

KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

P. E. Bettendorf, representative of the Social Security Administration, is in Edenton every Thursday at the North Carolina Employment Security Commission in Citizens Bank Building.

They weren't very busy that day at the public library. That was a good thing, because Miss Padgett's arthritis was "acting up" worse than usual.

Did she dare ask for the afternoon off? Well, why not? After all, it was only the second time in 28 years that she had given in to sickness, no matter how badly her knees ached. Feeling unusually brave, she hobbled to the head librarian's office and made her request.

On the way home, Miss Padgett had another daring impulse. There was an empty parking space right in front of the social security office, and she decided to go in and ask some questions.

Two years or so ago, when the city employees had voted to go under social security, they had insisted that Miss Padgett take out a social security card. She never did know much about it, except for a dim idea that it might mean a few dollars to her at 65. If she could hold out that long. When you're 63, and your bones ached like Miss Padgett's did, two more years seemed like a long time.

Fifteen minutes later, when she walked out of the office, Miss Padgett had a new gleam in her eyes. The social security man had given her an idea.

Her pay at the library was \$280 a month. If she waited until she

was 65 to retire, her social security benefit would be about \$94.50 a month. But there was a new provision in the law, giving women between 62 and 65 the opportunity to start collecting their benefits earlier, at a somewhat reduced rate. If she retired right now, at 63, her payments would be about \$81.90 a month.

She knew her pension as a city employee would be about \$75 a month if she quit work now, and that the rules permitted a pensioner to work as much as 9 days a month without forfeiting the pension.

And the social security man had told her she could work part of the time and still be classed as "retired" under the social security law, as long as she didn't earn over \$1200 a year.

Social security, \$81; city pension, \$75; and part-time work, about \$100. That would give Miss Padgett an income of over \$250 a month, nearly as much as she was making now by working full time. And she would have a lot more leisure to nurse her arthritis and read some of those books that always looked so interesting when other people checked them out.

She hasn't quite decided yet. But the chances are that one of these days, before long, Miss Padgett will visit the social security office again, to put in her application.

Jobs Needed For State Labor Force

Insured unemployment in North Carolina was running 21 per cent higher in August than a year ago, the Employment Security Commission reports.

During the month, weekly claims for benefits averaged slightly under 32,000, ESC Chairman Henry E. Kendall said.

Kendall noted that unemployment in this State continues about 32 per cent higher than the national average. For a typical week around the middle of the month, insured unemployment in North Carolina amounted to 3.7 per cent of covered employment, as compared with the national average of 2.8 per cent.

Nonfarm job placements for the month totaled 15,149—an increase over July but some 9 per cent behind August a year ago.

Farm placements were off 34 per cent from a year ago, with cuts in acreage allotments and reduced crop production contributing to the decline, it was pointed out.

At the end of August, there were 66,092 job seekers registered for work with the local ESC offices. This meant that there were about 14 persons for every unfilled job opening, as compared with a 9 to 1 ratio last year at this time.

Even though insured unemployment was running heavier than a year ago, the average weekly claims load (31,954) actually was reaching its lowest point thus far in 1957. This was due in part to seasonal employment gains, such as in tobacco processing.

"Conditions are improving," Kendall said, "but more jobs are needed due to our steadily increasing labor force."

Don't waste yourself in rejection, nor bark against the bad, but chant the beauty of the good. —Emerson.

\$1,331,000 Returned To North Carolina For Unemployment

The federal government is returning over \$1,331,000 to North Carolina as this State's pro-rata share of unemployment taxes collected in excess of administrative expenses, Henry E. Kendall, chairman of the Employment Security Commission, says.

Kendall said the money will go into North Carolina's unemployment insurance fund.

He noted that the federal payment, along with interest earned by the North Carolina fund, helps in holding down taxes paid by North Carolina employers under the Employment Security law.

