

## New Amendments Social Security Act Affects Every Family In This Area

The sweeping amendments to the Social Security Act, signed into law September 1 by President Eisenhower, will affect virtually every family in this area, according to N. A. Avery, district manager of the Social Security Administration.

The protection of old-age and survivors insurance is now extended to 9 out of 10 families in the community," Avery said, "and the benefit payments, not only to future beneficiaries but also to those now on the rolls, have been substantially increased."

The amended Social Security Act: 1. Extends coverage, com-

encing January 1, 1955, to about 10 million more gainfully-employed people, including self-employed farm operators and most farm workers. 2. Increases benefits to all present and future retired workers and to their dependents and survivors. 3. Determines benefits on a more advantageous basis by permitting a worker to drop out as many as five years of low or no earnings in computing his average wage, and by increasing to \$4,200 the amount of annual earnings that can be counted toward benefits. 4. Preserves for totally disabled workers any benefit rights they may have



Cop. 1954, King Features Syndicate, Inc., World rights reserved.

"Easy on your language, Trumble. This is Ladies' Day."

have the earnings exemption on an annual basis. All beneficiaries under 72 years of age may now have earnings up to \$1,200 in a year without loss of any benefits. This applies to all earnings of any kind, whether covered by social security or not. Only one month's benefit will be deducted for each additional \$80 earned. Benefits are payable regardless of annual earnings for any month in which the beneficiary neither has wages of over \$80 nor engaged in substantial self-employment. After reaching age 72, the beneficiary may earn any amount and still receive benefits.

The amended act also provides for the preservation of the benefit rights of the totally disabled. Under this provision a worker's earnings record can be "frozen" and he will not suffer a reduction in or loss of his benefit rights because of an extended period of no earnings due to total and prolonged disability. To be eligible for a "disability freeze" a worker must have acquired at least five years of covered work out of the last ten years before the disability began, of which at least 1½ years must have been in the 3-year period before his disability forced him to give up gainful work. The disability must be medically determined by State vocational rehabilitation agencies or other appropriate State agencies. No application for the "disability freeze" may be accepted by the Social Security Administration before January 1, 1955. Avery emphasized that this provision will not pay cash benefits during the disability, before the worker attains age 65.

While a period of disability ends for social security purposes at age 65, Avery pointed out that persons already over that age and now getting benefit payments may have their benefits refigured to exclude periods of disability in the past, if they meet the requirements given above. Increases in benefits under the disability provision become effective after June 1955.

In conclusion, Avery called attention to a provision in the amended law which affects survivors of workers who died before September 1, 1950, without having acquired enough covered employment to become insured under the old law. "If you are the surviving aged widow, child, widowed mother with minor children, or aged parents of a worker who died before September 1, 1950, and you were not eligible for survivor's benefits before," he said, "the new law may make it possible for you to get payments. If the deceased breadwinner in your family had at least 1½ years of covered work between January 1939 and September 1950, you should contact the Wilmington Social Security office in person or by mail and inquire about your survivor's insurance benefit rights."

"It is especially significant," Avery said, "that these 1954 amendments to the social security law preserve the contributory and self-sustaining principles of the old-age and survivors insurance system, as well as principle that benefits are related to the level of the worker's earnings."

All benefit payments and costs of administering the program are paid out of the special Trust Fund into which go the social security taxes paid by employees, employers,

## Surplus Of Pigs At Market Due To Cut Down Prices

There are more pigs going to market than most people thought there would be; consequently hog prices will be adversely affected for the rest of 1954, according to Dr. J. L. Maxton, USDA economist.

Dr. Maxton points out the U. S. Department of Agriculture has revised its estimates for spring pig crop as now being 13 per cent more than in 1953. So, he says, it becomes necessary to revise the prices estimates.

Usually hog prices hit a peak in July and August, and then drop as marketings increase, to hit a low in December. However, hog prices this year hit their peak in April. This early peak resulted from many producers holding back hogs normally sold from February to April and at the same time feeding these hogs to heavier weights. Since May, more heavier hogs have been marketed, while demand by consumers has been slow because of the intense heat throughout the country, relatively high pork prices and heavy supplies of other meats at lower prices.

