

Social Security— How To Qualify

To receive monthly old-age insurance payments when you are 65 you must be "fully insured" and you must file an application.

To be "fully insured" you must work about one-half the time under social security. Actually we figure it this way:

First, we figure the number of calendar quarters from January 1, 1937, until the quarter in which you reach 65. Now divide this number by two, because you must have one quarter of coverage for each two quarters elapsing during this time. A "quarter of coverage" is simply a calendar quarter in which you are paid at least \$50 wages under social security.

Where the number of quarters of coverage required would figure less than 6 or more than 40 quarters, the law says you must have at least 6, or on the other

hand that you need not have more 40.

If you were born on or before July 1, 1875, you will need only 6 quarters of coverage in order to receive a monthly old-age insurance payment. If you were born after January 1, 1892, you will need 40 quarters of coverage in order to be fully insured and to get a payment at age 65.

This rule tells how to figure how many quarters of coverage you need, but quarters of coverage may be earned at any time, even after 65. During the war some persons past 65 went to work for the first time under social security and became eligible for monthly retirement benefits.

This is the second in a series of articles on "Your Social Security." In our next issue we will discuss "Family Benefits."

For further information consult your Social Security Field Office at Salisbury, N. C.

Lumber Grading Meetings Planned

Raleigh.—A short course in grading hardwood lumber—arranged for the benefit of the furniture and hardwood lumber industry—will be held in Hickory May 16-20, Dr. Richard J. Preston, Jr., director of the Division of Forestry at N. C. State College, announced today.

The course will be given at the Hickory Manufacturing Company plant, where ample supplies of hardwoods will be available for practice and instruction. Besides covering the hardwood grading rules in detail, emphasis, Dr. Preston said, will be placed upon their application to the cutting in the furniture and hard-

Corn Growers Asked To Increase Yields

North Carolina's 100-Bushel Corn Club members were asked this week by F. L. Albritton, club president and the state's 1948 corn growing champion, to do their part in the "corn war" with Virginia.

"For every member of the 100 Bushel Corn Club are 160 farmers who have not been reported as growing 100 or more bushels of corn per acre," Albritton said. "As a member of the 100 Bushel Club, are you doing your part?"

The average farm in this state has about nine acres of corn, the LaGrange farmer pointed out. If every farmer would follow the five steps to increase corn yields on one acre the state average should be raised five bushels for 1949.

The five steps as worked out by specialists of the State College Extension Service and scientists of the Agricultural Experiment Station are: (1) Use seed of an adapted hybrid or a proved local variety; (2) Fertilize according to the soil needs; (3) Space the rows and the plants in the rows the proper distance to get the desired yield; (4) Control weeds early but avoid late and deep cultivation; and (5) Use adequate sidedressing.

"We would not be interested in this contest if we did not know, from our own experience that high corn yields are economical yields," Albritton continued. "Every farmer who follows these approved practices over a period of years will profit by his efforts. Will you, as a member, sponsor as many neighbors as possible for membership in this club?"

wood dimension stock industries. Southern pine lumbermen will have an opportunity to obtain the latest information on grading through a short course scheduled for May 24-27 at N. C. State College, Dr. Richard J. Preston, Jr., director of the College's Division of Forestry, reported today.

Support Y. M. C. A.

Whale Ashore at Ocracoke Island

Raleigh.—A female whale, 28-feet long and weighing an estimated two tons, came ashore at Ocracoke Saturday, and expired before she could get back into deep water, according to a telephone call received by the State News Bureau, from Stanley Wahab of Ocracoke Island this morning. The big mammal was cut up and is being tried out for her oil in huge iron pots on the beach.

Wahab said the whale apparently got into shallow waters while running before a strong southwestern gale, and once over the bar was unable to retrace her course, a low tide throwing her onto dry land.

Islanders cut the animal into pieces and today started a two-day job of extracting the valuable oil, which will be used for lubrication. Wahab estimated the yield would amount to 50 gallons. Four truck loads of driftwood were collected for the necessary fire.

It was the first whale reported on this beach in a number of years.

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