

WHAT THEY MEAN

Congressional Pensions

By ALEXANDER R. GEORGE

WASHINGTON — Government statisticians decline to hazard an estimate on how much pensions for members of Congress defeated in the election will cost the taxpayers.

They say there are too many uncertain factors. Among them are how many retiring members desire to participate in the pension plan and how much they wish to contribute to the Civil Service Retirement Fund.

However, the amount won't be big money compared with other government expenditures. If as many as 1,000 ex-Congressmen should some day draw an average pension of \$4,000 a year, the annual cost would be only \$1,000,000.

On Feb. 1, defeated members of the outgoing Congress can begin drawing pensions provided they have reached the age of 62 and have completed at least six years of Congressional service. They must make certain contributions to the retirement fund and file notice on or before January 2 that they desire to participate in the pension plan.

Amounts Variable

Yearly pensions, or annuities, for a retiring Congressman range from \$1,405 to \$7,500. The size of a pension depends upon two things: The amount the Congressman contributed to the Civil Service Retirement Fund and the length of his service.

To qualify for a pension a retiring member must contribute at least \$2,716, which covers the last five years of his service. The amount of pension he gets for that contribution depends upon his total years of service.

For the minimum six years service, pension payments start at \$1,405 a year at age 62 and decrease slightly each year, amounting to \$1,450 at age 75.

With a minimum contribution of \$2,716, the pension for service since March 4, 1927, or almost 20 years, is \$4,272 at age 62.

A retiring Congressman may, if he desires, make a full contribution with interest to the retirement fund. His pension then is proportionately larger and remains the same each year that he draws it.

If he has served six years and contributes the full \$3,145, his yearly pension is \$1,760. If he has served since March 4, 1929, or almost 18 years, a full contribution of \$9,819 will bring him an annuity of \$4,450.

Examples Cited

Senator Gettys of Pennsylvania is 71 years old and has served in the Senate 12 years. A minimum contribution of \$2,716 would bring him a pension beginning at \$2,652 and decreasing to \$2,600 when he is 75 years old. If he should make a full contribution of \$6,147 for his 12 years' service, he would get \$3,000 a year for the remainder of

FOUR BIG FLAGS FOR BIG FOUR



AS THE BIG FOUR representatives opened their conferences at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, the flags of the U. S., S. S., France and England are unfurled at the entrance of the hotel. Above, a policeman answers some of the questions of curious passers-by. (International)



HOLLYWOOD — After four years in the Air Force, ex-Capt. Robert Preston finds Hollywood "17 times as alert as when I left."

"You can sit down and talk politics as sensibly with an actor as with a lawyer," this stream-lined green-eyed giant told me between takes of "The Big Haircut."

Bob thinks it's easier for an actor than for most folks to keep a proper perspective on controversial issues . . . because the actor lives so many synthetic careers. In one picture he's a bum, maybe, and in the next, a capitalist . . . Honest, that's what the man said.

But Bob's most interesting disclosure was that he has taught his five-year-old Irish setter, Mike, to talk. It took a lot of patience and sugar cookies. When Bob and his actress wife, Catherine Craig, return home from an absence, Mike growls, "Where were you?"

For the Silver Lining and Ill Wind file: The studio strike has kept Charles Coburn from starting work in "Little Women" (the picture was postponed because color-film facilities were tied up), but he has been able to enjoy life that much more.

"I've been going to ball games, fights, and the opera," the dignified, 69-year-old character actor said during a lull in the rehearsal for a radio program.

The monocol Oscar winner has never permitted his career to interfere with his enjoyment of life, though he believed in moderation. "I have no prohibitions and no inhibitions," Coburn said.

He smokes a dozen cigars a day, drinks five or six Scotch-and-sodas per evening, doesn't walk so far as across the street if he doesn't have to. A widower, he lives alone in an apartment next door to Ciro's, an expensive night spot which he rarely visits. Week-ends he spends at home or around town, as for dashing off to Palm Springs, "you might as well tell me I have to take a dose of disagreeable medicine!"

Steve Cochran, who does a swell job as a meanie in a mediocre picture, "The Chase," has the best cook in Hollywood, a colored woman named Alma. This I state unequivocally after an evening visit to Steve's bachelor hideaway in a Beverly Hills canyon . . . and a sampling of her steaks, baked potatoes with cheese, and lemon cream pie. Steve, a dark, handsome young man with a triangular face, kills time awaiting his next picture assignment by studying Chinese and learning to sail a 27-foot ketch—both just for fun.

"I hate acting," said Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Just like that. Doug seemed sincere. He spoke softly, hesitantly, his lips in a thoughtful smile.

"I hate getting up in front of people; I hate being conspicuous. But after 24 years of acting, I'd hardly know what else to do."

Doug was making himself pretty conspicuous the day I saw him. He was rehearsing for a radio show—to do for a half hour what he dislikes, and a repeat broadcast later in the evening for which he would receive approximately \$5,000!

