

VETERANS WIVES TO RECEIVE AID

Robert S. Matthews, Jr., Wilmington contact representative, Veterans' administration, explained yesterday that the wives of ex-service men are eligible for medical and hospital maternity care, with certain restrictions.

Following recommendation of congress, the Children's bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, has informed the VA of liberalization of maternity care for families of eligible World War II veterans, Matthews said.

The wife of an ex-serviceman may apply for natal and pre-natal care for herself and child, provided her husband was in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh pay grades, or an aviation cadet dur-

ing any period of her pregnancy, he said. Matthews further explained that the care is given whether the father has been promoted, is a prisoner of war, or is listed as missing in action, or dead.

State health departments who administer this program are now accepting applications for care from eligible wives. No applicant, he explained, will be considered whose husband has been dishonorably discharged.

Upon acceptance of an application, care is provided for the wife through the pre-natal period and for the baby until its first birthday, regardless of any change in the status of the mother and father, the program provides.

Applications for care may be received from physicians accepting cases or from local or state health departments. All inquiries here should be addressed to the State Health Department, Raleigh, Matthews explained.

RESCUE WORKERS REDOUBLE EFFORT

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sibility persisted that continuing fires might frustrate all rescue efforts and compel the sealing of the mine—with the bodies in it. So far, the rescuers had extinguished 11 fires and billowing, sticky brown smoke heralded more fires, farther ahead. Late this afternoon, the rescuers still were only a little more than half way toward the end of the long, sloping tunnel.

Only a few of the bent women and shallow-faced children maintaining sorrowful vigil around the tipple clung to the thin hope that events would prove they were not newly made widows and orphans. Tears coursed down the cheeks of Mrs. Anna Mae Bain as she said: "Jim will come out alive. He simply has got to do that for me and his children."

She is the wife of miner James Bain, the step-mother of his five children.

Elias Elliot, 30, so recently discharged from the Army he still wore his uniform, said: "What can we do but hope?" His brother-in-law was one of the entombed.

Every inch of forward progress revealed the force of the explosion and minimized the possibility that any of the men survived it. The ventilating and electric power systems were wrecked. A series of intense fires smoldered in the veins of unmined coal. Shoring was splintered and tons of rock and sludge were dumped into the tunnel. Water released from scores of subterranean springs accumulated in pools through which the rescuers waded to their knees. The tunnel walls at some points were so hot they blistered the hand on touch, but the water was ice cold.

The air was foul, laden with smoke and carbon monoxide. All rescue workers, laboring in crews of 20, had to wear masks. Air pipes were extended as they progressed, but the hissing streams pumped through them from the surface, did pathetically little.

Floyd Rhodes, one of the workers, expressed the most discouraging fact.

"It's obvious that we haven't yet reached the center point of the explosion," he said.

W. E. Lewis, operator of the mine, said "those men know every inch of the mine and how to barricade themselves off against gas—that is if the explosion didn't get them."

The mine is at Four Mile, four miles from here. The Pineville church people were keeping big pots of coffee boiling over camp fires around the tipple for the rescue workers and for the women and children of the entombed. Loads of sandwiches were periodically sent from Pineville kitchens to the scene.

Socony Plans 8,000,000 Gallon Oil Plant Here

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still another is planned for Norfolk, Va.

Four Socony products—kerosene, light heating fuel, and two grades of gasoline—will be stored here. Socony's tanker fleet, operating between Texas ports and the Atlantic coast, will service the new terminal.

In confirming the company's new construction program officials also brought the news that Socony is invading the southern states with its own name-brand products, which include Mobil gasoline. At present Socony does not distribute its product under its own name south of Pennsylvania.

Completion of the Wilmington, Norfolk, and Charleston facilities will place Socony in a position to serve a large and growing area of the southeast," Walker said.

The official said Wilmington was selected because of the excellent port facilities and its proximity to a distribution area of several million population. He said Socony's tanker fleet, already one of the world's largest, is being augmented with 6,000,000-gallon capacity carriers. These tankers, drawing 28 feet, will barely navigate the Cape Fear with its present 30-foot channel depth and considerable dredging will be necessary to accommodate the new fleet.

With the Socony company's new terminal the Wilmington area's oil terminal capacity will be approximately 92,000,000 gallons. The area already has the largest combined oil storage facilities in the southeast, outranking Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah, and Jacksonville, Fla. By way of comparison, it was pointed out that Morehead City, for example, only has a 3,000,000-gallon capacity.

In 1941, last normal year for oil storage and transportation because of the war, Wilmington's port accommodated an average of one 5,000,000-gallon capacity tanker per day and one oil terminal here filled 3,000 truck transports leaving here for points upstate during the year.

