

There have been so many Confederate flags flying lately that Staff Writer Mary Curry went to see the man who sells 'em. Her illustrated report is on the second front.

The Hoover Reports—IV

Saving \$\$\$

By VIC REINEMER
Charlotte News Staff Writer
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One person out of six in the U. S. receives some kind of free, direct medical care from the Federal Government. This care costs about \$2 billion a year.

It is administered by five large and over 30 smaller Federal medical systems. Each operates independent of the others. They make their own plans, build, staff and run hospitals and clinics with as the bipartisan Hoover Commission stated, "little knowledge and no regard for the operations of others."

This lack of co-ordination is wasteful. One Federal hospital may be half-empty, with skilled doctors sitting around. Another Federal hospital across the street may have more patients than its overburdened personnel can handle. The sensible solution would be to move patients from the full hospital to the one half-full. But, due to lack of co-ordination they are sometimes instead moved hundreds of miles away to another hospital under the management of the same Federal agency which runs the hospital they came from.

Politics crops up too. Some hospitals are constructed at the behest of politicians to the advice of the medical authorities. After they are built, they sometimes sit empty because there aren't any patients or medical staff available.

Here are some examples of how our Federal medical program sometimes works.

The new Navy hospital at Moffett field had an average of two patients a day during the fiscal year 1948.

A 100-bed Veterans Administration hospital was built in Miles City, Montana. It cost \$30,000 per bed to build. (Average per-bed construction cost in Federal hospitals is about \$32,000; voluntary hospitals, about \$17,000.) The Hoover Commission found the new hospital standing empty, because of an incomplete staff, but no patients. It was finally opened in August of this year. Nearly half of the 89 new VA hospitals are being built to secure adequate staffs.

In New Orleans there are five Federal hospitals, all within six miles of the center of the city, operated separately by the Army, Navy, Navy Air, Veterans Administration and Public Health Service. The Hoover Commission found that service personnel were shipped to other parts of the country for special treatment which could have been secured at the VA or Public Health Service hospital right in town.

When the Commission made its survey in the San Francisco area, it found thirteen Federal hospitals (not counting two specialized VA hospitals). If seven of the smaller ones had been closed and patients from thirteen hospitals moved into the remaining six, these six would have only been 54 per cent filled. Yet, plans were under way for the construction of three more Federal hospitals in the area at a cost of \$70 million.

Medical manpower is not in tune with such a huge construction program. In the VA alone, reported the Commission, 5,000 beds were closed because of lack of staff.

The Commission suggested that Federal patients be hospitalized in non-Federal hospitals on a reimbursable basis, wherever practicable, instead of further enlarging the Federal hospital system.

Army Engineers Buy Dental Equipment
For VA—No Explanation For Reason

With wide variance of responsibility, waste is inevitable. As one example the Army Engineers, without consulting the VA Dental Service, awarded a contract for 99 Weber units (the gadget which includes a dental chair) at \$900 each, for installation in hospitals. At the same time order was placed there were 233 Weber and 279 similar units in VA depots, all in usable or repairable condition.

(The reason for assigning dental purchase to the ubiquitous Army Engineers, whose field ranges from congressional cloakroom to the smaller streams of the West, is not clear. Apparently no levee is tall enough, no channel deep enough, no cavity small enough to escape their attention.)

The McKinley VA Hospital, Temple, Texas has about 400

Dewey Urges Croser Ties Among Nations In Pacific

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, leaving a 40-minute conference with President Truman, called today for "much closer political and military ties" among free nations in the Pacific.

The New York Governor told reporters he had had a "productive meeting" with Mr. Truman and then talked exclusively about the situation in the Far East and the Pacific.

Dewey has just returned from

OUR WEATHER

Partly cloudy and warm and humid through Friday with scattered showers and thunderstorms tonight and Friday.

Highest yesterday 90 degrees. Lowest this morning 67 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:04 A. M.; sunset, 6:33 P. M.

HEAT FROM CLOUDS
Ever hear of getting heat from a cloud? Scientists say it's true. The temperature of low clouds is very close to that of the earth. At night when the earth is losing heat by radiation, the low-lying clouds are doing the same thing; they are saving heat from the earth. At day they are adding heat to the earth as they come from it. Practically all of this cloud radiation is absorbed by the earth and prevented from becoming very chilled. That explains why dew or frost is not apt to form on nights when there are low-lying clouds to heat the earth.



