SOCIAL SECURITY NEWS

By: D. C. Nichols

Q. When should a person like me, who'll be 65 and retiring in a few months, contact your office to apply for Social Security and for Medicare? And what records should I have as proof of my age?

A. So that your social security checks can start and your Medicare protection can begin without delay, you should file application 3 months before the month in which you become 65.

You should, if possible, bring at least 2 good old records or documents showing your age. Bring the best old records available. If you have any questions about this, get in touch with us at once.

By the way, it is not required that an individual be retired and eligible for monthly benefits to qualify for Msdicare. In fact, if he will be 65 this year it is not even necessary that he have any social security credits at all.

Q. I got badly disabled month before last. Since that time I have been in two hospita's and have had three doctors. Should I (or my wife for me) get medical reports from the doctors before I go to your office to file for my disability?

A. No. When you file a disability claim we will assist you in getting the necessary medical evidence of youd disability condition.

Q. My application was turned down recently because they said I needed about one year more of credits. Can't I pay in the difference — for the extra credits I need — so I can start drawing social security benefits? And if not, why not?

A. Uo, under the law you may only get "work credits" (quarters of coverage) by paying the social security tax on wages you are paid for work done.

Actually, the employer withholds this tax from wages he pays his employes and sends the money in — with a matching amount — to Internal Revenue each quarter. The employe cannot pay the tax; that is the employer's responsibility under the law.

Only a self-employed person can pay the tax himself on the income he gets from a business, trade, or profession covered by Social Security. Q. In a couple of months I'll be 72 years old. I'm not getting and not eligible for any benefit or payment niow. Can I apply for the Special Age 72 benefit, and if so, when?

A. Yes — immediately. Any person who, like you, will soon be 72 and is neither receiving nor eligible to receive any kind of payment, should contact this office to file a claim within 3 months of reaching age 72. And he or she should bring along some old proof(s) of age.

Q. Will you please send us a printed booklet or two about Social Security? If there's any charge we'll be glad to remit.

A. We have a number of publications which we are glad to furnish upon request, without charge. We are sending these twi:

Bocklet 35 — that gives many facts about Social Security

Leaflet 855 — that explains about Social Security work credits, how they are earned, how many are needed, etc.

Utilities Comm. Urges Cooperation Of Telephone Companies

The North Carolina Utilities Commission invited public attention to two legal developments in the matter of abusive, threatening or obscene language over telephones when it sent a memorandum to all telephone companies and cooperatives in the State urging them to cooperate fully with their customers and law enforcement officers in reducing such calls and in apprehending and prosecuting offenders.

The two legal developments called to the attention of the companies were:

(a) A new statute which went into effect on June 20, 1967, making it a crime to make profane, indecent, threatening, or false statements over the telephone or to telephone another person repeatedly (whether or not there is conversation) for the purpose of abusing, annoying, terrifying, or embarrasing the person at the other end of the line.

(b) A recent decision of the North Carolina Supreme Court holding that it is lawful to use the "diode" device, which keeps the connection intact and traceable, as long as either te'ephone remains off the hook. The Court also held it was legal for

law officers to place advertisements designed to attract offenders.

The Commission urged the companies to publicize these developments, develop procedures to handle such calls, instruct subscribers what to do when they receive abusive calls, and to contact and cooperate with law enforcement agencies in detecting, apprehending, and prosecuting offenders.

"LSD" Recording Newly Added

By: Ashten Chapman The two sides of a long-playing record with the title "LSD" recently acquisitioned by the Avery-Mitchell-Yancev Regional Library for its growing collection of phonograph records contains actual recordings of people under the influence of psychede'ic drugs, psychedelic music, the sounds of the 'Acid Test,' LSD users and pushers and the amazing stery of LSD in action, with comments by such LSD authorities as Sidney Cohen, M. C., the controversial Dr. Timothy Leary, Mrs. Aldous Huxley and Allen Ginsberg.

