

Housing - Veteran's housing.

[Madison, Wisconsin]: [s.n.], [s.d.]

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[Housing
Veterans]

see also [Trailer Field & Trailers]

Madison, Wis. (Special)-- In educating 11,576 veterans, most of them residents of the state, the University of Wisconsin is making broad adjustments and offering an almost endless variety of new services.

The 11,576 veterans on the Madison campus of the State University make up 62 per cent of the total student body of 18,672. The 34 University extension centers throughout the state are providing for 3,200 other veterans on a freshman level.

"We realize that veterans want to take the same courses, live the same lives, and meet the same standards for the degree, asking merely that due recognition be given to their age, their varied experience, and their strong desire to make up for lost time."

The veterans are participating completely in all extra-curricular activities on the campus, and there has been no conflict at all between veterans and others. There have been significant gains in the enrollments in all colleges, with the return of the veterans to campus life, with the College of Engineering and the School of Commerce showing the greatest gains, the former increasing 300 per cent, the latter 400 per cent.

Among the special services now being extended to veterans seeking higher education are housing projects, accelerated teaching program, special courses and armed service credits, counselling services, and cooperation with state and federal agencies in fulfilling all the needs of veterans.

The first postwar housing project set up at Wisconsin was the trailer village at Camp Randall, where 191 married veterans live with their families. The baby population in these trailers has reached the 90 figure.

Hospital and classroom buildings at Truax field, six miles from the campus, provide living quarters for 1,500 single and 100 married veterans without children. Transportation, food, and recreational and social services are furnished at reasonable prices.

Accommodations for more than 400 veteran students and their families are provided at Badger village, 30 miles from Madison at the site of the ordnance works. Residents there have full cooking and other privileges and are transported to and from the campus in 20 buses.

Smaller housing projects utilizing trailers and Quonset huts are scattered around the vicinity of Madison. In addition, many hundreds of single and married veterans are housed by local home owners who responded to calls for help from the University housing bureau.

University dormitories are bulging with veterans, who are given preference over other students. An addition to the men's dormitories, now being built, will house 200 single men. The Wisconsin Alumni Research foundation is constructing buildings on University property which will contain 150 apartments for married graduate students and staff members.

Housing is just one phase, however, of the extensive program for serving veterans at the State University. In the field of education the University is making broad changes to fit their needs.

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A year-around schedule of academic work, which involves the addition of a 15-week summer semester, also gives the veteran a break by reducing the time required to obtain a degree. Many veterans intend to finish the regular four-year college course in three calendar years.

Since the veteran, with his increased age, maturity, and responsibilities, possesses and intensified concern for choosing his life's work, the University has provided a special counselling service in cooperation with the Veterans administration to do everything possible to help veterans solve their individual career problems.

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Active cooperation with the state department of veterans' affairs takes care of many personal problems of veterans. A University representative serves as chairman of the governor's educational advisory committee, appointed to correlate the programs of all existing educational agencies, public and private.

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The truth of this statement was briefly but aptly summed up this fall by a veteran standing in a long registration line on the Wisconsin campus:

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"Where I was a year ago people were standing in lines five times this long to get a few spoonfuls of soup. This line's a better deal all around."

War and marriage are evidently good prerequisites for a successful college career, and it seems that a married veteran with children has an even better chance of making the grade in higher education according to the latest scholastic achievement figures of the University of Wisconsin.

This encouraging news for ex-GIs going to school comes from Paul L. Trump, adviser of men at the State University, who compiled a report on the 4,201 veterans who were enrolled in the spring semester of this year. These veterans chalked up a grade point average of 1.66 as compared with an average of 1.57 for non-veterans.

The most interesting bit of information, however, was that married veterans made better scholastic records than those without wives. The score in grade points was 1.80 for the former and 1.62 for the latter. Of the veterans studying at Wisconsin last spring, 24 per cent were married.

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Housing, emer.

The first unit of trailers numbering 91 for married veterans are now all rented and the University now plans on setting up 100 additional units. President Fred and University officials realized in July that quick action would be necessary to meet the housing need for the fall term. The trailer camp was possible through the cooperation of the Federal Public Housing Authority and state officials.

Since the construction of permanent housing has not been possible during the war there was no way to turn except to some type of temporary housing.