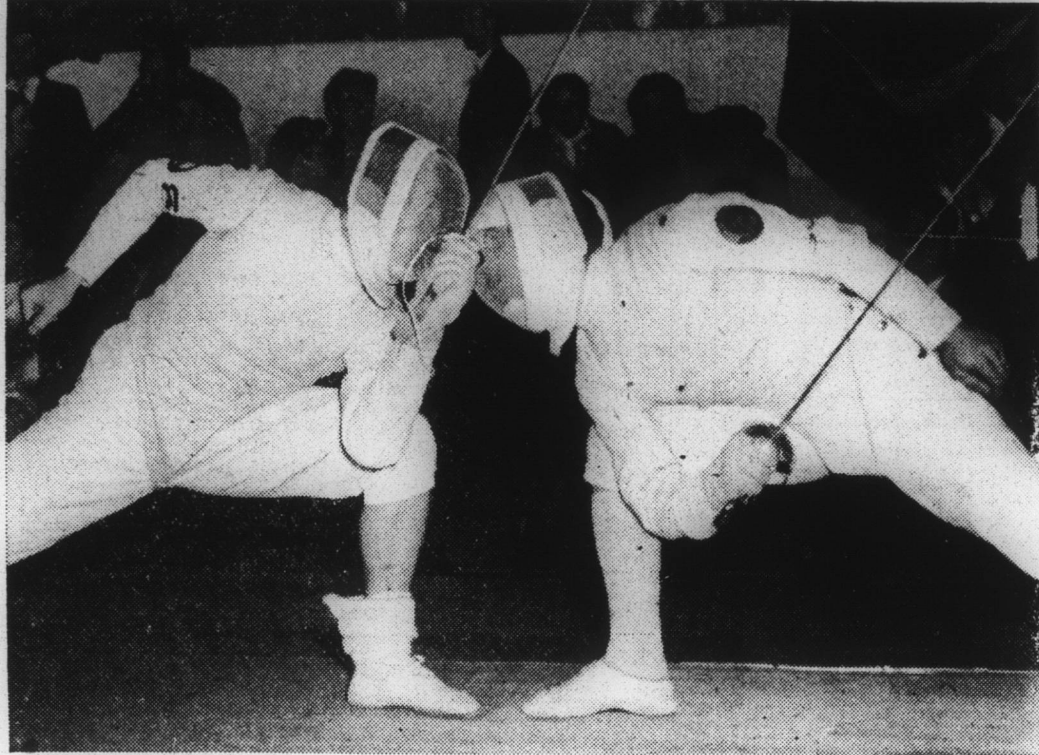
The federal government collects a tax from employers in the states at the rate of 3 per cent of taxable wages. This money is appropriated by the Congress for state and federal Employment Security administrative purposes.

Kendall explained that the money the federal government is returning represents unemployment tax funds that were not appropriated or used for administrative expenses or needed for loans to the states with depleted reserve funds.

Under a law enacted in 1954, these unexpended funds (in excess of a \$200 million loan fund) are used for payment of unemployment insurance benefits at the state level or for specific appropriation by certain state legislatures for Employment Security requirements.

North Carolina's payment of \$1,331,621 represents 1.87 per cent of the total \$71,195,220 to be distributed by the federal government.

First payments under the act were made last year when North Carolina received \$595,981 of the fiscal year ending June 30, Kendall said.



"YOU THERE?"—These fencers in Paris, France, seem to be trying to make sure each is there. Or maybe it's a staring match. If so, man on left should have switched his gaze to his stocking, which apparently got tired of it all.

BEDROOM ARRANGEMENT

By GEORGIA SKINNER, Advance Local I-H Club

Each bedroom should please the person who uses it since we spend at least one third of our life in our bedroom.

The appearance of a room depends largely upon the grouping of its furnishings. Comfort, convenience and beauty, should be considered in arranging the furnishings. The furniture should be arranged according to its use. In the bedroom there should be units for sleeping, dressing and sometimes studying. Pieces of furniture that are not used should be removed. Pictures that do not fit wall space or belong in a furniture group should be removed.

The study unit should consist of a table or desk, a chair, bookcase, lamp and wastepaper basket. This group must be placed so that the light comes from the left.

The bed should be placed so that it will not face the light. It should be near enough to the window that the sleeper gets air but will not lie in a draft. The bed should be so placed that one can easily move from side to side when making it. If the bed is placed near the door it gives the appearance of a small unattractive room. Grouped with the

bed should be a table, lamp, chair and rug.

