

Tomlinson's News Notes

Scanned and Picked up from Here, There and Everywhere
by J. W. Tomlinson

Veterans Get Boost
President Eisenhower has signed legislation providing a 5 per cent increase in veteran benefits for 683,000 veterans and their dependents.

The Veterans Administration estimates the increase would be received by 544,700 veterans and 339,000 dependents of deceased veterans. The measure will cost an estimated 110 million dollars a year.

The legislation applies to pensions for disabilities incurred in connection with military service either in peacetime or in wartime with disabilities ranging from 10 to 100 per cent as well as those eligible for specific rates paid for specific disabilities.

Another provision increases from \$75 to \$80 a month the compensation for a widow without children from \$60 to \$75 for a dependent parent and from \$35 to \$40 each if both parents are living. These benefits affect survivors dying of service-connected disabilities.

Two Jima Statues
A massive bronze statue of the raising of the flag on Iwo Jima be-

gan its journey last week to Arlington National Cemetery, where it will honor Marines who have given their lives for their country. An exact reproduction of the famous photograph by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal, the statue is the largest ever cast in bronze, weighing more than 100 tons and standing 78 feet high. The statue was executed by Felix de Weldon and cast in bronze by the Bed-Rassy Art Foundry in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Equal Rights

A United Nations survey released last week shows women now have equal political rights with men in 60 countries. The survey covers some 80 countries and the tables show there are still 17 countries where women have no voting rights.

The survey states that since 1945, the year the United Nations Charter was signed, 24 countries have granted equal or partial franchise to women.

Food Distribution

Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish agencies distributed to the destitute and hungry overseas more than 155,000,000 pounds of United States surplus foods during the year ending April 30, it was reported recently by the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign

Service. This food, valued at \$32,226,015, represented more than 87 per cent of all such surplus foods distributed abroad during the last year by all American voluntary relief agencies.

Total of the surplus foods released by the United States Commodity Credit Corporation for free distribution during this period was slightly in excess of 179,000,000 pounds, with a total value of \$99,321,187.

Distribution of the food by the religious groups was through their existing overseas network of relief personnel and associated agencies in thirty-seven countries abroad.

Eating Well Keeps Up Retail Sales
The American habit of eating well has been an important factor in keeping retail sales at a high level, according to the report of a study made by the Commerce Department in Washington.

In its survey of current business the department's publication says that sales by food stores, not including eating and drinking places, were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$40,532,000,000 in the first half of 1954.

Fingerprinting

The identification division of the FBI passed its thirtieth anniversary on July 1, 1954. In this connection the division reported that it has in its filed fingerprint cards totaling more than 131,000,000 in number.

At the time of its founding in 1924, the division received copies of only 810,188 cards which had been maintained by police agencies and by Leavenworth Penitentiary. During the first year of its founding, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said the division received additional cards at a rate of fewer than five hundred a day.

Now the division is receiving an average of 17,000 cards daily from about 12,000 police agencies, military installations, defense plants and the like in the United States and eighty-three foreign countries and United States possessions. The peak came in the World War II year of 1943, when 28,733,286 cards were received.

The fingerprint cards are divided into two divisions—the criminal and the noncriminal. Mr. Hoover said the noncriminal cards, which make up 80 per cent of the total, are used for such purposes as identifying accident victims and victims of accidents and disasters and helping to locate missing persons. With the help of the criminal cards the division has turned up to date more than 190,000 "wanted" men and women.

United Nations Day

President Eisenhower has issued a proclamation designating October 24 as United Nations Day.

The proclamation called on all citizens to observe the day with community programs that will demonstrate their faith and support of the United Nations and create a better public understanding of its aims, achievements, and problems.

Niagara Falls

The United States and Canada are to spend \$17,500,000 in preserving the scenic beauty of Niagara Falls.

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Work on the plan is to be speeded up as a result of the recent fall of a 185,000 ton fragment of Prospect Point, a favorite spot for visitors.

The 185,000 ton chunk broke off and fell into the river gorge on July 28. Newspaper accounts say the rockfall from the lip of the gorge was two hundred feet long, fifty feet wide, and 130 feet deep. About 200 feet of the falls crestline collapsed to a point about 70 feet down the face. At that point, the falls are 180 feet high.

The rockfall, largest since a section of the American Falls toppled into the gorge in 1931, gave the falls a deep crevice along its flank which mars the scenic beauty of the falls.

