THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1970

SOCIAL SECURITY **Questions** And Answers By D. H. BUTLER Field Representative

Q. Recently, a couple of months before I was 65, I sign-ed up for both parts of Medicare. Now I wish you'd tell me how to get Medicare payment on my medical bills. My doctor says he doesn't usually send in the bills to have the payment made direct to him.

A. In the back of your Medicare Handbook you'll find a copy of the Request for Payment form, or you can ask for a copy at your doctor's office or, of course, at the Social Security office.

You fill out, and sign, the p part of the form. Be sure to copy your name and num-ber exactly as they appear on your Medicare card, and complete the other simple items carefully and accurate-

Your doctor can either fill out the bottom part of the form or give you an itemized bill showing the date, place, brief description and charge for each service rendered, and the total charge. You will send in the form along with the itemized bills, paid or unpaid. But be sure that your full name and your Medicare number are on each bill attached to the Request for Payment form.

Send this Medicare claim to the appropriate medical insurance carrier (the insur-

this information.

If the medical services were received in North Caro-lina, send it to Medicare "B" Division, Prudential Insur-ance Company of America, P. O. Box 1482 High Point, N. C. 27261.

If you want more information, or need help in filling out the form, get in touch with our office or one of our traveling representatives.

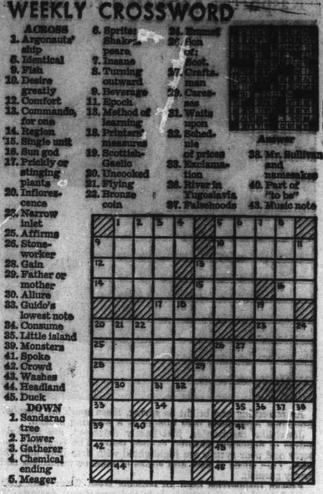
Q. I am 64 and plan to retire on my 65th birthday. When should I apply for my retirement benefits, and what records or proofs should I take to the Social Security office?

A. You should apply 2 or 3 months before your 65th birthday. Take an old record or two of your age, and your last year's tax return or W-2 form.

Assuming you don't have an original birth certificatetake any old record you have or can readily secure that shows your date of birth or age. Your Social Security office can tell you if you need anything else, and if necessary will help you ob-tain certain hard-to-get documents.

Q. As I am to retire soon at age 65, I wonder what bene-fit, if any, my wife can get. She has never worked on a job covered by Social Security, and our children are all grown and married.

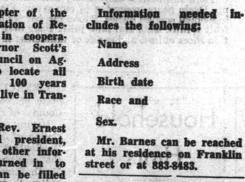
at age 65 (one-half of your own full benefit amount), or a reduced benefit as early as



Compiling List Of All Persons 100 Years Old Or Older Here

The local chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons, in coopera-tion with Governor Scott's Coordinating Council on Ag-ing, is trying to locate all persons who are 100 years old or older who live in Transylvania.

Transylvania





THE "TIMES" PRIZE-WINNING COLUMN

(This continues my story about Dr. J. B. Ewing, a col-orful mountain physician who practiced in Avery, Mitchell, and Yancy counties in the ear-ly 1900's.)

The railroad, even today, is

From Johnson City to

tion. The elevation rose grad-

ually and the engine ahead negotiated these foothills with

ease, puffing on at a respec-table speed despite the four-

was climbing the mountains

The railroad became a de-

mented snake, curving and

recurving, constantly searching

for gentler grades and gaps.

in earnest

an exceptional example of en-

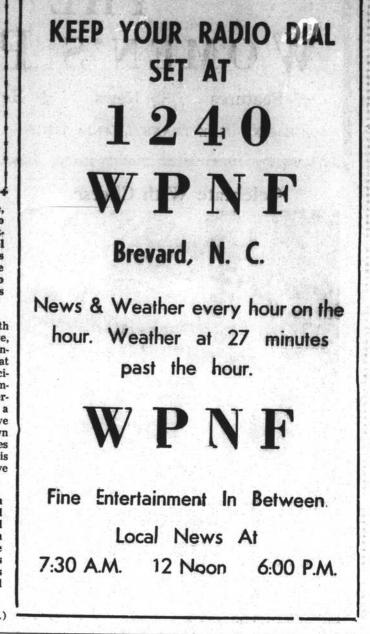
sidered a wonder.

we don't know. But we do know he lived there, operat-ed a farm and taught school for about seven years. It was there he contracted the chronic malaria which was to go with him the rest of his

