



STAIRWAY TO NOWHERE?—Curving stairway seems to lead nowhere. In reality, it bends around a snow-covered natural gas storage tank in Wilton, Conn. Snow and sky blend perfectly to create the illusion.

Social Security Quiz Answers Many Queries

(Editor's Note) Do you have any questions about Social Security? We all do, don't we? Send any question you might have to Social Security Quiz, c/o Daily Democrat. You'll find your answer in this column, which is published regularly.

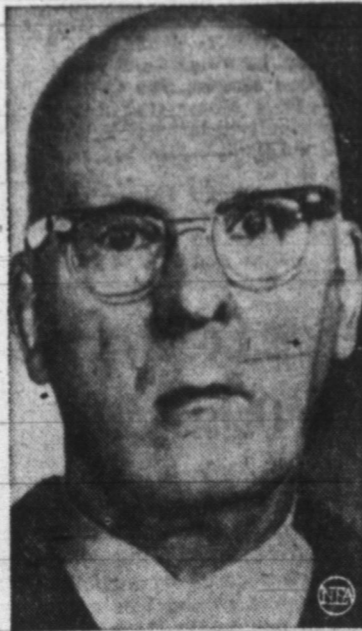
- 1. Q—I have done housework for a family for the past three years. They do not deduct social security tax from my wages. Is there any way that I can determine if these wages have been reported?
A—Yes, your social security office will be glad to furnish you a wage statement request card. Simply complete the card and mail it to the address shown on the card. You will receive a statement showing your total earnings under social security and a yearly breakdown for the current and three preceding years. If this statement discloses that your wages have not been reported your social security office will be glad to assist you in establishing these wages.
- 2. Q—I live in a community property state and am receiving monthly social security payments. I wonder if one-half of my wife's wages should be added to my wages in figuring the \$1200 I am permitted to earn in a year and still get my social security checks. She is not getting social security. I worked for wages of \$1050 in 1959 and my wife will make \$3000. One-half of my wife's makes added to mine would make me lose all my social security checks.
A—It is your employment earnings only that are counted in the \$1200 that you are permitted to earn in a year without losing one or more social security checks. Your earnings of \$1050 for 1959 are less than \$1200, therefore you do not lose any benefits for that year.
- 3. Q—I know that many self-

employed people were brought under social security between 1951 and 1955. Would you please tell me which self-employed people were brought under social security starting with 1956?
A—The new group to which you refer includes all self-employed lawyers, dentists, osteopaths, veterinarians, chiropractors, naturopaths and optometrists whose net earnings were at least \$400 for taxable years ending after 1955.

4. Q—When my husband became disabled about 15 years ago, I went to work and have supported him ever since. Now I'm 62 and he is 66. How much social security would I receive now on average monthly earnings of \$275?
A—You would receive a reduced monthly benefit of \$79.20 (80% of \$99.00). If he meets the requirements of a dependent husband, your husband would receive \$49.50 a month. Together you would receive \$128.70 per month.

5. Q—One of my employees past 65 earned \$1200 the first half of the year. Starting July 1, 1959, she is earning \$20 a week. Will she be eligible to receive social security benefits starting July 1959 or will total income disqualify her for the year?
A—In general, one month's benefit is cancelled for each \$80 or fraction of \$80 earnings over \$1200. Your employee will have total earnings of \$1720. This is enough to cancel 7 checks leaving her eligible for 5 monthly benefits. However, a second rule is that any month she earns \$100 or less she gets a check regardless of total earnings. This will apply in her case so that she will receive her monthly payments from July through December.

A—You do not have to quit your job to draw old-age retirement benefit checks. The law permits you to earn \$1200 in a taxable year and still receive all 12 checks for the year. The value of board and room for farm labor is not considered wages and does not make your total wages for a year more than the \$1200 allowed by the law.



STAMP COLLECTOR—Charles A. Willis, 56, is being held on charges of stealing \$500,000 in stamps over a 10-year period from the New York brokerage house where he worked as a mail clerk. Willis' legitimate take-home pay was \$62 a week.

6. Q—I was 65 years old in January this year and have been working on an egg ranch for a number of years for \$100 monthly cash wages and my board and room. Do I have to quit my job in order to start drawing my social security or can I continue this employment?
A—You do not have to quit your job to draw old-age retirement benefit checks. The law permits you to earn \$1200 in a taxable year and still receive all 12 checks for the year. The value of board and room for farm labor is not considered wages and does not make your total wages for a year more than the \$1200 allowed by the law.

