

Washington Notes

BUSY YEAR
In the year ending last July 30, the Veterans Administration estimated that it received 23,669,000 office and 9,173,000 telephone calls from war veterans and their dependents. Help was given by the agency in preparing 7,225,000 applications for veterans' benefits.

COST-OF-LIVING
The cost-of-living index edged up another 1.4 per cent in 54 cities in the country between mid-June and mid-July, according to the department of commerce, as food prices increased. Eggs, dairy products and meat led the rise and brought the increase between March and July to 1.9 per cent. A food-price index showed that the July level was 93.1 per cent greater than the average of 1935-39 level, 16 per cent above that of a year ago.

and 106 per cent above the index for August, 1939.

THE ARMY
The war department has indicated that the army is now 80,000 men under strength and new enlistments are running 25 per cent short of the number required for replacement of discharges. For the first seven months of 1947, enlistments were on an average of 22,862 per month. The army estimates that 30,000 new recruits a month are needed to keep strength at present levels, with still larger enlistments necessary to build up to the authorized force of 1,070,000.

CONSUMER CREDIT
The volume of consumer credit, which has been rising to a new high each month for some time, increased less than one per cent during July, according to the Federal Reserve Board. This small increase, however, added \$90,000,000 to a total of \$11,060,000,000 outstanding at the end of

WOMEN WORKERS
At the end of June, 440,739 women were working for the government in Continental United States, representing 23.8 per cent of the total federal employment with a total wartime employment of 1,106,132 women, or 33.6 per cent of the total, in July, 1944.

DIVIDENDS
Cash dividends, publicly reported by U. S. corporations, totaled \$444,900,000 in July, according to the department of commerce. This figure is 13 per cent more than the \$394,500,000 paid out in July, 1946.

NEW CONSTRUCTION
New construction work during August scored more than seasonal gain over July, according to the commerce department's construction division. Its value was estimated at \$1,212,000,000—over five per cent higher than its revised estimate of \$1,153,000,000 for July. The August figure was nearly 15 per cent above August, 1946.

TERMINAL BONDS
Seventy-two per cent of the 9,160,000 war veterans holding terminal leave bonds plan to cash them immediately, according to a country-wide survey of its readers by the Army Times, a weekly service publication. The bonds of 6,500,000 veterans will be converted into cash as rapidly as banks and other financial institutions can accommodate them, and involve about \$1,350,000,000. More than 20 per cent of the cash will be used to pay current debts incurred since the veteran's return to civil life; 12 per cent will go for home payments; 11 per cent for medical bill; 11 per cent for insurance; 10 per cent for clothing; 10 per cent for furniture; 8 per cent for home repairs; 6 per cent for education; 4 per cent for automobiles; 4 per cent for refrigerators, and the rest for miscellaneous needs.

James M. Caldwell May Run For House If Doughton Retires



JAMES M. CALDWELL

If Representative R. L. (Farmer Bob) Doughton decides not to seek another term in Congress, James M. Caldwell, Concord lawyer and for 18 years adjutant of the North Carolina department of the American Legion, may offer for the Democratic nomination for that office.

Mr. Caldwell, known in every community in the state and especially well known in his own Ninth Congressional district as Jim Caldwell, has not announced publicly that he will seek the nomination, but his friends consider him virtually in the race of Mr. Doughton declines to run again.

"I'm 100 per cent for Mr. Doughton as long as he wants to remain in Congress," Mr. Caldwell replied when someone suggested the other day that he might seek the seat now held by Mr. Doughton. "He has represented this district in a distinguished manner for 36 years." But the former Legion official was careful not to say that he would not seek the nomination should Mr. Doughton decide he had served long enough.

Should Mr. Doughton announce his decision not to offer again, friends of the Concord lawyer are confident that Mr. Caldwell will quickly get into the race. And he would be in a favorable position because of several factors, his friends maintain.

In the first place, he is one of the best known men in the state and through his long association with the state headquarters of the American Legion is very popular with many of the men who are key political figures in their respective communities. He has lived in four of the largest counties in the Ninth district—his native Cabarrus, Stanly, Rowan, and Iredell—during the years the department commanders of the Legion came from those counties. Personally, therefore, he would from the moment of his announcement have a wide support.

In the second place, Mr. Caldwell's friends point out, Cabarrus county has long been considered one of the "away from the trough" political counties. "In the matter of political representation," one Cabarrus resident declared, "we have long been this section's 'red-headed stepchild.' We've

had little recognition either in nominations or appointments. It's about time Cabarrus was coming in for a share in the pie."

Mr. Caldwell, who last fall resigned his post in the department organization of the Legion, was named to that office in 1928 by Governor Cherry when the latter was department commander of the Legion. At that time the Legion membership in North Carolina was 11,013. When he resigned the post last year the membership had jumped to more than 67,000. Much of the success of the Legion in enlisting new members was credited to the persistent efforts of Mr. Caldwell.

CROQUET
On Saturday afternoon a series of croquet games were played at A. C. Mast's residence. The teams participating were as follows: A. C. Mast and W. H. Mast; Gordon Sherwood and David Farthing; Bob Banner and Norman Wilson. The outcome was disastrous for the Sherwood, Farthing, and Mast teams, as A. C. Mast and W. H. Mast lost three games, won none; Sherwood and Farthing lost two, won none. Banner and Wilson were the victors, winning five, losing none.

BROTHERS SAVE FAMILY
Oakland, Calif.—When their second-story apartment caught fire, Edward and Lawrence Dennis, 19 and 12, dropped their two baby sisters, 2 and 3 years old, to a passerby. Then, they ordered their older sister, a 15-year-old brother and their mother to jump. Edward jumped after her, while Lawrence bolted down a stairway. The babies suffered minor burns, the sister a serious back injury, but the others were unharmed.

BUS WHEEL WRECKS STORE
Santa Cruz, Calif.—A wheel and tire off a passing bus hit a grocery store window, shattered it and practically wrecked the store. Norman Edbe, 9, in the store at the time, was unharmed.

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51-gauge, 30 denier, romance biege and mistique \$1.65
48-gauge sun biege \$1.45
45-gauge romance biege, sunnie brown \$1.25

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FREE—Pair hose, sock or anklets given with each pair. We are the home of Joyce Shoes of California, Blue Grass by Reinhart.

JOYCE CLOSE-OUTS—All open toe and heel shoes reduced to \$4.50; all white and red, \$4.95; few odd lots in red, brown and others, reduced to \$4.95. We also carry the Red Goose Shoes, made by Friedman-Shelby and hope to have a complete line of these well-known shoes shortly.

COAT SUITS—Women's and girls' coat suits. Another shipment of these 100% wool suits. Good assortment of styles and colors, \$15.95. This is far below regular price.

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

10:30 A. M.

On the Premises—Rain or Shine

LOCATION—At Valle Crucis, a few miles Northwest of Boone, N. C., in the heart of Watauga County. This good farm is also known as Sunnybrook Farm. We are selling 24 acres of bottom land in addition to some of the best grazing hillside land in this district. Close to church, high school, stores and post-office.

Hard surface road runs through the farm, and this is the Blowing Rock-Boone highway.

Subdivided into small tracts so that you may buy anything from a few acres to the entire property.

This farm has been in the Mast family for 113 years and is one of the best in Watauga County.

1/3 Cash—Balance Easy Terms

Lunch will be served on the premises by the ladies of the church.

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