The dressing table should be placed so that the light falls on the person standing before the mirror.

Bedroom furniture does not have to be new to be attractive. Many things can be done to remodel old furniture. It is smart to take what you have and use it to make an attractive room.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Continued from Page 2—Section 2

given them credit for the things which deserved commendation, he very strongly, but tactfully condemned them, calling attention to their worldliness which existed in the church, the immaturity of the church members, their imperfections, and their partisan divisions.

It seems to us, after considering churches as a whole, that we might say, in all kindness, that most churches we know of deserve the same condemnation which Paul gave to the Corinthian church. When Paul speaks of the "carnal" nature of these early Christians, he meant that they were more worldly-minded than spiritually-minded.

Paul's criticism that the Corinthians were apparently content to remain "babes in Christ," certainly applies to the majority of Christians today. Few there are who make any serious effort to "grow in grace"—they apparently are satisfied to remain undeveloped dwarfs as far as their spiritual nature is concerned.

While the Bible continues to be the best-selling book in the world, there is little evidence that it is being studied by many people. Never, perhaps, in the history of the Christian church, have there been as many facilities open to those who would avail themselves of spiritual development, but all too few avail themselves of the wonderful opportunities offered.

Paul urged the Corinthians (and us) to realize that they were "workers together with God." A full realization of this fact by every Christian would make a vast difference in the individual life and in the service he renders. To the Christian it is

given to be a co-worker with God in redeeming the world, in lifting men from lives of sin, in leading them to Christ whose transforming power can make the vilest sinners into "gentlemen in the high nobility of God."

If there is discord in your church, search your heart to see if, by any chance, you are adding to the situation. All who are guilty of spreading discontent and trouble in a church will find they, themselves, will suffer as much, if not more, than anyone else. The results are indifference, selfishness, over-criticism and loss of interest. It might be well for all of us to ask ourselves that oft-repeated question, "If every member of my church were just like me, what kind of church would my church be?" If you would not be satisfied to be a member of a church like that, then do something about yourself—and quick!

(These comments are based on the International Sunday School Lesson outlines, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, U. S. A., and used by permission.)



It is the little rill within the lute That by and by will make the music mute And ever widening, slowly silence all. —Tennyson.

"Wisdom of the Ages"

"Laws should be like clothes. They should be made to fit the people they are meant to serve."

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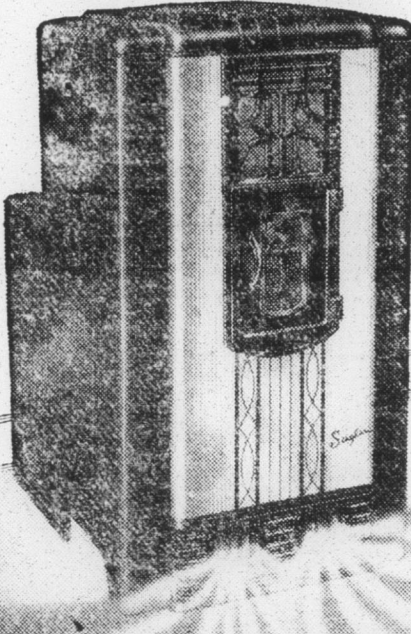


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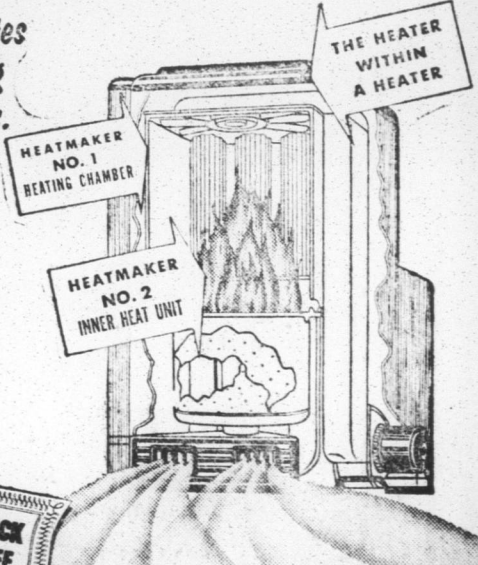
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