BONUS BRIEFS. Paying the bonus is a huge administrative task which will create many additional temporary jobs. First comes the printing of 39 million bonds in $20 denominations by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving which will require an estimated 300 people in that department. There is the work devolving on the Veterans Administration to issue and receive applications, with a vast amount of clerical work which will require about 3,500 clerks. Then comes the printing of 3 million checks to cover the odd amounts of the bonus which must be paid by check. Then comes the bookkeeping work by the Public Debt Service section of the Treasury Department which will require a thousand or 1,500 people. Finally there will be additional work on the Secret Service Division to prevent and detect forgeries of the new bonds. A monumental task that is going steadily forward without delay.

ILLINOIS LEADS. In 1934, Illinois was third in payment of internal revenue taxes on beer and distilled beverages but in 1936, she jumped to first place. Total collections for 1936 will be about $452 million of which $30 million came from duties on imported liquors and 226 million from beer. The balance is on distilled liquors. For the year, Illinois paid 328 million or about 70% of the total bill. New York 53 million, Indiana 40 million, Ohio 29 million, California 29 million, Kentucky 27 million, Wisconsin 25 million. It is interesting to note that 8 states paid 328 million or about 70% of the total bill.

TENiPST. Every year in January, delegates from woman’s patriotic organizations such as the Women’s Relief Corps, American Legion Auxiliary, Spanish War Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign War’s Auxiliary and others hold a national conference on national affairs. A national conference on national affairs is called the Women’s National Conference. The conference is attended by women from all over the country. The conference is held in a different city each year. This year, the conference is being held in Washington. It has always been a swanky affair where ladies in gorgeous gowns and men in evening dress listened to selected speakers of national repute. Generally the Army, Navy, or Marine bone plays for the occasion. This year, one of the speakers was Bainbridge Colby former Secretary of State under President Wilson, who instead of speaking on defense, delivered an address that was deemed critical of the administration and its policies. The speech provoked a storm of protest. Very few officers who were scheduled to speak the following day called to express their “regrets” that they could not find it convenient to oppesr on the program. The Supply Marine Band was withdrawn from the conference. Congress heard about it and at once the matter became the substance of furious debate. A resolution was introduced by a member from Pennsylvania for an immediate investigation. However, it will all blow over in a little while and the investigation will be forgotten.

POLIO. Altho generally referred to as infantile paralysis, medical men call it poliomyelitis and the abbreviation “polio” is coming into more common use to design the dread epidemic. The nation-wide Birthday Celebrations make it appropriate to state that this disease was first discovered in the United States in 1841 by a bone setter named Jacob Heinie. Scientists maintain however that an examination of many ancient Egyptian mummies discloses the fact that it was known even then. The first real epidemic of “polio” in 1916 took a toll of 25,000. It is estimated that a total of 300,000 cases exist in the U.S. and that 10,000 people are stricken each year.

RFC. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation, created under Hoover in 1932 is still the world’s greatest banking institution as revealed by it’s report that it authorized loans to the extent of $10 billion dollars. These loans were made to banks, insurance companies, building & loan associations, Federal Land Banks, industries, railroads, bank depositors, and to the many governmental agencies which have been making loans and advances to farmers on corn, cotton, tobacco and other commodities. Loans totalling one and one third billion dollars were made to 10,576 of the nation’s banks. The RFC gets its money from the sale of its own capital stock and from the sale of its notes to the U.S. Treasury. It has sold more than $3 billion dollars in notes to the Treasury.

CHANUTE FIELD. Octave Chanute was one of the pioneers in aviation back in the days when men were first experimenting with gliders. When Uncle Sam established an Air Corps Technical School on a 640 acre tract near the city of Rantoul during the war, a tract which was donated by public spirited citizens, they called it Chanute Field. Barracks, hangars, and supply buildings were constructed and when the war was over, the school was continued as a training centre for young men. Admission to the school is by application, after a thorough mental and physical examination. Aerial photography mechanics and technical work is the principal concern of the school. A small amount of time is devoted to actual flight training. For a number of years, efforts have been made to remove this school to Dayton, Ohio for consolidation with Patterson Field. Certain air corps officers were in favor of the move and it is alleged that lack of social diversions for army officers at Rantoul was behind the removal idea. In any event, annual appropriations for the maintenance of Chanute Field were cut to a very minimum and the buildings have progressively fallen into a sad state of repair. Suddenly there popped up an offer from Denver Colo., to have the school moved out there. Denver politicians and the Chamber of Commerce voted a
TIME CHANGE. Illinois, including Chicago is on Central Standard Time. A certain group in Chicago wishes to change to Eastern Standard Time and thereby hangs a tale. The earth as you know, for astronomical purposes is divided into 360 degrees of longitude. Meridians of longitude run north and south and are theoretically drawn from pole to pole. The zero meridian runs thro a little town in England called Greenwich. As you travel west from Greenwich you deduct from the time which obtains on the zero meridian, as you travel east, you add. The difference in time is one hour for each 15 degrees of longitude. Therefore when it's noon at Greenwich, it is six o'clock in the morning in New York because N. Y. is on or near the 76 degrees of longitude. To handle this matter, Congress in 1918 enacted a Standard Time Act, which divided the U. S. in five standard time zones in the various zones should correspond to the time of the 75th, 90th, 105th, 120th degree of longitude and Alaska should comprise the 5th zone. Therefore you have Eastern Standard, Central Standard, Mountain, Pacific, and Alaska Time with an hour difference between each zone. The Interstate Commerce Commission was given authority to define the boundaries of each zone. Hence, that area which lies east of a line running from Port Huron, Michigan, thro Ohio, West Virginia, Tenn, and Georgia has eastern time. Between that line and another line running from Fort Worth, North Dakota and then down thro South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas has Central Time. Now comes the proposal to change Chicago and contiguous area to Eastern Time for reasons of business convenience etc. The Chicago City Council passed an ordinance to make Eastern Time effective as of March 1st 1936, but this change is not official unless approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Letters, telegrams, statements, and reports both for and against have been filed with the Commission. They determined to hold a hearing. That hearing will be held at the Morrison Hotel on February 24th at 10:00 a.m. It should develop into a most interesting affair. Many farmers and parents are opposed to the change.