

THE DUPLIN TIMES

Published each Thursday in Kenansville, N. C., County Seat of DUPLIN COUNTY

Editorial, business office and printing plant, Kenansville, N. C.

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OWNER and PUBLISHER
RUTH P. GRADY, EDITOR

Entered at The Post Office Kenansville, N. C. as second class matter

TELEPHONE - Kenansville, Day 29 2-5771 - Night 29 2-2141

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$3.50 per year plus 14c N. C. Sales Tax. In Duplin County, Jones, Onslow, Pender, Sampson, New Hanover and Wayne counties; \$4.50 per year plus 14c N. C. Sales Tax outside this area in North Carolina and \$5.00 per year plus 17c N. C. Sales Tax elsewhere.

Advertising rates furnished on request

A Duplin County Journal, devoted to the religious, material, educational and agricultural development of Duplin County.

W. N. R.

Uncle Pete From Chitlin Switch SAYS

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

As a general rule, most pamphlets we get from the Department of Agriculture don't call for no deep meditation or prayer. But ever once in a while we'll get one that will stir up a little thinking.

For instance, the one I got last week was talking about a banker in Georgia inventing a gadget that'll reap the shafts on a cultivator to fit the different width of crop rows. This gadget will do the job in 10 minutes instead of the two hours it takes now.

Just what a banker is doing meddling in the farm business, I don't know. But everybody else, including this feller Billie Sol Estes, seems to be getting into the act, so I reckon it's legal.

But anyhow, the time is coming when all you'll need to operate a big farm is a couple fellers that knows how to push control buttons and operate one of them computers.

The folks in the Agriculture Department has already proved by experiments that the only good you get from cultivating corn is weed control, and that you can now do this with chemicals, so unplowed corn fields will produce as much as them that is plowed or cultivated.

The reason I bring this item up, Mister Editor, is to wonder if we ain't fast coming to another major farm problem. What's going to happen in another 10 years to the thousands that working on farms that won't be needed?

And I was reading the other day where power vehicles on the farm has replaced 29 million horses in the last 35 years, saving 70 million acres of hay that used to be needed to feed these horses.

Things is changing fast in agriculture in this country and sometimes I wonder if them Congressmen that's busy extending the New Frontier has took due note of these changes and made any plans for the future.

And I see by the papers where a new invention in school houses has been noted. A school in Michigan is boarding up the windows for next year. They claim this will keep the youngsters from getting distracted by outside things and that it's a very advanced idea in education. I'm agin it, Mister Editor. It won't work. Furthermore, if Johnny can't read and Johnny can't spell like the newspapers is claiming, it won't be long under this new idea till Johnny can't even see.

Me and my old lady was discussing this new idea in education and she allows as how, windows or no windows, the real reason Johnny can't read is because Johnny, dad, ain't him, won't study. But my old lady is old fashioned in these matters, Mister Editor.

Yours truly,
Uncle Pete

Changes In Your Social Security

By Ed Deese, Field Representative Duplin County

Ed Deese, Field Representative Duplin County Social Security Administration Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Are you waiting to retire completely before you file for social security benefits? If so, don't delay, check to say you do not have to retire completely in order to receive some benefits, said Ed Deese, Field Representative for Duplin County.

There are over a million workers age 65 or over in this country who are receiving some social security monthly benefits. Before 1951, a person entitled to benefits who earned over \$3000 and worked all twelve months of the year could not receive a check for any month in the year. However, as a result of the latest amendments to the law, workers of retirement age can receive social security benefits even though their earnings are substantially over \$3000 for the year.

The 1951 amendments to the Social Security Law provide that 81 of the total benefits payable to a family during a year be withheld for every \$2 the worker earns between

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2000 and 1950. Deductions for earnings in excess of \$790 will be on a dollar for dollar basis. Under the law it may be possible for a worker with dependents who are also entitled to social security benefits to earn up to \$4400 in a year and still receive some social security benefit. An example of how the new "retirement test" works will explain it better, said Mr. Deese.

Let us assume that a 35 year old worker earns \$3000 a year. He has earned this salary for many years and will continue working at the same salary. On the basis of the 1951 year salary, his social security benefit payment will be \$105 a month. His wife and minor child will each receive \$52.50 monthly - total monthly benefits to the family will amount to \$210. In this example, if the worker retired and kept his earnings under \$1200 a year, he and his family could receive checks for all 12 months of the year, or \$2520. However, this worker will not retire and will continue to earn \$3000 a year. Can this worker receive any social security benefits? Let us apply the "work test" and see.