The University of Wisconsin was the first college to set up a trailer camp. Since then almost every university has become interested in the Wisconsin plan. Federal Public Housing Authority agreed to lease to the University the trailers at a nominal rental fee of one dollar per unit per year. The cost of moving, renovating, and repairing the trailers as well as the cost of installing sewers, water mains, walks, street lights, roads, electrical wiring and of replacing some of the furniture amounted to approximately \$300 per unit or a total of \$27,400.

The State Emergency Board underwrote this cost but the University is expected to amortize this amount as far as possible. It is estimated that about \$9 per month of the \$25 rent will be used for amortization and that the cost of heat, light, water, electricity for cooking, repairs to the trailers and to the equipment and replacement of equipment will amount to approximately \$16 per month. Thus, the "G.I." living in the trailer is paying only for actual operating and maintenance cost, plus his share in amortizing the amount made available by the Emergency Board.

It is hoped that the additional trailers may be available by the second semester.

housing, emer.

To help veterans make the difficult transition from the rigors of war to the peace for which they fought, the University of Wisconsin has thoroughly oiled the gears of its educational machinery and added new parts to increase the efficiency of its services to the veterans of World War II.

Chosen as one of the first three vocational and educational centers to be established for veterans in the nation, the State University:

1. Appointed some 40 faculty advisors thoroughly informed on veterans' agencies, federal and state legislation affecting the veteran, and the methods best suited to help him adjust to civil life, to give guidance and occupational diagnosis to veterans. The veteran is encouraged to take basic vocational aptitude and intelligence tests to determine the course best suited to his talents and his ambitions.
2. Set up refresher courses for men who need re-training in the fundamentals of subjects they have already studied.
3. Gave the veteran permission to take a light schedule until such time as he feels capable of taking a full educational load.
4. Waived the required grade point average of 1.3 usually required of students entering the Law School without a bachelor's degree.
5. Established an eight-week term to run concurrently with the last half of the present semester, to enable veterans returning

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to the campus too late for the full semester to get started on their education.

6. Waived the customary fines for late registration in the case of veterans who are prevented from enrolling on regular registration dates by reason of late discharges from the service.

7. Temporarily solved the housing shortage for the veteran by setting up a trailer village in Camp Randall, conveniently adjacent to the campus. In addition to the 91 trailers now set up at Randall Park, more than 100 trailers will soon be moved to Madison to house additional veterans. These are all made available to veterans on a pure cost basis. Made arrangements with FHA to house more veterans at Badger village, if necessary, with arrangements to provide transportation to and from Madison.

8. Extended University extension courses to hospitalized veterans throughout the country through the Armed Forces Institute.

9. Set up a separate fund for Wisconsin veterans in which is placed all fees collected in excess of the regular Wisconsin resident fee. Under the G. I. bill of rights, the federal government pays the full cost of veterans' tuition, which approximates the out-of-state tuition fee charged students. Should the cost of the veteran's education be deducted from any future bonuses declared by the federal government, the University thus stands ready to reimburse the veteran the amount in excess of the regular in-state fee for Wisconsin veterans.

10. Is making special efforts to insure disabled veterans a job after graduation.

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11. Voted a credit bonus towards credits required for graduation, of 10 credits for enlisted men and 15 credits for officers, to veterans of the United States and its Allies.

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Clifford J. Hicks of Wauwatosa, Wis., who, until last August was a second lieutenant in the United States army, is the first mayor of Randall Park, the University of Wisconsin's trailer-solution to the serious housing shortage which this fall confronted student-veterans and their families. Hicks, who attended the University in 1939-1940 and 1941, before entering the service, was elected at a meeting held for the residents of the park, and assumed his duties at once.

During his lengthy army career, he participated in the bitter fighting at Anzio, entered Rome, and participated in the Southern France engagements. Finally wounded after fourteen months overseas, Hicks was taken prisoner by the Germans and was held for four months. He received his honorable discharge from the army in September, reentered the University three weeks ago and now holds the highest position in what was the first housing development of its kind in the country.

Other officers elected are Mrs. Howard L. Timian of Milwaukee, secretary, Emory Lee Person, Kenosha, chairman of the council

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ad 4 -- veterans

and James Ross, Manitoba, former Royal Canadian Air Force veteran, treasurer.

The newly formed government holds weekly meetings, at which all of Randall Park's families can gather to plan social affairs and other community projects.

