

Who Said No Doctors?

THE little piece of news from Morganton this week was staggering. Dr. L. G. Beall of the State Hospital announced, almost casually, that he had added five new doctors to his staff. That's right in the middle of the most serious shortage of doctors in history, at a time when Government hospitals are snatching up all available doctors, nurses and technicians in sight. That's at a time when the State Hospital salary scale is still low, when the heavy burden of patient load is heavier than ever. That's at a time when private practice is more attractive—financially—to medical men than it has been within memory. The little news story was a statement which has been in a State Hospital for years and can fall to appreciate what five new doctors will mean to the patients at Morganton. There the whole staff load has been carried since the beginning of the war by three men. Three doctors, with no more than 3,000 patients. They were unable to adequately care for physical needs, let alone give psychiatric care and treatment.

Bingo! No More Inflation

THERE may be butchers in the land who have not heard of the way willy-nilly, without regard to the revised laws of American economic theory—but the holiday is over. Regardless of what the housewife sees when she scans the news more and more, inflation is past. It is past because the Federal Reserve Board says so, and has given the nod to stock speculators that they may now trade on a 75 per cent margin. The bankers, with one eye on Hamilton's plummeting butter market, paid out a little rope to the traders, who responded by killing stocks joyously.

We do not pretend to compete with the Board as readers of the tea leaves of business. Certainly the gentlemen had reason enough to believe that we were embracing in a new tide, the driftwood of high commodity prices notwithstanding. They could see heavy industry, utilities, manufacturers in many fields, the building industry, the price of wheat, and the price of automobiles were beginning to roll off the lines. Industry in general seemed to have smoother sailing, despite unsettled conditions in the fields of labor, taxation and Government spending.

Not Unification At All

WHEN Harry Truman's plan for unification of the armed forces came out of hiding last week with the stamp of Navy approval on its rather vague pages, it was pretty clear that the compromise had gone the limit, and that he did not recommend unification at all. Navy brass, clinging jealously to autonomy, has apparently killed the ideal of a single, stupendous, all-for-one U. S. armed force (which was first offered by the eminent economist, Warren G. Harding).

The news of Navy resistance to the plan solidified the position of the administration in the leadership of war impressed them. The case of the Generals Smith and their tragic conflict of command in the bloody Pacific should have been enough to give anyone pause, and to point out which side was generally in uniform command. Pearl Harbor held other lessons. But when the politico-military process of cooking was done, time and the Navy had won. Congress will continue a merger plan which apparently does little more than give the Air Force the autonomy they deserve, and to add another overall military boss.

Another Voice

FORMER members of Congress who have reached the age of 62 and have served in the military for the first time, can now qualify to receive substantial pensions for the rest of their lives by paying a small lump sum to cover contributions for the last five years of service. Of course, these pensions are generous, especially for older men who can qualify for annuities after making only a few contributions. But they are bargains well worth the cost, because these pensions may spell the difference between penury and comfortable living for aged legislators who have given a good part of their lives to the public service.

Such pensions serve an excellent purpose by making a political career more attractive to able men who would otherwise apparently do little more than get in the long service might end in defeat at the polls and a lack of resources on the part of the defeated while looking for another job. The country is benefited by the presence in Congress of veterans who have made a career of the job of lawmaking. It

pressure to work changes, has made things difficult. Conditions are still far from ideal. Patients are still suffering from lack of care and treatment. We have only made the merest beginning at remedial care, as opposed to the old ideal of custodial care. In this case, the doctors' enlarged staff proves things are moving.

Dr. Beall has a staff at Morganton today because the Board got to work in the face of seemingly impossible handicaps and built some houses. They have built more than twenty of them, some with two or three cases for members of the medical staff. They listened to bids from contractors, then went out and cut the lumber off their own land, and put up the twenty-odd dwellings for less than half the quoted price. In this case, the doctors' enlarged staff, and to the patients who have been waiting for years for the kind of care the new staff can give, they meant everything.

It is highly unfair to single out members of the new Board, but people like Chapel Hill's John Umstead, in working out cooperation between Duke and Bowman Gray medical schools, the State Hospitals, are giving unexcelled service to North Carolina. The aggressiveness of the new Board in seeking out new staff members, and building power and sovereignty. Now, in the nation there are supplies of doctors in a time of scarcity, while in the long run build a superb mental hospital system in the state.

