

# 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.** How long after discharge from service are readjustment allowances available to the veteran?

**A.** Readjustment allowances are available to an eligible veteran at any time after his discharge or release until two years after the date of his discharge or two years after the termination of the war, whichever is later. However, no allowances will be paid for any week which begins more than five years after the termination of the war.

**Q.** What is the "total disability" clause under the amended national service life insurance bill?

**A.** The original insurance law provided for waiver of premiums in event of total disability. In addition, the amended law provides for benefits at the rate of \$5 a month for each \$1000 of insurance in case of total disability, by payment of a small extra premium. The face of the policy will not be reduced by such payments.

**Q.** Has a veteran any recourse to the civil courts for the purpose of securing a review of his claim for disability compensation or pension denied by the VA?

**A.** No. A veteran does not have recourse to civil courts. However, he may secure additional evidence and have his claim reviewed by the veterans administration.

**Q.** Can a member of the women's armed service obtain medical aid from the veterans administration in pregnancy cases?

**A.** Veterans administration has ruled that pregnancy is not a disease or a disability, but a natural phenomenon or process and therefore is not a responsibility of the government. However, if there are pathological complications, the ex-servicewoman can apply for medical aid.

**Q.** I am attending school under the GI bill and working part-time. My combined salary and subsistence at present is over the \$175 ceiling set by congress for single veterans. What am I required to do?

**A.** You should have received notification from the VA to report your August, September and October earnings by November 5. Failure to report by the deadline will result in stoppage of subsistence checks until the necessary information is received. Overpayment of subsistence must be paid back to the government. The VA will announce later the methods by which such adjustments will be made. In reporting on earnings, do not include information on subsistence, compensation, or pensions paid by the VA.

## Events in Oregon

### ENROLLMENT SETS NEW RECORD

SEASIDE — Enrollment in both Seaside schools went to new high records last week as additional students registered. Seaside high school particularly showed an unusual increase, with the result that in certain sections seats were so short that two students were forced to sit in seats meant for one.

The Gearhart school, with 103 pupils, was also crowded in spite of the fact that two new rooms have been added.

On Wednesday, the registration at the high school was 278 as compared with 211 for the previous year. At the central school the registration was 497 as compared with about 480 for the same time last year.

### FILBERT, ONION HARVESTING STARTING

HILLSBORO — Harvesting of filberts and onions was getting under way in the county last week with pickers in demand.

On a wage scale agreed upon by growers, the ceiling pay for filbert pickers is 3 1/2 cents per pound without a bonus. Onion workers will be on a straight hourly basis on pay, it was announced.

The main walnut harvest is not expected to start before the middle of October. Pay agreed upon by growers will be 15 cents for a 12-quart pail plus a 3-cent bonus.

### SCHOOL BARS PUBLIC FROM GYMNASIUM

FOREST GROVE — Basketball fans will have to go elsewhere than the union high school to drink of their favorite sports this winter for the general public is to be barred admission to the gymnasium, Principal Paul A. Menegat made known last week. The crackerbox structure which bulged at the seams and creaked under the weight of over-capacity crowds during the past few seasons will no longer be open to the public for evening basketball contests.

"We can't even accommodate our own student body anymore," Menegat commented.

In order to make room for students and so that the public will not be tempted to gain admittance, contests will be played without wide scale publicity and whenever coaches agree to scheduled games.

### FIRST ALUMINUM ROLLS FROM PLANT MONDAY

TROUTDALE — Idle for nearly a year, the aluminum plant here went back into operation Monday.

The huge, modern plant has been quiet for nearly a year, since the lease by the Aluminum Company of America was terminated by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, a government agency last October.

Between 400 and 500 persons are employed at the plant now and this number will be augmented as the Reynolds firm readies other potlines.

### Boy and Plow Horse

The boy pulled the old horse to a stop and gave ear. Then like the rising sun, a new light came into his face, a surprised look, an eagerness, a joy and an exclamation—"Then all my sins are off my page and it is very clean!" A new boy he was, alert, awake. He knew that he was out from under the death sentence that hangs over every soul that ever committed a sin. And would the boy like to bow his head and say a word of thanks? At this, he dropped the lines over the plow handle, took off his hat, bowed his head and gave thanks in his own words from a heart at peace because of sins blotted out and new life given.

And how do believers, old or new, come to know that God has made them His own? ONE—Believe and keep on believing. Believe that the Blood of Christ has blotted out your sins TWO—Press ahead. Live by the Bible, looking to Christ for victory in the many daily trials and for victory over the old sins. Sooner or later, along the path of Christian duty, there comes the holy hour when the Spirit of God bears witness with your spirit and God has made you His own. You His and He your Heavenly Father forever and ever.

Dean Taylor

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

## THE POCKETBOOK OF KNOWLEDGE

By PILGRIM

## OUT OF THE WOODS BY JIM STEVENS

### Wyatt's Flophousers . . .

From foxholes for the night to dream homes in the attic of old houses—that's what coming back from years of war to a future of peace is meaning to many veterans. The housing bureaucrats—"housers," they term themselves—in Washington haven't openly admitted it yet, but their protentious programs are mostly stuck in the mud.