Step 1. Since this worker is earning over \$1200 a year, he and his family cannot receive the full yearly benefits of \$2520.

Step 2. For the first \$300 he earns over \$1200, a deduction of \$20 must be made (\$1 for each \$2 earned). Subtracting \$250 from the \$2520 leaves \$2270.

Step 3. Since this total earnings are \$1900 over the \$1700, an additional \$1900 (dollar for dollar, from the \$2270 remaining from Step 2 must be subtracted. This leaves \$370 in benefits which may still be paid to this worker and his family, even though he has earned \$3600 for the year.

Many workers do not have to stop working completely to receive benefits. Mr. Deese urged all aged workers who are still employed to see their local Social Security Office at once to avoid the loss of possible benefits.

Mr. Deese said that workers can figure out whether or not they can receive payments while working by obtaining a copy of Leaflet 32c from any Social Security District Office. The chart in the leaflet tells you at a glance how earnings will affect the amount of benefits that a worker and his family can get.

For additional information, visit your Social Security District Office at 311 E. Walnut Street in Goldsboro.

COURT CHUCKLES by S. M. DEAN

YOU CLAIM YOU DIDN'T ANSWER HIS LETTER BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T GET IT?

NO, AND BESIDES I DIDN'T LIKE SOME OF THE THINGS HE SAID IN IT!

WASHINGTON REPORT

Your Congressman
DAVID N. HENDERSON

There is an old saying among tobacco farmers that "Dry weather will scare you to death, but wet weather will ruin you."

Last year, following heavy rains and flooding of the Trent River in Jones County, I visited the area and requested that immediate consideration be given to declaring the County a Federal Agriculture Disaster Area. This was done, and as a result of the investigation initiated at that time, Craven County was later also declared a Disaster Area. The designation of a county as an Agriculture Disaster Area makes possible specialized emergency loans to farmers in the area through the Farmers Home Administration and other assistance not ordinarily available.

The Department of Agriculture provides Federal Crop Insurance in most areas which is all-risk insurance guaranteeing the farmer a certain sum per acre for his tobacco crop regardless of the cause of damage. Comparable insurance from private sources is not available. As a result of this request, the possibility of this coverage being extended to Pender, Craven, and Onslow Counties where it previously had not been available. As a result of this request, the insurance was made available in these counties was covered by Federal Crop Insurance.

On Saturday of last week, with the rain still falling, I contacted officials of the Department of Agriculture in Raleigh to request that an immediate investigation be started to determine whether the designation of some of the Third District's counties as Disaster Areas for this year would be appropriate. As of Monday afternoon, I was advised that preliminary estimates showed estimated damage of 204 or more to the total crop in Pender, Craven, Jones, Currituck, and Onslow Counties, but that these estimates were - of course - subject to variation dependent upon weather developments from now on.

Unfortunately, the Federal Government has not yet learned to control the weather. It can and does however, try to take all reasonable steps to protect farmers from being virtually wiped out by it.

Birds breathe more rapidly than either mammals or reptiles and their ability to inflate numerous air-spaces in sacs and bones is unique.

Remember that it is only this peculiar method of reforming, by laughing and not storming.
- Jonathan Swift

A moment of time, that man lives.
- Marcus Aurelius

I hady dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Lane at Goldsboro in honor of Mrs. Lane's mother Mrs. Odie Register.

BIBLE FACTS OF INTEREST

By: Miss V. Fridgen

What is Eternal Life?

We might not consider it with immortality. Immortality simply means living forever. Eternal life is the life which we live with God. We believe it to be a life of the most intense happiness because it is lived with God and for God. It must be desired above all else. It must be cultivated on earth if we are to have it in heaven. It becomes our possession the moment we permit God to bring our spirits to birth.

Jesus went to the cross that we might be drawn to eternal life. (St. Luke 10:25, 26, 27, 28) "And behold a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life. He said unto him, What is written in the law? How readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself. And he said unto him, thou hast answered right: this do and thou shalt live." (John 13:25) "He that loveth his life shall lose it: and He that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."

Losing self, we gain this vibrant, joyful life of the spirit, which is eternal life. When we die, we do not suddenly gain it: we carry it with us.

O, God—Why?

Lesson for July 14, 1952

Does it seem to you that this world doesn't make sense? Have you ever felt lonely? The bunch that will eat all the people who find this world a mad, mad, mad, mad world? And you will find yourself thinking that there's some "mad" man in the world's truly maddest madhouse.

