

# GI Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944

## World War II Vets Receiving GI Allowance

Monday <sup>SEP 1944</sup> was the first day on which Lehigh Valley veterans of World War II began the \$20 a week unemployment allowance under the GI Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. The claims for the first week must be made on September 11 to the U. S. Employment Service units throughout the Valley.

John Hart, manager of the Bethlehem office, pointed out that the new law provides the veterans of World War II with many benefits that his father in World War I did not receive.

"Vocational training and education were limited in 1919 to the disabled, now it is open to every veteran in good standing. After the last war there was no hospitalization for any but the disabled, now there is a big hospital program under way for every veteran. And, of course, the unemployment allowance and special employment service are the biggest things of all."

An interesting sidelight on the new act has been issued by the Veterans' Administration stating that if a future bonus is voted the unemployment allowance already used will be taken from the bonus.

In connection with the GI act it has been announced that the State GI unemployment allowance can be filed for by any veteran after he has exhausted his Federal allowance. The two cannot be gotten at the same time. The State allowance calls for \$18 a week for 16 weeks in one year. Only one day's service in the armed forces is necessary to obtain this.

Special efforts are being made to acquaint the veterans with the provisions of the new GI act by the U. S. Employment Service and as the number of veterans grow additional help will be taken on to handle veterans' problems.

Under the new act veterans are giving 52 weeks unemployment allowance of \$20 a week, providing they register with the U. S. Employment Service and accept any "suitable" work offered them by the Service and also take any free training course offered them by the Service. However, during their first 60 days of employment they are considered as "free agents" and may change to another job or quit without consulting the U. S. E. S. After that time their employment must be handled through the U. S. Employment office.

September 5, 1944