The housing area, which is located adjacent to picturesque and historic Camp Randall, is dotted with 91 trailer units which were secured as temporary housing relief for married veterans of World War II. Equipped with the most modern of furnishings, including studio couches, tables, chairs, an ice box and electric stove, the trailers are owned by the Federal Housing Authority; the Division of Residence Halls at the University is in charge of operating the units.

After the first trailers arrived from the Badger Ordnance works powder plant near Baraboo, Wis., in August, the Buildings and Grounds Division of the University set them up on the playing field just north of Randall Park. The first home was moved into on Sept. 15 and only eight families have moved out since that time, despite the fact that the project is still considered a temporary community.

Monthly rental rates for the standard units, or one-room trailers, are \$25, and for the expansible units--those "three-room" trailers with the kitchenette in the center--are \$32.50, on a bare cost basis.

Twenty of the families have one child, three others

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have two; and three of the veterans' wives are enrolled at the University, thereby assuming the dual responsibility of house-keeping and class attending. Laundry facilities and bathrooms and toilet units are centrally located, and water stations and garbage disposal depots are easily accessible.

All in all, it looks like a comfortable winter for the residents of "Vetsburg", most of whom are so pleased with their new setting that they plan to spend the entire school year there.

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Housing, Inc.

To the veteran college means two things---a chance to get back into the civilian swing of things without immediately bucking swift commercial currents, and more important, seriously going about getting that education which has now become such an important factor in finding good employment and living a full life.

This attitude, of course, has made some great changes in the "college life" on campuses over the nation. At the University of Wisconsin, for example, many steps have been taken designed to be helpful to the veteran. The general scholastic attainment of veterans has been above the average, and in instances where former students have returned there has been a decided uplift in their interest and accomplishment in college work. It is due largely to the maturing influence of their military experience.

Other than this, however, they are not in any way different from the regular run of students--they mix freely, go to the same classes, indulge in the same entertainments, and sink almost immediately into the campus life--but, inevitably, of course, lending to it a great deal of their newfound interest and sense of the importance of their work. About one-fourth of them are employed part-time to help earn their education.

The only example visible on the Wisconsin campus of veterans living a life removed from the usual student life is the Camp Randall Trailer Camp, in which, due to housing shortages, married veterans and their families live in an attractive group of trailers.

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A larger dormitory is planned as soon as materials and labor are available for construction.

"Refresher courses" are the only instruction given to veterans which differ from usual classroom work. They are designed to give the veteran a chance to "bone up" on technical material which he may have studied in past years but which he may largely have forgotten by the time he finds his way back to the campus. In addition, the University has offered vocational aptitude tests which any veteran may take and which give an indication where his abilities and interests lie.

The veterans are given more consideration, during their first few semesters on the campus because of adjustment difficulties toward studies, than regular students, but the University has in no way lowered its standards to accommodate them. It is realized that it is quite a jump from a bomber to a classroom, and for this reason veterans are given a few more semesters to get into the "groove" than other students coming to the University.

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Housing, emergency

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Madison, Wis. (Special)--With the aid of its own students, Madison citizens, the United States Government, and the Federal Public Housing Authority, the University of Wisconsin has found a five-pronged answer to the housing problems of its students, especially the veterans who have come to the campus, many of them with their wives and some with a child or two, to pursue their studies.

Since last June, when Dr. Edwin R. Fred, president of the State University, and A. W. Peterson, director of business and finance, began the search for the housing they foresaw would be urgently needed last fall and this winter, the University has found housing facilities for a total of 4,526 students, largely veterans.

From the Federal Public Housing Authority has come the permission to use facilities at an Army Air Forces training field and a powder plant which have provided housing for 3,526 students, all veterans and their families. In addition, the University has leased 191 trailers from the FPHA which have been installed as emergency homes for 400 veteran students and their families on the campus.

Housing facilities in a hospital, library building, and school buildings for 1,660 student veterans have been obtained at the Trux Army Air Forces communications training field within six miles of the campus, while housing for 1,666 veteran students have been obtained at Badger Village, the housing center of the Badger

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Ordinance Works 35 miles from the campus, one of the nation's foremost powder plants during the war.

All of the housing facilities at either Truax Field or Badger Village are not yet completely in use, since all are not yet completely readied. At present 210 single veterans and 70 married veterans are living at Truax, and 78 married veterans are living at Badger Village. Regular city bus service provides the transportation between Truax and the campus, while the veteran students now living at Badger Village have their own car pools, and the University has just purchased one 35-passenger bus which starts operating between the village and the campus this week.