Favorite Sons Likely Haunt For Kennedy

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International
WASHINGTON (UPI)—Favorite sons and, especially, Missouri's Sen. Stuart Symington, are likely to haunt and to harass Sen. John F. Kennedy's campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Kennedy's weekend announcement of his candidacy will invigorate the considerable activity within the Democratic Party to kill him off. His announcement formalized his position as a front runner among a half dozen more or less legitimate seekers of the nomination.

A front-runner has the advantage, of course, of being in front. The disadvantage is that all other aspirants, plus those who for one reason or another also oppose the candidacy of the man in front, tend to gang up on the leader to pull him down.

Hold Meetings On Education By TV

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (UPI)—Three meetings which will settle many unanswered questions about a six-state airborne educational television project will be held this week in Chicago and Lafayette.

Present plans of the major experiment in education call for about 20 per cent of the courses to be college level, 40 per cent elementary, and 40 per cent high school. The council already has held meetings with state superintendents and superintendents of schools within the six states to acquaint them with what is planned that would be of value to elementary and high schools.

The second meeting Friday at Chicago is expected to produce recommendations on subjects to be taught during the first year's operation, starting in September. Attending this session will be the state curriculum directors, including four each from Indiana and Illinois, three each from Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin and two from Kentucky.

The recommendations of this group will be presented Saturday at Purdue University for consideration by the council. The council also is expected to make further decisions on the project.

NOTES FROM AFTER THIRTY

By JACK HELLER
ASK A QUESTION, GET AN ANSWER
The Rev. William Feller, one of our long-time fraternal friends, ended up his annual congregational meeting on a humorous note last Sunday. Or at least, one of his congregations did. The business part of the morning meeting was just about over. The new officers had been elected, and reports had been given.

HAPPY NEW YEAR?
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gehrig had an interesting and unusual New Years Eve party. Besides several games, one of the events was a basement of horrors, featuring a ten-foot tunnel. Greased pigtails, a black cat and two freshly skinned cows heads adorned the tunnel. Also along the way was a witch stirring a cauldron, a man hanging by the neck, and his wife laid out in a casket.

MAKING A FORTUNE
We are enjoying this winter. Partly because the weather has been quite enjoyable, and partly because it will probably be one of the last winters we spend in the cold north. We have devised a scheme to make a fortune by working two weeks a year.

Wanderer Is Killed When Struck By Car
RICHMOND, Ind. (UPI)—A wanderer whose last known address was a church mission in Indianapolis where he slept only one night was killed by a car early today near Richmond.



HIS SON, HIS BROTHER—Sol Fried, right, and his son, Barry, get ready to board an airliner at Idlewild Airport, N.Y. Fried's son, Robert, 23, Barry's twin, was one of 34 who died when a National Airliner crashed in Bolivia, N.C. The Frieds, who live in Manhattan, were among the 14 men and women, relatives and friends of the victims, who made the trip at the expense of the airline.

opened; and various neck ties, wrist watches, handkerchiefs and aprons. The neck ties might be slipped into the trash on purpose along with the picture of cousin Matilda's family. At any rate, what couldn't be sold for its cash value, could always be used for blackmail because it was purposely thrown away. See you next winter in Florida. Or maybe Hawaii.

FORGOT TO READ THE SCRIPT
Deputy sheriff Bob Meyer had a TV rehearsal pulled on him in the line of duty. Bob got a call that a bull was loose on a farm, and decided to be a good guy and go out and help the farmer corral out and help the farmer corral out the critter. Arriving at the farm, he armed himself with a rope and started into the field. The bull had other ideas. It took after Bob, and Bob cleared a fence. The bull went through the fence. The final refuge was in the car, and then in the deputy went. The bull even tried nudging the car, but that was going too far. Bob came out of the car, shotgun in hand. No shots were fired, though. The animal must have realized he had one foot in the hamburger grinder, and returned to his rightful place. Meanwhile, back at the ranch.



OLYMPIAN — The Olympic Games symbol of five inter-linked rings is featured on this four-cent stamp which will mark the opening of the eighth winter games in February, 1960. It will be placed on sale at Olympic Valley, Calif., site of the games, on Feb. 18.



"Will you guys pull your legs in? This thing looks like a centipede!"

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