At noon he had addressed a downtown crowd from the City Hall steps, as a vice-president of the American Association for the United Nations. "Belief in a cause sometimes impels you to do things you'd rather not have to," Doug said.

He explained: Mere acting—"interpretation"—bores him; he enjoys it only when he has a hand also in the writing and "creation" of movies. That's why he's now an independent producer.

I asked Doug what career he thinks he would have undertaken if he hadn't followed in his father's agile footsteps as an actor.

"Probably the diplomatic service," he said, spurning the steps and leaping four feet to the stage to resume his rehearsal.

What becomes of an old-time boxer? Well, he may wind up as a movie stunt man.

Raspy-voiced, 190-pound Frank Moran had nearly 100 heavyweight bouts between 1908 and 1923. He lost a 20-round decision to Jack Johnson at Paris in 1914 . . . battled Jess Willard for 10 rounds and no decision at Madison Square Garden in 1916.

But for 17 years he has been dishing it out and taking it in the movies' phoney but sometimes painful fist fights.

Capital Letters

(Continued From Page Two)

seem to have."

"Just keep it," replied the red cap.

P. S.—He kept it. Traveler's name will be furnished on request.

NOTES—The good health folks last week asked the State Education Board for permission to place

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I found Alan Ladd pretending to hop Moran in "The Big Haircut," which boasts 42 stunt men and one of the fiercest fights on screen record. Frank would jerk his big, shaggy head back as Alan's fist appeared to connect.

It's a good living—stunt men earn \$100 a day—and Frank doesn't mind being battered with balsawood chairs, which break apart easily. Buddies in this bone-busting business respect him for an impressive ring career.

"But say," he rasped, "put down that the thing I'm proudest of most is that I'm a grandfather!"

posters advocating the program in school buses, but were turned down rather unceremoniously — Biggest election surprises hitting Raleigh was Davie's going Democratic and Alamance's going Republican — Those Democratic veterans down in Sampson were swamped — Many leading Democrats are praying Truman won't choose to run in 1948, but feel there is no way out of it — They are afraid 1948 may see a repetition of 1936 in reverse gear, except of course in the so-called (except 1928) "solid South."

in North Carolina that he thought could repeal the law we have voted to repeal last week says Harry McMullan in opinion last week repeat the act.

When tobacco was brought to North Carolina it brought 10 cents per pound — when we were not getting we now have 23 cents per pound —

Do you know (re-publishers largely to be able to buy 23 cents per pound) says he believes that he kept in through the "doesn't know when" — Watch farm of the state soon.

TOBACCO CONTROL—You know, if you have any sense at all, that the economy of North Carolina is based on tobacco—that 55 per cent of our agricultural money last year came from the weed, and that it brings in about one million dollars a year to North Carolina in all its phases . . .

But did you ever stop to think that the Republicans can toss tobacco control out the window overnight and not lose one vote? That's right, for tobacco control is in Democratic states, as it happens.

Tom Scott, head of the Production and Marketing Administration

WAYNESVILLE FLOOR SURFACING CO. L. E. HENSHAW - - B. R. HUNDLEY We Carry Power Unit for Jobs Where Electricity Is Not Available. CLEANING AND WAXING. Phones . . . Day 23 - - - Night 349-W . . . P. O.

From where I sit... by Joe Why Bert Won First Prize Folks weren't surprised when Bert Childers won first prize for his corn at the county fair. Yet the judges admit it wasn't just because Bert had the finest ears of corn. He knew how to display them: neatly arranged, with the husks cleanly trimmed, and the booth white and spotless. "Trimnings" sure make a difference no matter what you're offering—as Andy Botkin, keeper of the Garden Tavern, well knows. Andy doesn't just sell good beer. He sells it in a place that's clean and attractive... in nice surroundings that

New BOOKS



- BERNARD CLARE \$2.75 James T. Farrell
THE HUCKSTERS \$2.50 Frederic Wakeman
ALL THE KING'S MEN \$3.00 Robert Penn Warren
PIKES PEAK OR BUST \$2.00 Earl Wilson
JANEY JEEMS \$2.50 Bernice Kelly Roberts
THE FOUNTAINHEAD \$3.00 Ayn Rand
CHLOE MARR \$2.75 A. A. Milne
BRITANNIA MEWS \$2.75 Margery Sharp



- DOUBLE WEDDING RING \$2.75 Josephine Lawrence
KINGS ROW \$2.75 Henry Bellman
BELL TIMSON \$2.75 Marguerite Steen
THEIR ANCIENT GRUDGE \$2.75 Harry Harrison Kroll
THE AMERICAN \$3.00 A Middle Western Legend
PLEASE NO PAREGORIC \$2.50 Ethel Hueston
THE TROUBLED MIDNIGHT \$2.50 John Gunther
I WILL BE GOOD \$2.50 Hester Chapman

- MISCELLANEOUS
BETTER HOMES & GARDEN COOK BOOK \$2.50
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING \$2.75
WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION \$3.75
JOY OF COOKING \$2.50
BOSTON COOK BOOK \$1.98

The Book Store MAIN STREET

Salesman Talks Self Into a Laundry Job

BAITIMORE — Passengers in a Baltimore bus overheard a salesman complaining to a companion that he had finished demonstrating a washing machine to a North Baltimore non-wife, made the sale, and was out-cursed with the words: "See you next Wednesday at the same time."