People's Platform

THE decline in employment, the disappearance of the seller's market, the reduction in liquid assets in the country, but the relief he offered stock traders, though it temporarily rejuvenated the market, did not satisfy the New York Stock Exchange. President Emil Schtroum thought it a step in the right direction, but he wanted 50 per cent margin—something like traders enjoyed in pre-war days.

It was clear that the time so many Americans have been praying for was near at hand. Prices were generally lower, though not so low as they had been. The average citizen, it is likely to be a strange time in national life, as the stock traders have been demonstrating since the market's shake-down in the Fall. Even so, more than 20 billion dollars of ready cash more in the country, the market was moving rather slowly, and trading was selective. If the new margin relief perks up things we may well get a substitute for the inflation threat we are supposed to have passed.

If the Board's move signals a return to free-and-easy margin trading, we suppose the Federal Reserve Board will be a return to "normal." And we need not expect too many Americans to remember, in that day, that we have passed this way before. If and when we settle down to a steady program, the memory of 1929 will be faint indeed.

It may well be that complete unification is not the answer to the problems of future defense. And it may be that the Secretary of Defense, in his efforts to bring military heads to the conference table, will actually smooth the path of co-operation in defense and in war. Congress must give its approval, and in the doing will surely clarify the President's program and fill in some vital details. The nation, and particularly the young men who fought in the early months of the war when Army-Navy teamwork was by no means perfection, will look hopefully for signs that the new plan eliminates some of the old and obvious evils of separate armed forces.

The special problems of the ground, air and sea forces certainly can't be entrusted to the arbitrary decisions of commanders unqualified to solve them. But we're none too optimistic of the chances of something like perfect co-ordination coming from the joint staff of 100 men, equally divided between Army, Navy and Air Force. And we haven't heard a word about consolidation for the purpose of saving money in recent months. At the start, that's what much of the shouting was about. Up to now, it looks like an overwhelming victory for the Navy.

Pensions For Congressmen

ONLY just to reward such men by enabling them to retire, if they choose, into a peaceful obscurity when they reach a ripe age. All too often the aged, defeated candidate for office has been forced to exploit his former political connections in order to make a living. Adequate pensions for such men are a necessity, but not, eradicate, this evil. —Washington Post.

In 48, thanks to wonderful television, we shall be able to watch the candidates of the two major parties as they turn on the tremolo in these "g-r-t-re-ated United States."

Already a Minneapolis firm is at work on a life of 1949 art calendars. Despite all one hears, it goes ahead on the brave assumption that there will be a future.

High for 1946 in total publicity was that enjoyed by J. G. P. Puig, equally in the middle in every strike cartoon.



Education Means Democracy

EDUCATION means democracy. We can easily imagine a block of wood. We know this block of wood has certain properties: shape, divisibility, weight and so forth. We can divide it into one hundred and thirty million parts. Each part being a part of the block has the same properties as the block.

This nation may be compared to the block of wood, and as having certain attributes, for instance: power and sovereignty. Now, in the nation there are several units, namely: one hundred and thirty million individuals who are citizens or potential citizens. Each citizen lives in a different environment. In a different economic status, and in a different part of the country, opinions will differ. If we are to have a democracy in its perfect theory.

In the earliest state of civilization there was control by the old man of the family, group or tribe. That was patriarchal government. Then there was control by the priest. When nations were formed and wars began government was by Church and State. When transportation and communication were developed, government was by the masses. After the printing press representative government came into existence.

It has been a long road from the patriarch to the democratic form of government. It is a road from the robber baron to the elected congress; from the military defense, through the atomic bomb; from the emperor to the present; from the robber baron to the elected congress; from the military defense, through the atomic bomb; from the emperor to the present; from the robber baron to the elected congress; from the military defense, through the atomic bomb; from the emperor to the present.

Drew Pearson's Justice Dept. Handicapped In Tax Cases

SOME of the nation's biggest black-market racketeers and money-makers are now getting away with income-tax evasion, thanks to a snarled-up situation inside the Justice Department.

Around the country income-tax cases are now awaiting disposition, with little chance of rapid action. Behind them is another 1,200 income-tax fraud cases in the Treasury. For months the men are sitting in certain law contractors have been getting away with murder.

Here is the inside story of what happened. During the last year of the war, Secretary of the Treasury, James B. Connelley, called Congress for extra funds to probe income-tax evasion. He learned of tremendous amounts of cash being used by black-market racketeers to cover up their tracks. He asked Congress for extra agents to ferret out the fraud.

Morganthau got the money, hired the agents, and set them to work. For months the Treasury Department was not asked Congress for extra money to handle the flood of cases. Instead, his tax division is bogged down in the hummed and hawed about appointing a PDR. But these particular criminal tax cases.

