

SOCIAL SECURITY NOTES

By Notely Maddox

I received two letters which illustrate one type of benefits payable under the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program, which is not fully understood.

The first one says, "My wife and I are well along in years and we are being supported by our unmarried daughter, who has a good position where she pays into Social Security. At times we get to thinking about what would happen to use if she died before we did. Would we get anything from Social Security?"

The other letter reads: "I am a widow 50 years old and without children. My closest relatives are my parents who live with me and are supported by me. I do not understand why I should be required to pay Social Security taxes, because my friends told me that widows and children are the only relatives who can draw monthly payments. If my parents won't be eligible for Social Security benefits in the event of my death why should I pay the tax?"

The answer to both letters was that the parents could be beneficiaries because it is obvious that they are chiefly dependent upon their daughter. Of course, proof of dependency would be required at the time of filing their applications.

"Chiefly dependent" means that the daughters provide more than 50 percent of the total cost of the parent's support. The Social Security Act says that parents, age 65 or over, may receive monthly payments when an insured son or daughter dies, if they were chiefly dependent upon the child for their support at the time the child died, and provided

Over Six Million Vets Had Training

Approximately 6,340,000 veterans have had some sort of GI Bill training since the law went into effect in June, 1944, according to the Veterans Administration.

Classroom studies attracted most of the ex-servicemen. More than 93 percent were enrolled in schools, 6 percent in job training establishments, and 1 percent in institutional on-farm training.

The college students in age are the youngest group of veteran trainees. Their average age is 25, compared with an over-all average for veterans in all types of training—of 26.6 years.

Institutional on-farm trainees, with an average age of nearly 30, were the oldest. Job trainees average the child was not survived by a widow or unmarried child who could become entitled to monthly benefits.

If the parents are not 65 or over when the child dies, a lump-sum death payment would be made to whomever paid the burial expenses, and the parents, if chiefly dependent, would still begin to get monthly benefits when they did reach age 65. They must, however, file applications before payments could be made.

Parents include also a step-parent and an adopting parent if this relationship existed before the child was 16 years old.

Our office in Gastonia is located at 206 Post Office Building. A representative of this office comes to City Hall in Kings Mountain first and third Wednesdays of each month at 10 a. m.

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aged 27 years of age, and veterans in schools below the college level averaged 28.

The average veteran, at the time he entered training, already had had three years of high school. Slightly over 50 per cent of them have one or more dependents. Ninety-nine out of every 100 veterans in training are males.

These are among the conclusions in a Veterans Administration study of characteristics of veterans in training under the GI Bill. The study recently completed, was based on VA data as of November 30, 1948. The averages apply generally today, VA said.

The study revealed that 65 per cent of the veterans-trainees had had some high school training at the time they entered their GI Bill Courses. Eighteen per cent had gone to college, while 17 percent had not progressed beyond elementary school.

The Veterans Administration has 39 new hospitals under construction or contract with a bed capacity of more than 17,000. By the end of 1950, it is expected that 28 of these will have been completed to make the number in operation total 158.

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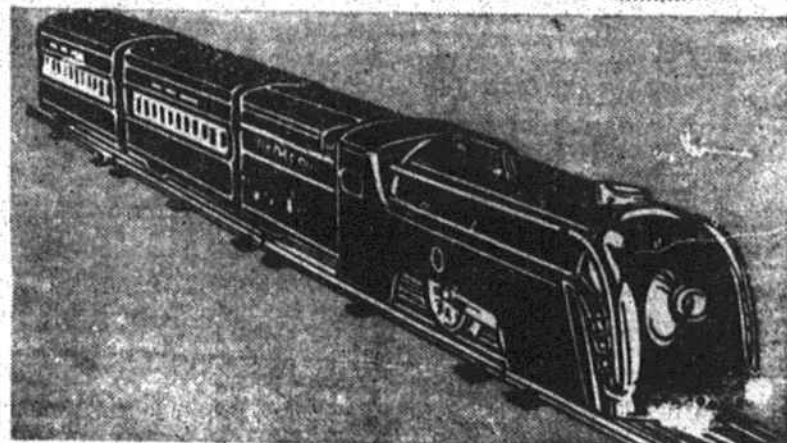
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