

KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

George Dietrich, field representative of the Social Security Administration, is in Edenton every Thursday at the North Carolina Employment Security Commission office in the Citizens Bank Building.

This column about social security will now be conducted in the form of questions and answers. Readers may refer their questions by mail to George E. Dietrich, Field Representative, District Office, Social Security Administration, 212 W. Fifth Street, Greenville, N. C. Questions will be selected on the basis of most popular interest, and letters need not be signed.

Ministers are one of the groups who have the option of electing Social Security coverage. To elect coverage they must file a certificate waiving their exemption to the tax. Income from ministerial duties may then be reported as self-employment for Social Security credit.

Icen E. Wilson, Manager of the Greenville District Office, announces that April 15, 1962, is the deadline for ordained ministers who have already had self-employment of \$400 in two taxable years to file waiver certificates. It is also deadline for those ministers who have been reporting their earnings for Social Security without filing a waiver. These per-

New Books At Brown-Carver

National Library Week will be observed April 8-14 and in connection with the event the following new books will be on display during the week at the Brown-Carver Library:

Brothers Under the Skin by McWilliams; My 21 Years in the White House by Fields; The New Leaders of Africa by Italaander; The Woman Within by Glasgow; Education for Public Responsibility by Fletcher; By the Seat of My Pants by Smith;

sons have the opportunity to file a waiver by April 15, 1962 and get coverage for income already reported and for future years.

The waiver certificate is Form 2031 which is filed with the District Director of Internal Revenue. Persons who may file this form are ministers, rabbis, priests, and Christian Science practitioners ordained, licensed, or commissioned to practice their calling and members of religious orders who have not taken the vow of poverty.

Wilson urges any of the above who have never filed a waiver, or those who have but wish to file a supplemental certificate, to get coverage for prior years to contact their social security office immediately. The office will supply more detailed information to help them make their decision before the April 15, 1962 deadline. The Greenville Social Security Office is located at 814 West Fifth Street.

How to Read the Bible by Goodspeed; The Oxford Companion to English Literature by Harvey; A Diplomatic History of the United States by Bemis; An Invitation to French by Madrigal; Legend in the Dust by O'Rourke; Lone Star Cowboy by Scott; The Adventurers by Haycox; Beyond Wind River by Savage; Thumbelina by Andersen; The Tomten by Lindgren; Thee, Hannah by De Angeli; Ellen Tebbits by Cleary; Tales Told Again by De La Mare; Judy's Journey by Lenski; The Little Lame Prince by Mulock; The House of Sixty Fathers by DeJong; Bed-Knob and Broomstick by Norton; Little Toot by

Gramatky, and The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Potter.

Girl Scout And Brownie News

The Girl Scouts met at the Parish House. A Boy Scout showed how to make several knots to learn. Debra Wright made a report on Porto Rico. We also elected new officers. Dinah White and Edna Alexander served refreshments.

DINAH WHITE, Reporter.

Edenton Group At FHA Convention

Seventeen members of the John A. Holmes High School Chapter of the Future Homemakers of America and their advisor, Mrs. Edna Reeves, attended the FHA State Convention in Raleigh Saturday, March 31st. The highlight of the program was a talk by Governor Sanford on "Youth - Measure Your Values".

Members attending the convention were Doris Bass, Diana Brabble, Pat Byrum, Sharlie Faircloth, Arlene Fry, Carmen Goodwin, Emily Holmes, Ingrid Nielson, Gayle Oliver, Elaine Parks, Louise Shaw, Lula Stroud, Lee Venters, Laurie Whiteman, Miriam Willis, Joan Wright and Betsy Hardin.

Accompanying the group to Raleigh were Mrs. Cecil Fry, Mrs. W. D. Holmes, Sr., and Frank Holmes.

The Future Homemakers will honor their mothers Friday, April 6th, with a Mother-Daughter banquet in the school cafeteria. The speaker for the evening will be Miss Alice Strawn, resident teacher trainer of home economics education at East Carolina College.

TRY A HERALD CLASSIFIED



FLIPPED—This driver really flipped when he decided to park his truck in Nice, France. The topsy-turvy auto, shown above, was actually the result of a freak accident.

