PAGE 2 THE YANCEY JOURNAL JANUARY 3, 1974

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Christmas came early for me this year with two gifts which stirred memories of the past. The first came in early fall when Florida friends, spending a brief vacation in Crossnore, invited me over for dinner and a talk session in front of a massive stone fireplace roaring and snapping from the flames of

good oak logs. When time came for the return trip to Boone, I was presented a shoe box tied neatly with a ribbon and asked to guess the

with Rogers Whitener send your suggestions for column material to Rogers Whitener, Box 376, Boone, N. C. 28607.

> contents. A weighing and a shaking brought no hint. But a whiff from under one edge of s the lid brought an unmistakable smell--rich, resiny, "lighter pine" or "kindling wood," as we called it in my boyhood.

It immediately brought memories of boyhood woodcutting chores, of autumn bouts with rotting pine stumps, imprisoned axe blades, and occasional broz ken handles in attempting to get to the rich, solid heart of the stump. Then bringing the resiny sticks home to stack by the wood box behind the huge wood stove in the kitchen.

Before bedtime my mother would carefully lay the breakfast fire with crushed newspa pers, bits of kindling, and pieces of "scantling"-- bark covered saw boards from the outer surface of logs squared for lumber at the nearby log mill.

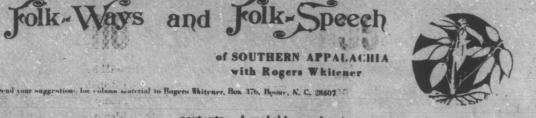
would scurry to the stove, drop

### **Baxter Votes Rate Increase**

The board of directors of Baxter Laboratories, Inc., today voted to increase the quarterly dividend rate on the com pany's common stock.

The board declared regular quarterly dividend No. 154 of 4.25 cents per share, making an annual rate of 17 cents per share, The recent annual rate has been 15 cents per share.

The new dividend is pay able on December 31 to holders of record on December 13.



a lighted kitchen match on the assembled material, and in a few moments the kitchen would be warm from the fiercely burning materials. And surrounded by all. members of the household!

The second present came three weeks ago and with the fuel shortage, was even more welcome -- a truckload of good oak and birch wood from a Valle Crucis friend. Stored "in the dry" it should serve my basement Franklin stove and upstairs fireplace for months

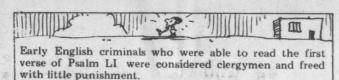
to come. Now if some good friend will just come forward with a third present -- a good wood stove--surely my Christmas cup will run over!

> Air Force Report

U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant Basil A. McDougald, son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. McDougald of Route 5, Burnsville, N.C., has graduated from the Tactical Air Command Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Langley AFB, Virginia.

Sergeant McDougald, who received advanced military leadership and management training, is an aircraft systems technician at Shaw AFB, S.C. The sergeant is a 1965 gra-

duate of East Yancey. His wife, Betty, is the daughter of Mrs. Dolly Boone, Micaville, N.C.



## **Postal Rate Threatens Publications**

(Cont'd from page 1) ply cannot absorb. The Digest, for example, estimates that if the increases go through as planned they will raise its bill for second-class postage alone from the present \$7 million year to \$16 million! That's in addi tion to \$4 million increase in first-class postage.

Passing along these postal increases, along with increases for paper and other factors. could raise the price of a subscription from the present \$4,97

a year to \$6.97 by 1976. If other publications are forced to increase their prices in similar fashion, the result could be to create a magazine industry for the affluent only, the article says. "In other words, lowerincome Americans, the very people who perhaps most need an inexpensive means of con tinuing education, are the main losers."

magazines and newspapers are captive customers" of the U.S.



