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Editorial Comment

One of these days you and I along with all the other citizens of Yancey County will be solicited by a volunteer worker to join and contribute to the Red Cross. This being a free country, we may choose any one of several possible responses when we are solicited. We may order the solicitor off our property. We may put him (or her) off with "not just now, but perhaps later." Or we may cooperate promptly and freely.

We hear tell of places where people are not bothered by solicitors asking their support for such organizations as the Red Cross. Their rulers relieve them of all this responsibility for making choices. Utopia? Well, not exactly our idea of Utopia. Personally we would rather be asked than told.

The work of the Red Cross in disaster and famine relief and many other fields is too well known to need reviewing here. We all agree that this work must be supported. But how often do we think of the connection between our personal support of this work and the maintaining of democracy? The soundest way to preserve a democracy is to accept the responsibilities of freedoms. Freedom and responsibility are head and tail of the same coin.

"I REMEMBER" BY THE OLDTIMERS

From Mrs. Routh Pickett Bradley, Albion, Idaho: I remember back at the turn of this century when newspapers weren't just to be read and clutter up the living room. We only got the Semi-Weekly Dallas News back in Texas then.

After a careful reading my grandmother clipped the poems and recipes. Then in the evenings I would help my grandfather roll little thin rolls of paper for candle lighters. You started at one corner of an 8 or 10 inch square, rolled it, then pinched each end in. That saved on matches, because you could light one end of the paper at the open fire place and hurry to the lamp or candle with it.

Also, the papers made artistic shelf covers when cut in scallops; and for me, lovely rows of paper dolls holding hands. Little wads of paper were stuffed in the toes of wet boots at night. Convenient squares were placed on a nail in the out house. Any remaining were carefully stored for house cleaning time to lay under the rag carpets.

In the summer and fall when fly time came around my mother would cut long strips up to near the center folds and crinkle the strips. Then she would tack them on a long branch from a tree, and while we ate she or one of my aunts would fan this above the table to keep the flies off the food. Fly control was not practiced then; it is a modern miracle. Yes, in those days newspapers

VIOLET RAYS ON OUR WAYS

By H. M. Alley

Note: This column is written with malice toward none, but with the common good of all in mind.

An irate reader, writing to Asheville Times over the signature "Lady In Distress", wants to know: "When is Asheville going to wake up and make a hard fast rule for the auto mud-slingers?"

She refers to the rude and thoughtless practice of drivers who speed by very close to people who are standing or walking, splattering them with mud and filthy water in rainy and snowy weather. And having been a "victim" on more than one occasion, this writer joins the "Lady In Distress" in declaring that something ought to be done about it,—not only in Asheville, but also in Burnsville, and wherever it occurs.

'Tis said we do have laws whereby pedestrians may prosecute these mudslinging drivers. But first they must get the car license number,—a rather difficult thing for one on foot to accomplish, as most of these offenders are speeding.

Uncle Josh says: "Hit's sorta like when a fellar run over Bob Tantrum's hawg on lower main street in Cedar Crick, U. S. A. Ole Bob were that mad he cud a bit a nail. When th reporter fer Cedar Crick Chronicle entered 'n viewed Bob, about th matter he axed him, Did the driver kill your hog, mister Tantrum? Bob says, says he, 'Shore he kilt hit, only hit ain't quite dead yit!' But ye jist wait, says he, 'When I git through with thet driver, he'll run from the next hawg he sees, fer I've done made up my mind fer to take 'im to Court 'n make a sample outen 'im before the law.' "Then the riter from th Cedar Crick Chronicle axed Bob who the driver mought be, he spluttered and sed, sed, he, 'why, er—er—!!!—he's a goin s'fast I cudn't even see if he had a license number,—but anyway he's thet same fellar from New York or sommers, what's bin a-speedin through here off'n 'on endurin the last past year, what nobody knows."

The above is only one of the minor traffic problems needing attention in Burnsville. Whether any concrete rule or remedy regarding the mudslinging drivers can ever be successfully ap-

POETRY CORNER

Conducted By

Edith Dederick Erskine

MOUNTAINS BETWEEN SEASONS

The mountains still are white with snow
 And wintry winds upon them blow.
 The Balsam trees are green and bright
 And Fir and Spruce enhance the sight
 With laden limbs all bent and low,
 Picturesque views the mountains show.

The signs of Spring will soon appear
 Where nature gives, year after year,
 The green to fern and mossy beds
 Mingled with wild flower-heads,
 God grant me strength if life prevails
 To walk again the mountain trails.

Elster A. Steele, Franklin, N. C.