Dr. F. C. Burkholder, pastor of the world's truly maddest madhouse, says: "He has about the look of a genuine prophet. A man of God. Habakkuk does not seem to me the acquirer of a bench at that like a man with all the answers. He brings questions, not answers. The long pages that remain to us of his prophecies are unique; for other prophets come to us with their minds made up; Habakkuk (to quote) makes up his mind, and then he writes. He says: 'I will stand by my side, and I will see how He will do it.'"

A Time of Storms

Habakkuk breaks out with a cry of "how long?" and "why?" He lived in the time when the nation of Judah was in the grip of what today we call a crime wave.

Only that was more than the God of Israel and lawlessness of the "Judeans." What Habakkuk cannot understand is why God does not at once put a stop to it. He was not the first nor the last man to be so discouraged about the state of the world that he gives up hope of human help and believes that only some sudden act of God can sweep the many evils aside and usher in peace and justice. But God stays his hand.

It seems clear to Habakkuk that God will not intervene, but that God adds to his despairing mood does not always do what we want him to do, and particularly, does not always do what we want him to do what we want him to do.

We are like children impatient if God does not operate on our schedule. But God has his own plans and times. He never comes too late.

Scourge of God

Now the Lord gives Habakkuk an answer, an amazing answer: "I am rousing the Chaldeans," God tells the prophet. That would be an shocking in Habakkuk's ears as if some one were to tell us that God is rousing the Hittites. Chapter 1:8-11 gives a grim picture of the Chaldeans. Any Israelites would have agreed 100% with it. This was a cruel, strong, ruthless, plundering, tyrannical, alien nation. They were armed, they came for violence, terror of the sea, they were bold, God had made them in purple colors. What would seem strange and incredible to Habakkuk is not the darkly violent destruction of the Chaldeans, the nation of other nations feared and hated; what Habakkuk would find all but impossible to believe was that God would stir them up.

Yet that was the fact: These cruel people were "the scourge of God," to punish the people of God for their own sin. The prophet's question, we remember, was why doesn't God do something about the lawlessness of this nation? God's answer is: "I am even now preparing a terrible scourge with which to lash this people for their crimes. And the name of the scourge is—Chaldeans."

A Lesson for Faith

The answer still does not satisfy the unhappy prophet. How is it that a just and good God is so nothing of his wisdom—how is it he will use such a wicked nation as the Chaldeans to punish the very people he has made? He says that Habakkuk is not in the time of crisis about the ways of God. One thing was that God is in control. He sets bounds to evil. Neither on this earth nor anywhere else his creation does God offer his throne to Satan. Nowhere does God relinquish control.

Another thing the prophet learns is that we have to look beneath the surface of things to see the truth. All things must be judged not by what can be seen in the moment's glance, but by the long run. Habakkuk learns that God does not pay all his accounts in October, but God does pay. "The arrogant man shall not hold an ill-gotten good word," he says. "He who would pervert the word of God must be a patient man of faith, in contact with the night. God shall forever live."

(Continued on page 2)

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THE WAYSIDE PULPIT

By D. E. Earnhardt

Repent ye therefore and be converted. Acts 3:19

The big-goods, the do-gooders and the buddy-hooders most often shy away from the gospel of individual redemption.

John Milton said a man could have a heaven or a hell in his own breast. In my long ministry how true have I found this to be!

I have seen women marry rough-necks and introduce them into good society to reform them. I have seen bad men put on church boards in order to change them and get their change. That is like the little boy that put the cat in the birdcage to make the cat love little birds. If made him love one, his parrot did not change the nature of the cat.

A kind man in the crowd took a biscuit and two sandwiches from a boys lunchbox and broke them and multiplied them to feed the crowd. That same Divine Man can take our scraps and produce the bread of life for thousands who perish with hunger.

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BIBLE SPE

BY DR. BENNETT F. THOMAS

Bible Material! Habakkuk: 2 Kings 22:5-7; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 71:1-14.

Does it seem to you that this world doesn't make sense? Have you ever felt lonely? The bunch that will eat all the people who find this world a mad, mad, mad, mad world? And you will find yourself thinking that there's some "mad" man in the world's truly maddest madhouse.

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(Continued on page 2)

The future is so much uncertain than the present - Will Habakkuk...

ADVICE

Advice is like any other... falls the longer it dangles... the deeper it sinks into the ground. - Samuel Taylor Coleridge