

lowest providing for a payment of \$45 a year:

With regard to dependents of deceased soldiers, the widow of a lieutenant or soldier of lower rank receives \$720; the widow of a captain receives \$800; and so on, up to the wife of a brigadier-general, who receives \$2,160. For the first child \$180 is allowed, the second \$144, and so on. In the case of orphans, one receives \$360, two \$648—running up to \$2,568 in the case of ten orphans.

The administration of the pensions regulations is placed in the hands of a Board of Pension Commissioners. So far approximately 111,000 pensions have been granted, involving a total expenditure of about \$115,000,000, or a present annual charge upon the country of about \$33,000,000.

An insurance scheme has been instituted whereby returned men are able to secure up to \$5,000 of insurance at a very low rate and without medical examination. This has been in force only since the war. The latest figures show, however, that only \$13,377,500 of insurance has been issued. It is a significant fact that, in spite of the limited number taking advantage of this offer, almost one hundred death claims were pre-

sented during the first year that the scheme was in operation.

Returned soldiers are given precedence over other applicants for positions in the Civil Service, and to date 10,104 ex-service men have been appointed to permanent positions and over 20,000 others have been given temporary employment.

Undoubtedly the most advanced project undertaken by the Government of Canada for the re-establishment of the returned soldier is the Soldiers' Settlement Scheme, under which ex-service men who are physically fit and who have had previous farming experience may secure loans from the Government for the purpose of buying land or removing the encumbrances on land already owned; making permanent improvements thereon; or purchasing live stock, implements, or other necessary equipment. In 1917 all Dominion lands within fifteen miles of a railway were withdrawn from homestead entry excepting by returned men, and the Soldiers' Settlement Board was created with power to extend loans for improvements and the purchase of equipment. The supply of free land not proving sufficiently adequate, however, the scope of

the Soldiers' Settlement Board was increased, so that loans could be made for the purpose of purchasing lands privately held. It is now possible for duly qualified ex-service men to secure loans up to \$4,500 for the purchase of land, up to \$3,500 for the removal of encumbrances, up to \$2,000 for the purchase of live stock, and up to \$1,000 for the erection of buildings and permanent improvements.

The latest available figures show that 26,701 persons have taken advantage of the provisions of this scheme, involving a total advance of \$84,727,243.63, of which \$48,766,393.52 was for the purchase of land or the clearance of encumbrances upon lands previously held, \$9,701,286.92 for permanent improvements, and \$26,259,563.19 for stock and equipment. The lands thus brought under settlement aggregate about 5,000,000 acres. So far a surprisingly small number of failures have been recorded, but the scheme has probably not yet been in operation sufficiently long to allow of the experience to date being taken as a criterion for the future; but up to the present, at least, the project has met with almost universal approval.

Ottawa, Canada.

II—A CROSS SECTION OF A. E. F. OPINION

I

WANTED: FAIR PLAY AND A SQUARE DEAL

BY HANFORD MACNIDER

Commander of the American Legion
Formerly Lieutenant-Colonel, A. E. F.

THE Adjusted Compensation Bill now before the Congress of the United States is a child of Congress. In 1919 our legislators, realizing the justice of some such measure, but confused by a great mass of suggested legislation, asked the American Legion for a safe and sane recommendation, and the present five-fold bill is the result. But now a committed Administration and a committed Congress are being urged to defeat or postpone its passage by people who, we must believe, do not know the cause or effect of the measure, and have not taken the trouble to find out what they are objecting to. The Legion knows that the great returned service population and the country expect immediate passage and fulfillment of promises voluntarily made. Whenever and wherever the question has been put to the people, the answers have been unmistakable.