Mr. And Mrs. T. K. Riddle

#### 69th Wedding Anniversary

On December 23rd, Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Riddle of Burnsville and Asheville observed their 69th Wedding Anniversary at Chunn's Cove Nursing Home in Asheville, N. C. Several members of their family were present. They were married December 23, 1904 at Cane River, N.C. Mr. Riddle was a prominent farmer and lumberman of Yancey County. They have eight surviving children: Mrs. Sadie Furr of Salisbury, N. C., Mrs. Frances Brinkley of Asheville, N.C., Charles of Roanoke, Va., Horace of Jack sonville, Florida, Vyron and John H. of Detroit, Michigan, Ben Riddle and Irene Hullett of Burnsville, N.C.

Postal Service which is a legal monopoly. Even so, much of the work of sorting, bagging and shipping magazines is done by private truckers, rather than the Postal Service. But there's a catch: "At the end of each truck's journey, it must back up to a post-office ramp, where the bags are handed over to the

Postal Service for the age - old

For two centuries, it has been

poly. Following a policy first

established by Benjamin Frank-

lin, Congress has since 1782

give-it-to-the-mailman system of delivery." The article declares that U.S. postal policy not to take unfair advantage of this mono-

> granted rates which allowed magazines and newspapers to be mailed at less than cost because these periodicals were considered an educational service to the nation. In 1973, for all periodicals, this support amounted to \$190 million. "Few public policies have been more successful --or a better bargain, " the article. declares. For an annual charge of about a dollar per capita, the

> Post Office helps to maintain the health of newspapers and magazines, which together constitute our most powerful medium for the continuing education of citizens.

But under terms of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, the Postal Service is required by law to establish rates that by 1976 will make almost every class of mail pay its own way. Many who voted for the Act did so on the assumption that modern busi ness techniques would help the Postal Service reduce costs and improve service, and that rates would not skyrocket. In the

words of Rep. Olin Teague of Texas, "The assumption proved wrong." Instead, service remain substantially the same, costs are rising, and the Postal Service is demanding second-class rate increases that could soar 200 or 300 percent!

How can disaster be averted? The Digest recommends two steps: one immediate, the other long-range. First, it urges that Congress act favorably on a bill sponsored by Gen. Gale McGee (D., Wyo.) that would phase in the payment by magazines of their full postal costs over the next eight years instead of the next three. Rep. James Hanley (D., N. Y.), supports similar legislation. For the longer range, the article declares: "Congress should take a hard look at its basic decision to make periodicals pay their full costs. For we don't see how anyone can logically defend a decision that is almost certain to kill off a large segment of one of this country's most fundamentally important institutions."



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When daylight came, she

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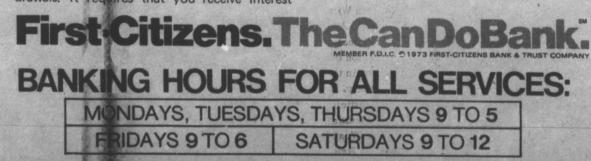
interest is payable quarterly, annually or at maturity, compounded annually.

You may redeem all or part of a savings bond before maturity upon written notice of hard-ship. Federal regulations require that banks impose a substantial penalty on such withdrawals. It requires that you receive interest

at the regular savings rate for the period held less 90 days interest.

Funds are fully insured under the provisions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Move up to the best bank-safe savings plan.

Move your funds to First-Citizens.



The article urges readers to write their Congressmen -- and additionally Sen. McGee and Rep. Hanley.

A----A fly alighting on a steel bar will cause the steel to bend under its weight.

(Verified by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards.)

THE YANCEY JOURNAL Box 667 Burnsville, N.C. 28714 Ed Yuziuk-Publisher Carolyn Yuziuk-Editor Patsy Randolph - Manager Published Every Thursday By Twin Cities Publishing Co. 2nd Class Postage Paid At Burnsville, N.C. Thursday, January 3, 1974 Number 1 Subscription Rates By Mail: In Yancey County

One Year ..... \$4.16 Six Months ..... \$3.12 Out of County or State One Year ..... \$6.00 Six Months ...... \$5.00