

THE DUPLIN TIMES

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 A Duplin County Journal, devoted to the religious, material, educational economic and agricultural development of Duplin County.

W. N. R.

Uncle Pete From Chittlin Switch

DEAR MR. EDITOR

I see by the papers where the Postmaster General says the finances in his department is all out of whack. He is advising that we go to hike the rates another notch or two, maybe three. We been getting that song from ever Postmaster General, Democrat and Republican, for 40 years and the finances get worse, and worse and the rates get higher and higher. About two more Postmaster Generals and it'll be cheaper to go see a fellow than write him a letter.
 I don't think finances is the only thing out of whack in this department. For instant out here on the rural route I can mail a parcel post package weighing 70 pound, making the mail man haul it into town and git it off for me. But if I haul it into town myself and mail it at the window they won't take but 40 pound of parcel post. Don't ask me why, it's the post office Department that's crazy, not me.
 I ain't saying they ain't some excuse for it. Sometimes they is technical reasons for things that

don't meet the eye. A fellow has to figger all the angles afore he can pass sound judgement on somepun. I recollect once when a travelling salesman stopped at ole Pa Sedgfield's house and ask him how fur it was to town. Pa allowed as how it was 10 mile there and 6 mile back. When the salesman ask him how come it was more one way than the other, Pa told him he walked straighter going that he did coming home.

The Congress has been working on this problem of post office finances so long and getting no place that I figgered I better bring it up at the country store Saturday night. The thing hadn't been in committee more'n 10 minutes till the fellows had it solved.

Ed Doolittle said he was reading last week where our Government has spent \$86 billion on foreign aid in the last 15 year, averaging around \$5.7 billion a year. The post office is coming up short about two-thirds of one billion ever year, so Ed allowed as how we could pinch a little piece of that foreign aid off ever year and pay up the postal deficit. Zeke Grubb claimed that them countries like the Congo and Vietnam would never git about half of it anyhow. Bug Hookum went so far as to favor pinching off a little extra and making all postal services free. He said this would please the constituents and make it nice for them Congressman at election time.

If you folks in town has got any problems, Mister Editor, mail 'em to me parcel post and I'll have the fellows put 'em on the agenda for the next meeting. But be shore they don't weigh more'n 40 pound.

Yours truly,
 Uncle Pete

CHANGES IN SOCIAL SECURITY

By Robert L. Hamel
 (Field Representative, Social Security Office)

COURT CHUCKLES by S. M. REGI

WELL, WELL, IT SURE AFFORDS ME GREAT PLEASURE TO HEAR THAT SINCE I SPOKE TO YOUR HUSBAND, HE'S A CHANGED MAN, STAYING AT HOME EVENINGS AND ALL THAT.



YES, YOUR HONOR, HE FINDS IT MUCH EASIER TO STAY IN THAN TO EXPLAIN WHY HE STAYED OUT!

Regi

The new amendments to the social security law, signed by President Kennedy last week, give men early benefit rights similar to those women have had since 1954.

The change applies to men between 40 and 45 years of age, and is designed especially to help those who are unable to find employment because of their age or poor health.

A man now 62 to 65 years of age can start receiving benefits with the month of August, 1961. But if he retires before he reaches age 65, the monthly amount of benefit paid to him is reduced. He will continue to be paid the reduced amount even after he reaches 65.

Dependent widows and the dependent fathers of workers who have died also can get benefits at age 62. Their benefits, like those of widows and dependent mothers, are not reduced.

For men who retire early, the amount by which their benefits will be reduced depends on the number of months for which they will receive benefits while still under 65. A worker who retires and claims his benefits as soon as he reaches 62 will qualify for 80 per cent of the amount that would be payable to him at age 65 based on his average earnings up until his retirement. If he waits until he is 63, he will get 86 2/3 per cent of his full benefit; and if he waits until 64, he will receive 93 1/3 per cent.

The reductions are figured so that a person may expect to receive, on the average, about the same amount if he takes reduced benefits beginning before he is 65, or waits until 65.