We wonder if it is clearly understood that the farm and home aid, land development and settlement, vocational training, and paid-up insurance features carry forty per cent higher compensation than the cash features. Is it generally known that the payment of cash will be in fifty-dollar installments several months apart? The Legion believes that the first four options are the most advantageous, and the Legion will make it its duty to educate the applicants

along these lines. We do not believe we can dictate, nor do we believe others competent to dictate, which option a man shall take, particularly when hundreds of thousands of ex-service men are walking the streets of our big cities looking for work. The question of raising the necessary revenue is not ours. It is, naturally, the function of Congress, but if half of the men affected were to take the cash feature, and we believe they will take the more advantageous options whenever their financial ability allows, it would not cost over two hundred million dollars this year, provided the bill became effective July 1. Payment of the other features is carried through a number of years and cannot possibly cause onerous taxation. This is no extraordinary expenditure for the Government, and, after all, where is this money going but into the commerce of the Nation by allowing a man to make a first payment on a home or a farm, giving him training in a skilled profession, offering an opportunity for employment in reclamation work, and later possible credit on the same land, or awarding him a twenty-year endowment policy which nets him over three and a third times the amount of long-drawn-out cash payments? Certainly all such expenditures will help instead of deter economic conditions. Here are several million young citizens who served their country, and the country believes that they should be compensated at least slightly for the disadvantages of military and naval pay while the country, the protected, drew war-time wages.

There is no obligation to take this

adjusted compensation. Those who do not need, or do not want it, or feel that they have no adjustment due them, have the opportunity to put their share into a huge rotating Legion fund to be loaned without security to those disabled service men and their dependents who are having difficulty in establishing their claims for their just disability compensation. It is not a matter of taking relief away from the disabled man. It is additional relief. Every penny will thus go toward proper benefit of those who need it most. Certainly the country had faith in the men affected in 1917 and 1918. We believe it can still have faith well imposed. Contractors, manufacturers, railways, and shipping all have received adjusted compensation, and in most cases very properly. Was the offering of men's lives so much less deserving? It is not a question of putting a price on a man's patriotism, nor on his service. No man can do that. It is an insult to even suggest it. It is simply a slight recognition of what the American people have always demanded since the Nation began, fair play and a square deal.

II

BONUS OR NO BONUS, LEAVE US OUR HONOR

BY E. B. SONNER

Formerly First Lieutenant, A. E. F.

THE hearts of many ex-soldiers grow bitter at the pounding of the financial journals and the daily press. "Kill the bonus" is the cry now.

I am one of the A. E. F.-ers who does

not want the bonus personally, but, oh, how bitter it tastes to read the "soldier blackmailer" articles, etc., that the slug-gish-blooded forgetters are grinding out of the print mills.

Would to God that Teddy were back on earth to crush these people with his eloquence—even if it was to lead us out of getting the bonus!

All the bonus on earth can now never obliterate the very bad taste and the bitterness that is the ex-soldier's, for the mud that has been plastered on his name only four short years from the day of his proud glory and home-coming.

The ordinary soldier—who, in fact, is now the ordinary citizen—is dumb in the face of certain facts as follows:

He knows that the army chiefs in France deliberately planned to end the war by overwhelming force about July, 1919.

He knows that his impetuosity and dash, against every tradition of the armies that were fighting before he entered, was the thing that brought the war to a close eight months ahead of schedule, and therefore five or six billion dollars ahead of schedule—a clear saving of that amount or more.

He knows that every country of consequence, no matter how poor, has paid a bonus—witness Canada.

He knows that America has practically all the world's gold.

He knows that she is the world's wealthiest nation.

He knows the Government employees and Navy Yard workers—highly paid—have been paid a bonus.

He knows what "law" did to him in New York State when the people voted to pay him a bonus.

No one seems to consider his point of view.

The Harriman National Bank advertises to beat the bonus, the "Wall Street Journal" calls him a blackmailer, and the financial wizard from everywhere seems to wring his hands like an East Side peddler, and cry, "Don't pay! Don't pay!"

Even we ex-soldiers who do not want the bonus cry, "Shame!" and with disgust and weary hearts look back to 1918 and hope the profiteer slacker is not the ruling publicity getter.

Who will answer the questions of the ordinary soldier? Why?

America, do not give a bonus if it is best not to do it, but, America, do not let these contemptible quitters plaster the glory we hold in our hearts with gall.

Bayshore, New York.

III

SPEAK UP!

BY CHARLES K. TAYLOR

Formerly Sergeant, A. E. F.

I AM wondering how long it will be before the great number of highly dissatisfied men in the American Legion will be able to get together, in some

College Sports and the Undergraduate

A Prize Contest

It doesn't matter so much what college faculties think about athletics. It is what the undergraduate thinks that is really vital.

