

### Explain Social Security Law

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Beginning October, 1972, a child's Social Security benefits will not stop when he is adopted, regardless of who adopts him, Charles E. Reynolds, Watertown district manager of Social Security, said today.

Prior to the recent amendments, benefits ended unless the child was adopted by certain close relatives—brother, sister, step-parent, grandparent, aunt, or uncle.

Mr. Reynolds also pointed out that children, whose benefits were suspended previously because of adoption, may become reentitled to payments, effective November 1972, by filing applications. To qualify, the child still must be unmarried and under 18, or under 22 and a full-time student.



MRS. BERTHA GOODHINES  
Correspondent

### West Leyden Area News

**MRS. BERTHA GOODHINES** followed the blessing of the church. The Bishop presented the papal medal "Bene Merenti" to Rev. Henry Hospers of the Reformed Church of West Leyden in appreciation for the generosity of the pastor and his congregation in allowing the St. Mary's Congregation the use of the Reformed Church facilities following the destruction of the old St. Mary's. Robert W. Trovelli, A.L.A., of Rome, was the architect for the new church. The contracts for the new church totaled \$102,000.

The November meeting of the Altar and Rosary Society was held Nov. 13 at the rectory.

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**ENGAGED** - Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Smithing have announced the engagement of their daughter, Mary Jane, to Thomas W. Hellingner, son of Mrs. Muriel Hellingner and the late John Hellingner.

Miss Smithing is a 1972 graduate of Lowville Academy and Central School and is an employee of Kraft Co.

Mr. Hellingner is also a 1972 graduate of Lowville Academy and Central School and is employed on the William Hellingner dairy farm.

A July 21, 1973, wedding is planned.

### Area Couple Wed 64 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Archie P. Vallencour, High Street, Harrisville, observed their 64th wedding anniversary Nov. 11 at their home. Latia Ann Brady, Harrisville, and Archie P. Vallencour, Newton Falls, were married Nov. 11, 1908, at St. Francis Catholic Church, Harrisville, by Rev. L. Mayer, then pastor. Their attendants were Miss Ruth Scanlin, Harrisville, and Joseph E. Bushey, Newton Falls. They have lived in Harrisville at their present home since 1914.

Mr. Vallencour retired as a papermaker with the St. Regis Paper Co. at the Harrisville mill in 1956 where he had worked for 30 years and for 12 years for their predecessors, the Diana Paper Co. He obtained the Republican nomination for Diana Town assessor in 1965 and has served in that capacity since. He is also correspondent for the Watertown Daily Times.

The couple has three children living, Walter J. Vallencour and Fred E. Vallencour, Harrisville, and Wilma E. Michaelson, Fremont, Calif., two daughters, Mrs. Joseph (Patricia) Hart of Edwards died in 1966 and Mrs. Clyde (Madeline) Daniels of Fulton died in 1971. They have 14 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The dedication of the new St. Mary's Nativity Church, West Leyden, took place on Oct. 29. The original St. Mary's Nativity Church in West Leyden, the successor to St. Mary's at Prussian Settlement, was built in 1926. In April, 1971, the church building was destroyed by an explosion and had to be demolished. The new church measures 40 feet by 80 feet and seats 196 persons. It has a full basement, which is finished as a church hall with rest-rooms and kitchen. The church is constructed of wood and brick exterior. The arches, a wood plank roof interior features laminated colored glass windows and a contemporary sanctuary. The Bishop dedicated and blessed the new church, assisting the Bishop as chaplains concelebrants of the Dedication Mass were Rev. Thomas Driscoll of St. Mary's and Rev. Msgr. Floyd J. Bryn, president of Wadhams Hall Seminary College, Odgenburg. Attending were two former pastors, Rev. Joseph Sticlemeyer, now pastor of St. Patrick's in Hogsburg, and Rev. James Lamite, now pastor of St. Francis of Assisi, Conestoga. Rev. F. James Shurtlett served as master of ceremonies, Father Driscoll preached the homily at the Mass which

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## We'd rather use the forest than let it die.