THE CHALLENGER

News Of Pressures For Peace

FRONT HALF DIDN'T KNOW BACK HALF STOPPED



An F-6F fighter plane breaks in half trying a landing on the deck of the USS Princeton in Korean waters. The unmanned pilot got a signal to cut his motor when he had anticipated a waveoff, so dove for the deck. He hit a sharp angle and engaged an arresting wire so violently that the plane broke in half. The front half curved through three barriers before stopping. (Defense Dept. photo via Acme Telephoto.)

Firm's Head Wanted White House Cabled

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A witness swore today that the head of American Lithoford Corp. asked him to "call the White House in an effort to get some high influence" in favor of a Government loan for the firm.

The witness was E. J. Toole, former treasurer of Lithoford, a St. Louis printing firm. He testified in a Senate investigation of the charges that William M. Boyle Jr., Democratic national chairman, wielded political influence on the RFC.

Toole identified an extract from a diary in which he noted his connections with the loan application. The passage read: "Haven't heard from RJB since last Thursday, when he was pressing me insisting on having Cecil Green call the White House in an effort to get some 'high influence' used to accelerate the approval of our loan."

"I wouldn't do it, and Green agreed not to do it. As I told him we had been receiving complete co-operation from the RFC (Reconstruction Finance Corp.) officials."

Toole identified "RJB" as R. J. Boyle, then president of Lithoford, and said the conversation took place Feb. 3, 1949.

The Cecil Green mentioned in Toole's diary extract was not immediately identified.

American Lithoford received \$645,000 in Reconstruction Finance Corp. loans after Boyle was retained by the firm. Previously it had failed in three attempts to get RFC loans. Boyle has denied bringing any influence on RFC on behalf of the firm.

OTHERS NAMED
Toole's testimony also brought in the names of James F. Finegan, former collector of internal revenue at St. Louis, and of Frank France, recently dismissed assistant loan manager for RFC, as well as other present or former officials of the Government lending agency.

Toole himself was chief liaison officer in the Government lending agency, the now-defunct Smaller War Plans Corp., and testified that he helped get a \$1,571,000 RFC loan for American Lithoford shortly before becoming chief official of the printing firm in 1949.

He said Finegan "evidenced an interest" in the negotiations for Lithoford's RFC loan, adding: "I felt something was going on. I didn't know what it was. I felt Finegan was trying to help Blauer in some way."

Allies Capture Another Peak On Eastern Front

United Nations Troops Roll Over Key Hills

Enemy Resistance Reported Spotty

U. S. EIGHTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Korea — (AP) — Allied troops won another commanding mountain peak today in their roller-coaster drive to force Reds off high points in rugged east-central Korea.

The Allies gained the mountain top northeast of Kumhwa in less than three hours of fighting against only light Red resistance.

The same United Nations troops captured another peak and seven surrounding ridges in the same area Wednesday. The Reds put up a foot-by-foot defense.

An Allied officer said Thursday there was "a definite decrease in Red strength in span and surrounding ridges in the same area Wednesday. The Reds put up a foot-by-foot defense."

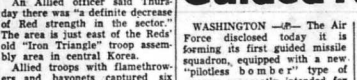
The Allies were said to be fighting their last few days of the campaign to the vicinity of Kangsan, where they are hoped to meet the North and South Korea. The fighting of the past few days has pushed Allied positions forward as much as three and one-half miles in some sectors.

On some of the heights, ditched Reds were shot or burned to death in some bunkers that sometimes had only one opening—a firing slit facing the oncoming Allies.

The fighting for the peaks and ridges was hot in places.

On the rolling hills and plains

Stratocruiser Gets Fatal Baptism In California



This UAL stratocruiser on a training flight and carrying no passengers, plunged into San Francisco Bay late yesterday afternoon carrying three crew members to death.

Coast Guard workers probe the ruins soon after the crash. (Acme Telephoto.)

Guided Missile Combat Unit Slated

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Air Force disclosed today it is forming its first guided missile squadron, equipped with the new "Hawkeye" type weapon apparently intended for tactical use in warfare.

An announcement said the bomber squadron is being formed at the guided missile center, Cocoa, Fla., on Oct. 1 and that it "will be the first operational unit of its kind in the Air Force."

The squadron, the announcement stated, will be equipped initially with the "Matozor, B-81 siloless bomber, now in production by the Glenn L. Martin Co. of Baltimore, Md."

The squadron will train at first as part of the Air Research and Development Command but later "it will be made combat-ready by intensive unit training under the supervision of the Tactical Air Command," the announcement said.

Today's disclosure followed closely reported statements by President Truman and several Senators regarding creation of an Air Force spokesman described the missile as being similar in appearance to the sweeping XB-51 Martin jet fighter, but smaller.

"It is powered with one jet engine."

