond nine years after the termination of World War II or after discharge, whichever is later. You must start your education not later than four years after either the termination of World War II or your date of discharge.

**Q.** If I obtain a real estate loan to purchase a farm and it is guaranteed by the VA, may I also obtain a VA guarantee on a loan to purchase machinery, livestock, seed and other farm equipment?

**A.** Yes you may obtain a combination of real estate and non-real estate loans. However, the percentage of the guarantee maximum used by a veteran in obtaining one type of loan reduces by that percentage his entitlement to guarantee of another type loan guarantee of \$2000, his non-real estate guarantee maximum would be \$1000.

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Time I took my suit for cleaning and pressing. Think I'll have it moth-proofed, too.

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Marvin Kamholz  
Editor and Publisher

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Vernonia, Oregon

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## Events in Oregon

**REYNOLDS PLANT WILL OPEN SOON**  
GRESHAM — Rehabilitation of the aluminum reduction plant at Troutdale is making good progress, but still has not reached the stage where announcement of a definite opening date can be made.

Replacement of millions of dollars worth of silver used as a war measure instead of the customary copper has required much time. The silver was loaned by the U. S. treasury and was returned to it several months ago.

### RADIO RANGE BEING INSTALLED

**HILLSBORO** — A new radio range, one of the first of a new type of VHF—very high frequency—installation, is being placed about a mile east of Hillsboro airport, it was revealed Monday by Donald S. King chief of the planning and control staff of the regional office of the civil aeronautics administration at Seattle.

The \$50,000 installation is designed to serve Portland airports, and is part of a civil airways system in the northwest for the guidance of airliners and other radio-equipped planes.

### EAGLES AERIE WILL BE INSTALLED OCTOBER 6

**PRINEVILLE** — Sunday, October 6 has been fixed as the date for the installation of a new Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Prineville. Plans are under way to have a large number of visiting delegations with drill teams, drum corps and bands here for the occasion. Officers of Bend Aerie have been delegated to exemplify the ritualistic work for the installation.

### BUSCH ELECTED BANK PRESIDENT

**FOREST GROVE**—L. P. Busch was elected president of the Forest Grove National bank at a meeting of the board of directors recently.

Busch has been a member of the board of directors of the bank since 1935. He is Associated Oil company distributor for Washington county and previously was in the service station business. Busch is a native of Washington county, having been born in the Davids Hill district and receiving his education here.



The number of workers on the government payroll is still far beyond the 1,611,000 limit fixed by law at the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 1947, according to a recent estimate.

Reporting for the point congressional committee on reduction of nonessential federal expenditures, Senator Harry Byrd chairman, said that total federal employment for May was 2,848,627, including military personnel, and represents an increase of 24,813.

For everyone separated from the war and navy departments during May there was almost an equal number appointed in other departments, the committee disclosed.

Lopping 1,500,000 surplus desk workers from the federal payroll would save American taxpayers \$4,000,000,000 a year, in Senator Byrd's opinion. The present annual payroll amounts to nearly \$9,000,000,000.

The committee has criticized old-line government departments—including labor, state and treasury—for attempting to perpetuate war-born personnel inflation. An all-time peak in total government employees was reached in August, 1945, when payrolls totaled 3,649,000.

Under the ceiling clause written into the federal pay act of 1946 the overall total of government employees would be gradually reduced to 1,611,000 at the close of the current fiscal year.

Senator Byrd has pointed out that the government was "bloated beyond any power of description" with 1411 main bureaus, in addition to the regular departments.

Algin, the marine gum secreted by the leaves of a seaweed, was first used as a binder for ink in China over 3000 years ago. Since its discovery in the west in 1883, algin has been used for scores of medical and industrial purposes.

## THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

**SOLOMON ISLANDS, FAMOUS FOR WILD MEN, HAS NO WILD LAND ANIMALS**

**THE WOODWORKING INDUSTRY HAS FOUND THAT BY SOAKING WOOD IN UREA AND HEATING TO 212° F. YOU CAN KNEAD IT LIKE PUTTY.**

**MANUFACTURERS CONSTANTLY SEEKING BETTER PRODUCTS USE MAN-MADE COLD WEATHER TO MAKE PARTS MORE PRECISE.**

**AN X-RAY "POSTAL INSPECTOR" EXAMINES MAIL OF PUBLIC PERSONAGES NEEDING PROTECTION FROM CRANKS**

**IN ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX., A PROWLER BROKE INTO A TAVERN 3 TIMES IN 3 WEEKS SIMPLY ARRANGED FURNITURE**

## OUT OF THE WOODS BY JIM STEVENS

### Fire Weather Service . . .

It is interesting to a professional writing man to observe that the government bureaus which gave the best public service and employ the most non-political specialists are the weakest in propaganda activities. A prime example is the weather bureau. Its work by regions and states is a necessity to modern life.

One of its most important phases in the Pacific Northwest is the fire weather service that has been in operation for about twenty-two years. This service guides the plans of rangers, wardens, woods bosses and all others who are responsible for safety of forests. Its reports may lead to closure of a thousand logging camps and the barring of tens of thousands of recreation seekers out of fishing and camping areas—all in a day.

