

Truman Sends Controversial Public Health Insurance Bill to Congress

WASHINGTON, April 26. (AP)—Legislation to carry out President Truman's far-reaching health program was introduced in congress today.

The bill calls for payroll-tax insurance to provide medical, hospital and dental care for about 120,000,000 Americans at a sponsor-estimated cost of around \$8,000,000,000 a year. The administration measure also would put into effect all the other phases of Mr. Truman's program.

Those include federal grants for medical education, hospital construction, public health services and research. The bill also authorizes an experimental program of federal aid to farmers' health cooperatives.

A sponsor's statement accompanying the bill was signed by Sen. Elbert D. Thomas (D-Utah), chairman of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee; by Senators Murray (D-Mont.), Wagner (D-N.Y.), Pepper (D-Fla.), Taylor (D-Idaho), McGrath (D-R.I.), Humphrey (D-Minn.), and by Reps. Dingell (D-Mich.) and Biemiller (D-Wis.).

Not a single Republican's name was on the list of sponsors. Some Republicans—as well as some Democrats—have branded the president's national health insurance program "Socialized Medicine." The sponsors estimated the annual cost of the health insurance plan at about \$8,000,000,000 a year, most of which would come from three per cent tax on payrolls, split between workers and employers.

Under the bill, the national health insurance program would not go into effect until July 1, 1951. Besides the insurance plan, the bill provides for:

1. Federal grants to states for existing schools of medicine, dentistry, nursing, public health and sanitary engineering.
2. Federal aid for expansion of such schools and construction of new ones.
3. Scholarships for students at such schools.
4. Broad authority for the United States surgeon general to carry out research in such fields as poliomyelitis, diabetes, arthritis and rheumatism, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and epilepsy.
5. A program of grants and loans designed to encourage doctors, nurses, dentists and other trained personnel to practice in rural or other shortage areas, and for the construction of clinics and other facilities in such areas.
6. A five-year program of federal aid to farmers' experimental health cooperatives.
7. An increase in grants for expansion of state and local public health services.
8. A new program of federal grants for research projects relating to the development of children and the community aspects of child life.
9. An increase in the present child health and for crippled children's services.

Ag Poultrymen Plan Display Of Top Chicks

The Poultry Science Club will sponsor a baby chick, poult and egg show here on Open House day, May 6 and 7.

The club is using the classification type show which permits the judging of all entries against a standard or ideal rather than judging one entry against another. Thus, the true value of each entry of chick, poult or eggs may be determined and recognized.

In this show three classes will be recognized and awarded the appropriate ribbon. First-quality entries receive a blue ribbon. Those of a slightly lower quality will receive a red ribbon and those of average to good quality will receive a white ribbon. From the blue-ribbon winners will be selected the Grand Champion entry of each division.

Entries are coming from breeding farms, hatcheries, and commercial poultry farms in Texas. About 180 are expected for this show.

Judges for the contest will be E. D. Farnell, G. H. Draper, and Ted Martin all of the Poultry Husbandry Department.

An Amazing Offer by HOLIDAY Pipe Mixture

The pipe that every motorist wants—DANA, the modern pipe, with brightly polished aluminum shaft and genuine imported briar bowl.

Only 50¢ with inside wrapper from 12 pack of HOLIDAY PIPE MIXTURE.

See if it doesn't impress you. DANA PIPE is made in U.S.A. by Dana Corp., Toledo, Ohio. Offer limited to U.S.A.—Expires June 30, 1949.

An Advertisement by Good Luck



Miss Jerry Green (extreme left) was chosen from the field of six nominees as the Sweetheart of the Sophomore Class at the Sophomore Ball Friday night. The finalists and their escorts were (l. to r.) Miss Green, escorted by Curtis Ed-

wards; Esther Wiggins, escorted by Jack Wood; Paddy Harwell, escorted by Robert Giles; Patsy Miller, escorted by Don Stigall; Betty Bledsoe, escorted by Frank Thurmond; and Dorothy Wilson, escorted by Hubert C. Wirtz.

