

Wataugans Receive One-Half Million Social Security Benefits

As of February, 1958, old-age, survivors, and disability insurance monthly benefits were being paid in the Hickory service area at the rate of \$7,112,536 a year, according to Don W. Marsh, manager of the Hickory Social Security Office. This tabulation was prepared from the official payment rolls of the Social Security Administration. Counties included in the Hickory service area are: Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, and Watauga.

Mr. Marsh stressed that while the benefits are intended primarily for the beneficiary's economic security, the payment of social security benefits at the rate of over 3 1/2 million a year in Watauga County helps business in the community generally because most of the money is spent immediately for food, clothing, and other necessities. According to the tabulation the exact amount for Boone and Watauga County is \$549,936. This figure does not include several thousand dollars of lump sum death payments to survivors of deceased workers.

"Payments to a retired worker in Watauga County with no dependents receiving benefits averaged \$52.10 a month and to a retired couple \$75.60 a month," Mr. Marsh said. The average for a widow with two young children was \$106.40. The maximum payment for a family is \$254. Throughout the entire State of North Carolina, the average monthly old age insurance benefit is \$60.90 as compared with a national average of \$67.50.

"There were several reasons for the increase in beneficiaries over last year," Mr. Marsh said. The long-term growth of the aged population and of the proportion of the aged population eligible for benefits are important factors in the continuing increase in the number of beneficiaries. Other reasons for the increase of beneficiaries are found in the provisions of the 1958 Amendments to the Social Security Act which now make it possible for the wife, dependent husband, and children of a disabled worker beneficiary to receive monthly payments. These amendments also provide for benefits to aged dependents of a deceased worker even though other survivors are entitled to payments.

Moreover, Mr. Marsh pointed out, it is now easier for a disabled worker to qualify for benefit pay-

ments. He no longer needs social security credit for 1 1/2 years of work in the last three years before he became disabled. If he worked under social security for at least five years out of the ten years before he became disabled he may be eligible for disability benefits. "Increases in average benefit payments reflect the 7 per cent raise in benefit amounts which became effective with the checks at the beginning of 1959," Mr. Marsh said. Average disability benefit payments also reflect the elimination of the so-called "offset" provision in the old law. Disability benefits under social security are now payable in full even though benefits are also payable under State workmen's compensation or under some other Federal Government program.

The table below shows the number and amount of each type of benefit being paid in Watauga County as of February 28, 1958, the date of the latest available tabulation:

Retired Workers, 546; Payments of \$341,700.

Wives and Husbands, 259; Payments of \$73,090.

Widows and Widowers, 47; Payments of \$26,804.

Mothers, Children, and Dependent Parents, 224; Payments of \$92,592.

Disabled Persons, 28; Payments of \$16,200.

The Hickory District Office of Social Security located at 216 Second Street, N. W. now services more than 12,275 active beneficiary accounts under the Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance provisions of the Social Security Law. These services include the issuance of original account numbers; processing claims for benefits; awarding, suspending and terminating benefit payments as indicated; adjusting, investigating and correcting wage listings and self-employment reports, as well as other details in connection with the administration of the Social Security Law.

Mr. Marsh stated that residents of the area served by the Hickory Office should contact his office for assistance in individual Social Security problems or questions. Regular trips are made to Morganton, Lenoir, Newton, Taylorsville and Boone. Appointments for discussion of Social Security matters can be arranged by writing or calling the Hickory office.

Democrats hope for gain in Nassau.

Mardi Gras Cake Wins \$25,000



1958 BAKE-OFF WINNER, Mrs. Eunice Surles of Lake Charles, La., is congratulated by movie Oscar winner, Greer Garson, and Mrs. Eleanor Pillsbury, when her Mardi Gras Party Cake won the \$25,000 top prize in the 11th annual Pillsbury Bake-Off.

The cake which won \$25,000 for the newly crowned "Cook of the Year" is a delightful taste adventure from the deep south. Mrs. Surles says it's delightful on two other counts, too: simplicity of recipe and ease of baking. Here's the way to make it.

MARDI GRAS PARTY CAKE

Pillsbury's Best 11th Grand National Recipe and Baking Contest Recipe Adapted by Ann Pillsbury

1/2 cup butter/soft morsels
1/4 cup water
2 1/4 cups sifted Pillsbury's Best All Purpose Flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon soda
1/2 teaspoon double-acting baking powder

1 cup sugar
1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1/2 cup shortening
3 unbeaten eggs
1 cup buttermilk or sour milk

Melt butterscotch morsels in water in saucepan. Cool. Sift flour with salt, soda and baking powder; set aside. Add sugar and brown sugar gradually to shortening, creaming well. Blend in eggs, beating well after each. Add butterscotch morsels; mix well. Add dry ingredients alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Blend well after each addition. (With mixer use a low speed.) Turn into two 9-inch round layer pans, well greased and lightly floured on the bottom.

