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MONTHLY BENEFITS IN 1941 REVEALED

4,790 Persons Received Payments In State During The Year

Awards of monthly benefits under the Federal old-age and survivors insurance system were made to 4,790 persons in North Carolina during 1941, according to Mrs. Lurline D. Lewis, acting manager of the Wilmington office of the Social Security board. These awards represent benefits totaling \$63,966 a month, she said. In addition, awards of lump-sum death payments totaling \$188,324 were made to 2,027 individuals in the state last year.

Included in the monthly benefit awards, she said, were 1,386 for workers past age 65, representing total payments of \$25,948 a month; 372 for aged wives of workers eligible for benefits, \$3,557 a month; 2,210 for children of retired workers or of deceased workers, \$21,551 a month; 110 for aged widows of deceased workers, \$1,918 a month; 676 for widows with young children, \$10,566 a month; and 36 for parents of deceased workers, \$426 a month.

Mrs. Lewis said that throughout the country awards of monthly benefits to workers past 65 had not increased this year as might normally be expected, partially as a result of better employment opportunities for older workers in war production. Thousands of workers who are eligible for old-age and survivors insurance payments have not claimed their retirement benefits because they prefer regular jobs with good pay instead of the modest income provided under the old-age and survivors insurance system.

"Many of these older workers," she said, "will receive larger benefits when they do apply, because they are now earning higher wages than they did in the past. On the other hand, there are some workers 65 years old and over, who are receiving lower wages now than they did formerly. These should go to the office of the Social Security board and find out whether or not it would be to their advantage

Dutch Puppet?



Anto Mussert, Nazi leader in the Netherlands, may head puppet state there, which Germans are reported planning to set up and call Niedermark.

to file an application for benefits at this time."

Mrs. Lewis explained that benefits are based on average monthly wages, but the law permits a worker who has reached the age of 65 to file his claim and thus "freeze" the amount of his retirement benefits even though he does not intend to retire immediately, and does not expect to claim benefits until he gives up his job.

Total payments made to people in North Carolina during 1941 under the old-age and survivors insurance system amounted to \$1,304,000 including \$550,000 to retired workers, \$69,000 to aged wives, \$329,000 to children, \$20,000 to aged widows, \$143,000 to widows with young children, \$5,000 to parents of deceased workers, and lump-sum death payments totaling \$188,000.

Greek Guerilla Bands Operate Against Nazis

NEW YORK, May 23.—(P)—The Greek office of information said today it had received cables telling of guerilla band operations in Greece against the Germans, including a force of several thousand men commanded by Major Douras and including considerable numbers of British officers and soldiers who until recently were hiding in peasant homes.

His campaign, the office said, consists of operations by small bands which harass German communication lines with almost daily attacks on railroads, telegraph lines and motor roads.

The office also reported that thousands of refugees from bombed areas in Germany were arriving in Athens.

EARTHQUAKE

EL CENTRO, Calif., May 23.—(P)—A mild earthquake lasting ten seconds was felt throughout the Imperial valley at 8:51 a.m. (11:51 a.m. Eastern War time) today. There was no damage.

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War Industry Effort Is Near Faster Tempo

By FRANK MacMILLEN.

NEW YORK, May 23.—(Wide World)—The time is rapidly approaching when there will be a change in the tempo of the industrial effort for war, with factory wheels turning ever more rapidly but with construction of new facilities dropping into the background.

The change may not be immediately apparent to the average citizen, experts said today, because the expenditures for war—already at the rate of \$120,000,000 a day—will undoubtedly continue to climb. But more and more the money will be going directly into ships, planes, arms and food for our armies and our Allies.

Less, in comparison, will go to building the plants to produce war goods, and this has wide implications for such industries as construction and machine-tool making, where a slackening of the tremendous recent pace may show up within the next few months.

Of course, the experts say, this trend will be uneven, for there still are categories in which more basic facilities must be provided.

Shipbuilding was mentioned as one of these. Ways will continue to be laid down, it was said, as fast as materials to supply them come into sight.

Also many plants started months ago must be finished, others perhaps enlarged or retooled to take care of improved models.

This will make any change gradual, it was admitted, but a new emphasis, on construction and away from production, is one of the important industrial developments to look for in coming months, most experts here are convinced.

It does not mean that the peak of the war effort on the industrial front has been reached, they contended, but rather the contrary, that the huge plant which has been built up for the struggle is just coming into its own.

"With most of the factories built, we're really ready to go to town," was the way one industrialist put it.

His theory was that while the ability of the country to produce the raw materials to supply our war factories had not yet been reached, the ceiling was at least somewhere in the foreseeable future.

When the upper limit is approached, he suggested, the attempt to build large amounts of further productive capacity reaches a point of diminishing returns.

It is better, he contended, to devote the materials, the man-power and the managerial know-how to driving the existing huge capacity to the limit; quicker when time is vital, when one bomb today, dropped in the right place, may be worth four bombs on a 1944 production schedule.

From another source a sidelight on the problem this week.

Walter S. Tower, president, told the American Iron and Steel Institute that an accelerated construction program could lift the capacity of the industry by a further 10 per cent by the end of 1943, "if metallics are available."

The industry in the past two years—since the beginning of the defense program—had expanded just about a similar amount.

While Tower did not develop the point, the implication appeared plain. Another 16 months of construction would bring only a further 10 per cent rise in production, and then only if the raw metals were obtainable.

That at least begins to look like the law of diminishing returns.

ANSWER TO WAR QUIZ

- (Questions on Page 17)
1. Insignia denotes the sailor is a pharmacist's mate.
 2. Trincomalee is most important naval port on British island of Ceylon.
 3. Several French embassy employees resigned after Pierre Laval's return to power.

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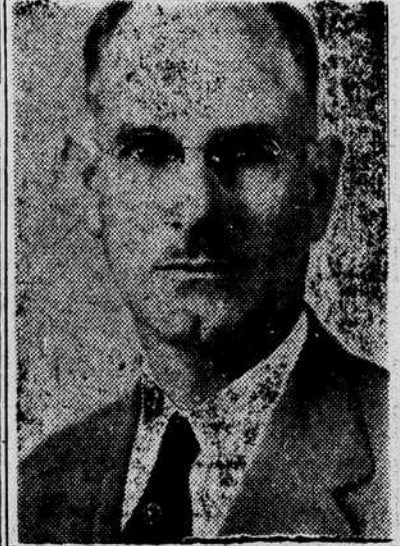
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NOTICE

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD MEMBERS
You are invited to attend our regular meeting, Monday night, May 25th at 8:00 p. m. One hour of entertainment and getting acquainted. To be held in our Hall in the Oddfellow Building, Corner 3rd and Princess streets. Visiting Woodmen are welcome and urged to attend. **W. E. DAVIS, Financial Secretary.**



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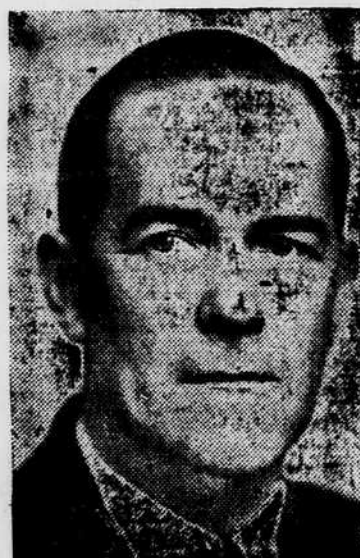
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