

Factors in Welfare Program Explained By Superintendent

"From month to month an increasing number of people in Perquimans County use some type of service of the department of public welfare," said C. Edgar White, county welfare superintendent, in outlining the services available to the people of the county through the department.

"Many people think of public welfare in terms of the public assistance grants made to people in need. While

this is an important part of the work, there are many non-financial services we are in a position to render to people in all walks of life. Arranging for adoptions and issuing labor certificates for children are but two examples of the many which will be discussed in later articles.

Since public assistance aid to people in need is important and usually comes to mind first when one thinks of public welfare, this article will discuss one category of public assistance—Old Age Assistance.

"Old Age Assistance" is one of the three programs of public assistance supervised by the State Board of Public Welfare and administered in conformity with State and Federal laws under uniform policies by the county boards of public welfare throughout the State. The other pro-

grams are Family Assistance and Blind Assistance.

In the 1952-1953 public welfare budget of Perquimans County, a total of \$54,500 is set up for Old Age Assistance. Perquimans County pays \$5,198 of this amount and the remainder is paid from State and Federal funds.

"Old Age Assistance, like all the public assistance programs, is designed by Federal and State laws to give help so that the individual may become self-supporting. To receive Old Age Assistance must have resided in North Carolina for 12 months prior to his application.

"A budget is prepared for each applicant for Old Age Assistance. This budget includes such items as: food, shelter, clothing, fuel, lights, water, and a small medical allowance. Since Old Age Assistance is intended to supplement rather than replace other income, all resources available to the applicant are taken into account in determining the extent of need. These resources include income of children, farm resources, saving, property and other.

"After the budget is prepared and the available income from all sources considered a grant of only 80 per cent of the remaining unmet need may be given under the uniform plan in effect in all counties. The grant is recommended by county superintendent of public welfare to the county welfare board for approval. The county commissioners may have all facts on all cases and may request further report on any. The grant is made by check directly to the recipient.

"The maximum in which the Federal government will participate is \$55 per month. Very few are eligible for this maximum.

"Perquimans County has 178 persons receiving Old Age Assistance monthly, with an average grant of \$23.00 per month. Increases during the past year have not kept pace with the rise in the cost of living. The average grant for North Carolina is about \$25 per month while the national average is nearly \$45.

WHITESTON NEWS

Recent visitors in the community were: Mrs. Lizzie Barlett, Mrs. Matie Simpson and Miss Maude Simpson of New Hope, and Mrs. Lizzie Gray of Suffolk.

Mr. and Mrs. Burton Myers and son, Gary, of Wilmington, N. C., spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. J. T. Lane and Elsberry Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. White spent the week-end with relatives in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Winslow visited his mother, Mrs. Ida Winslow, Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Sallie Davis returned home with them for a few days.

Mrs. Louis Howell spent Wednesday with her mother, Mrs. J. T. Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lassiter and daughters, Carol and Nancy of Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Lassiter.

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CHAPANOKE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Trueblood of South Norfolk, Va., spent Sunday with Mrs. John Bright. Mrs. Jack Trueblood returned with them after spending the week here with Mrs. Bright and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pierce.

Mrs. P. W. Blanchard of Ocean View, Va., spent Tuesday with her sister, Mrs. George Jackson, and her mother, Mrs. George Whitehead, who is very ill at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Cary Quincy and daughter of Norfolk, Va., spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Quincy.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Branche and daughter of Virginia Beach, Va., were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Stallings.

Mrs. Frank Charlton and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Jarvis of Hertford visited Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Onley on Wednesday P. M.

Lt. and Mrs. Calvin Wilson, U. S. Navy, came home Friday from Tyndall AFB, Panama City, Fla., to spend a week with his parents before leaving for Selfridge AFB, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Leon Elliott, USN, Norfolk, Va., spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Brendle of Norfolk and Mr. George Whitehead of Sanford visited their mother and sister, Mrs. Whitehurst and Mr. and Mrs. George Jackson this week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Baxter and sons of Norfolk, Va., spent Saturday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs.



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