

Advice On Shoe Purchasing

In the March issue of the N. C. Health Bulletin, an article by Drs. Marsh, Lumsden and Chanlett offers valuable advice for shoe purchasers who make use of shoe fitting machines having X-ray tubes. With some salesmen insufficiently aware of the danger, and not equipped with necessary knowledge some serious effects may obtain. The writers point out the specific danger of excessive radiation through too long an exposure to beam intensities sometimes causing irreparable injury.

Customers in a store not using the machine, but seated near the machine may also receive ill effects through the unnecessary exposure to X-rays each time the machine is used. Proper location in a store however may safeguard the health of customers. This may be achieved, the writers state, by stationing the machine so that the high intensity beam from the foot opening is directed away from the working area in the store, and in a position whereby the radiation is absorbed by the walls of the store.

A mimeograph circular entitled "X-Ray Shoe Fitting Machines" has been issued by the Division of Industrial Hygiene of the North Carolina State Board of Health.

It is well for customers to know that one or two exposures will be enough for any customer. Both the customer and the salesman are exposed to the dangers of these X-ray shoe-fitting machines.

In the same issue information is given concerning the availability of Federal funds for the care of prematurely-born infants in this state. The information is as follows:

The U. S. Children's Bureau has made available funds to the North Carolina State Board of Health to establish a program for the care of prematurely born infants in this state. The purpose of this program is:

- (1) to set up premature infant centers in hospitals located in strategic areas of the state. These centers have specially trained nurses, physicians and equipment to take care of prematurely born infants.
- (2) funds are set aside to give financial aid to parents in the lower economic group so that they might keep their premature infants in the hospital until they are strong enough to go home.
- (3) to make provisions to get prematurely born babies who need specialized care into hospitals or hospital centers immediately after birth.
- (4) to educate Public Health Nurses who are interested and nurses in hospitals in the care of premature infants by giving them refresher courses and scholarships in premature care.

Some of our clubs are Mission Study Clubs. Surely some members will be in-



Welcome to Moore County

terested in the interesting story which I am copying for this issue to show how eager for the gospel and its ministry are our people over the ocean wave far, far away. The story is taken from the October 1949 issue of the C. M. S. Outlook published in London.

EIGHT MILES ON HER KNEES

I was interviewing candidates for baptism inside the little mud-and-wattle church not far from the Belgian Congo border. One by one the men had come forward, and now it was the women's turn. The sun had set and it was getting dark. There were two more women, so I said to Firipo, the teacher: "Let them come in together." Imagine my astonishment when, looking up, I saw one of them coming in on her knees, and almost as fast as the other. She was a leper. No fingers left, and no toes. She could no longer walk, not even with a stick. There were indeed no fingers with which to grip a stick.

But what a cheerful smiling face! There was no depression and there were no complaints, and she had been a leper from childhood! Years ago, she had first heard the Word of God at a leper settlement, near Yambio. Later, she had been discharged as a "burnt-out" case, and had come to live at her father's homestead near the Belgian Congo border.

"But, how did you come to Firipo's school?" I asked.

"On my knees, Buana."

"But," I said to Firipo, "how far is her father's home from here?"

"About eight miles," he replied.

Indeed, that crippled leper woman had come for her baptism *eight miles* on her knees! And, moreover, in one place the road passed over a stream and the covering on the bridge was rough ironstone. This was her third journey this year to Firipo's school, and last year she had made the journey several times.

She came for "Christian fellowship and instruction, and for the love of *Ga Mbori Pai* (the Word of God)," she said. "What

A Moment for Meditation "THE BITTER FRUIT"

"Slave of mine," the king commandeth,
"Cease to sing and play the lute,
I would test three in obedience,
Take and eat this bitter fruit."

" 'Tis a poisoned gift he offers,"
All the whispering courtiers said,
"Either he'll refuse to taste it,
Or—the slave will soon be dead."

Brightly steppeth forth the slave-boy,
Bows him in obedience mute,
With a grateful smile receiveth
From the king, the bitter fruit.

Takes and eats it without flinching,
Shrinks not at the nauseous taste,
Finishes the final morsel,
Without horror, without haste.

"Dread'st thou not it may be poisoned?"
Asks the king. He answers "Nay!
Even if it were, my master,
I would gladly still obey."

"How is it thy face was placid,
Eating this most bitter thing?
Hadst thou grumbled at the badness,
None could wonder," quote the king.

"Sire," the smiling slave-boy answers,
"Why should I refuse to eat
The first bitter fruit thou gavest,
When the rest have all been sweet?"

"Good or evil, sweet or bitter,
So they come from thine own hand,
I, thy slave, will ever welcome,
Gladly, at my king's command."

M. Colley.

did the pain and weariness of such a journey matter?" Her knees were padded with bark-cloth, but even then they were badly swollen and sore.

I was completely overcome as I thought of all that that poor woman must have suffered, and I was humbled, too, and wondered whether I should be prepared for such a sacrifice as hers in devotion to the Lord Jesus.—A. B. H. Riley.