Germ Warfare Looms As Definite Threat Says Prof

Bacteriological warfare has developed in the few years since its conception into a force capable of crippling a nation in its most vulnerable spot, the home-front. This is the warning of Dr. Lynn L. Gee, instructor in A&M's Biology Department, who assisted in research along this line during World War II.

The use of germs as a destructive force by any aggressor is such a grisly possibility that, according to Dr. Gee, "we as a country owe it to ourselves to investigate all possibilities."

Pathological organisms as a weapon of war can be used in two ways—as a means of introducing plant and animal diseases and consequently ruining food-stuffs, or as actual gases attacking people directly.

To illustrate the possibility of germ-warfare, Dr. Gee pointed out that such tactics were employed by Japan in World War II. Luckily enough, Japanese attempts to introduce a plague into China were not too successful.

One of the greatest dangers of this recent method of destruction is the fact that it can be easily carried out within a country through fifth column activity. At the present time, however, our country has apparently adequate protective measures against any such underground activity, reassures Gee.

These protective methods have been in operation for years, not as checks against bacteriological warfare, but as routine national health measures. An undue prevalence of any type of disease is immediately investigated by our National Health Service and other agencies.

A possible user of this new weapon, says Gee, is faced with several problems. In the first place, an aggressor would hesitate to ruin the soil of another land if he later expected to use that land for his own productive program.

Another problem arises from time limitations. Many of the germ warfare possibilities would take time to be put into effect. Others, however, are as swift as they are destructive.

Gas warfare would probably be the most effective of this latter class. Numerous germ-laden gases could be dropped from planes in a concerted air assault. These

gases would cause come fast-working, comparatively incurable disease.

Dr. Gee has a word of consolation concerning attempts to start any type of plague in this country. Our nation has proven itself fairly immune to plague in the vast portion of the country west of the Rockies, he says.

During his two years with the Chemical Warfare Service in the second World War, Gee worked entirely on our nation's germ-warfare project.

On this work he bases his warning that the use of germs as a weapon of war stands second only to the atomic bomb as mankind's greatest threat.

Later Hester joined the navy. He was dishonorably discharged in December, 1948, and went back to Lord.

The state accuses Hester of hiding in a closet, awaiting the return of Dr. Lord. It will try to show that the elderly educator was struck nine times with a metal rod in a surprise attack. Lord's wedding band and some money were taken, and also his automobile.

Hester fled westward. The brutally beaten body was discovered March 10 by TCU students who went to Lord's home. The automobile broke down during Hester's flight—he abandoned it and resorted to hitch-hiking. But officers tracked him grimly.

They trapped him on March 12, at the home of a sister in Los Angeles. He offered no resistance.

He became Hester's ward in 1945, after the youth ran away from the state orphanage at Corsicana. Hester left the orphanage after becoming involved in minor trouble there.

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THE BATTALION

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Hester Goes On Trial for Death Of TCU Dean

CLEBURNE, Texas, April 26. (AP)—Arthur Clayton Hester, handsome, erratic, 18-year-old youth, went on trial for murder yesterday in the slaying of his guardian, an elderly dean of Texas Christian University.

The state will attempt to prove, in 18th District Court, that Hester used a metal rod to fatally bludgeon Dr. John Lord, 70, at Lord's secluded farm home five miles southeast of Burleson, Texas, on March 8.

A venire of 150 men has been called by District Judge Penn Jackson.

Hester was arrested in Los Angeles, four days after the sensational slaying. He made a confession to officers.

Lord, graduate school dean of TCU, was considered an authority on constitutional government and was one of the ablest lecturers on the University's campus.

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Joyce Batchelder is excited over the package being given her by Mrs. Imogene Garvin at Imogene's Gift and Toy Shop. Her mother, Mrs. O. R. Batchelder, is holding her. The gift was a dainty pinafare.

Boyle's Column . . .

Great Clans of Ireland Did Little To Help Win Fight

By HAL BOYLE

NEW YORK, (AP)—I have a confession to make, now that Ireland is physically free.

Or at least the 17,146,793 acres of its 26 southern counties are free. And anyone who knows the Irish will understand that—in God's good time—the remaining 3,353,251 acres in the six northern counties will be separated from the British Crown, too.