The revised estimates of USDA show enough of an increase in hog numbers to keep markets fully supplied at present prices and cause further later declines. More than usual farrowed from December 1953 to March 1954, so larger than usual marketing may be expected in the next three months.

This should result in prices declining to about 16 to 18 cents by late October for lean hogs of preferred weights. Hog prices should not decline much after October, and may show a little strength in January, 1955.

Since the fall pig crop of 1954 also is up 10 to 15 per cent as a result of increases in the June to August farrowings, prices may advance only one to three cents in January. Marketings in February and March may again be so heavy to cause some slight further price declines.

The hog marketing situation price-wise is being further aggravated by heavy supplies of cattle, broilers, and turkeys.

"If there was ever a time for consumers to eat more meat, that time is here," Dr. Maxton says. Prices from the normal handler margins should be such that per capita consumption of meat will be increased.

The tax rate is now scheduled to reach a maximum of 4 percent each for employee and employer in 1975. It remains at the present 2 percent each until 1960, with intermediate steps between 1960 and 1975. Self-employed persons pay at 1½ times the employee rate."

### MRS. M. M. THIGPEN

Kenansville, N. C.

Representative For

WARSAW FLORAL

COMPANY

WARSAW N. C.

sumption of meat will increase with normal price declines at retail and little change in consumer incomes until early 1955. "The meat lover should have a field day," the economist says.

## REDDY'S HOMEMAKING NEWS

By SARAH T. JONES

Home Service Representative

Carolina Power & Light Co.

Let's Get It Squared Away!

Is a pie by any other shape still a pie?

Saturday night I shared apple pie with friends. This delicious pie had been made in a low rectangular pan, frozen and stored for several weeks. While we ate the mustard greens, meat loaf and such, the pie baked. Then we ate hot apple pie with the melted cheese on the top. Frankly, the pie was "yummy."

It made us think that Saturday night was the best night in the week. Nobody cared that her piece was a "slice" of rectangular pie and not a "wedge" of a round one.

The pie with corners was easier to wrap (drug store style with a good packaging material like is used for meat). After it was frozen—with air space around it—it was easy to stack tight against other packages and containers. It fitted in better than a round pie. Actually chicken pot pie can still keep its name and the "pot" be a cornered pan. Many other meat pies and fruit pies lend themselves to preparation before freezing, and all can be "squared away."

A cake tastes just as good and entire cake slices prettier when cooked in a square or rectangular

pan—makes for easier and neater stacking after freezing. So do square cookies. You can mold a "roll" of ice box cookies into a long "square" easier than you can into a long "round". Then the cookies will be square when sliced. You gain either way, whether you freeze the unbaked "square" or the baked cookies.

If round cakes, pies and cookies are here to stay it's all right with me, but if you will "corner" those you freeze, you will do a neater, more efficient job of stacking and will likely have more room for other things.

Let your enthusiasm for freezing pies and cakes get out of balance. Forty pounds of solid meat—ten pounds of bakery goods go in just about the same amount of storage space.

The Khapra beetle, an insect unknown in this continent until November, 1953, has been found infesting stored grain in California, Arizona and New Mexico.

## Smokey Says:



A greater act of patriotism is to withhold the match that might destroy a resource!

## TURNER & TURNER

INSURANCE AGENCY

"We're Known By The Service We Give"

Phone 2836

Pink Hill, N. C.

L. C. Turner, Jr.

T. J. Turner

## MADAM MARIE, LIFE READER



Tells you of love, marriage, and business pertaining to anyone's life. If any trouble in any way, be sure and consult me. I will tell you of your enemies and friends; when and who you will marry; if married or single. Will give you reading daily and on Sunday. I guarantee satisfaction.

Located on Highway 117 Across From Wallace Stockyards in Wallace, N. C.

## Inside WASHINGTON

Special to Central Press

### Farm Program Is Hailed

As Ike's Biggest Victory

### How Farmers Will React

At Polls Is Questionable

WASHINGTON—President Eisenhower was justifiably jubilant that he scored his major Congressional victory of the year by House and Senate adoption of his farm program.

