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**Life Span Rises**

A major life insurance company recently reported that the average American wage earner's life had increased by more than four years in the last decade. This finding is based on 1952 figures for industrial policy holders.

The average length of life for the American wage earner is now sixty-eight and one-half years. If the rate increase continues, by 1962 the average wage earner's life span will be over seventy-two years.

When considering this figure as an average, one can easily see the progress being made in this direction. Despite a record motor vehicle toll in 1952, the death rate was near the all-time low recorded in 1950. The death rate for every one of the major chronic diseases of middle and later life declined. This is especially encouraging and includes such diseases as heart, artery and kidney diseases, in addition to cancer and diabetes.

These figures cover the American wage earner. The increasing pace of a faster life, increased tension and other added tensions of modern-day life have not combined to offset the progress being made in the medical field. We wonder, however, if the mortality rate for executives and business managers, and especially editors, is still not rising. From all outward appearances, it would seem that the fast pace of modern life is causing a heavier toll in this class, although we will be glad to correct our assumption if figures prove otherwise.

In the meantime we suggest that all business men slow their pace, and extend their lives along with the wage earners.

**U. S. Citizens Turns To Credit**

Chester A. Ruse, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Security First National Bank of Los Angeles, recently warned delegates to the National Installment Credit Conference at Chicago that the rapid increase in consumer credit totals could become dangerous.

Mr. Ruse pointed out that consumer credit totals had risen sharply since Regulation W was abandoned and that it now represents ten per cent of disposable income, "which is the highest percentage it has ever been, equalled only by 1939 and 1940." In this connection, a recent survey indicated that American consumers this year expected to do more installment buying than ever before in the history of the country and this would indicate that the consumer credit totals in the United States will soon surpass the figure quoted by Mr. Ruse.

The Los Angeles bank official believes that pressure will increase for new lines of credit to finance companies, automobiles and appliance dealers and that it will require skill to keep credit in this field on a sound basis. When the total of consumer credit becomes too large, then it will be too late to avoid serious trouble for many bank customers, Mr. Ruse observes.

While we do not believe the economy is in danger because of the large installment-buying volume of recent years and the resulting credit total, we take this opportunity to point out to the unsuspecting that credit purchases can be very costly in the event of even a mild recession. Not only is credit buying more expensive, because of interest charges, but it also carries with it the possibility that the consumer might pay most of the cost of his purchase and then lose it completely.

In view of recent reports that installment-buying was steadily and sharply rising and expected to rise further, we advise every consumer to limit his monthly payments to a figure which he could meet even if temporarily unemployed. The passing of the peak of the rearmament boom is sure to cause some readjustment, although not expected to cause any mass unemployment. It is only wise policy to be prepared for any effects of an economic readjustment, but carrying it out today when there are no credit controls and when money seems to be relatively plentiful, involves considerable resistance to the temptation to enjoy a new purchase today and pay for it tomorrow.

The individual with an idea is very often a nuisance to his friends.

**The One Way Road Of Life**

By PAUL "Smooks" WHITE

You have often heard of two highways of life That lead us through the ages of time.

And one leads down to the place below, And the other to the Great Divine.

But that's not true my dear friends, Because there's only one highway. We travel it together until the end And separate at Judgment Day.

If the good people had a road of their own

And the wicked the same, It would be easy for the Saints to reach their home, And leave the sinners to die in vain.

So we move on down that rocky road. The one way road of life. But we've got to go on with our heavy lead, But it is worth paying the price.

Sometime we fall on the way Whenever we are in a strain. But we won't turn back or even stay, So we get up and try it again.

There's many temptations on this road And evils of every kind. But pass them on and let them go And leave them on behind.

There are beggars, liars, and ramblers. On this rough road you'll find. Boot-leggers, thieves, and gamblers. On this road of your's and mine.

Selfishness, hate and greed, You'll find them all the time. Hypocrites, that love to feed On whiskey, beer, and wine.

Murderers, kidnapers and vamps You'll find them everywhere. Infidels, back-biters, drunks, and tramps And ten cent millionaires.

And all the evil sins you'll see, This is just a few. To count them up there would be Way over a thousand or two.

We have to travel on the best we can Through the heat, rain, and ice. If someone falls, let's give him a hand On this one way road of life.

It makes no difference about his race, Color, or denomination. Because we are saved by His grace, And we've got to have real Salvation.

Pay no attention to anyone's color, But help him if he falls, Remember we can't hate one another Because God is the Father of all.

Let's work together just like the ants. Without a thought of complaint Let's do it now while we have the chance

For we'll not pass this way again.

There are good concrete highways everywhere, But safety you can't trust. So let's pave our road with Holy Prayer,

For the children that follow us.

Let's post a good example, With a light that they may see. So their walk won't be so hard to travel

As it was for you and me.

But there are good things to be found, On this one way road of life. You'll find good people all around, That will do the things that are right.