After all, it has taken the Irish only 780 years to reach the point they are today. They don't feel it will take another 780 years to gather in Ulster, the six-county northern part where Ireland's wealth and industry centers.

And now I must break down and make my confession.

There is joy in the tribe of O'Kelly. Delight dwells among the Houses of Parnell and Collins and O'Neil, The Pearsons, the Howthans the O'Sullivan's, the O'Reilly's, the Emmets, the Casements, the MacNeils, and the O'Connells—they are proud families this week.

For by word and deed they struck great blows for Ireland's freedom.

But the grand clans of Boyle and Gavagan, what did they do? As far as I can find—s-h-h-h!—all they did to help Ireland was to emigrate from her. But, first, let's have some background:

How many know that back in 1841 the population of Ireland was 8,175,124, almost double its population today? How many know that in the potato famine of a century ago, 1,000,000 Irishmen died, and many died on the wharves watching their small cargo being loaded on ships bound for England?

In the ten years after 1847 some 1,000,000 Irishmen had to emigrate. And other millions later had to leave.

Among the Irish who came to this country was my grandfather. He worked in the coal mines. In his cups grandpa Boyle used to hint darkly of his war with the empire. Much, I am sure, was pure imagination.

One of his ten sons met and married my mother, Margaret Gavagan, who had come from Ireland at 16. Her eight sisters also came over, leaving their one brother to till the small family farm in County Mayo.

I grew up, as did most second-generation Irish-Americans, to become a semi-professional Irishman. How could you help it when the old folks began weeping for the "dark land" under England's heel?

I went to London during the war expecting to dislike the British intensely. When I came back after the war was over, my mother asked me what I thought of the English.

"I think they have more courage and character than any people of the face of the earth," I told her. And it was what I felt.

Mother laughed. "You know, I've never told you this before," she said. "But you grandfather Gavagan never took any part in the Irish freedom movement. He liked the English."

Well, the family secret's out. The Boyle-Gavagan tribe has done pretty well in two American wars. But I can't say we shed anything for Ireland except tears, or did any thing more than mail a little money over through the years.

Warning that the 1949 polio season is "just around the corner," the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis today issued a list of precautionary measures to be observed by those in charge of children during the epidemic danger period which usually runs from May through October, reaching its peak during the hot, mid-summer months.

The five easy-to-follow health rules for children are:

1. Avoid crowds and places where close contact with other persons is likely.
2. Avoid over-fatigue caused by too active play or exercise, or irregular hours.
3. Avoid swimming in polluted water. Use only beaches or public pools declared safe by local health authorities.
4. Avoid sudden chilling. Remove wet shoes and clothing at once and keep extra blankets and heavier clothing handy for sudden weather changes.
5. Observe the golden rule of personal cleanliness. Keep fingernails short and clean.

It is actually diagnosed contact the chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis serving your community. The chapter will pay that part of the cost of care and treatment which personal cleanliness. Keep fingernails short and clean.

SUT OUT AND KEEP FOR REFERENCE

House Red-Hunters Continue Probes for Communist Agents

BY DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON, April 25. (AP)—The House Un-American Activities Committee bundled a key witness in secrecy today in its search for Communist agents. It concentrated on the American Slav Congress and CIO-United Electrical Workers Union (UE).

The committee took this turn after releasing, over the week-end, copies of documents and sworn testimony that the Polish embassy here was used for Communist spying.

A committee official said it was necessary to withhold any advance identification of one of three "friendly" witnesses in order to protect him. This witness was said to have turned on the Communist party after having once been a card-carrying member.

These are the first hearing the committee has staged since the 81st Congress opened for business under Democratic control in January. They were expected to be opened to the public later—maybe today, maybe tomorrow.

The first phase is expected to put the emphasis on the Slav Congress and allied organizations.

But there will be a build-up for shifting the inquiry later to the UE.

The committee called in Judge Blair F. Gunther of the Common Pleas Court of Pittsburgh to give it a hand in investigating the Slav Congress. Gunther was one of its early leaders but dropped out in 1944 after word began getting around that Reds had infiltrated the organization.

