

COL. WADE H. RAMSEY, JR.

While reading the September first issue of the El Centro "Post-Press", Art Loeb ran across the following item under "Brooks Brevities", and thought it would be of interest to Wade's many friends here."

"Col. Wade Ramsey likes to hunt doves!

"We overheard the Colonel the other morning at the Coffee Club, discoursing on the art of dove hunting. The conversation led back to the hunting the southern gentleman used to do in South Carolina and Georgia. He talked with a nostalgic tone of the quail, the dove and the deer he used to track through the piney woods of the Deep South.

"That's one of the things we like about Imperial Valley. You can never tell whether the fellow sitting next to you came from the Deep South, Oklahoma, Arkansas, or Texas—it's all the same. They're all Imperial Valleyites now, and while they talk a little wistfully of the "old country" they wouldn't swap our valley for forty acres and a mule anywhere.

"We understand on good authority, that Colonel Wade is also an excellent shot. We've talked with his hunting companions, and they say when this fellow Ramsey misses a bird, be it dove or duck, he claims the shot gun company packed a blank. That's what we call confidence."

Wade is Vice President of California Central Fibre Company. He left the "Deep South" in 1937 for California, and has only been away from "The Valley" for a few hurried visits to Pisgah Forest. As mentioned in the article, he is by now a confirmed "Imperial Valleyite".

THE NEW SOCIAL SECURITY AND WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Here is what happened to old-age and survivors insurance in Western North Carolina August 28, when President Truman signed the 1950 amendments to the Social Security Act.

All monthly insurance checks now being paid to the approximately 5,809 social security beneficiaries in the 17 counties administered by the Asheville Field Office will be raised substantially, beginning with the September checks, according to Don W. Marsh, Manager of the local office. Mr. Marsh explained that these automatic increases, for September, are scheduled to reach local beneficiaries during the first week of October. Increases will range from about 50% to 100%. For example, the average primary benefit of approximately \$26 per month for a retired worker will be increased to about \$46. A widow with two children who had been receiving \$55 a month will now receive about \$110 altogether.

Manager Marsh said that under the old terms



H. F. Finck of the Power and Water Department was elected Vice-President of the Western North Carolina Firemen's Association at the October meeting of the organization at Enka. Other officers elected were: Charles Robertson of Enka, President; Mark Jones of Enka, Secretary; and Ed Smathers of Canton, Treasurer.

of the social security law the 5,809 beneficiaries in this area would have received about \$93,348 (total) for the month of September. Under the new increases, however, total payments for September are estimated to be about \$175,950, or an immediate increase of some \$82,602 monthly in insurance benefits to this area.

Under the new law the amount of earnings which a beneficiary may make in a month, and still accept his insurance payment for that month, is raised from \$14.99 to \$50. This applies to beneficiaries under age 75, and for earnings in a job covered by social security. After attaining the age 75, a beneficiary may have any amount of earnings and still accept his insurance check.

A new type of payment is mothers' insurance benefits. These are monthly payments to a mother who has in her care a child entitled to monthly insurance benefits. Separation or divorce from the wage earner does not prevent the mother's receipt of monthly benefits, provided the wage earner was furnishing the greater part of her support. This changes the former law which did not permit payment to wives who were divorced, and did not permit payment to the wife of a retired wage earner until she reached age 65. If she has children under 18, she may now receive benefits when her husband retires, even if she is under 65.