Veteran congressional leaders, Democrats as well as Republicans, viewed it as a triumph that came as the result of patient backstage work and skillful legislative maneuvering.

One surprise feature was the fact that administration lieutenants succeeded in splitting the presumably solid farm bloc in Congress, a feat which in the past has been seldom accomplished.

When Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson first demanded that the present 90 per cent of parity price support program be junked in favor of flexible supports, a tempest of criticism by congressmen from the farm states broke forth.

In the beginning, the farm bloc was reported adamant in demanding that 90 per cent price support payments be retained and Democrats from the big cities indicated they would support them rather than repudiate the system which prevailed during the Roosevelt and Truman administrations.

However, administration leaders worked out a compromise which would establish the flexible supports on a 82 and a half to 90 per cent basis rather than 75 to 90 per cent proposal initially suggested by Benson.

When the showdown came, it was key farm state Republicans who switched to the support of the Eisenhower administration and insured victory for the President where defeat had seemed certain.

The major question now is whether the President's victory in the halls of Congress can be translated into votes this November.

Democrats will exert every effort to make it a pyrrhic victory politically and try to persuade the farmers it's time for a change.

This is precisely what happened in 1948 when the Democrats hammered away at the farm vote and scored one of the major political victories of all time.

Six years ago farmers were primarily antagonized because the GOP-controlled 80th Congress voted a flexible price support system even though it never went into effect.

Failure to provide funds for emergency storage bins also contributed to the resentment against Republicans in the farm states and Harry S. Truman scored his extraordinary victory.

At this point, it is difficult to assess farm opinion on the new price support program but the general opinion is that it will not curb the present trend toward lower farm prices in the market place. This fact alone may be enough to sour the farmers on the GOP.

● **TENSIONS**—Trained Washington observers feel that the western powers are at last beginning to make some progress in relieving the global tensions created by the Communists.

There have been some notable gains in recent weeks. The first in importance was the settlement of the long-standing dispute between Egypt and Great Britain over the Suez.

Second, and almost equally important, is the Iranian oil accord which terminated this bitter, and extended, controversy.

Both of these settlements, in which the U. S. was a vitally interested party, more or less pulled the rug from under Communist expansionists who thrive upon disagreements among the free powers.

● **REVISED THINKING**—The purchase by Capital Airlines of 40 British-built Vickers Viscount transports has started a revision of American manufacturers into a possible revision of American transport planes.

The Viscounts, which are the first foreign-built transport planes ever built in quantity by an United States airline, are powered by turbo-prop engines.

This is a jet engine that applies its power to a propeller instead of expending it in thrust.

The engine burns kerosene and is expected to be very inexpensive to operate. Because it has no reciprocating parts, the upkeep is expected to be negligible.

## Muggs and Skeeter

By Wally Bishop



## Best Seller...

Ford's first in truck sales gains... with sales up 17.7% over the same months of last year! Why? Because buyers know Ford Trucks bring them greater value—feature for feature—than any other make on the market today. And only Ford Trucks give you Triple Economy... Gas-Saving Power, Driver-Saving Ease, Trip-Saving Capacities!



New 6½-ft. Ford F-100 Pickup. Choice of V-8 or Six. Fordomatic Drive, Overdrive, Power Brakes available at worth-while extra cost.

## Best Deals...

Ford's leadership in sales gains makes it possible for your Ford Dealer to give you the deal of a lifetime on your old truck, if you trade right now for a new Ford. If it's a used truck you're after, you can pick the model and size you need, at the price you want, from your Ford Dealer's selection of A-1 used trucks.



Handsome new Ford 8-ft. Panel (Deluxe shown) has one of the biggest payload capacities in the field! V-8 or Six. Dust-tight, flame-tight load protection.

## Best Buy...

Triple Savings! 1. New Ford engines give you the mightiest concentration of gas-saving power per cubic inch displacement ever in any truck engine line! 2. New cabs and controls help the driver to do his job better. 3. Top payload capacities in over 220 models!

## FORD TRIPLE ECONOMY TRUCKS

MORE TRUCK FOR YOUR MONEY... and they last longer, too!