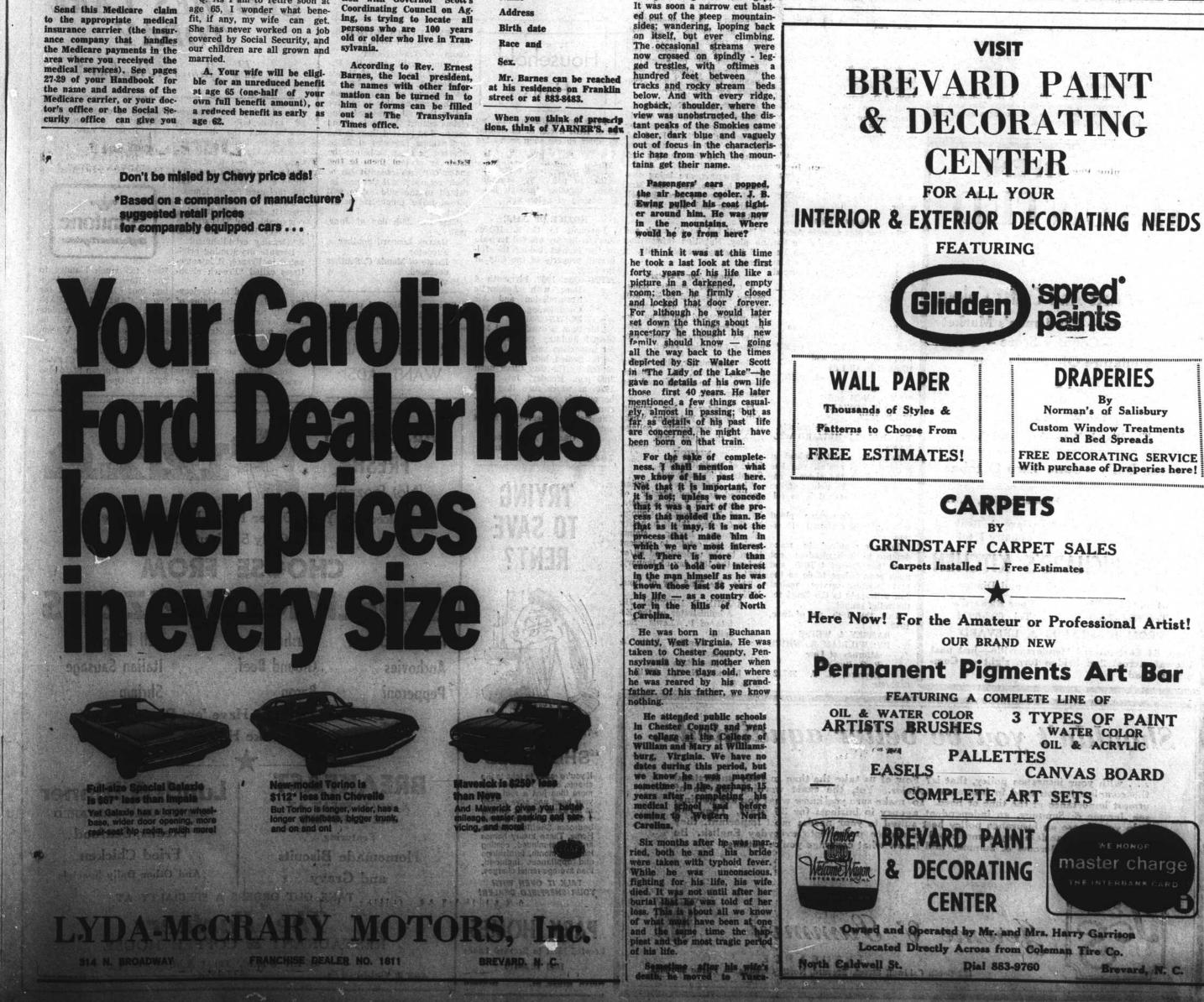
gineering; in 1899 it was con-To try at this late date, with no more facts than we have, Chestoa, it kept to the val-leys paralleling the hazy ridges in a northeast directo recreate those years and understand the motives that prompted him, would be specious at best and probably completely wrong. We can per-haps imagine though in a general way, how he must have felt. To a man who had grown up without close family ties teen cars snaking out behind it. But from Chestoa on, things were different. At and probably married late, this bride of six months must have meant everything to him. Chestos a second engine at-tached itself to the rear of the train and joined the one ahead with mighty puffings. A short time later, the train

Her loss must have been a blow only a strong - willed man could have borne. And after his own recovery from the fever, we can imgaine the long, lonesome days, his empty house, the rudderless position in which he found himself.

(To be continued next week.)



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