The spokesman emphasized that it is a "guided missile" and not merely a drone airplane of the type used experimentally during recent years.

Jury Finds Trousseau Includes Only Clothes

MIAMI, Fla. — (AP) — A jury in Dade County Court has ruled that a bride's trousseau includes only her clothes.

The verdict, signed by Mrs. Margaret Specht as foreman, yesterday disposes Joseph B. Siragany of his store at Miami Beach on grounds he violated his lease for a "trousseau shop" by holding auctions of silverplate, jewelry and china.

Attorney Joseph Otto translated "trousseau" from the French as "a bundle of bride's clothes."

Siragany's attorney, Maurice Rosenberg, said "trousseau" comes from the French word for "discover" and means everything a bride takes with her "and certainly a divorcee silver."

39 Are Aboard Missing Plane

PERPIGNAN, France — (AP) — Airport officials here said today that at least 39 men and women are aboard a French Douglas C-47 plane missing on its run over the Mediterranean from Toulouse, France, to Oran, North Africa.

Authorities at Toulouse said earlier there were only eight passengers and three crewmen.

They apparently did not include 28 others who boarded the plane.

The plane left Toulouse Wednesday morning and was scheduled to land at Oran in the afternoon. It was last sighted over Valencia, Spain, Wednesday afternoon after leaving Perpignan.

At least one plane from Algeria carries a torpedo boat from Oran searching the Mediterranean.

A feeder airline from Clermont-Ferrand in Central France had brought seventeen of the new passengers here.

Those who finally took off, according to passenger lists here, included twelve children, four of them babies.

The plane belongs to the Compagnie line Province, which makes the Toulouse-Oran run every Wednesday.

The Paris headquarters of the private airline operating the plane said all the passengers were believed to be French.

Chief Justice Stacy Of N. C. Supreme Court Dies

RALEIGH — (AP) — Death came early today to North Carolina's Chief Justice Walter P. Stacy, who was renowned as an outstanding jurist and who was called on by four Presidents to help settle labor disputes. He was 66 years old.

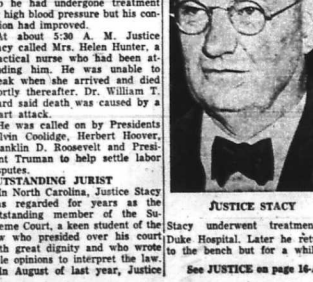
He died unexpectedly in his apartment at Raleigh, where he lived alone. About a year ago he had undergone treatment for high blood pressure but his condition had improved.

At about 5:30 A. M. Justice Stacy called Mrs. Helen Hunter, a practical nurse who had been attending him. He was unable to speak when she arrived and died shortly thereafter. Dr. William T. Ford said death was caused by a heart attack.

He was called on by Presidents Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt and President Truman to help settle labor disputes.

OUTSTANDING JURIST
In North Carolina, Justice Stacy was regarded for years as the outstanding member of the Supreme Court. He was a student of the law who presided over his court with great dignity and who wrote able opinions to interpret the law.

In August of last year, Justice



JUSTICE STACY
Stacy underwent treatment at Duke Hospital. Later he returned to the bench but for a while he was unable to do so.

Three Red Jets Down U. S. Plane

U. S. FIFTH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Korea — (AP) — Three Russian built MIG-15 jet fighters shot down an American propeller driven P-51 Mustang today in the fifth straight day of aerial battles over northwest Korea.

Higher Defense Priority Set

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Government today set up a super-priority to break production bottlenecks in urgent military and atomic programs.

The National Production Authority, announcing its new "DX" priority rating, said it hoped it would break an increasing number of log jams in which vital military orders are stalled in plants overloaded with other priority orders that are equally entitled to preference.

The agency said the new priority was an "emergency device, strictly limited in use," to be applied by the armed forces only when needed to assure completion of highly critical munitions contracts.

The special headquarters unit in NPA will have sole power to grant the new rating. If the Army, for example, ran into a snag in the tank program, it would go to NPA for permission to use the "DX" priority on orders for tank parts and materials.

Orders so marked would get the right of way in every factory, overriding other orders which carry the present standard "DD" or defense order—priority rating.

Britain Bars Ships From Iran

LONDON — (AP) — Britain today stopped British ships from delivering any cargoes to Iran.

Board of Trade spokesman disclosed vessels carrying "certain strategic materials" to Iran have been diverted.

This, he said, was in line with a British Treasury statement which earlier this week canceled all financial and economic concessions to the Tehran Government.

Breakdown of the Anglo-Iranian talks for settling the oil nationalization dispute brought about the British squeeze on Iran.

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