Thursday, May 19, 1977 Representative May Handle S.S. Affairs

4 **Field Representative** right to be represented by a person of your choice in any

person you choose, such as a relative or friend.

If you wish to appoint someone 88 your representative you must write to Social Security and have the appointment approved.

beneficiary's protection. A special form for this purpose is available at any Social Security office.

representative just as we

act for you on most Social Security matters and any notice or request sent to your representative has the same effect as if sent to you. However, Social Security has certain rules for representation, designed primarily to protect people from being taken advantage of.

For example, we 'must approve your representative's fee, and it is illegal for the representative to charge or collect an unauthorized fee.

cannot sign your application for benefits, except under very special circumstances. Also, the first check cannot be mailed to the address of the representative unless it is also your address.

representative in dealing with Social Security do so for the purpose of appealing some decision or action.

made on your Social Security claim can be appealed, and the appeal may be carried all the way to the Federal courts.

payable representative is an attorney, the agency may pay part of your benefits with our approval.

Also, if your case goes to the Federal Court, the court may assign a reasonable fee to your attorney past-due

We h



THE CHOWAN HERALD

Page 5-C