Ecology is the science dealing with the relationship between living things and their environments. It has special significance for the forest. Because, in the forest, a very delicate balance exists between animals, plants, air, water and earth. Yet, man can use the forest without upsetting nature's balance.

In fact, forestland management by modern timber companies actually provides a rich habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. Like everything else, that part of the ecosystem called a forest had a remote beginning. We can't examine the origin of this ecosystem. But we can watch a forest from the start and see how the system develops.

Suppose, for example, that a farmer harvests all the corn in a large field. Then, in late autumn, he burns or plows under the dead stalks and other debris preparing to plant a new crop the following spring. But in the winter, the farmer moves away, never to return, and no crop is planted. Obviously the ground will not lay fallow. With the coming of spring, nature will take over, and the land will support life again.

### Weeds and Insects

In early spring the old corn field is covered by a green fuzz, the sprouts of what would ordinarily be called weeds—barnyard, chickweed, pigweed, and ragweed. By midsummer, the weeds have spread over the field, and insects move in. First, insects that eat vegetation—aphids, grasshoppers, leaf hoppers—come to browse on the leaves of the thickening mantle of weeds. And, directly behind the leaf eaters, the predators: spiders, ladybugs, wasps, hornets, and bees. After the insects have multiplied, birds come to feed on leaf eaters and predators alike.

In the next few summers, various grasses take over from the weeds and form a thick, deep carpet over the field. A few biennials and perennials such as Queen Anne's lace, common mullen, and roth mullen appear among the grasses. And beneath the grasses, many small animals—moles, shrews, field mice, rabbits, snakes—search for food.

### The Young Forest

In about the fifth or sixth year, small trees and shrubs appear. The seeds for these plants have been blown in by the wind. Or carried in by birds and other animals.

As the years pass, the young trees grow thick and tall, blotting out much of the sunlight. And some of the plants like ferns and gale-meads, deprived of sunlight and moisture, start to diminish in number. Most of the trees are conifers—fir, pines and cedars. They grow quickly in sunlight, and soon the entire field is covered by the young forest. Now, animals that flourished in the grasslands have moved out. And the young forest is populated by white-footed mice, squirrels, deer and some of the larger predators—bobcats, martens, and perhaps cougars.

The birds are different now, too. Deep wood species, such as woodpeckers, blue jays, and nuthatches fill among the branches of the tall trees.

Soon, the trees become so numerous that the forest floor is virtually barren of plants. This is the best time to harvest the forest. It supports very few animals except the tree dwellers. And soon the great trees will start to grow old and die. Some from disease or insect infestation. Some simply from old age. When they die, winds can break off part of the tree leaving a rotting snag. But if the trees are harvested as they reach maturity, they can be used by man. And harvesting opens up the canopy, letting sunlight penetrate to the forest floor, letting the growth of shrubs and ground plants that provide for a variety of forest creatures.

### Man and the Forest

In some parts of the East, shade tolerant hardwoods would eventually replace the sun seeking trees in a natural ecological development. This succession from weeds to grass to climax forest would take several hundreds of years at least. We have used it only to show the relationship between plants and animals in different stages of the forest ecosystem. If the forest were destroyed by fire, nature would follow the same succession and over hundreds of years build a new forest that was almost identical.

By harvesting trees before they get too old, and overripe, man utilizes the forests when they are at their prime. And, in many parts of the country, companies like Georgia-Pacific are replanting harvested areas with genetically superior trees which are properly spaced to promote maximum growth. This practice keeps the forest vital and productive.

At Georgia-Pacific, we are extremely sensitive about the forest ecosystem. Our harvesting methods are geared to preserving the system, and even improving on it. Because the forest is a great natural resource. And, used wisely, it will continue to provide homes and food for countless species of animals. And wood products for all the people of the world.

Film available on loan. Free literature. "The Story of Human Enterprise" is a three time festival award winning film that tells what Georgia-Pacific is doing to protect the environment. This 20 minute color film is ideal for all ages. Literature shows how Georgia-Pacific's knowledge and experience are improving forests and controlling air and water pollution. For film or literature write: Georgia-Pacific Educational Library, 9018 W. 15th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204.

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