You'll spend happy hours as you travel through With the birds and beautiful flowers. What a lovely picture they are to us, As they drink the morning dew.

The pretty trees as they look The grass so green and free. The honeysuckle in the meadow brook,

That feed the honey bee.

Many a church that rings out its chimes, Of music night and day. The doors are open all the time, To help you on your way.

There are many schools where children go To get their education. And as they grow, some become Christians,

And leaders of our nation.

But that's not all the things that are good, Under the Heaven's sky. We could find them all if we would only try,

While looking on the sunny side.

So we travel on down the one way road. With Father Time on parade. There's one thing sure, we've got to go

To that last weary mile of the way.

Let's always be thankful to our Heavenly Father For loving and blessing our soul. For an ounce of his blessing is worth more to us

Than all the silver and gold.

But we've got to live a life that's pleasing to Him, Before we can be saved. And when we die we can live again, That's our hope beyond the grave.

And when we reach the end of the way, And victory over death is won. We want to hear our Saviour say,

"My good and faithful servant, well done."

**Library News**

New books received in the Perquimans County Library this week are, *The Hour Awaits*, a delightful romantic story of a princess on a secret mission. *Stay Away Joe*, an amusing and readable book of a few weeks in the lives of a Canadian-American Indian family in Montana. Best cartoons from *Punch*, with a foreword by A. P. Herbert. Two westerns, *Valley of Guns* and *Renegade Sheriff*, and two light romances, *Nurse Lady* and *The Quest*.

Library statistics for March are as follows:

Total circulation of main library, bookmobile, Belvidere branch and Joseph Judkins Library, 3,888; New books added, 48; new borrowers registered, 26; books borrowed on inter-library loan, 4.

**CHECKING ON VETERANS**

A new program to make sure that schools training veterans under the Korean GI Bill are meeting all standards of the law has just been put in effect.

Under the new program, VA educational benefits representatives will make periodic visits to schools and establishments in which Korean GI trainees are enrolled, to see whether all provisions of the training law are being complied with.

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Mrs. Winston Lane was a charming hostess to a number of friends, Friday night, complimentary to her daughter, Annie Lou, who was celebrating her fifteenth birthday.

A number of games and contests were enjoyed by the young people, after which they were invited into the dining room. The dining table was covered with a lace cloth and centered with a four-tier birthday cake. Annie Lou opened and acknowledged her many beautiful gifts.

The hostess, assisted by Mrs. Howard Mathews, served candy, nuts and ice cream with birthday cake.

Those present were Annette Proctor, Daryl Allen, Jo Pat Stokes, Melville Williams, Marjorie Brinn, Seth Morgan, Nancy Bagley, Wayne White, Barbara Jean Russell, Jo Anne Mathews, Bobby Matthews, Charlie Umphlett, the guest of honor, Annie Lou Lane, Mrs. Howard Mathews, Mrs. J. B. Basnight and Mrs. Winston Lane.

**Prompt Lad**

Skive—I hear that young Pozozole is bring suit against the government for \$50,000 damages.

Pycraft—On what grounds?

Skive—Flatfoot. He was on a government job and was carrying a heavy piece of iron when the whistle blew and he dropped the iron on his feet.

The hard work of some people often explains their success.



*Sun rise - and all's well*



SKY AND SEA ARE CALM. But alert American Navy men stand at the ready as the sun rises over the Korean coast. It is their responsibility to protect not only the troops on the shore but you far away at home.

The job these men are doing is a constant and continuing job of maintaining America's military strength. The job you are doing at home is equally important and equally constant—that of maintaining our country's economic strength. You are doing it, you know, if you are investing regularly in United States Savings Bonds.

For it is only when you have financial security that your country is economically strong.

Are you one of the 43 million good, thrifty Americans who invest in Bonds regularly through the Payroll Savings Plan?

You decide just how much you want to save . . . as little as 25c a week or as much as you like . . . and each payday the amount is automatically saved out of your paycheck and put into interest-earning United States Savings Bonds. You'll be amazed—and thrilled—at how fast your savings grow! So join the Payroll Savings Plan where you work. Or the Bond-A-Month Plan where you bank.

**Here's how E Bonds**

now earn more money for you!

Now safe, sure U. S. Series E Savings Bonds pay an even better return than ever before . . . thanks to 3 brand new money-earning features announced by the U. S. Treasury.

1 Now every Series E Bond you get begins earning interest after only 6 months. It earns 3%, compounded semiannually, when held to maturity.

2 Every Series E Bond you own can now go on earning interest for 10 more years after it reaches the original maturity date.

3 All maturing E Bonds automatically earn interest at the new, higher rate (average 3% compounded semiannually) for 10 more years.

Start now! Invest more savings in later-paying Series E Bonds—through the Payroll Savings Plan where you work or the Bond-A-Month Plan where you bank!

Peace is for the strong! For peace and prosperity invest in U. S. Savings Bonds

**Perquimans Weekly**



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