The National Outlook Housing Starts Drop Again

By RALPH ROBEY

In February, for the fourth consecutive month, private housing starts declined. The total in that month, on a seasonally adjusted basis, was at an annual rate of 1,126,000. Last October the comparable figure was 1,434,000.

The original forecast of the Department of Commerce was 1,400,000. That always appeared on the high side, and now it is quite unlikely that such a total can be realized. Even some of the men in the department are beginning to question this early estimate.

There are various factors, of course, which influence the volume of building. One of these is the supply of funds, and the terms under which mortgages may be obtained.

At present it is generally agreed that there is no shortage of funds, and the interest rate on mortgages has shown only a very slight increase—and no change at all in most sections of the nation. The persistent drop in the number of starts, therefore, is not explained by any change in either the volume of funds available, or the terms at which it may be borrowed.

Another important element is the total cost of a house. We do not have an authoritative index on this, but there is no question that over the past several years the trend has been upward. Land values have been increasing, wages have been rising, and building materials and the fixed equipment which goes into homes cost more and more. The changes have not been spectacular from one month to another, either in the aggregate or by the individual items, but a house today is expensive, and that means many persons have been priced out of this market as purchasers.

Weather also plays a part in the number of starts that will be made in any one month, and in February this was especially true. For example, in the Northeast the decline between January and February was 27 percent; in the West the drop was 29 percent; in the North Central Region there was an increase of 12 percent; and in the South the rise was 3 percent. The Department of Commerce states specifically: "The very heavy rains in Southern California, particularly in the Los Angeles area may have contributed to the sharp drop in the West."

Finally there is the question of demand. During the depression of the 30's there was rela-

tively little home building, and this continued through the war. This created a backlog of demand for housing that was enormous.

This accumulated backlog has all been worked off, and then some. This does not indicate that everyone has the type of home he would prefer, but there is not the pressure for new houses that there was over most of the past decade. To a major extent the demand today has to come from those who are establishing families for the first time, from those who want and are willing to pay for a better home, and to replace buildings which are destroyed or abandoned.

This aggregate demand should rise from year to year, but for 1962 it will be closer to 1,300,000 than 1,400,000.

Obviously private housing starts are only one part of the total construction picture. When one adds commercial and industrial buildings, and all other construction, he gets a total of some \$60 to \$61 billion as the prospect for this year. That will be a new all time high, but not sufficiently above 1961 to add any great zest to the recovery.

In a word, there is no reason to be especially disturbed by the decline of private housing starts. Construction as a whole will continue to be a sustaining force throughout the year.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. William Gramby announce the marriage of their daughter, Dora, to Jesse Coleman on February 4th. The marriage took place at the home of Mrs. Rose Saunders at 620 Walnut Street, Petersburg, Va. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman are residing at Fort Lee, Va. Mrs. Coleman is a registered nurse employed at Central State Hospital, Petersburg, Va. Mr. Coleman is a captain in the U. S. Army stationed at Fort Lee, Va.

Elementary School Lunch Room Menu

Menus at the Edenton Elementary School lunch room for the week of April 9-13 will be as follows:

Monday: Weiners, baked beans, weiner rolls, vegetable salad, apple pie, milk.

Tuesday: Spanish rice with beef, green beans, carrot strips, cheese slices, milk, school baked rolls, butter, school baked cookies.

Wednesday: Beef vegetable soup, block cake, pimento cheese sandwiches, crackers, milk.

Thursday: Corned beef, potatoes, steamed cabbage, spiced beets, milk, butter, lemon custard.

Friday: Tuna salad, school baked rolls, buttered peas, potato chips, vegetable salad, butter, milk, grapefruit.

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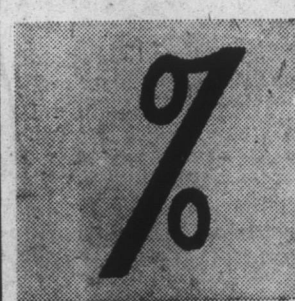
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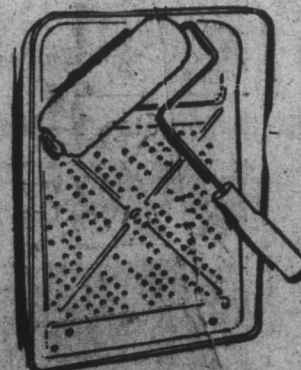
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