32 WILD SHEEP CAUGHT IN ONE TRAP

DENVER — AP — The Colorado Game and Fish Department has completed transplanting of 32 pronghorn sheep from a herd of more than 300 in the Tarryall range near Colorado Springs to the high peaks above Georgetown. Director Cleland N. Feast said 32 was the largest number of the wild and shrewd animals ever captured in a single wire fence trap.

BERMUDA MAY BAN CEDAR COFFINS

HAMILTON, Bermuda — AP — Bermudians may no longer be buried in caskets of native cedar if legislation prepared by Morris A. Gibbons is passed by the House of Assembly.

The Colony's supply of cedar is limited and may become even more scarce through the cedar bug, attacking some of the trees and causing craftsmen's use in making cedar articles for the tourists.

There has never been any thought given to having caskets made of anything but Bermuda cedar — the pinner as well as the wealthy man is buried in a cedar coffin.

Another casualty to the recent election is Rep. Andrew J. May of Kentucky. May is 71 and has been in the House almost sixteen years. A contribution of \$2,716 would bring him a pension starting at \$3,376 a year and declining to \$3,298 when he is 75.

Rep. Hatton Summers of Texas, who did not seek re-election, has been in Congress since March 4, 1913. If he makes the minimum \$2,716 contribution, his pension will begin at \$6,220 and decline to \$6,000.

New members of the Congress which convenes Jan. 3 may file a notice to participate in the retirement fund within six months after the date on which they take the oath of office.

After a member of Congress has obtained a retirement status, 6 per cent of his salary is automatically deducted from his salary each year.

British Gives Thanks To P. W. Farm Hands

DURHAM, England — More than 1,000 Germans, part of the thousands of prisoners of war who work on English farms, attended a special thanksgiving service in their behalf today at Durham Cathedral.

Speaking in German, the dean, the Very Rev. C. A. Alington, said: "You have worked splendidly and helped bring the harvest happily in, and I should like to take this opportunity of extending the warmest thanks of our people."

ANOTHER SUCKER FALLS

MITCHELL, S. D. — The lure of the fur coats displayed in a local store window proved disastrous for a stray coyote. When discovered, the animal was jumping excitedly at the window and was dispatched with a bullet from a policeman's gun.

PARK THEATRE

Waynesville, North Carolina
MATINEE SATURDAY 2 and 3:30—SUNDAY 2 and 4 P. M.
NIGHT SHOWS 7 and 9 Daily—SUNDAY 8:30 Only
ADMISSION PRICES:
Children Under 12 Years 12c Including Federal Tax
Adults, All Seats 35c Including Federal Tax

THURSDAY-FRIDAY—NOVEMBER 14-15
"Nobody Lives Forever"
Starring JOHN GARFIELD and GERALDINE FITZGERALD
News of the Day

SATURDAY—NOVEMBER 16
"EL PASO KID"
Starring SUNSET CARSON and MARIE HARMON
Serial . . . Hop Harrigan No. 15
Cartoon
LATE SHOW

"HOT CARGO"
Starring WILLIAM GARGAN and PHILLIP REED

SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 17
"GALLANT JOURNEY"
Starring GLEN FORD and JANET BLAIR
Football Thrills and Comedy

MONDAY-TUESDAY—NOVEMBER 18-19
"THREE WISE FOOLS"
Starring MARGARET O'BRIEN and LIONEL BARRYMORE
News of the Day

IS YOUR LIVER CRYING FOR HELP because of constipation or faulty digestion? If you feel bilious, sour, bloated with gas, headachy, blue, grouch, you may be putting too big a burden on your liver. Retained undigested food becomes putrefactive, causes toxins, which overload the liver, keeping it from working properly. Then is the time to relieve your tired liver by letting Calotabs help nature sweep the putrefactive and partially digested matter from your stomach and intestines. Nothing acts just like good old Calotabs. Use as directed. 10c and 25c at your druggists. Take CALOTABS

Tobacco Growers
All Ceiling Prices on Tobacco Have Been Removed. This Year, More Than Ever, You Should Select An EXPERIENCED WAREHOUSEMAN To Sell Your Crop.
SUCH A PLACE IS
Bernard-Walker
IN ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Now Better Equipped Than Ever to Serve You With
3 MODERN WAREHOUSES
Ample Room To Floor Your Tobacco Any Time
Grade Your Tobacco In Large Piles And Sell It All With
Bernard-Walker Warehouses
ASHEVILLE'S BEST
James E. Walker, Jr.
Manager
Open To Receive Tobacco
NOVEMBER 22