Home Again

(Impromptu)

LAVERNE PRICE

My brother and his close friend came back in January after serving four years in the Marines. Since Jim, my brother’s friend, has no home he has always made his home with us. When we heard that they were arriving in the afternoon, we anxiously began to prepare for them. Our first idea was to hang a sign above our front door saying “Welcome Home, Francis and Jim,” and “Hiya, Leather-necks!” We also decided to have a special dinner in their honor. After much planning, the long-awaited hour had arrived. They surprised us by not coming home until evening, due to the change in train schedule. They saw none of our prepared signs! They told us that they were glad that we had made no “fuss” over them, that our quiet welcoming-home program was exactly what they wanted. They sat around the radio that evening and listened to their favorite programs. They retired early, not knowing that our carefully painted greetings hung directly under their bedroom, or will they ever know, because my father removed them early the next morning.

Compulsory Military Training

(Impromptu)

JOHN L. WALTON

Although the war is over, a state of national emergency still exists. Since this emergency is external as well as internal, it has become necessary to maintain a larger peacetime army than ever before. At the present army wages are not high enough to attract enough volunteers, so the question of compulsory military training has arisen. The need is apparent, but the way in which to meet that need is our nation’s most pressing problem.

From experience I say that the nation’s youth should not be drafted. The reason for this opinion is that I feel the need for education above that of military training. If we are to have no more wars, then education is decidedly more important. Why can’t we have both? Well, I said this was the voice of experience and I meant it. To go back to school after having been in the army is by no means easy. They talk about the army being broadening. Just wait until the tests are given and see how much that helps the ex-G. I. on an English test!

So, for my part, and for the reasons above mentioned, I believe in increasing the size of the army by offering higher salaries. In that way men who liked the army would feel more like making a career of it, and the persons who desire an education would not have that desire frustrated.