

U.S. Helps Paraplegic To Build Special Home

PARALYZED veterans in Queens are getting a break from their government . . . as one of them learned today. John H. Springer, 26, of 94-07 57th street, Rego Park, who is paralyzed from the waist-down, is one of the first in the county to receive word from the Veterans Administration that the federal government is going to help him build his new home.

Back in June, President Truman affixed his signature to House Resolution 4244 and it became law. That was after a long fight by many veterans' groups including the Paralyzed Veterans of America, an organization made up of men like Springer.

The law provides federal assistance to help paraplegics get specially designed homes. Homes with ramps for a wheel chair, special bathrooms and closets. Everything to help the veteran get along like a man, not a "case."

THE GOVERNMENT is pretty generous too, Springer reports. It will foot the bill for half the cost of the home and land up to \$10,000.

That means that Springer and thousands like him all over the country who want to live a normal home life can build a house cost-

ing as much as \$20,000 including the land, and the government will pay half.

That's one of the best tonics a paraplegic can get, Springer reports, since many of the men . . . including himself . . . are married and have to raise families. The normal home or apartment presents too many obstacles for the paralyzed man in a wheel chair. And the morale of the veteran suffers when his wife or someone else has to help him at every turn.

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SPRINGER and his 21-year-old wife, Marian, don't know how soon they'll be able to get started. They expect a Veterans Administration adviser to call on them next week to bring plans of 10 different homes, all adapted for paraplegics. Then, they believe, they'll be well on their way to a home of their own and a place to raise a family.

The Weather

Rain, mild tonight;
more of it tomorrow.