John Sherman, a lawyer for several UE local unions in Pittsburgh, was listed as the third friendly witness.

Committee publications say the Slav Congress has been cited by Attorney General Clark as subversive and Communist and that "Communists are still in the saddle" in the UE.

One report on Communism and labor says that in the event of war, many important plants are at the mercy of the union.

The main purpose of the report was to present copies of documents and testimony about spying from the Polish embassy.

Both the documents and testimony came from Gen. Isyador Rudolf Modelski. During the war he was undersecretary of war in the exiled Polish government.

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New Mexico Wool Is Scoured Here

The Wool Scouring Plant recently scoured 8,500 pounds of Navajo wool from Fort Wingate, New Mexico, according to P. D. Kincaid, wool technologist.

The Southwest Range and Sheep Breeding Laboratory at Fort Wingate is obtaining the scouring report to use in connection with their sheep breeding and selection program. They are interested in maintaining a breed that will produce the type wool adapted to the spinning and weaving processes of the Navajo Indians.

A coarse type fiber is used in making their rugs.

The A Capella Choir of A&M Consolidated sang at the morning worship of the First Methodist Church of Bryan Sunday.

The choir was directed by Bill Guthrie. The songs which they presented were Mozart's "Savior Source of Every Blessing," Christiansen's "Beautiful Savior," and Humpertine's "Prayer from Hansel and Gretel" arranged by Trebaine.

Dr. M. T. Harrington, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and acting dean of the College, spoke at the annual Beaumont Aggie Muster at the Edson Hotel in Beaumont, Thursday, April 21.

Stressing the need for graduates of A&M to "look ahead to the challenges that faces us in the growth and advancement of our school," Dr. Harrington emphasized the importance of "the growth of the whole person—in body, mind and spirit."

Approximately 400 Aggie exes were present at the muster which was sponsored by the Beaumont A&M Club.

Members of the Winsome Class of the First Baptist Church, College Station, their husbands, and guests, will attend a banquet Saturday evening, April 30, at the church.

This banquet, which is given in honor of those graduating and leaving, has become an annual affair, according to Mrs. R. L. Brown, teacher.

Miss Eula Mae Henderson of Dallas, who is Executive Secretary of the Texas W.M.U. organization, will be the guest speaker. Mrs. G. N. Thomas, president of the class, will be master of ceremonies, and will present the new officers who will serve during the summer months.

Decorations will carry out the banquet theme, "April Showers". Mrs. C. K. Smith and Mrs. J. E. Cioninger, accompanied by Mrs. Bob Nunally, will provide special music.

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MISS ALMA JOYCE TIMM will represent the Lavaca County Club at the Cotton Ball. She will be escorted by Wilton A. Hruel.

Grass and Timbers Show Planned By R. and F. Students

An exhibit of fifty growing range grasses and timber seedlings will be shown by the Range and Forestry Department during the Agricultural-Engineering Day program on May 7, A. H. Walker, Extension Range Specialist, announced today.

The exhibit will consist of growing grasses sent to the department by former students.

A map showing the principle areas of growth will be placed by each grass. The exhibit will be staged in the Range and Forestry seminar room in the rear of the Agricultural Engineering Bldg.

A student committee composed of members of the Range and Forestry Club is headed by Donald Huss and includes Carrol F. Kiser, John Classen, Glen Green, Jack Megason, and Don Powell.

Final Banquet To Honor Graduates

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Joint Seminar Is Held at Texas U.

A joint seminar was held by botanists of the University of Texas and A&M in Austin, April 13. Dr. R. G. Reeves of A&M was the principal speaker, addressing the group on "Impressions of the People and Plants of Central America."

The visiting botanists were conducted through the botanical laboratories of the University of Texas, inspecting various items such as research apparatus.

Those attending from A&M were Felix Collard, Jack Hubbard, C. C. Hsieh, H. C. Mohr, C. M. Rowell, R. B. Greene, H. D. Thiers, E. F. McFarland, W. A. McKenzie, Dr. C. C. Doak, Dr. R. G. Reeves, Dr. E. M. Hildebrand, and