Basic terminals located here are Atlantic Refining company, Cape Fear Terminal company, National Oil company, Shell Oil company, Texas Oil company, and Standard Oil company of New Jersey. The Cape Fear terminal company houses the facilities of the Pure Oil company, the Gulf Refining company, the Arkansas Fuel Oil company, the Republic Oil company, the American Oil company, and Sinclair Refining company, while National Oil shares its facilities with the Southeastern Oil company.

Herbert Gerlach is operations manager for the southeastern division of Socony and Henry Sharpe is in Wilmington as field supervisor for the company.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN PLANS TO RETURN TO CAPITAL TODAY

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Chief Executive included Maj. Gen. Ralph Truman, his cousin, Mayor Gage, of Kansas City, Jim Pendergast, nephew of the late T. J. Pendergast, and a half-dozen members of his World War I outfit, Battery D. He also had an opportunity to talk with Theodore Qu'nn, postmaster from St. Joseph, Mo., long among his close friends.

At the newspaper luncheon, the guests included the President's brother, Vivian Truman; Thomas Evans, Kansas City drug store and radio executive; Ted Marks, Kansas City, who recently completed a mission in China for the Chief Executive; Col. Southern; and Roy Roberts, managing editor of the Kansas City Star.

Mr. Truman slipped away from the press luncheon long enough to put in an appearance at a Rotary Club luncheon, also at the Hotel Muehlebach, where he was introduced to sons and daughters of Kansas City Rotarians by President Cecil Bathurst and H. Roe Bartle, Boy Scout executive.

After his luncheon, the President retired to the hotel Penthouse for a brief nap before returning to Independence. He hoped to have one more visit with his mother, Mrs. Martha E. Truman, at Grandview, before his return to Washington.

He made it clear that he would begin work at once on two major public addresses. The first will be his radio speech, the first week in January, which will be an appeal to the people in behalf of labor and other legislative proposals he has submitted Congress as part of an overall administration post-war program.

The second will be his formal message to the new Congress on the state of the nation.

White House officials have indicated that the latter may be broadcast by television if the President delivers it in person.

OPERATING INCOME OF ACL IN SLUMP

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Operating income was \$959,017 in November, 1945, \$1,266,345 in November, 1944, and \$1,109,563 in November, 1943. This income for the first 11 months of this year was \$10,214,332 as compared with \$16,144,244 in 1944 and \$18,629,351 in 1943.

The company paid \$138,192 for rent of equipment and joint facilities for the past November, \$338,066 for the period last year and \$199,219 in 1943. Total amount for

11 months in 1945 was \$3,404,647, \$4,059,461 in 1944, and \$4,465,322 in 1943.

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Extra
Comedy - News & "ZORRO'S BLACK WHIP"

COMMUNISTS LAY PLANS ON TABLE

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to China, was increasing interest in the forthcoming peace talks by the political consultative council.

Since his arrival last Saturday, Marshall has talked with representatives of the government, the Communist party and the Democratic League and is believed to have a good idea of their positions.

In his fact-finding mission, on which he will base recommendations to President Truman, Marshall has shown himself to be accessible to persons of all shades of opinion.

Davis said there were unofficial reports that Marshall would visit Peiping in a quick tour of troubled North China.

TAX LIEN FILED

DURHAM, Dec. 27. (AP)—The United States Department of Internal Revenue today filed tax liens against R. M. Kinton, local jeweler, and Kinton's, Inc., for a total of \$395,697.81, alleged to be due the Federal government in unpaid taxes and penalties over a period of years.

BRITISH THROW NOOSE OVER JAVA

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sibility for disarming and repatriating the Japanese, and rescuing European and Eurasian prisoners and internees.

"My troops," he said, "have suffered daily casualties at the hands of terrorist and extremist organizations. These people have committed the most horrible outrages. I had hopes conditions might improve, but they haven't. I am compelled to take more active measures to insure order. I call on Indonesian leaders to cooperate and to make available, if possible, such units of the Peace Preservation Corps as I deem necessary."

Meanwhile, large-scale fighting flared again at Bandoeng. In one sector of Java's summer capital British Maharratta troops in six hours of heavy house to house fighting cleared an Extremist training center. They found a well organized defense system of trenches, trip wires, boobytraps, mines, road blocks and snipers.

VETERAN OFFICERS HEAD NEW SHIFTS

One officer of each shift, all veterans in their own rights will be in charge of the three eight-hour shifts when the city police department goes on the new schedule January 1.

