

SOLDIERS FIND OUT 'LOOPHOLE'

LONDON (AP) — Running for a seat in Parliament is the latest thing in Britain's armed forces. The military candidates don't expect to win—it's the cheapest way to get out of uniform.

A young lieutenant started it by putting himself before the voters of Middlesbrough at a special election this summer.

Now 12 soldiers—and maybe more—are ready to stand at a special election in the Yorkshire steel town of Rotherham in March.

Most British soldiers enlist for nine or 11 years. If they want to break the contract, they have to pay the government up to 250 pounds (\$750).

British law says that any soldier who wants to stand for Parliament must be discharged. And running for Parliament costs only a deposit of 150 pounds (\$450) which is returned to the candidate if he wins more than one eighth of the votes.

Eleven soldiers became civilians that way this month. None of them won. They didn't want to. But they got a few votes.

Services ministers are studying ways of plugging the loophole. The law probably will be changed to permit any servicemen to run for Parliament—if he buys himself out of his military contract.

Month Recess Seen Likely

By JAMES NELSON
OTTAWA (CP) — A one-month Christmas recess appears in prospect for members of Parliament.

Exact dates still are subject to discussions among the House leaders of the four parties in the Commons, but indications now are that the House will adjourn Friday, Dec. 19, and recess until Monday, Jan. 21.

This will give MPs four weeks at home to do their last-minute Christmas shopping, celebrate Christmas and the New Year's holidays, and attend to political fence-mending chores.

For the Conservative MPs, a general meeting of the party scheduled to open Jan. 17 will mean an earlier return to Ottawa than for members of other parties.

LACS IN AID
LONDON (CP) — A report by the Royal College of Surgeons says Britain is lagging behind the United States and Russia in providing medical services for developing countries in Africa and Asia.

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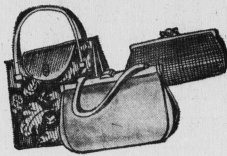
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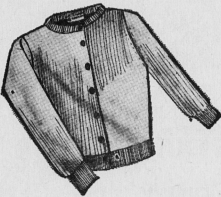
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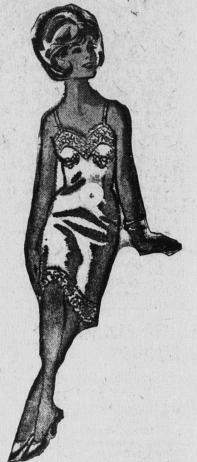
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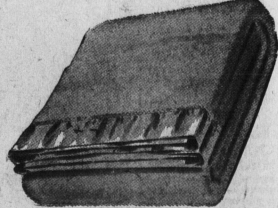
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