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By JANICE R. CHRISTENSEN

(News items this week from Rockingham, Perquimans, Moore and Edgecombe counties.)

STRETCH FURNISHINGS DOLLARS

Many young homemakers of Rockingham County are stretching house furnishings dollars after attending workshops and listening to radio broadcasts on that topic, reports Mrs. Zaidie V. Jackson, home economics Extension agent.

able for furnishings." Then we listened to a radio program about "Furnishing Your Home on a Shoestring" and heard that a series of house furnishings workshops would be held.

Mrs. Farrish added, "During these workshops I learned how to repair, upholster and refinish furniture and gleaned other ideas that could fit our personal situation."

This young couple is pointing the way to better living with the use of old furniture, and, at the same time, is saving money, Mrs. Jackson adds.

MAKES SAD HEART HAPPY Mrs. Henrietta Archie, a senior citizen, 303 King St., Hertford, Perquimans County, plans to make the sad heart happy at Christmas, observes Mrs. Minnie E. Taylor, home economics Extension agent.

Mrs. Archie has made 54 gift items for Christmas. She plans to give them to shut-ins, other senior citizens and friends. Her gifts include pillows, neck resters, arm resters, baskets and pin cushions.

UP-TO-DATE EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

Another up-to-date educational facility has been completed in Moore County.

A number of Extension Homemakers Club members have been in on the long range planning of this facility, a new modern library, states Mrs. Jean M. Hubbard, home economics Extension agent.

Members of the clubs' educational committees plan to inform Moore County residents of the more persons to use it.

Extension Homemakers Club members are planning a tour through the new library at a later date, the agent adds.

CLOTHES MUST FIT

Regardless of how stylish the color or how much the cost, we must have good fit in our clothes if we are to have a pleasing appearance.

The program, "Fit To Be Well Dressed," was presented to members of Extension Homemakers Clubs in Edgecombe County, Drue Williams, associate home economics Extension agent, reports.

In the lesson, fitting problems in readymades were pointed out and solutions discussed. Tips on altering patterns before sewing were also offered.

The lesson left this thought: both buying and sewing efforts are lost unless clothes fit well.

December 24-25, 1620

December 1620 marked the landing of the Mayflower at Plymouth Rock. A site for the first home in the new settlement was selected on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day construction began.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Q—My wife has been mentally ill for four years. The State Hospital where she is committed advised me to file a claim for disability benefits, which I did, and my wife's benefits are being paid. But the social security people said my seven year old daughter was not dependent on my wife. Did the recent changes in the social security law change this rule?

A—Yes. Effective beginning with the month of February, 1968, a child is deemed to be dependent on its mother if the mother worked long enough under social security to be fully insured. A previous requirement that the woman worker also have social security credit for very recent work (unless it could be shown that she had furnished more than 1/2 the child's support) has been removed. The changed rule applies in retirement and death cases as well. The revision now makes dependency requirements on a woman the same as those by which children formerly were deemed dependent on a father.

Q—I am 40 years old and have three children. The youngest is 7, my daughter is 10, and the oldest is 19. For the last year I have been receiving disability benefits from social security. When I filed my claim I was told my children could not receive benefits because they were not dependent on me. I understand there is some change in social security and that they can now receive benefits. Is this true?

A—Yes, this is true. Since you are receiving a disability benefit from social security you are fully insured. The 1967 amendments changed the dependency test for the payment of benefits on a mother's record of work under social security. You should get in touch with your social security office to apply for benefits for the children.

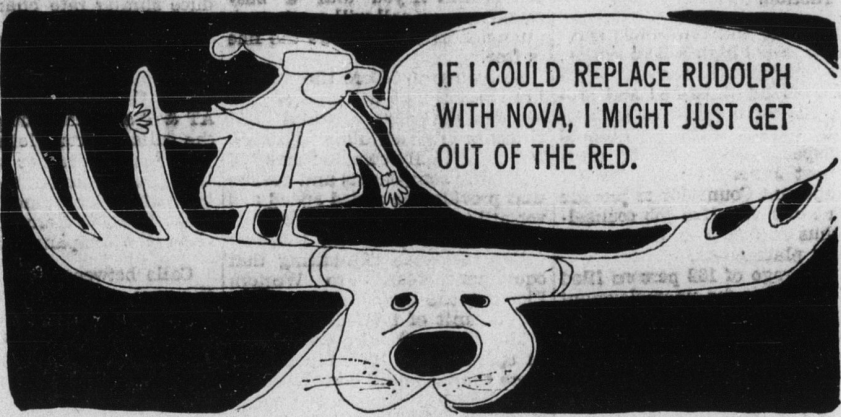
December 24, 1223

St. Francis of Assisi set up the first creche or crib on Christmas Eve, 1223, in the mountain village of Greccio, Italy.

December 25, 1492

Christopher Columbus and his crew celebrated the first Christmas in the New World in 1492. They were dinner guests of an Indian chief, ruler of the island of Haiti.

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SMART NEW COLORINGS KEYNOTE CHRISTMAS KNITS FOR THE AMERICAN MALE

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GREETINGS

As the peace of this wonderful Christmas season settles, like freshly fallen snow, around your home, we send you warm good wishes and joyous greetings . . . and with them, our most sincere gratitude for your kindness. Happy Holidays!

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