



Mrs. Davis (left), and Mrs. Decker—and a cake of many layers . . .

## Retiree And Her Twin Sister Keep Birthday Appointment

Mrs. J. M. Decker, retired employee, kept a traditional date with her twin sister, Mrs. J. R. Davis of Atlanta, Ga., February 10. On the occasion of their 69th birth anniversary, neighbors and even close relatives agreed that it was still pretty hard to tell the identical twins apart.

To the birthday celebration held at the Decker home at 825 Adams drive, Gastonia, members of the family took gifts for the honorees—and there was a king-sized birthday cake.

The twins, the former Misses Mary and Sarah Abernathy, grew up in Cherokee county, near Murphy, and were married there.

Around 35 years ago, Mrs. Davis moved to Georgia and Mrs. Decker came to Gastonia. Each had a family of 11 children, and two children in each family are deceased. Mrs. Decker has 19

grandchildren. Her sister has 16, and four great-grandchildren.

**MRS. DECKER** retired from the Cord Weaving Department here four years ago, after spending more than 10 years on the job. Today, she has three daughters and three sons-in-law who are employed here. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Payton Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bradley.

The twin sisters make a special effort to see each other on February 10 each year, and oftener than that if possible. This was the second consecutive year that the birthday celebration had been held in Gastonia. Sometimes they mark their special day in Atlanta or elsewhere.

Mrs. Davis and her husband have lived in Atlanta for around 30 years. Mrs. Decker's husband is deceased.

When visiting each other, the twins delight to recall incidents resulting from difficulties people have had in identifying them. When they were first married, even their husbands had to look closely to tell the sisters apart. And when the children came along they often were confused as to which mother was theirs.

"Across the years it has not been uncommon for both of us to contract the same ailment at the same time, even though we were living miles apart," they relate.

## Wyandotte Plant Has Newspaper

When it made its bow to readers in January, Firestone Rim Lines became the ninth employee newspaper to be published by the Company at plants in cities of the United States. It is published by the Firestone Steel Products Company at Wyandotte, Mich., world's largest producer of truck and tractor rims.

The monthly employee paper, edited by Carole F. Coffman, was named "Rim Lines" by Joseph Angerbrandt, a safety inspector at the plant. He submitted the name in an employee contest which drew 445 entries.

### IN MEMORIAM

Funeral for John M. Wright of 217 South King street, was conducted from Covenant Methodist Church on February 25, and burial was in Hollywood Cemetery.

Mr. Wright was a retired Firestone employee. Mrs. Wright, who survives him, is also retired from the plant. A son, Hugh Wright, is Cloth Room Overseer here. Others surviving Mr. Wright are three daughters, Mrs. Raymond Glass, Mrs. Herbert Swanger, and Miss Inez Wright of the home; sons Theodore and Guy Wright; two brothers, two sisters, and a granddaughter.

## T-DAY MINUS ONE

# Last Minute April Foolishness

Note: This is a preview of the night before Tax Day, based on human nature and information from the American Institute of Accountants, and checked for technical accuracy by the Internal Revenue Service.

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Now to figure up that old income tax!

In other words, Ralph, the fight is on. Fight the form, fight the deadline and fight the temper. This is the night of April 14, and tomorrow is the deadline for filing your federal income tax return for 1956. You, like millions of other people, have succeeded in putting this matter off until you have all the evening to rush through a job that might save you more money than you earn in a week.

No, Alice, I'll not need your help this year. Too many cooks spoil the soup, you know. Sit right there and read the paper."

A TYPICAL year's spoilt soup included one million returns filed without signatures—or with only one signature instead of the required two on a joint return). Also, arithmetic errors resulting in over-payment by taxpayers of more than \$19,000,000—not to mention an even larger amount of underpayments. Uncle Sam, who checks every return, catches these errors. But don't expect him to look for all the deductions or exemptions you missed.

"Must get organized! Alice, would you bring me that pen from the dining room table?"

You'd better bring him a pencil for the first draft, especially if he is going to itemize deductions. Since Mr. Organizer waited until T-Day-minus-one, chances are he will only have time to repeat last year's performance and take the 10 per cent standard deduction in the end. But it is early yet, and he realizes that many tax payers can save by itemizing such expenses as charitable or religious donations, interest paid on mortgages or loans, medical and dental expenses, and state and local taxes.

"What did I do with that tax blank, Alice? How about getting it for me out of my coat pocket in the hall closet?"

Alice retrieves beautifully, and she is also good for a \$600 exemption on the tax return. And Ralph, don't forget to take a \$600 exemption for yourself. Anyone 65 or over gets an additional \$600 exemption, and there is still another exemption for blindness. These special exemptions for age and blindness do not apply to dependents, but you can get the regular \$600 exemption for each dependent, as explained in the instructions—even when you provide less than 50 per cent support, in some cases.

"Now that you're up, Alice, would you add up this column of figures and enter the total in item 10? I'm sure it's Item 10. Show me where it says Item 11 in the instructions!"

