



Hoke County Families' Stake In Social Security

How large an investment do residents of Hoke County have in the Social Security system?

How much of the money that has been taken from the weekly paychecks of local workers, to provide for their retirement, is in it at the present time?

There is general concern throughout the country about the condition of the Social Security trust fund, which is currently providing income for 32 million people, not to mention 100 million others who are looking forward to collecting from it when they retire.

Figures released by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare show that the trust fund now has some \$44 billion in it, much less than is normally in reserve. It will be reduced still further this year, to approximately \$39½ billion, because money is going out faster than it is coming in.

If it were to continue declining at that rate and nothing were done to replenish it, it could be exhausted by 1982 or so. That will not be allowed to happen, however.

The stake that State of North Carolina residents have in the reserve fund, as it now stands, is

estimated at \$966,000,000, based upon their contributions to it. Hoke County's interest in it figures out to \$2,135,000.

The drain on the retirement system's finances, it is pointed out, has been due to the recent recession and to the fact that there have been more than eight million people out of work, making no contributions to the fund.

Recession or no recession, the distribution of benefits to retirees had to continue, however. In fact, the figures show, the total payout increased, as many workers, unable to get jobs, retired earlier than expected.

President Ford's proposal to shore up the trust fund by raising the payroll tax has been turned down by Congress. It felt that this was not a good time to increase taxes.

Now, with the economy improving and more workers getting back on payrolls, it is expected that more money will soon be flowing into the trust fund.

If not, other means will be found to build it up. In any event, no one is in any danger of losing his pension because of the temporary situation.

Personals

Jack Scarborough accompanied his father, D.T. Scarborough of Candor, his brother, Talmadge Scarborough of Greensboro, and Paul Richardson of Gastonia, to Hilton Head, S.C., for the weekend.

Mrs. John Campbell, Mrs. June Johnson and Mrs. R.A. Matheson returned home Monday night from a month's tour to Japan. They were accompanied by Mrs. Fred Stanback Sr. of Salisbury.

Mrs. Alan McGee of Raleigh has been a visitor in the home of her sister, Mrs. R.B. Lewis, for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Raz Autry, Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Wood, Dr. and Mrs. Riley Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. D.R. Huff and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Gibson returned home Tuesday night after attending the National School Board meeting in San Francisco, Ca.

Mrs. Carl Freeman has returned from a visit of several weeks in High Point with her daughter, Mrs. W.M. Blackmon and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Hinton McPhaul returned home Sunday after a visit with their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dan McPhaul and children of Lyons, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. J.L. McNeill attended the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Ga., Thursday until Saturday.

Miss Debbie Leach of ASU, spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Leach. She was accompanied by Misses Michele Riggsbee, Barbara Burwell and Raquel Funcia, classmates.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dickson were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Deans of Winston-Salem, at Wrightsville Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Callihan of Elizabethtown, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Warlick.

Mr. and Mrs. James Wilkerson have moved into their new home in the Ashmont community.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dixon had as their weekend visitors, their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Forrester and Meg, of High Point, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dixon Jr. of New Orleans, La.

Jennifer and Amy Nichols of College Park, Md are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burnett.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Steadman of Baltimore, Md., spent the weekend with his mother, Mrs. Lottie Steadman.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Matherly visited friends in Elon Saturday.

Mrs. Charlie Stewart of Roxboro, was a weekend visitor in the home of her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gentry and children.

Mrs. W.E. Willis recently visited her mother, Mrs. Mary Southerland, who is a patient at a Clinton hospital.

Miss Phyllis Moser of Raleigh spent the weekend with Mrs. Jack Scarborough.

Mr. and Mrs. Monty Lamont of Durham spent the weekend visiting their parents, Mrs. William Lamont and Mr. and Mrs. J.K. McNeill, Jr.

Miss Mary Lynn Currie of Raleigh spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Currie.

Mrs. Hank Richards left last Thursday for Louisville, Ky., to attend the N.C. Conference for United Methodist Women.

Mrs. Frank Hedrick of Roxboro spent the weekend with her daughter, Mrs. Carlton Niven, and Mr. Niven, Carlton Niven Jr. of Brevard, and Miss Caroline Niven of ASU, will arrive today to spend the Easter holidays with their parents.

Mrs. Wilson McBryde attended the Clothes Mart in Charlotte last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Younger Snead spent last week at Topsail Beach.


Birthdays

Mrs. Calloway

Mrs. Maude Calloway was honored on her birthday Sunday, when all of her children and their families gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Calloway for a cook-out in the evening. After the birthday cake had been cut and served Mrs. Calloway was showered with birthday gifts.

Among those from out-of-town were Mr. and Mrs. Warren Calloway of Long Beach.

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