(Poetry for this corner should be sent direct to Edith Dederick Erskine, Weaver ville, N. C.)

plied or not remains to be seen. Unless the drivers themselves would wake up to the fact that even a lowly pedestrian has a right to enough of the highway to walk on instead of having to travel in the ditch, and that no driver has any right to splatter with mud and dirty water those who have to walk, there is perhaps very little that can ever be done about this one deplorable situation.

However, there are other more vitally important matters that the town government can and should attend to, BUT SPEEDILY. For instance, we need more traffic lights, placed at various intersections and crossings, where, at present, there is no traffic control whatever,—not even so much as a "SLOW DOWN" sign. Another thing, the traffic lights on the main thoroughfare,—that is on Main Street,—should be left burning at least until one o'clock a. m.

Yes. Of course, these extra lights will cost money, but the expense of installation and maintenance would be negligible compared to the safety of human lives they would protect.

Then there is that other matter that this column and many other people have repeatedly complained about, and which our town government has taken no noticeable steps to correct. We speak of the flagrant violations of established speed laws and speed zones within the incorporate limits of Burnsville. A simple and sensible plan would be to make 25 miles per hour the standard speed limit for all except doctors, ambulance dri-

FARM SOCIAL SECURITY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Drew C. Nichols, Field Representative, Asheville, N. C.

Q. What is the meaning of "social security?"

A. The words "social security" mean security for the social group or for society as a whole. As applied to the great insurance program administered by the Federal government, it means a basic insurance protection for individuals and families against old age and retirement, or death.

Q. Just what is the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance program?

A. It is the social insurance program which the general public calls "Social Security." It is financed entirely by a social security tax (premium) on the wages of employees, matched by employers, and by a tax on the net earnings of self-employed persons in occupations covered by the law. (Now almost all groups except the legal and medical professions, and those already under another government retirement system, are covered by the Social Security law.)

Q. Exactly what is the difference between Public Assistance and Old-Age and Survivors Insurance?

A. Public Assistance is a state-administered program under which payments (or "grants") are based on need—that is, on a showing that the applicants need the money to live. And the cost of the grants is paid by the general taxpayers. Old-Age and Survivors Insurance ("Social Security"), on the other hand, is a Federal social insurance program paid for by the people affected—i.e., the entire costs are met by the social security tax on employees, their employers, and the self-employed. It pays monthly benefits which will replace, in part, income from employment or self-employment when that income is cut off by old age or by the death of a family breadwinner. The benefits paid are not based on need, but are an earned right.

Q. Why is social security insurance for farmers (and others) compulsory instead of voluntary? Why cannot each farmer, law enforcement officers, and firemen on duty. Then have the town,—all sections,—regularly patrolled. If we just have to keep one policeman on the town Square most of the time,—then hire an extra patrolman,—preferably one who can ride a motorcycle like a streak of ven-geful fury, to patrol the rest of the town at frequent intervals, especially the length of Main Street.

These comments are not intended as unkind criticism, but however they may be taken,—there's a growing number of people who want something constructive done about these things, not in the sweet by and by, but NOW!—Nuff Sed!

family when any of these things occur?

A. Suffering and hardship, and in many cases in the past and present, Public Assistance (paid for by the general taxpayers). Of course, the need for what President Eisenhower has called "some measure of public assistance" will continue. But old-age payments under Public Assistance have shown a gradual decline and this decrease is due in large measure to the social security retirement insurance benefits which have been replacing or reducing old-age assistance grants. However, this decline in old-age assistance due to increased social security benefits has not occurred in farm

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DEYTON FARM SUPPLY
 Yancey County
CHECKERBOARD NEWS
 by Os Deyton and Royce Lee Howell

70 POUNDS MORE CALF AT 4 MONTHS

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In addition to getting bigger, growthier calves at 4 months, this plan is easier to use, less troublesome with scours and costs less—far less.

John Randolph says there are three important things to consider in raising good calves: First of all the good breeding must be there. John breeds all his cows artificially and has

some cows that are now paying off in increased production. That takes care of the breeding. Second, the calves must be developed properly before they can produce up to their capacity. He does this by following the Purina program for growing calves and heifers. The third factor is sanitation. Calves must be treated with special care to prevent diseases. Any disease is hard to cure but easy to prevent. For your artificial breeding, call Dr. Cornwell at 542 and he'll come right out. It pays whether you have one cow or several.

HEALTH HINT

When lice on cattle and poultry is a problem, it's time to ask us for Purina Insect powders. One application of Purina Insect Killer often takes care of lice on cattle. For poultry you can use Purina Lice Powder. But it's lots easier and just as effective to paint the roost poles with Purina Poultry Insecticide and let the fumes kill the lice.

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