

Proposed G. I. Bonus Bills Would Cost U. S. \$20-\$40 Billion

Many Benefits For Veterans Are Introduced

Democrats Sponsor 3 Principal Measures

By PAUL R. LEACH
Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Veteran bonus bills—calling for payments estimated between \$20 billion and \$40 billion from the federal treasury—have been introduced in the new congress.

They are only a small part of the many measures put into the hopper for veterans' benefit. These range all the way from increased disability pensions, and special naturalization acts to liberalized loans.

A bulky handful provides the same thing—payment of the terminal leave allowances for G. I.'s in cash instead of bonds—or immediate cashing in of their bonds.

Democrats Sponsor Three

Of the four principal house bonus bills three are sponsored by Democrats. The fourth was put in by George E. Schwabe of Oklahoma, a Republican, in the face of his party's economic pledges.

The Schwabe bill would pay every discharged veteran \$2 a day for service within the United States and \$4 a day for overseas duty. He would allow a minimum of \$500, a maximum of \$3500 for persons having no overseas duty, a maximum of \$4500 for those overseas.

He would also grant \$500 for any wound recognized by a wound chevron purple heart.

Donald L. O'Toole (D. N. Y.) has a similar bill, without maximum or minimum or wound credit.

\$7300 Possible

Rep. John Lesinski (D. Mich.) parallels the Schwabe bill.

Rep. Stephen Pace (D. Pa.) would pay \$5 for each overseas day and \$4 for each home service day, without maximum or minimum.

A man serving four years overseas would draw \$7300 under the Pace bill. All the bills would recognize women members of the armed services on the same footing as men.

The army, navy and marine corps had a peak of 13,215,000 men and women—officers and enlisted—in service during the war period. Of these, 11,506,488 served outside the U. S. Actual total overseas man days have not been computed.

Other Bills Submitted

Other veteran bills submitted, not listing duplicates, include:

Rep. John Rankin (D. Miss.)

Exempting all veterans from necessity of joining labor unions to obtain work.

Rep. Lindley Beckworth (D. Tex.)—Education, training or loan provisions of the G. I. act extended to widows of veterans or wives of totally disabled veterans.

Mr. Beckworth—Pensions on a 20 per cent disability basis for men unable to obtain employment because of inability to meet physical requirements of the job.

Rep. Charles A. Flumley (R. Vt.)—Tax exemption for compensation paid men for periods in which they were prisoners of war.

Status for Women

Rep. Gordon Canfield (R. N. J.)—Giving veterans stronger priority over all other claimants in sale of surplus property.

Rep. Charles R. Clason (R. Mass.)—Authorizing naturalization of parents of veterans, who have lived here not less than 10 years and are eligible otherwise.

Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers (R. Mass.)—Assuring full status under veteran laws for women serving in the WAC.

Mrs. Rogers—Increasing widow and orphan pensions to \$60 for widow, \$60 for widow with one child, with \$20 additional for each child; \$40 for motherless children.

Mrs. Rogers—Providing follow-up medical treatment for veterans after leaving hospitals.

City Tax Exemption

Rep. Paul Cunningham (R. Iowa)—Increasing pensions for veterans suffering from permanent, non-service connected disabilities from \$50 to \$75 a month.

Rep. Jack Z. Anderson (R. Cal.)—To extend loan privileges of the G. I. bill to war I veterans.

Mr. Anderson—Tax exemption for all amounts received by men and officers in service during the war.

Mr. Anderson—To extend re-employment rights under the draft act when it ends. That act will die March 31 unless extended.

Jewelers to Open Convention Here

Indiana jewelers will open their two-day annual convention at the Hotel Antlers tomorrow. Approximately 100 are expected to attend, according to A. S. Howe of Indianapolis, secretary-treasurer.

Silas B. Reagan, Indianapolis, president of the National Wholesale Jewelers association, will be one of the speakers. Edward O. Little, Auburn, is president of the state association.

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Veterans Irked As U. S. Eases Building Ban

Fear Industry Will Get Most of Construction

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 (U. P.)—Business got a break today as the government eased its ban against commercial and industrial building.

Officials promised that housing would not suffer.

Veterans' leaders, nevertheless, were annoyed.

"The commercial contractor rather than the home builder is now in the saddle," charged Ray Sawyer, national commander of Amvets.

Major Gen. Philip B. Fleming, chief of the office of temporary controls, said previous limits on non-housing construction—\$35 million a week—were so low the national economy was endangered.

The new weekly limit on building permits is \$50 millions.

Drop in the Bucket

OTC said this still is a drop in the bucket. Officials said business construction, without any housing, might be hitting \$250 millions weekly.

Non-housing building was placed under the essentiality test last March, to force materials into homes. Former Housing Expediter Wilson W. Wyatt subsequently weekly authorizations down from \$150 millions in the spring to \$35 millions at the end of August.

Mr. Sawyer said he spoke for the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Veterans Committee, as well as Amvets in protesting the relaxation.

Gen. Fleming said 1947 non-housing construction actually would be less than in 1946. Much building last year was started prior to restrictions, and went ahead without permits.

Little Impact on Housing

He said the new relaxation, in view of better supplies of materials, "will have little or no impact on housing construction."

Other developments on the housing front were:

OPA—part of OTC—warned it still is cracking down on builders who exceed ceiling prices in selling homes started under the Wyatt program.

Homes started now carry no ceiling price tags.

