

*Sam*

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## Goodbye Poorhouse! 12/3/36

Durham county, and thousands of other counties in the United States will find one great solace in the social security machinery being set up in this country. It sounds the knell of that institution which lies over the hill, the poorhouse.

There will be a need for poorhouses for some years, but the old age relief and the old age assistance set-ups, mother's aid, assistance to children and measures to support the blind inevitably will empty those last-hope havens which never achieved the level of respectability..

There never was, with perhaps a few exceptions and most of them temporary, a time when enough money was forthcoming to operate a county home as a refuge of comfort and content. Perhaps contentment would be too much to expect psychologically, regardless of how comfortable, even luxurious, relatively speaking, a county home might be made, but few have ever approached the point where that academic question became an actuality, and Durham has never been among those few.

And, as we say, the most convenient and attractive institution and administration could not gloss over the stigma of living, segregated in a sense, at the county's bounty. The passing of the county home, except, perhaps, for possible functioning as an asylum for the insane, will draw no tears to American eyes.