

Urge Proposed Welfare Board Choose Personnel

The legislative welfare investigation commission today recommended that the selection of welfare personnel be taken from the state personnel board and vested in a new state welfare board, the creation of which it urged last week in recommending abolition of the present state board.

Recommendations of the investigation commission, which has been studying the state welfare setup for the past two years, will be submitted to the 1945 legislature.

The commission said in its report today that if the giving of merit system examinations is left in the hands of the state personnel board, that the preparation and grading of the examination papers for any category of employment should be done by the new state welfare board.

The new board would be composed of three full-time members and an executive secretary. The present board contains five members who meet monthly to confer with the welfare administrator, Thurman A. Gottschalk.

States Reasons

State Personnel Director Dudley A. Smith said that the commission's proposal, if put into effect, would split the state merit system in two and would result in the setup of two merit systems, one operated by the state welfare board and the one operated under the state personnel act.

He said that, under an attorney general's opinion, the legislative commission's recommendations could be put into effect without passage of a law. The attorney general has held, he said, that it is discretionary with the state welfare board as to whether the examinations for welfare department employees shall be given by the personnel board. Up-to-date, the state welfare board has chosen to have the personnel board conduct examinations for the selection of its employees.

Recommendations Made

The legislative commission also recommended today that:

The number of rules and regulations issued by the welfare board "be radically reduced" and that when a regulation is issued it contain a definite reference to the law which warrants the issuing of the rule.

That all regulations be made available to the public the same as any law under which the citizens are bound.

That the lien provision (repealed in 1941) be restored in the welfare law in a modified form, providing for a claim against the estate of the deceased for welfare monies received which shall be preferred as against all claims other than those now preferred under the statutes of Indiana.

ARMY DAY ONE OF HARD WORK

Heads of Services Thank Their Troops for Devotion.

WASHINGTON, April 6 (U.P.)—The parades and demonstrations of former years were missing today as the growing U.S. Army observed Army day—anniversary of American entry into World War I—with intensive training and preparation for the coming invasion.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall, banning the customary celebrations and public inspections, said, "The necessities of war make it inadvisable to transport and divert troops for this purpose."

"This year," said Marshall, "like any other day, April 6 will be one of hard work to carry us that much nearer to victory."

It is the apparent view of the court that unless children were supported by their parents during all their minority, they cannot be compelled to support their parents in later years. This should be changed."

Owe Gratitude

"To every man and woman in the army," said Marshall, "we owe an increasing debt of gratitude for the fortitude and spirit with which their duties are being performed."

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson sent greetings and "my personal gratitude for your courageous and unselfish service." "The trust of America lies in your accomplishment of the great tasks which lie before you... you will not fail that trust," he said.

Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson sent his best wishes, and a personal pledge that "I shall work with all the resolution and determination at my command to help mold our nation at home and our forces abroad into an unprecedented unity of thought and action toward the victory that we can achieve through that unity alone."

Lt. Gen. A. A. Vandegrift, marine corps commandant, sent greetings and the "salute of the marine corps."

Record of Courage

"Since war came to this country over two years ago," he said, "you and your command have been faced with one of the severest challenges in history. Of the manner in which those difficulties have been met, the American people are justly proud; it is a record of vision, courage and resourcefulness."

Army day, two years and four months after the country was plunged into World War II at Pearl Harbor, found nearly half of the army of about 7,500,000 men overseas. Stimson said last week that 5,000,000 would be overseas by the end of the year.

The Romantic South Seas—Knee-Deep Mud, Gunfire

LIFE, 1944-STYLE, in the romantic South Seas... sweltering days and cold nights with rain that never stops... knee-deep mud that clings and hardens... always the sound of gunfire in the distance... K-rations for breakfast, dinner and supper...

When Mrs. Christine Pruitt, 1515 E. 62nd st., asked her son, Cpl. Charles W. Paris, what it was like in the South Pacific, that was his answer.

In the Pacific more than two years, the 23-year-old marine is with the first marine division, working on the reproduction of aerial map photography.

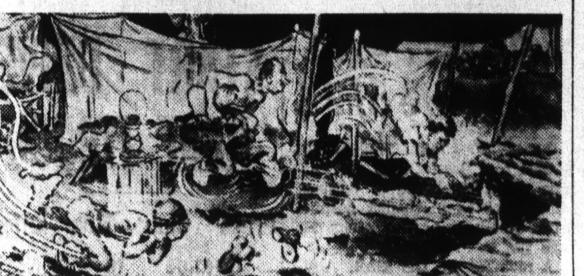
He had his taste of front line fighting on Guadalcanal. From there he went to New Guinea and now he's at another Pacific base.

In his letter of Feb. 10 he described the way the men lived the first few days of a "recent" week.

"You leave your boat, and step into waist-deep water... The great rolling white sanded beach you have read about turns out to be a debris-riddled black sanded 10-yard strip seemingly pushed back into the ocean by a jungle so dense your visibility is limited to 20 yards.

"It starts to rain—not the gentle rain we knew back home but a deluge. It is the first time you realize there is weight to rain. It seems to beat you into the ground.

"You march to a prearranged area for bivouacking. The sand, cut by the troops which landed that morning, is a bed of mud. By the time you reach the area you are covered with mud from head to foot..."



A cartoonist's view of the high-speed activity which takes place in the bivouac area when the air raid siren sounds in the jungle night. The drawing, which Cpl. Paris said is "not exaggerated," was made by a fellow marine.

"You clear an area to set up your hammock... the most useful article conceived to aid men fighting in the jungles. It consists of a regular hammock with a rubber roof over the top. Mosquito netting makes it one unit... The whole thing is watertight and weighs about four pounds.

"You begin to notice the mosquitoes. There are droves of them. If you could hold your hand still 30 seconds, you could count 15 or 20. They simply cover you when you remain motionless.

"You sit down to eat. Your meal is K-ration... canned meat, biscuit, beverage, a stick of gum and four cigarettes.

"It is dark and you are tired from the strain and excitement. All this time it has been raining. Stripping off the wet and muddy clothes, you crawl into your hammock. Having left your blankets with your heavy gear in order to lighten your load and because everything you own is wet, you sleep naked. Several times during the night, you are awakened by gunfire—sometimes so fierce you wonder if your lines are going to hold.

"After breakfast, which is another K-ration, you set out to look for your boxes of gear. The job is somewhat easier than the

shivering from the cold for in the early hours of the morning it gets cold even in the tropics... Until daybreak you spend the time in fitful sleeping..."

"Daylight dispels some of the anxiety and miserable feeling of the night. It is still raining and you dread getting out of the sack to pull on wet, muddy clothes. However, there is work to be done.

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