Members of the immediate family of a retired worker can get dependents' benefits if the worker retires at 62 or if he waits. Eligible dependents include a wife 62 or older, or a wife at any age if she has in her care children who are eligible for benefits. The child of a retired worker is eligible if he is under age 18, or if he has been totally disabled since childhood.

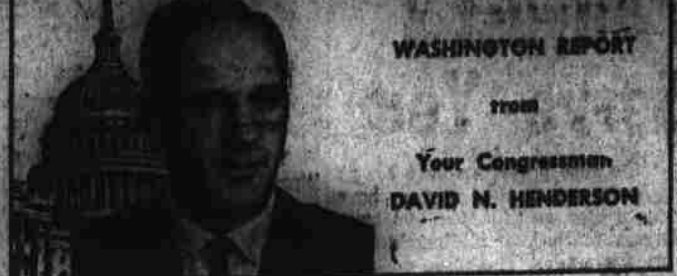
The Committee on Finance of the Senate, in recommending this change in the law, said "The provision of benefits at age 62 for men will help to alleviate the hardships faced by that group of men who, because of ill health, automation, or other technological change, are forced into premature retirement before age 65."

BIBLE FACTS OF INTEREST

BY: ELLA V. FRIDGEN
 Forgive Us Our Debts, As We Forgive Our Debtor.

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WASHINGTON REPORT

Your Congressman
DAVID N. HENDERSON

This is the vacation season for most of the people in the Third District. Although we are right in the middle of the legislative session here in the Congress, I enjoyed attending the annual fish fry at Sea Level and noted that many folks were enjoying beach vacations in Carteret County.

Quite a number of people come to Washington for their vacation and many, for the first time, take advantage of the opportunity to get a really good look at their nation's capitol. Many people from throughout the Third District include the Congressional Office on their itinerary and it is always a

pleasure for me and the members of my staff to have our friends visit us here.

There are a number of ways in which your Congressional office can be of assistance to you in visiting Washington—especially when we know of your visit in advance. For example, we can arrange for small groups to take a special 8:00 A. M. tour of the White House which is considerably more complete than the public tours from ten o'clock until noon. We can also make arrangements for special tours of the Capitol Building and issue passes to visitors so that you can enter the galleries and see the House of Representatives in session.

One tour which can be arranged through the Congressional office and which has been very popular with Third District visitors is a tour of the FBI building which includes a demonstration of various practices and techniques used by the FBI and a pistol shooting exhibition by an FBI expert.

We have also, on request, been able to arrange hotel and restaurant reservations, get tickets for baseball games as well as assist in train and air reservations, and it is always a pleasure to provide this service for the folks from the Third District.

I certainly want to urge everyone in the Third District who plans to visit Washington during the summer vacation period to write me at Room 324, House Of

Prayer expels all hard feelings of anger and resentment. Eph. 4:32. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Why then, under law or under grace, man, does not find it easy to forgive wrong. It requires discipline; it demands real soul effort. Jesus taught this, He said "Pray for them which

spitefully use you and persecute you". (Matt. 5:44). Our blessed Master teaches that without this spirit of Grace and forgiveness, there can be no real fellowship with God. If our praying is to bear the marks of the Master, it must be concerned with a double-barreled forgiveness that which comes to us from God and that which we offer our fellowmen.

"Forgive Us Our Debts." We can't interpret the phrase to mean "Forgive Us for the money we owe Thee". Rather we are the stewards of God of all that we possess, using it in accordance with God's will and returning to His service specific portion. The obligation to give is a debt that is not wiped out by praying this part of the Lord's Prayer. What Jesus means may be stated in this fashion: "Forgive Us for our failures to acknowledge and

We are indebted to persons who staff our schools and churches, our hospitals and service agencies, our governmental institutions. We are indebted to commerce and industry for employment that requires talents and provides our "daily bread". We do not repay any of these debts very well, and need to ask for forgiveness.

As we forgive—Among the petitions of our Lord's Prayer, this one may well be the most dynamic. This Prayer will not permit us to ask God's forgiveness with our making us affirm that we have forgiven our brothers and are on a basis of brotherly love with all men.

It is by forgiving others that we are able to receive divine forgiveness. He taught us to pray: "Forgive Us Our Debts as we have forgiven our Debtors."

