

### Social Security Benefits Here Show Increase, Reports Barkley

Social Security benefits paid to residents of Cleveland County totaled \$654,000 a month as 1969 ended, Lex G. Barkley, social security district manager, reported today.

A benefit increase, signed into law by President Nixon on December 30, 1969, has since raised the monthly rate of payment by 15 percent for the 9,114 social security beneficiaries in Cleveland County, Barkley noted.

Of the social security beneficiaries living in Cleveland County, 5,097 are retired workers and their dependents. Another 2,485 are receiving benefits as the survivors of workers who have died, and 1,318 are getting benefits as disabled workers or the dependents of disabled workers.

Barkley pointed out that although the majority of social security beneficiaries are older people, about one out of every four is under age 60.

In the State of North Carolina, 182,559 people under age 60 are collecting social security payments each month. The 100,694 who are under 18 are receiving payments because a working father or mother has died or is getting social security disability or retirement benefits.

Of the 14,818 who are 18 through 21 years of age, most are

getting students' benefits under a provision which permits the continuation of a child's benefits past his or her 18th birthday, and up to age 22 if he or she is attending school full time.

But in this 18 to 22 age group, Barkley said, are some other types of beneficiaries, illustrating the broad family protection that is provided working people of all ages under the social security program. A number are the children of retired, disabled, or deceased workers who became disabled before they reached 18 and who will probably never be able to work and become self supporting. The benefits of these young people, severely handicapped by physical or mental disabilities, will continue indefinitely and benefits are also payable to their mothers if the disabled son or daughter is in the mother's care.

Another small but significant group of youthful social security beneficiaries are those who are receiving social security benefits as disabled workers. Under a 1967 change in the law, disability benefits can be paid to a person who becomes disabled for work even if he has less than five years of work under social security. As little as a year and a half is required in the case of a worker who becomes disabled before age 24.

### Thornburg Wins Pig At Oak Grove's 4th

Rodney Thornburg caught the greased pig and plucked \$5 from atop the greased pole at the fourth of July celebration at the Oak Grove Fire Department.

Thornburg, 12, is son of Newell Thornburg of Waco Rd. He caught the pig in a chase in the pasture next to the firehouse and probably plans to raise it, according to Frank Hamrick, a fireman, who looted contenders for the bill. Mr. Hamrick, a mechanic at Grigg Garage also stripped the bark from the poplar pole which was then greased with lard and stuck into the earth.

### Local Students To Camp

Four Kings Mountain students are attending the ninth annual St. Andrews Music Camp in session on the campus of St. Andrews College in Laurinburg, North Carolina. The camp is enjoying a peak enrollment of 125 students and 20 faculty. Students range in age from 12-18.

Local students are Ireolu Easley, Danny Sellers, David Ford and Ronald Payne.

The students receive private instruction on all woodwind, brass, string and percussion instruments as well as piano, organ and voice. Students recitals are given weekly whereby talented students gain experience in individual performance.

The campers are also organized into performing groups. The music camp orchestra is conducted by Franklin West of St. Andrews College. The chorus is under the direction of James Blanton of Crest High School in Cleveland County, N. C. The stage band is directed by Donald Deal of Kings Mountain, N. C. The music camp band is conducted by Louis Beam of Kannapolis, N. C. and Rock Hill, S. C. These groups present weekly concerts on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. The final camp concert is on Sunday, July 12, at 2:00 p.m.

The emphasis of the camp is personal individual attention and the musical enrichment of the campers through individual and group performance.

Roughly 85% of the elementary schoolchildren in Guatemala are using CARE desks and chairs. Prior to the agency's aid, most pupils sat on boxes or bare floors.

In 1929, Southern Bell celebrated not only its fiftieth birthday but also the installation of one million telephones in active service.

### SISK FUNERAL HOME

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

Psalm 116:15

I interpret this to mean that when death comes to one of his saints God rejoices to receive him who has served him well.

If you cannot attend church on Sunday morning listen to Rex Hubbard's service over Channel 9 from 10 to 11 A.M.

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