U. S. Aid To Schools

FEDERAL aid to bolster America's declining public school system is likely to be shoved aside in the drive to drive the economy into a depression. But that will not happen without a contest.

In principle, the members of Congress could be expected to support a degree of Federal aid. But it is over the amount and the way it should be distributed, and because they disagree violently and in a variety of ways, the probability is for no action at all.

In the last Congress, Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio joined with two Democrats, Senator Lester Hill of Alabama and Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah, in sponsoring a bill which provides a moderate Federal subsidy for education. About \$250,000,000 a year would be allocated to states, unspent out of their own resources, to enable a minimum of \$100,000,000 to be spent on the education of the state would receive an allocation based on the proportion of income from education.

Harold Ickes

I HAVE never been a United States Senator, but there are times when I feel that I should have had this valuable experience. I would like to know what makes a Senator tick. Of course, I mean the average Senator, and that would include the Honorable Harold Ickes. I would like to know what makes a Senator tick. Of course, I mean the average Senator, and that would include the Honorable Harold Ickes.

Last Hope Of Soil

EDUCATION means conservation and the liberal education of the citizen. It is a means of conservation and the liberal education of the citizen. It is a means of conservation and the liberal education of the citizen.

Today, owing to the fact that the field and forest are so badly depleted, we see the folly of past and present generations and as an eleven-hour program has been set up for the future. The future is what we have to look forward to but the road that leads to the obliteration of all barren lands and the destruction of our forests.

Lady At Lunch

PERSONALLY and officially, I wish to thank you for the courtesy extended the local Women's Christian Temperance Union in having such an efficient reporter at our luncheon. We were happy to have her as our guest and to have her see the work we are doing.

Get Close To Crime!

POPULAR Assistant Attorney General Lamar Caudle, in speaking of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, said that he would like to see the public substitute for his boss, Attorney General Tom Clark.

Clark had been detained in Washington by a Supreme Court hearing. Assistant Caudle read the speech instead. After concluding the written text, Caudle graciously proceeded to add a few remarks of his own.

POP Road-Blocks

MOST people don't realize it, and the Republicans are sure to deny it, but the case of the high road blockades for the recruiting of able public servants.

Oil And The Senate

At the other extreme is a proposal to make up to \$2,000,000,000 a year available to the nation's schools, without regard to need in the private states. The proposal is shortly be reintroduced under the sponsorship of Senators James E. Murray and Claude Pepper, Democrats, and probably Senator Wayne Morse, Republican.

The Taft-Hill-Thomas proposal will also be introduced. Taft is for it again. But he does not hold out much hope for its passage. Congress will turn down the Murray-Perkins-Morse proposal, as Taft says, but he does not hold out much hope for its passage. Congress will turn down the Murray-Perkins-Morse proposal, as Taft says, but he does not hold out much hope for its passage.

There are at least two major differences between the Murray and the Taft-Hill-Thomas proposals on this matter. One of course, is the difference in the amount of money appropriated. A second major difference is that the Murray Bill makes a far fewer number of schools available to all schools, parochial as well as public.

At least 30 most powerful lobbyists pushing aid to education are the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers. An AFL union. The teachers' union will fight hard for the Murray-Perkins-Morse proposal. The NEA, an independent organization, would probably settle for the more moderate Taft proposal. Jealousies and rivalries divide these two organizations. This further complicates the chances of getting agreement on a measure which the present Congress would pass.

Should Lean Backward

ONE would not expect Senator McCarran to disqualify himself even in such circumstances. But with his legal background, one would expect him to be able to refrain from taking a position favorable to the oil industry. His own concern as to oil has been a major factor in his decision to back up the oil industry. It is a decision involving a conflict between the public interest and the private interest of the United States, to the latter of which he owes his private obligations when they solicit votes cannot be squared with their subsequent performances.

FROM AND OF

Now, while these three gentlemen were elected as Senators from the state of California, the officers of the United States. In other words, Senator Perkins is a Senator of the United States from the state of California. He is not an ambassador from his state; he is not a Senator of the United States. He is a Senator of the United States from the state of California.

Capital Cliff

SEVEN hours after the announcement of Jimmie Byrnes' resignation as Secretary of State, more than 150 offers of private employment at annual salaries ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 poured across the little South Carolina town of Bryn Mawr, where he will take a \$100,000 a year rest, and an anticipated Supreme Court resignation comes through.

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