Bake at 375° for 30 to 35 minutes. Cool; spread filling between layers and on top to within 1/2 inch of edge. Frost sides and top edge with Sea Foam Frosting, or whipped cream. Makes two 9-inch layers.

Butterscotch Filling: Combine 1/2 cup sugar and 1 tablespoon cornstarch in 2-quart saucepan. Stir in 1/2 cup evaporated milk, 1/4 cup water, 1/2 cup butterscotch morsels and 1 beaten egg yolk. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until thick. Remove from heat; add 2 tablespoons butter, 1 cup coconut, chopped, and 1 cup pecans or walnuts, chopped. Cool.

Sea Foam Frosting: Combine in saucepan 1/2 cup sugar, 1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar, 1/4 cup water and 1 tablespoon corn syrup. Cook until a little syrup dropped in cold water forms a soft ball (236° F.). Meanwhile, beat 1 egg white with 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar until stiff peaks form. Add syrup to egg white in slow, steady stream, beating constantly until thick enough to spread.

News Brevities

U. S. urged to end bars on farm imports.
Bankers oppose interest rate ceiling.
World sugar futures rise, then dip.
"Gas" electricity slated with space generator.
Psychic research urged as part of cancer study.

Noah Wheeler

(Continued from page one)
both of Bristol, Tenn.; a brother, Dan Wheeler of Clearwater, Fla.; a sister, Mrs. Mary Eller of Bristol, Tenn.; 37 grandchildren and 26 great grandchildren.

Many Tennessee

(Continued from page one)
and Tennessee has just recently completed construction of their side. Until Tennessee built their link, the road almost dead-ended at the state line.
A listing of all the officials from both states expected to come to Boone for the event, but W. F. Babcock, director of highways for North Carolina, Raleigh, will head the highway officials group, according to Mr. Wilcox.

More Than 350

(Continued from page one)
ty agent in Lincoln for 30 years.
He retired about nine years ago, and has spent most of his time working as he had taught—as a farmer. In 1958 he was cited as a winner of the Tree Farm Award. This honor is the result of good management and harvesting of forest lands, and this phase of his career should interest several Wataugans, as many trees have been planted in the area for future use.

RANGE FIRE TOLL IS HIGH

This has been the worst fire year since 1947 for the eastern range lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Director Edward Woolley has reported. Mr. Woolley said that by late August range and brush fires had burned more than 420,000 acres and the weather continued hot and dry during September in parts of the range country. The 1947 fire toll was 600,000 acres.

Customs men sentenced and fined as smugglers.

DEMOCRAT ADS PAY

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India
Italy
Korea
Pakistan
Poland
Turkey
Yugoslavia

This advertisement is one of a series of facts about the lawful sale of Malt Beverages

Temperance and Moderation Start With Control

Any system that operates outside the bounds of law and order breeds excesses.

When it becomes smart or fashionable to break the laws of the land, it becomes an easy step to break the laws of common sense.

Because beer and ale are beverages of temperance and moderation and are accepted by the great majority of the people, local prohibition laws are more irritating than effective.

North Carolina law offers a system for the control of the sale of beer and ale, which is the legal answer to the most practical method devised in the best interests of all law-abiding citizens.

Counties and communities that have adopted the system find that it works, and they like it. Most of our State lives under this system. Even discounting the tax revenue advantages, which are substantial, a workable and legal control system in itself appeals to a law-abiding people. It helps to build respect for temperance and moderation.

Only by setting the example of a tolerant and enlightened approach to this matter can we put it in its proper perspective. Only the "legal control" system has proven to be in the best interests of all law-abiding and progressive communities.

North Carolina Malt Beverage Control Institute

P. O. Box 2473

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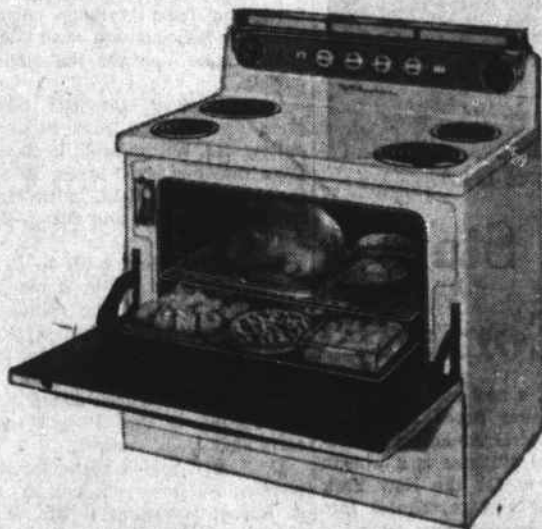
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