**WITHOUT** taking sides on this particular issue, it might be suggested that everyone who may have to file a return (including anyone whose income was less than \$600, but who wants a refund for tax withheld) should read carefully the instruction book which the Government provides free. Since there is usually some change

in the tax laws each year, you might miss a deduction or exemption to which you are entitled, if you fill out the form without first reading the instruction book.

"Then of course we'll enter it in Item 11. Where else would you put it? Let's try to be intelligent about this thing, Alice!"

Remember how stupid it was not to give birth to the twins before midnight December 31, which would have qualified two more dependents for 1956? And as if that weren't bad enough, how about the \$5,000 you won on that quiz program? Didn't you realize that such a prize is taxable?

"Doesn't this take the cake. Look at this, Alice. How can those tax people in Washington expect me to remember every little doctor bill I had to pay last year?"

**YOU CAN** itemize and deduct all medical-dental expenses in excess of 3 per cent of your income, within certain top limits. Be sure to list fees of doctors, dentists, hospitals and nurses. You may not deduct expenses paid or reimbursed by insurance, but your medical insurance premiums count as medical expense.

Ralph, do you remember when you twisted your back removing the storm windows last summer? If you were absent from work due to an injury and received "sick pay" from your employer or his insurance company, you do not have to pay tax on \$100 per week of this income. The same applies to sickness, except that unless you were hospitalized for at least one day, the payments for the first 7 calendar days of absence are not tax free.

"How long have you been hiding these receipted bills and cancelled checks in this desk drawer? Fine thing, Alice! What if you forgot where you put them!"

**THERE IS LITTLE** chance that Alice has forgotten where she was carefully filing the receipts of bills paid. She knows you must keep receipted bills and cancelled checks to prove payment of such important, deductible items as state and local taxes, interest included in mortgage payments, union dues, the fee Alice had to pay the employment agency for her part-time job, and child-care expenses (you may be entitled to a deduction of up to \$600 if, while you worked, it was necessary for you to pay someone to care for a child under 12 or anyone who is physically or mentally incapacitated).

"I give up! This is impossible. Alice, we'll just have to go to jail."

This fight may be over late in the 14th round of April. It happens to the best of last-minute filers: the form wins by a TKO. If you want to give yourself the best possible break on your federal income tax, the American Institute of Accountants advises that you prepare your return carefully, file early and save your records to back up deductions. And, if you find that Uncle Sam owes you money, early filing means a quicker refund.

"Alice, please! How can I concentrate on this newspaper when you interrupt with silly questions? Naturally, I'll look over your figures before I sign the form. And when you mail it—Don't forget to put a stamp on the envelope."

## Good Posture Promotes Efficiency

You typed three instead of four carbon copies, lost a telephone number and misfiled a whole sheaf of papers.

It could be the cold you've been getting all week . . . or last night's late movie . . . or the lunch you raced through at noon.

But recently the Posture Institute has come up with another and probably more important possibility—the way you sit in your office chair.

One specialist said, "A surprising number of secretaries and other office people don't know how to sit properly. They crouch, slouch, stretch or wiggle instead of just plain sitting. All of these unattractive seating habits retard blood circulation,

twist the spine and increase mistakes while cutting down on efficiency."

**HERE ARE** a few important tips from the posture people on how to sit right:

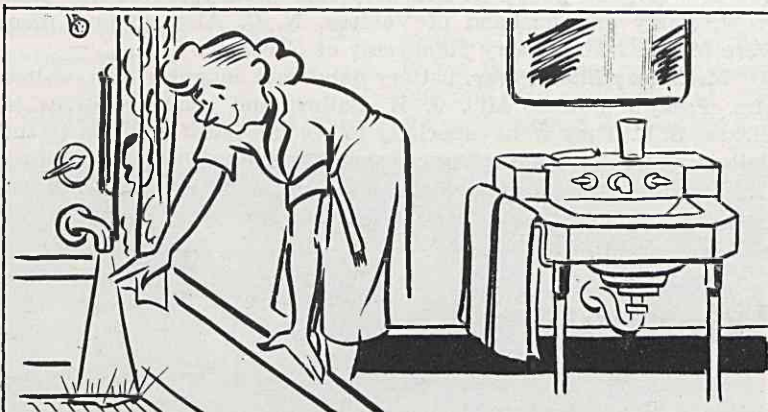
Don't scrooch forward in your chair. This puts constant pressure on your lower spine and restricts the movements of your arms and shoulders.

Don't slouch into an arc. Such a position crowds the lungs and internal organs.

Do sit way back in your chair. Rest your feet on the floor.

Snap up straight, toss back your shoulders and place your feet squarely on the floor. Doesn't that feel better?

Now all you have to do is stay that way!



**Slipping in bath** — Use bathmat in tub, handrail to get in and out of tub.

**Electrocution** — No portable electrical devices such as a radio or space heater should be within reach of bathtub, basin, plumbing piping. Remember water and electricity do not mix. So be sure there is no water in the washbasin while

using an electric shaver. **Swallowing poison** — Keep poison out of the reach of young children.

**Scalding in shower, tub or basin** — Regulate water carefully before getting doused.

**Razor blade cuts** — Have a safe place to carefully discard old blades.