The officers in charge of the three shifts are: assistant chief, J. F. Jordan who will have charge of the third shift operations. Jordan has had over thirty years with the department having joined the staff in 1909. His service has not been consecutive however as he has been reinstated twice. The desk sergeant for this shift will be Sgt. T. B. Hughes.

Lt. O. V. Thompson, the officer in charge of first shift operations has more than 22 years with the department to his credit. His time is not consecutive, having been interrupted once. At the desk will be Sgt. Phil J. Parish.

Lt. Coy Ethridge, officer in charge of the second shift chalks up a total of 15 years uninterrupted service with the department. Desk Sergeant for this shift will be Sgt. L. B. Rourke.

The new schedule will begin at 9 o'clock on the morning of January 1. The first shift will run from 8 a. m. to 4 p. m., the second shift from 4 p. m. to 12 midnight, and the third shift from 12 midnight to 8 a. m.

The bulletin issued yesterday by Chief C. H. Casteen, states that officers will report ten minutes prior to their tour of duty for roll call, inspection and orders. Written reports are to be made after the tour of duty, it was learned.

Each officer will be allowed 30 minutes for lunch time during his hours of duty, the bulletin stated.

MINISTERS DRAFT ATOMIC BLUEPRINT

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on it, along with an American and Chinese member, and a fourth representing Britain, Australia, New Zealand and India.

General Douglas MacArthur still will play a dominant role as the American representative, council chairman, and "sole executive authority for the Allied powers in Japan."

Russia also joins a revised Far Eastern Commission, an 11-nation Iranian question was discussed at length, that no final agreement was reached, but that assurances were repeated that British, Russian and American troops would be withdrawn from Iran by the treaty date of March 2. Through diplomatic channels, Bevin, discussions on Iran will continue.

Before he left Moscow, Byrnes termed the meeting "very constructive" from the standpoint of agreements and the development of "cordial relations."

Byrnes said there were no secret agreements beyond the scope of the three-way communique. That ruled out any decision to let Russia in on the secrets of making atomic bombs.

The communique said discussion of atomic energy dealt with the establishment of a Control Commission.

Plans were made for writing the final peace treaties for Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland.

Foreign Ministers of the big powers will draft the terms in the first instance—Russia and Britain for Finland, the U. S., Russia and Britain for Romania and Bulgaria, and the "Big Three" plus France for Italy.

Then a conference of all the United Nations which "actively waged war with substantial force against European enemy states" will be called by May 1 to pass upon the treaties. After that the agency which will consider policy for governing Japan.

In addition, the Russian-sponsored governments in Romania and Bulgaria are to be recognized by Britain and the United States after they have been broadened to include representatives of additional political parties.

The communique omitted any reference to conditions in Iran, Turkey and Germany. But Bevin told newsmen in Moscow that the countries which signed the final armistice terms with the former Axis-Allied nations in question will draw up the final texts.

The Moscow meeting agreed to set up for Korea a provisional "democratic government" and a four-power, five-year trusteeship—with "a view to the reestablishment of Korea as an independent state."

The three Foreign Secretaries reaffirmed adherence to a policy of "non-interference" in the internal affairs of China. And Byrnes and Molotov said they were in "complete accord as to the desirability of withdrawal of Soviet and American forces from China at the earliest practicable moment consistent with the discharge of their obligations and responsibilities."

The communique was released simultaneously in Washington, London and Moscow. Most of its major points had leaked out ahead of time.

Cobalt blue, made of an oxide of cobalt metal, is the most expensive color on most artist palettes.

UNIONS THREATEN TWO BIG STRIKES

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Bell System companies using W. E. equipment.

Joseph A. Beirne, president of the telephone workers, said his group would support the W. E. strike. Western Electric spokesmen, however, said the company "always welcome a resumption of negotiations in the hope of reaching an accord." The union has rejected a company offer of a 15 per cent wage increase.

In Detroit, the General Motors announcement that it would be represented at the fact-finding board hearing, which resumes today, did not state whether or not the company would continue its participation in the government study.

The giant corporation said it would issue a formal statement at the hearing regarding its position "with respect to further proceedings of the board."

The President's board, which has no statutory authority, was named to inquire into the strike which has idled 175,000 workers for more than a month in support of the CIO United Auto Workers' demand for a 30 per cent wage rate increase.

During preliminary hearings, the board—which had been offered the cooperation of both GM and the union—issued a statement which said in part that its policy would be that profits are relevant in a dispute over wage increases. GM has objected to examination of its prices and profits by the board.

Including the GM walkout, the nation's total of workers idle because of labor disputes was approximately 388,000.

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