Smaller Merchant Fleet

The United States merchant fleet has shrunk by 153 ships during the past year, according to the Maritime Administration. The report said that 1,359 vessels of one thousand gross tons or over in active ocean-going service on July 1, a drop of nine since June 1, and a drop of 153 since July 1, 1953.

A Bit of Humor

A suburban dweller, a modest eye who works in the advertising department of a women's magazine, has long been puzzled by the deferential attitude of the neighborhood children her. Things became clear the other day when one of them said to her, "Are you really a space saleslady?"—The New Yorker.

A story is told of Hugh Cullen, of Houston, a generous benefactor of University of Houston. When he announced a five million dollar gift to the university, the Houston Chronicle reported he gave fifteen million dollars. Cullen called Jesse Jones, publisher of the Chronicle, so the story goes, and said, "O. K. Jesse, I'll make it fifteen, since you said so—but don't let it happen again!"—Barron's.

Keep your temper. Do not quarrel with an angry person, but give him a soft answer. It is commanded by the Holy Writ and, furthermore, it makes him madder than anything else you could say.—Pipe Dreams.

Learn To Get More For Your Money

Don't let the high cost of living keep you from having the kind of home you dream of owning. Pauline Gordon, State College specialist in housing and house furnishings advises you to make complete plans before beginning any type of improving on your home. Planning costs nothing, she says. Learn to refinish your own fur-

State College Hints

Garnishes You Can Make

Radish Roses. Use sound radishes. Cut off root. With sharp, thin knife, cut four or five thick, red outside "petals" from tip almost to stem, leaving white center. A second cut may be made half way down petals. Chill in ice water to curl.

Curled Celery. Use inner stalks of celery. Cut 3 or 4 inches long. With sharp knife cut each piece into thin strips, stopping 1 inch from the end. Or cut from both ends to within an inch of center. Chill in ice water to curl.

Cheese Carrots or Apples. Work grated processed cheese until smooth. Roll small amounts into carrot or apple shapes. Insert bit of parsley for stem of carrot, or a mint leaf for stem and clove for end of apple. Dust side of apple with paprika.

Use color in your home, but use it wisely. Colored pictures, colors in fabrics, and magazine pictures of colored rooms can help you select colors for your color schemes. Learn about color, recommends Miss Gordon. Then see how it can change the appearance of a room—and of your whole house for that matter. Painting odd pieces of furniture the same color will add unity to your room and you'll find that the money you'd intended to put into a new piece of furniture can be spent elsewhere.

If it's curtains you're planning to buy, remember that nylon is more expensive and that it disintegrates in strong sunlight, cautions Miss Gordon.

And perhaps one of the best ways to save money is to be doubly sure where you want to spend it before you actually do spend it.

Farmers May Lose Millions

North Carolina farmers may lose more than \$4 million in federal funds this year as a result of failure to carry out or report ASC approved soil conservation practices, according to H. V. Mangum, state ASC program specialist.

On July 31, a total of \$4,900,000 in federal cost-sharing funds had been approved for use by Tar Heel farmers; a recent tab shows that farmers have reported using only \$761,000. The difference amounts to \$4,139,000.

Mangum said the situation "should be of grave concern not only to farmers but to all the people of the State. We just can't afford to lose this much conservation."

Mangum listed weather conditions last spring and failure to meet the new requirement for soil tests as two of the principal reasons which caused farmers to be unable to carry out signed for practices. A general lack of funds was another reason. ASC officials feel, however, that many farmers have carried out some or all of their approved practices but have failed to report them. Mangum urged farmers immediately to report the performance of any practice carried out under this year's program and make application to new practices. Farmers who were unable to carry out this prac-

Farm Census Cites Main Wayne Crops

Wayne County has 508,830 acres of farm lands in 1953, a preliminary summary of the Farm Census Service shows.

Crops were harvested from 151,937 acres, or 48 per cent, while 2,920 acres of cropland were idle. There were 8,159 acres of improved pastures and 3,398 acres in other types of pasture.

Corn was the principal crop harvested, accounting for 58,541 acres or 58 percent of harvested land. Next in order were tobacco, with 20,951 acres or 14 per cent, and cotton, with 19,372 acres or 13 per cent. The rest of the farm land was planted to miscellaneous crops or was counted as wooded or waste land.

Practices previously approved will probably be able to have this approval transferred to the many, greatly needed, full practices still available under the program.

Closing date for reporting performance of approved practices vary by county in North Carolina.

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