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 County.
W. H. R. R. R.

Uncle Pete from Chittlin Switch

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:
 Zeke Grubb's preacher come by the country store again Saturday night and set with the fellers for a spell. He said about once a month was as often as he could make it on account of the committee meetings.
 The good Parson said they was having their troubles over at his church. The Hymn Book Committee met Friday night, he reported, to see if they could iron out a bad situation. He said they got their new hymn books last Sunday and feelings is running pretty high amongst some of the congregation.
 The Parson claimed they been needing new hymn books for the last 10 year but kept putting it off on account of some of the members would rather not sing a note as sing out of new books. He said the old hymn books was so wore out you couldn't read the words half the time and some Sunday mornings it was hard to tell if the congregation was singing or praying.
 Anyhow, he told the fellers Saturday night, two families has already quit the church, and two more is



threatening to take their singing elsewhere. Ed Doolittle butted in and allowed as how the custom nowadays was to negotiate things at the summit. Ed suggested they let them four families keep singing out of the old hymn books. He figured that the tunes might be different and a few changes in the words but if everybody sang real loud, nobody would know the difference. The Parson liked Ed's suggestion and right off invited Ed to move to his church, said they'd make him a member of the Hymn Book Committee.
 But the Parson says a preacher has got to figger on losing a few members onet in a while. He recollected that during the 1956 election he lost a family cause they thought he was a Democrat, and in 1960 he lost two on account of them thinking he was a Republican. He said he lost a member last year cause he didn't preach on whiskey and lost one this year cause he did.
 I reckon a preacher lives a hard life, Mister Editor. Us farmers and ranchers ain't got nothing to worry about. Us floods, dry spells, insects, dust storms, falling prices, hail season, taxes and visiting Congressmen. But a preacher has got to be worry about people, and I reckon that's the worst kind of worrying.
 They is a old saying that the more ignorant a feller is, the less he worries. Clem Webster, fer instance, don't worry about nothing, and Clem has got the reputation of being a feller that'll walk a mile to keep from learning sompun. They say when Clem was in school they nicknamed him 'Bunions' on account of him always being at the foot of the class, and his own Pa claims the morning Clem was promoted to the third grade he got so excited he fergot to shave. But if Clem ain't oened with worry in this missile age, he's one of God's fortunate chillun.
 Yours truly,
 Uncle Pete

BIBLE FACTS OF INTEREST
 By: Ella V. Fetglen
 What is The Nature of the Bible and its Central Message?
 Here we arrive at the heart of the Bible. The Bible is, in the first place, the record of the life and faith of ancient Israel and the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and of the church gathered around Him. The Bible is, in the second place, the record of "the mighty acts of God" in creation, in the giving of the law, in judgement in redemption, in the sending of Jesus Christ, in the creating of the church and preparing for the Kingdom. The Bible is the story of God's speaking to Israel in preparation for His decisive self-communication in Jesus Christ.
 The Biblical writings emerging at various times and in various situations likewise reveal man's progressive search for God and his growing concepts of God, man, sin, salvation. The church has held to the value of both the Old Testament and the New Testament. There can be no profound understanding of the New Testament apart from the Old Testament.
 The early Christian Church accepted the Jewish canon and called it the Old Testament. Canon means the particular collection of writings which the church has regarded as scriptural.
 Through a long process, the church selected the books which were to make up the Christian canon or the New Testament. This process was completed in the fourth century. There were in existence both Jewish and Christian writings of some significance which were not included in the Bible. We see in a very real sense the Bible is the Church's book.
 The church believes also that the Bible is "inspired". To be sure, the writings were set down, edited, collected, arranged and rearranged, copied again and again by human hands.
 The Saturn rocket is held in position for fueling and calibrating of instruments by a steel gantry crane as tall as a 30-story building which requires 2,300 tons of steel framing.
 The plaintiff or prosecutor must give a written notice of at least five days specifying in detail the alleged false and defamatory statements.
 Also by statutes in North Carolina a newspaper, periodical, radio or television station may, under certain conditions, lessen its criminal or civil liability by an appropriate retraction.

Changes in Your Social Security
 By Robert L. Hanel
 Thousands of dollars in social security benefits may be lost to a number of retired workers or their survivors if they do not apply for their payments before the end of this month. Victor Christgau, Director of the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance, said today.
 With the 1961 amendments to the social security law crowding the changes of late last year from the public eye, Mr. Christgau said, many people affected by the 1960 amendments have apparently not yet learned of their eligibility for payments.
 These three groups were made newly eligible for benefits beginning with the month of October 1960:
 1. Those persons made eligible for benefits under the 1960 provision which reduced the amount of work needed to qualify for payments; now even further reduced under this year's amendments.
 2. Survivors of workers who died between March 31, 1958, and January 1, 1960. (These benefits had been payable only to survivors of workers who died in 1949 or later.)
 3. Aged dependent widows of women workers who died before September 1950, when this type of benefit was payable.
 Workers who have been totally disabled for a year and a half or more, and their dependents, may lose some back payments if they do not apply for their social security benefits before the end of November.
 Under the law, social security payments may be retroactive for up to 12 months, Mr. Christgau explained. Therefore, for those persons who became eligible for payments in October of last year, when most of the 1960 amendments went into effect, each month of delay in applying for their benefits will not mean a month's benefit lost.
 Also, there are many aged workers who have not applied for benefits because they feel they are now earning above the maximum to be eligible for payments. They may be wrong, especially since new changes in the law have been made. I

The Wayside Pulpit
 By D. E. Eardhardt
 "I am come to set fire on the earth." Luke 12:49
 Dean Brown at Yale said, "Young gentlemen either put fire in your sermons or put your sermons in the fire."
 My neighbor went through his house and threw his wife out the back door and dashed two babies through the window and pushed his invalid father down the steps. Before you call the neighbor a scoundrel, let me remind you that the house was on fire. When I hear a man preaching with urgency and urgency I figure that there is a fire somewhere and he is warning his people not to go near it.
 In the early church there was the fervor of spirit and the contagion of gladness. Burning enthusiasm is just as catching as the measles, especially when it is broke out on you.
 So get you some kindling or repentance, some nuggets of Gospel truth, and pour on the oil of salvation, and depend on God to set you on fire.
 fact, they may be eligible for payments for some months of 1961, if not for the entire year.
 Moreover, even if they are not eligible for payments now, by applying now they can receive their benefits as soon as they do become eligible.