The Outlook wants to know, and to help others to know, the trend of this undergraduate opinion; so we are offering ten prizes for the best letters of six hundred words or less from college undergraduates on Intercollegiate Athletics.

There will be:

*a first prize of Twenty-five Dollars
a second prize of Twenty Dollars
a third prize of Fifteen Dollars
seven fourth prizes of Ten Dollars*

There are a lot of questions which we think our readers would like to ask the Undergraduate. Here are some of them:

What is the place of athletics in education? What constitutes the amateur spirit? Is it worth preserving? Is it endangered by proselyting? By athletic "scholarships"? By professionalism?

Is too much emphasis, or too little, placed upon sport? Upon victory? Upon championships?

Should the present system of intercollegiate athletics be modified? How? Should the undergraduate have more, or less, to say concerning coaching methods? Schedules? Eligibility rules?

What does the undergraduate think of the ethical standards and attitude of sport writers? What does he think of newspaper publicity? Huge expenditures for stadiums and transcontinental tours?

Those who try for our prizes should not try to answer all—they need not try to answer any—of these questions. They are merely offered as suggestions concerning the things in which the public is interested. We want our correspondents to present frankly and freely their views on what seems to them the most important athletic problem of the hour.

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST

1. Only college undergraduates are eligible to compete.
2. Write your name (add a pen name, if you like, for publication) and post office address with college and class in the upper left-hand corner of your letter.
3. All letters must be typewritten on one side of the paper only.
4. Limit your letter to 600 words of average length.
5. Your letter, to be eligible, must reach us on or before April 15, 1922.
6. We reserve the right to purchase for publication desirable letters not winning prizes.
7. Unavailable letters will not be returned.
8. The staff of The Outlook will be judges.

Address all letters to

CONTEST EDITOR

THE OUTLOOK COMPANY

381 Fourth Avenue, New York

fashion, and make their opinions vocal. In fact, the disapproval in some cases has been so emphatic that a passage of a general bonus bill would mean instant resignations from the Legion as an unpatriotic and mercenary body that would cheerfully imperil the economic recovery of the country in order to gain sums, immense in the aggregate, that would mean little to the individual who received his small portion, and which would belittle the whole idea of service.

Understand me, not a soul objects anywhere to doing everything possible for the benefit of men who were injured during the war. Nothing must be left undone, and any appropriation made for their benefit would receive nothing but favor and support. What is appalling is the idea of giving donations to men who are healthy and fit at a time when the nation is staggering under a colossal load that makes business revival almost impossible.

True it is, many ex-soldiers are out of work. And so are hundreds of thousands who were not soldiers. Yes, there are soldiers here and there—ex-soldiers—who beg in the streets. The writer met an overseas sergeant who knows conditions exceptionally well in New York, and who has looked up some begging ex-service men. Said he, "A lot of soldiers who are begging in the streets now were also begging before the war, and a lot more never were soldiers."

Furthermore, the country cannot afford the bonus. It hasn't the money. The "profiteer" is not so numerous as has been imagined and cannot be made to pay it. The workmen who were paid high wages can't pay it, for they haven't them now, and it is doubtful if when they were receiving their high wages they saved out of each month's wage as much as the soldier received clear at the end of each month. The writer knows ex-service men in varied industries and professions, and not one seems willing that his industry should be taxed more than at present in order to provide gifts to the ex-service men.

Let me mention one phase of the matter which has brought out the strongest denunciations that the writer has heard. Ex-service men have told the writer that not only would a healthy, able-bodied ex-service man have no right of any kind to such a bonus, but the very offering of one should be deemed an insult. What? Has patriotism become merely a business proposition? Are men to fight for the defense of their country and their civilization only at so much per month? Have we come so low that the soldier fighting in a great cause does so only as a laborer, or a workman, or a wage-earner? For his hire, instead of for his home and his people? Is it, indeed, true, as foreign students of America have said, that, after all, we are not a real nation, but merely a conglomerate of nationalities, each one merely trying to get what he can for himself out of the wealth of the Nation? Imagine with what amazement