



PRETTY AS A PICTURE—Charles McEnally and his gracious wife didn't have to look far to discover a suitable scene for their Christmas cards. A view of their home, complete with snow, was all anyone could wish for.—Photo by Billy Benners.

month period was 12,000 and was a strong indication that, after 19 years of increase, the number of war veterans in the nation was on a downward trend.

Barring another war, the decline will continue without interruption, the Administrator pointed out, unless there should be an unforeseen increase in the discharge rate of Korean Conflict veterans from the armed forces.

The September 30 breakdown of veterans shows that 4,463,000 were veterans of the Korean Conflict alone; 15,274,000 saw service in World War II; 2,852,000 were veterans of World War I and 134,000 are veterans of all other wars

including the Spanish-American War, various Indian Wars and the regular establishment.

The ages of America's veterans in civil life range from well over 100 for the two surviving Confederate veterans to an average age of 27-plus for Korean Conflict veterans with no service in World War II. The average age of Spanish-American veterans is approximately 81; of World War I veterans, more than 64, and for World War II veterans, more than 39.

HUMAN NATURE

All the world's a stage, and it's surprising how many people think they are entitled to free passes.

News For Veterans

For the first time since the days of World War II the estimated number of veterans in civilian life is showing a consistent downward trend, Sumner G. Whitier, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, reported.

There were an estimated 22,723,000 veterans in civilian life on September 30, 1958.

Increasing steadily as the servicemen of, first, World War II and then of the Korean Conflict returned from the ranks of the military

to civilian pursuits, the number of veterans in the nation reached an all-time high of 22,735,000 in March, 1958.

Up until that time, the number of servicemen becoming veterans during the average month exceeded the number of veterans of all wars who died each month, or who returned to active duty.

The drop to 22,723,000 on September 30 marked the sixth consecutive month the total veteran population had shown a decrease.

The total drop during the six-



Once again, the wonderful story of our Savior's Birth is noted... Merry Christmas!

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