Do I Belong?
 Learn the October 26, 1961
 This column this week is intended for church members, dotted-line members by baptism and personal profession of faith. It strikes no difference what kind of church, what name it has, or organization or special variety of Christian doctrine. People may ask you the question, Are you a Christian? and get a little double-talk — well, maybe I am, maybe not. But if they ask you, Are you a member of a church? that calls for a back-and-forth answer. Is it a question at this moment how good a member are you? But are you a member at all? If your name is on any congregation's list does it mean a note after it that reads "Gone" or "Left" or "Name" that means "inactive" has been sent him around in a blue moon—even so you're some kind of member and maybe the one that most needs some friendly advice.
Int-members
 Anybody is counted a "full" or "regular" member in most Christian churches, who has deliberately and publicly confessed his faith in his Savior and promised allegiance to him and his church. But these members are not always full, not always regular. We can see three levels of "members" in the church; any church at all has these three levels. The point to be made is first that sometimes, at the lowest level, "belonging" does not mean much, but that in the second place we are expected to grow as church members all the while as we grow in our personal lives as Christians. The lowest level of belonging is merely to have your name on some church-roll, or cardindex—in their file somewhere. It's hard to see why anybody should call this "belonging" at all. If such a "member" disappeared from the church entirely, swallowed up in a crack in the earth like Dathan and Abiram (Num. 16:31), no one in the church would miss them.
Present or Accounted For
 On the level next above these do-nothing, be-nothing "members," are the bench-warmers. They keep a small section of the same pew warm for an hour every Sunday when it doesn't rain or when Cousin Becky doesn't bring her children over to spend the day. These members now are the kind that would be missed if they were gone. They are even glad to be missed. They even miss themselves. They are believers in sitting for the Lord, but working for the Lord is something they never got up the nerve to try. If they leave for another town, they are dismissed as "in good and regular standing"; it might better read, "in good and regular sitting."
Usefully Active Members
 The top level of church membership is made of usefully active members. We put in "usefully" because an active member may be busy as a housewife, raising hither and yon but doing nothing that needs to be done, and sitting in the way of real workers. A usefully active member is one of those who really has "the church" when we say good words about it. Do we call a church friendly? These are the members who make it so. Does a church stand up for the underdog in the community? These are the members who stand up. Is a church's influence felt around the world? These are the members whose prayers, gifts, yes, and children have been devoted to the service of God and man in what we call "mission work" in the church evangelistic. It is not alone the pastor who wins new Christians. The other day a member of a church was talking about a man who was husband of one active member of that church and father of several children in the Bible school. "He'd be a good man for the new preacher to go after," he said. "But why wouldn't he be a good man for the members of that congregation to go after? They know him a lot better than any new preacher would."
 The reader can think of other levels of church membership. But one point needs to be remembered: It is possible to change your level. In being a church member, as in being a Christian, if you are alive, you can grow!

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THIS IS THE LAW
 By Robert E. Lee
LIBEL AND SLANDER
 Is it a crime to publish maliciously matters which tend to blacken the memory of a dead person?
 Yes. It is a crime to write and publish defamatory matter of any deceased person if it is done with the evil purpose of injuring his family and posterity, and to expose them to contempt and disgrace.
 The chief reason for punishing offenses of this nature is their tendency to a breach of the peace. Although the person may be dead at the time of the publishing of the libel, yet it stir up others of the same family, blood or society to revenge and to break the peace.
 May there be a recovery of damages in a civil action for the defamation of a dead person?
 No. The law has not seen fit to give a legal cause of action for the defamation of a dead person.
 There are many criminal actions which do not give rise to the recovery of damages in a civil suit.
 May there be a recovery of damages in a civil action for the slander or libel of a living person?
 Yes.
 May there be a recovery of damages in a civil action for the slander or libel of a living person if this person dies before the civil action is brought?
 No. This is one of the few actions which does not survive the death of the party involved.
 Is it a crime to slander or libel a living person?
 Yes. There is a complete defense, however, if the defendant satisfies the jury that the facts are true.
 A North Carolina statute stipulates that before any action, either criminal or civil, is brought for slander or libel against a newspaper, periodical, radio or television station.

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Cash and Due from Banks	\$ 25,001,487.85
U. S. Government & Government Agency Obligations	44,870,992.86
State and Municipal Bonds	16,180,964.71
Total Bonds at Cost Less Valuation Reserves	61,051,957.57
Loans and Discounts	44,736,573.75
Accrued Interest—Investments and Other Assets	629,763.70
Inter-Office Clearings	2,130,972.72
Banking Houses and Real Estate	\$ 1,397,615.12
Furniture and Fixtures	1,228,333.10
	\$ 2,625,948.22
Less: Reserve for Depreciation	754,966.55
	1,870,981.67
	\$135,421,737.26

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 2,070,000.00
Surplus	2,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	2,856,446.16
Reserve Account—Accrued and Unearned Interest, Insurance, Taxes and Other Reserves	1,231,396.16
Other Liabilities	120,306.36
Deposits	121,143,588.58
	\$135,421,737.26

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