OTC's steel products industry advisory committee rejected a national housing agency plan to pay \$10 a ton for extra output of steel sheets needed in home building. OTC said steel output in 1947 will fall 6,100,000 tons short of highest peacetime demand.

Subsidy payments on conveyor radiators were terminated as of Jan. 31. Output is more than twice that of early 1946.

Arrest 6 Teen-Agers After Canteen Melee

Six youths were under arrest today after a melee last night at a teen-canteen sponsored dance.

City police were called by Lt. William Anderson, auxiliary police officer, who said the dispute arose when he ordered a youth to leave a regular weekly dance sponsored at Melody Manor, located at Brookside park, because he allegedly had not paid his admission.

Faces Doubtful Future

Chairman John Taber (R. N. Y.) announced that his house appropriations committee would begin hearings Jan. 20 on four appropriation bills. These cover the navy, treasury-postoffice, labor department-federal security agency, and the interior department.

"The President has allowed very liberal amounts," Mr. Taber said. "We'll show him how they can be trimmed down and increase the efficiency of the government."

Despite strong Republican sentiment for cutting government expenses, a doubtful future was in store for the 20 per cent income tax reduction bill. It is sponsored by Chairman Harold Knutson (R. Minn.) of the house ways and means committee.

Most Republicans on the G. O. P. controlled committee said they favored some tax reduction. But they felt the question should wait until it is shown how much the budget will be cut.

Byrd Wants Reductions

Some Democratic members declared themselves in support of Mr. Truman's plea to retain present tax rates. Others cautioned a wait-and-see policy.

Senator Harry F. Byrd (D. Va.), long-time exponent of government economy, said congress must cut "with a ruthless hand."

Meanwhile, members of the senate civil service committee said two committee-approved economy resolutions would be placed before the Senate Monday.

One would authorize an investigation into the feasibility of reducing the federal payroll. The other would authorize an inquiry to see whether privately managed cafeterias in government buildings could be taken over by the government.

The annual Boys' Club association dinner will be held at 6:30 p. m. Thursday in the Naval Armory.

Local Briefs

The National Association of Power Engineers, Inc., will see a movie, "There Is an Engineering Reason,"

at 8 p. m. Thursday at 321 E. 13th St. National President George Wills will be present.

New officers of the Marion County Council of Fraternal and Social Societies, Inc. include, Jack Langen, president; Clarence Mackay, vice president; O. C. Litzelman, treasurer. Directors elected include V. Shewalter, Walter Feltz, Justus Dodson, Ernest Schneider and Herbert Smith.

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Washington Calling—

Expect Marshall to Stress Pan-American Defense

New Secretary of State to Be Firm With Russia, Direct Chinese Policy Himself

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in and out of security council. Disarmament will be pushed—if global, and subject to fool-proof inspection.

World trade, as free as possible from high tariffs and other restrictions, will be urged. Tariff boosts at home will be opposed.

State department will be reorganized at last, internal friction eliminated, policy making by underlings stopped.

Gen. Marshall knows how to work closely with senate and house foreign relations committees.

NOTE: Our ambassador to China, Leighton Stewart, has never been confirmed by the senate. Early plan to name Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer seems unlikely now. Whoever takes post, Gen. Marshall will run Chinese policy.

Some believe the G. O. P. will control congress and the White House over next six years, no matter what the Democrats do.

Democratic leaders on both sides of the capitol—Sam Rayburn and Alben Barkley—are tired. Last time the Democrats were in the minority they had sharp-witted, hard-hitting spokesmen such as Pat Harrison and John J. Garner in congress, Charlie Michelson in party headquarters. Issues were simpler. Minority brick-throwing easier and more fun.

Some Democrats feel fighting opposition must come from young men in congress, but so far leaders have not appeared.

Clue Likely Tonight

WATCH Arthur Vandenberg's speech at Cleveland tonight for tip-off on how closely Marshall and Vandenberg programs agree.

If the bipartisan foreign policy continues, it will be with give-and-take, and the senate will have last word.

Senate Republican opinion, which Mr. Vandenberg sometimes shapes but must always reflect, calls for firm, unwavering dealing with Russia. The senate will accept nothing less than that.

Barich Aims Plan

ONE shrewd Democrat says of the Byrnes resignation: "To me, it foretells a supreme court vacancy in four months or so."

The vacancy, he thinks, may come through resignation of William O. Douglas. Mr. Byrnes was on supreme bench until Franklin Roosevelt made him "assistant president" during war. However, close friends say Mr. Byrnes never enjoyed judicial job, say he wouldn't want to return to it, predict instead he will write memoirs of war and peacemaking.

Taxes to Be Cut

REPUBLICANS WILL make good on their promise to reduce federal income taxes. Cut will range from 2% to 20 per cent. If 20 per cent, it would cause loss in revenue of about \$4 billion.

If the budget is to balance, the G. O. P. will have to cut expenditures that much at least.

They may do it, but it'll require hard digging, resistance to great pressure, and a cut either in armed services or amount for international obligations.

To cut as much as \$4,000,000—figure G. O. P. appropriations committee chairman talked yesterday—would require fiscal and political miracle.

However, chairmen give evidence of having a program ready for presentation when spending and taxing committees of both houses meet soon to fix legislative budget for next fiscal year.

Democrats, on contrary, have no organized program.

Republicans, in fixing legislative budget, will be wary, will leave themselves leeway so they won't have to sponsor a resolution for increasing national debt later.

Italy Gets 2 Ships

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 (U. P.)—The United States had decided to put the U. S. transport vessel Hermitage and Monticello at the disposal of Italy.

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