By the hundreds of thousands, the saviors of the civilized world are holing up in shanties and tents, parking in trailers, bunking in basements, hanging out in "temporary" housing that was tossed up for war workers, squeezing in with ma and pa, and perching in the attics of old houses. It is time to start calling the federal housers "flop-housers."

The record is clear. Yet no one who commands a public audience of importance is talking truly from the housing record. All that I've heard or read from pundits and politicians on the subject has been versions of the Wyatt Flophousers' press releases. It is time for private enterprise in building to get a hearing.

### Attics for Veterans . . .

The record of industry on planning homes for veterans may be cited in the Home Planners Institute program, which was set going nationally by the West Coast Lumbermen's association and the National Retail Lumber Dealers association in 1943. At V-J Day there were institutes in more than a hundred cities throughout the USA, serving as educational mediums and aids on home building. The Big G boys had nothing of the kind. They had their mimeograph machines going full blast on such for the veterans as the so-called GI Bill of Rights.

In the last two years of the war, Bill Bell, manager of the Western Retail Lumbermen's association, traveled from town to town throughout the Pacific Northwest, to sound the warning of a shortage of homes for veterans after the war and urging action to meet it.

But the power for such action was all in the hands of the housers on the Potomac. Nothing that amounted to anything was done. Nothing of vital substance is being done today.

Last February lumbermen demanded a stop to the use of

desperately short materials in the building of saloons, roadhouses, racetracks and other catchalls for the billions of sucker money loose in the country. No move on this had been made since V-J day. It took another two months to get action. And the action is still pitifully feeble.

In April this column pointed out that the only hope average veterans could have for decent dwellings within a year would be in the remodeling of old homes to produce housekeeping apartments for modest rent. That's how it still looks. It's Attics for Veterans.

### A Housing Traffic Cop . . .

No one denies the essentiality of the police function of government. What is needed in the housing crisis is for the federal housers to serve as traffic cops under simple provisions for the routing of materials and labor into homes for veterans through the established channels of private enterprise, and away from unneeded construction.

The latest figures put out by Housing Expediter Wyatt show that over 600 thousand houses were started in the first 7 months of 1946 and that 550 thousand remain unfinished. A great share of the skeleton dwellings reported will still be unfinished when winter strikes. They will have the bulk of the lumber they require—the framing. Some will lack wiring, more will lack plumbing equipment and soil pipe, others will want plaster and brick, some will need sash and doors. And nearly all will be held back by the dire shortage of skilled building labor.

The federal flophousers have flopped worse on labor to build homes. They are doing little or nothing to route a fair share of carpenters, plasterers and others of the building trades from commercial building into home building. They are doing little or nothing to police the black markets. They are duds in the business of building. They are dumb cops. They are flops.

A tattered remnant of the American flag that flew at Corregidor was hidden away by two brave men during the Japanese occupation and flies today on the Pentagon building in Washington.

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## Washington Snapshots

The trouble with OPA all along has been like that of Uncle Moe's old mule: "He hears what you say, but he just don't give a damn."

Here's a current example:

The Wall Street Journal reports (Sept. 17) that a 3.3 billion-bushel corn crop is about ready to roll out of the fields.

"Farmers in Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska and South Dakota don't have enough crib space to handle it.

"And they can't get lumber to build the cribs.

"If the lumber isn't forthcoming within the next few weeks, as much as 50 million bushels of corn may be piled on the ground."

On Feb. 2, a press release showing results of a spot survey of price control operations stated among other things:

"A Winchester, Ind., grain, coal and wood company revealed that it had been unable to buy picket, cribbing desperately needed for Indiana's corn harvest because sawmills could not furnish the lath at OPA prices."

OPA was publicly warned seven months ago. But now that harvest time is about here, it looks as if the corn is to go on the ground.

## 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

11:00—Morning worship 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.

## The Forum

Dear Editor: Attention! Mr. MacKenzie, chairman of Oregon Pension Plan Committee, Dear Sir: Replying to yours of August 6th will say the gross income tax as we have it in Hawaii is the simplest and most satisfactory tax we have. The cost of collection is about 1 1/2 per cent and after 11 years experience, I can say it meets almost universal approval. It is not a sales tax as it includes all types of income. We find it easy to administer and there is no pyramiding. It has a very beneficial effect on our economy because it is collected monthly and immediately spent back into trade channels. Due to monthly collections there is a continuous flow of money into the treasury.

Before its enactment, each session of the legislature appropriated a quarter of a million dollars to pay interest on borrowings when taxes were paid in June and November. We have not borrowed a dollar since and instead of deficits, we have continued to have a surplus and have paid several millions on our bonded debt. It is our best tax measure from every angle. Signed: Wm. Dorthwick, tax commissioner.

Submitted by Mrs. A. E. Jennings.

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