Work is progressing steadily on making ready the additional housing at both Truax and Badger Village. It is expected that an additional 300 student veterans will be housed at Truax when the spring semester of the College of Engineering opens early in March, and another 20 married veterans will then be making their homes at Badger Village. Additional housing at both places will be ready when the University's regular summer semester opens June 1, and the regular 8-weeks session June 15, and all will be ready for the opening of the fall semester next September.

The University trailer colony is located at Camp Randall adjoining the campus. Of the 191 trailer homes, all insulated and oil-heated for comfortable warmth, 91 were brought from Badger Village and 100 from Kingsbury, Ind., another war center.

All of the housing for veterans is rented to them on a bare cost basis by the University to help the veterans in their efforts to make up for lost time in getting their educations. The rest of the housing for students during the emergency has been found in Madison homes or on the campus. Madison citizens cooperated with

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ad 2 -- student housing

the University this winter by providing rooms for 300 more students in their homes, while students living in campus dormitories gave further cooperation by doubling up in single rooms to provide housing for another 300 students.

In all of these ways the University of Wisconsin has been able to take care of the terrific upsurge in its enrollment this winter, from a total of 9,339 last fall to 11,760 at the opening of the second semester late in January, a new record high figure, with enrollment of veterans pursuing their war-delayed educations under the GI Bill of rights surging upward from 1,200 to 4,200 in the same period.

Enrollment during next summer at Wisconsin is expected to stay above the 10,000 mark, and is expected to hit 15,000 next fall, setting a new high enrollment figure for the State University in its almost 100-year-old history.

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Story to go with accompanying photos:

*Cut stencil & Run 60
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Madison, Wis. (Special)--Getting a preview of life at the University of Wisconsin are ^{over 1000} ~~some 600~~ members of the "class of '67."

They are the children of student-veterans who have returned with the families they acquired during the war to lay peacetime siege to their textbooks at the State University.

Though not attending classes on the "hill," these diminutive future scholars are getting a from-the-ground-up view of what it takes in the way of homework to pass college courses. And their busy fathers are finding out what it is to combine pencil-pushing and bookworming with diaper-changing and baby-burping.

Scrubbed, powdered, and in their Sunday best, the alert little characters (in picture A) set a new style in campus wear for college Joes and Janes as they recline in regal state atop a ping-pong table in the makeshift nursery at the trailer village for married veterans near the Camp Randall stadium.

Left to right, the babies are: Gary Wilson, Janet Jacobsen, David Kellog Cartter, Sylvia Caldwell, Cynthia Cottam, Charlene Mittelsteadt, Richard Whiting, and Joy Brouillard.

Wide-eyed youngsters (in picture B) enjoy a pre-alumni reunion at the Badger Village housing center while their daddies attend classes on the campus, 34 miles away.

It is impossible to keep an accurate census on the "class of '67" because new bundles from heaven keep appearing every day, as any local maternity ward can attest. With a total of 12,000 veteran students ^{now} attending the University of Wisconsin,

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and 30 per cent of them married, a fair estimate of the baby population would hit well over a thousand. Many student couples have one or two children already, with another ~~one~~ on the way. They are already planning for the proud day when they can watch their sons and daughters at Wisconsin commencement exercises some 20 years hence.

"We mothers try to go easy on our children when they climb on the furniture or rough up the rug, because we know they don't have as much room to play around as most kids do," said Mrs. Germaine F. Jacky, whose husband, a former AAF crew chief, is working for a degree in chemical engineering at the University. She reports that her 9-months-old son, Jay, is highly satisfied with the academic atmosphere at Badger Village.

"And don't call this place 'Fertile Valley' or 'Rabbit Gulch' the way some jokers do," Mrs. Jacky added. Badger Village is swarming with some 500 children of students.

The fathers are shouldering the double responsibility of family and studies with remarkable success, coming through with grade-point averages which top those of childless and unmarried veterans, according to the registrar of the University.

Financially, having babies is becoming a rather tough proposition for student veterans, whose \$90 a month barely covers day-to-day living expenses. Until about two weeks ago, the state department of veterans affairs paid hospital expenses, but now, with scores of new offspring ~~already~~ ^{ways} on the ~~production line~~, that subsidy ~~has been~~ terminated.