Next: Lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from Evil.

The Building, Washington, D. C., and let me have the particular places you would like to visit while here. One word of warning: The White House tour is especially popular during the summer and usually stays booked up at least two weeks in advance.

The Christian Viewpoint

Prepared by Department of Bible Presbyterian Junior College
 Maxton, North Carolina

"Are you Japanese or Chinese?" I said to a young oriental man and woman who were ready to escort us on the Painted Dragon plane of the C. A. T. airline at the airport in Osaka, Japan. C. A. T. stands for Civilian Air Transportation, and is operated by the Free Chinese who occupy Taiwan (Formosa). Since it is a Chinese airline I thought they might be Chinese. His answer taught me a lesson. He said, "What difference does it make? We are all human beings."

"One is under Chiang Kai-Shek and the other under the Emperor." I tried to justify my question. "In government, yes," he said. "No difference in people."

Maybe he has learned a lesson the world needs to learn. We can over-emphasize our differences in national loyalty, in customs, in the color of our skins. Long, long ago the Hebrew prophets taught us that the human race is one. There was a common ancestry, they told us from one Adam and one Eve. God said, "Let us make man." There is a unity in the human race. We are all human beings.

Jesus taught us we should all be like brothers, and love our neighbors even as we love ourselves.

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The Realist

Lesson for July 23, 1961

THOMAS, who has converted to a faith in Christ, brings the temptations with them. Some people are temperamental, optimistic, others are by nature pessimists, and they stay that way after conversion. It is the two streets of the same course, one a transport, the other a light plane. A storm shows up ahead, both planes make a 90-degree turn to the right, or perhaps they turn circles around with Dr. Faustus, a 180-degree turn. After the turn they are still transport and light plane, no less of either, not something else like helicopters. That's what "conversion" means, not turning around.

In Preaching of Daggie
 Thomas, one of the African-American preachers who has converted to a faith in Christ, brings the temptations with them. Some people are temperamental, optimistic, others are by nature pessimists, and they stay that way after conversion. It is the two streets of the same course, one a transport, the other a light plane. A storm shows up ahead, both planes make a 90-degree turn to the right, or perhaps they turn circles around with Dr. Faustus, a 180-degree turn. After the turn they are still transport and light plane, no less of either, not something else like helicopters. That's what "conversion" means, not turning around.

Thomas, like others of his sort, sometimes slide over into pessimism, but again like all Christian realists, even when he takes the darkest view possible, he does not lose his faith. On the occasion when Jesus went to Bethany, just after his friend Lazarus died, it was a well-known fact that the authorities wanted to have him arrested. Thomas thought it would come to worse than arrest. "Let us go, for that one may do with him," he said. He did not think Jesus was riding the road to success.

At the Last Supper he was the voice of Thomas, who says, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, how can we know the way?" He was evidently completely bewildered. But he did not leave the table, as Judas did, to go out into the night. He was at a low point. He as good as admits he does not understand Jesus at all. "We don't know where you are headed," sounds very much like what the English call a vote of no-confidence. But Thomas stayed on. Where was Jesus headed? He did not know. But he was sure Jesus knew. That's faith.

No Second-hand Faith
 Thomas is best known for his refusing to believe that the resurrection of Jesus was an actual fact. To be more exact, he refused to believe on the evidence of his friends. Thomas never said, "The thing's impossible, I'll never believe it." What he said, in effect, was, "It may be possible, but I can't take it at second-hand. I must see for myself. If I believe, it will be only if Jesus himself proves the story you are telling."

New the Eleven for Ten, to be exact, may have been offended. When one of your friends tell you he doesn't believe you, doesn't believe the rest of you, it gets under the skin. But they did not put Thomas out, and he did not put himself out. The next time they met, he was there too.

Thomas is called the Doubter, is this fair to him? Should a man be called a doubter who is willing to die with Jesus? Should a man be called a doubter who is not a doubter but ignorant, and rides a horse when he should be on a team of mules who believe? Some men are skeptics who don't want to believe. But those skeptics who want to believe, can find faith best within the community of the faith.

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