Back in the old days, when a Yacolt fire could burst out on the population without a real warning, and then be trailed by hundreds of small but destructive fires, there was no such service from the weather bureau. Even ten years ago its warnings could not be broadcast as they are today.

The weather men have hundreds of prime true tales to tell about their forest-fire prevention service, but they have no high-powered, high-priced pack of PR men to do the telling or to get it done. Even for this piece I had to dynamite (almost) to pry a few sober facts out of Fire Weather Specialist Ben Malin.

### Items of History . . .

For a good many years prior to 1924 foresters had been studying behavior of fires in the woods, their causes, and possible methods of prevention and control. Whatever the kind of forest, and wherever its location, the important factor proved to be the weather. And so it was obvious that fire-weather reports were just about No. 1 need for forest-fire prevention.

Progress was held to what one weather man could do to deal with the many and varied problems in timber districts as large as those of Oregon and Washington. At first only a warning service could be provided. That is, the specialist on this assignment would keep regular watch for conditions of forest-fire weather. He worked as a detective on a big scale. He was prowling for coming low humidity, big winds, lightning, and the like. When his clues led to them and spelled danger, the weather man would send warning by telephone and telegraph to wardens, rangers, loggers, and others.

The forest industries and the public agencies, in turn would alert their protection forces and add to them if the danger seemed bad and growing. Year by year a network of lookout towers and a communication system was built up. Protection was organized in crews of smoke chasers to get on a detected fire at top speed, patrols for snag patches and other areas of high danger, and standby forces for fighting the big fires.

In all this the value of the fire weather service was basic. In 1937 this fact received recog-

niton from congress, which provided money for forecasts twice a day and for a special mobile service for fire duty. The mobile outfit carries a complete weather observation and forecasting unit with radio communication elements. Two men run the rig. On a fire it makes for contact between meteorologist and fire boss. Thus the boss is enabled to plan his fight on a fire to take advantage of weather conditions and prospects.

Observations are made and sent in from hundreds of stations in Washington and Oregon. So much is no more than a hint of the whole service.

**Knock on Wood . . .**  
The weather has been against us in protecting the woods through most of 1946 to date. But to date really devastating fires have been prevented before they started or were detected at the start and surrounded soon. We inkslingers for Keep Washington and Keep Oregon Green like to pat ourselves on the back for keeping the public posted on the need to be careful about fire in the forests.

No doubt we have a few pats coming. But between pats we ought to about-face and swing up a few salutes at the modest men of the weather bureau who have built their fire weather service into a real power for the common good in this forest country. They did their work in 1946, no doubt about that, and it was a great part.

### If you Will, I Will

Back in the Promised Land in the days before Christ, the Chosen People were offered all riches if they would keep the law and the commandments. Flocks, herds, fruit, grain, gold and families of size, if they would only keep right with God.

But God has good things for us of 1946 also, even if we have lived in sin. I will call them My people which are not My people, said He, meaning us who were afar off. No man has sunk too low for God's mighty love to lift. Did not Christ come to seek and to save that which was lost? Are not the saved God's riches, a holy nation, a people to set forth Christian-likeness at home and wherever?

Bible promises are in two parts. They are: If you will, I will, says God. Your part is to believe God, that the blood of Christ has cleansed away all your sins and cleared your page. From that on count yourself born of God, born again. God's part is to give you new life. Now step ahead and grow up. Look utterly to Christ for strength and prove the new life. If you will, I will, says God.

### Stan Taylor.

S.W. McChesney Rd., Portland 1, Ore. This space paid for by an Oregon family.

Despite the severe conditions caused by war and defeat, the population of Italy increased from 44,600,000 in 1930 to 45,800,000 in 1946.

## At the Churches

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

—Rev. H. Gail McIlroy, Pastor  
9:45—Sunday school with classes for all ages.  
11:00—Morning worship.  
7:30—Evangelistic service.  
8:00—Wednesday, prayer meeting.  
7:30—Friday, People's Night.

### EVANGELICAL

—Rev. Allen H. Backer, Minister  
9:45 — Sunday school  
Promotional Service.  
6:30 p.m.—Young People's service.  
7:30 p.m.—Evangelistic services.  
Wed. Eve., 7:30—Bible study and prayer meeting.

### FIRST CHRISTIAN

—Ernest P. Baker, Minister  
9:45—Bible school led by M. L. Herrin.  
11:00—Morning worship and Junior church.  
7:30—Sunday evening service.  
7:30 Wednesday—Prayer meeting.

### NAZARENE CHAPEL

The church that cares.  
—H. L. Russell, Pastor  
1208 Bridge St.  
9:45 a.m.—Sunday school.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning worship.  
7:45 p.m.—Evangelistic services.  
7:30 p.m. Wednesday—Praise and prayer.

### 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

### ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC

Rev. Anthony V. Gerace  
Rev. J. H. Goodrich  
Mass: 9:30 a.m. except first Sunday in month—Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.  
Confessions from 7:45 a.m. on

### 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.

A ball one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter has probably reached the greatest speed achieved by a mechanical device. Enclosed in a high vacuum, it turns at 211,000 revolutions per minute. If such speed were changed to straight line motion, the ball would circle the world in 40 minutes

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