

VET NEWS

(Continued from page two)

Army with a 15,000 boost to man power, and with a substantial increase for the Air Force, which will mean more draftees than the estimated 220,000. The House Armed Service Committee has already approved UMT and will present the draft bill separately; however, the House will not pass UMT.

The Volunteer Flight Training Program run by the Air Force for 17-24 year olds as a substitute for UMT is scheduled for induction in Congress this week. Rep. William (D., Ga.) is now drafting a bill to set up Air Force schools for the primary training for young men on Volunteer cadet-like basis with the objective of building a strong reserve of men with flight knowledge. Cadets will not be enlisted in the Air Force but will wear uniforms and will be subject to military discipline. They will be paid the approximate wage of Air Force corporal and will be assigned into the Reserve component upon the completion of the course. The period of training will be 12 months.

The petition which was introduced for a House vote on the Veteran Bonus Bill for World War II, filed by John E. Ranklin, (D., Miss.) the author of H.R. 4927, stands no chance of success this year. Only three signatures of the required 218 were on the petition on the time it was filed. If 218 signatures could be obtained then the petition would force the Rankin bill out of the Committee on Veterans Affairs and require a "yes" or "no" vote on the floor of the House.

In the neatest parliamentary trick of the year, Sen. Wayne Morse, (R. Ore.), freshman member of Senate, this week scored a big and long-delayed victory for World War II Veterans, at expense of Sen. Robert A. Taft (R. Ohio), Senate leader and would-be president, when the Senate passed S-1393, so-called on-the-job ceilings bill.

History of S-1393 is indictment of almost complete failure of Vet organizations to follow through on vital Vet legislation, in favor of headline grabbing activities of questionable practical value, also provides perfect example of how-not-to-legislate, how parliamentary procedure of Congress may be twisted to avoid technicalities if Congress so desires, and how politicians can abandon "rules" when the chips are down.

Credit for final approval by Senate of S-1393 rests exclusively with Senator Morse. Blame for the long delay rests exclusively with Senator Taft. S-1393 in final form provides that on-job trainees without dependents may earn as much as \$145 a month, those with one dependent as much as \$180 a month, those with two or more dependents as much as \$200 a month, and still receive the full \$65 or \$90 a month subsistence allowance provided such trainees under the GI Bill. When earnings exceed those

## The Poor People Of Puerto Rico

By Carmen Rodriguez

For years Puerto Rico, where I live, has had the problem of sub-standard living conditions of the poor men of the country, whom we call "el jibaro" because of the way in which they dress, talk, and behave.

The most outstanding quality of these people is their courage in facing the problems of daily life. Their living quarters are clean, but in every part of their houses one can see the results of their struggle for existence.

These unfortunate people work day by day, starting before the sun rises and laboring until after it sets. They work in sugar cane fields and coffee plantations, where they don't earn enough money to support their families properly.

They have many good qualities such as honesty, loyalty, and a deep religious feeling, but I think the most important, as I said before, is their courage. I say "courage" because they really have it. They have to fight against diseases such as anemia, vitamin deficiencies, and tuberculosis, which lower the health standards of the people.

The whole life of the jibaro is based upon misery and fear of the future. The families are very large, and they don't get enough to eat. They raise their families to continue the same way of life that they have always known. In their faces the jibaros have sad expressions, but inside they are happy, and their folk songs show it. They don't ask much from life—just a house in which to live, a piece of land to cultivate, and some food and clothing.

Their education is not too extensive because sometimes they live too far from schools, or they have to begin working when they are eight or nine years old to help their fathers.

They cultivate products such as plantains and bananas, which later they sell in the city. A jibaro can be recognized by his straw hat, by his horses or donkeys, and by his clothes, which are usually faded and worn.

In spite of all the troubles they have, they don't stop worshipping God. They come to town every Sunday dressed in their best clothes, and there they go to the Catholic church to pray to God with all their hearts for a better life.

The jibaros are white people; some are short—others are tall. Most of

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## Intramural Softball

Games Played Monday, April 19	
Vet's Court	7
Mooney-Oak Lodge	3
East	10
I T K	7
South-North	22
Vet's Court	7
Vet's Apartments	7
Alpha Pi	4
Sigma Phi	20
Mooney-Oak Lodge	8

Standings	April 19	W	L	Pct.
Team	9	0		1.000
East	3	1		.750
Vet's Apts.	4	2		.666
Alpha Pi	3	2		.600
I T K	4	4		.500
Vet's Court	3	4		.428
Sigma Phi	2	3		.400
South North	2	4		.333
Kappa Psi	3	6		.333
Mooney-Oak Lodge	0	5		.000
N-N & South Dorm.				

them have green or blue eyes, and they always have a smile on their faces for strangers.

Their main source of amusement is the rina de gallos, which is a cock fight, shooting dice, and dancing. For playing music, they use guitars, guiro and cuatro, which are instruments made by themselves.

From this you can see that the power of the courage the jibaro has is strong enough to resist the kind of life I have described.

As Enrique A. Laguerre, the author of "La Lllamarada", a Puerto Rican novel based on the life of the jibaro who works in the sugar cane fields, thinks, our jibaros are being taken by the earth. By this, I mean that they get diseases while they are working in the sugar cane fields because of lack of food, and also because they work so close together that when one gets a disease the other one is sure to catch it. It is my idea that it is the fate of the jibaro to remain living a life of misery while the owners of the refineries become richer.

## Elon Wins, 14-9 To Sweep Series With Sanford

The Fighting Christians made a clean sweep of their series with Sanford, defeating the Spinners 14-9 in a slugfest at College Park, Thursday April 15th.

Both teams pounded base hits with frequent regularity, but fourteen bases on balls by three Sanford pitchers made the difference in the ball game.

The Spinners tallied twice on starter Art Fowler on a couple of hits and the same number of errors and countered four times in the fifth before the young freshman twirler gave way to C. K. Siler, who finished for Elon. In that big fifth, the Spinners touched Fowler for five hits, and then in the next inning they greeted Siler with three runs as big Hank Nesslerode cleared two saturated sacks with a long homer over the left centerfield fence.

Elon scored three times in the second on walks to Thurso M'swain, Billy Matze, Ed Ellis and Gene Caviness plus a fielder's choice to Fowler and a single by Dick York.

Then Coach Mallory's crew attempted to turn the ball game into a farce, scoring seven times in the third on five hits and four bases on balls. Left fielder Lou Savini started off the fireworks with a single and then added a walk in the same inning as eleven batters strolled to the plate.

Elon added four more in the fifth and sixth to sew up the contest.

It was the second victory for the Fighting Christians.

Rightfielder Gene Caviness, who was held hitless for the first time in the Guilford contest, came back in splendid fashion, poling three singles and adding two walks for a perfect day at bat. Savini had a double and single and Dick York two singles to aid the victorious cause.

Sanford 2 0 0 0 4 3 0 0 9 12 0  
 Elon 0 3 7 0 2 2 0 x 14 10 3  
 Sanford: Harris, Salters, Arlinger and Ham, Cartner, Stone.  
 Elon: Fowler, Siler and Greggs, De Simone, Brown.

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