

X-RAY AT COST PLAN ATTACKED BY LOCAL ORGAN

Dr. Charles Myers' Proposal
Discussed in Medical
Bulletin.

The Indianapolis Medical Society Bulletin, a publication, today attacked editorially the plan proposed recently by Dr. Charles Myers, City Hospital superintendent, to furnish all physicians and their patients with clinical and X-Ray laboratory work at cost.

Dr. Myers proposed that Federal funds be sought to build and equip a laboratory, to be known as Medical Center, and to make its services available for all Marion County physicians at operating cost.

He advanced the plan as a partial solution to the high cost of medicine for the middle-salaried family, and as a "substantial contribution to preventive medicine."

Plan Is Assailed

The bulletin editorial said:

"MEDICAL ECONOMICS HYSTERIA"

"It can't happen here! What? A proposed tax-built and equipped clinic to do X-Ray and clinical laboratory work on a cost basis. But it did—right in the newspapers. Why? Was it part of the New Deal program for the more abundant life? Was it looking toward better salaried positions for a group of doctors? Was it offered to the poor? Was it supposed to benefit? Why were the really expensive forms of medical service not included in this cost basis proposal such as surgery, prolonged medical care and hospitalization, expensive drugs, etc. etc."

The rank and file of the medical profession render the same services to all patients who come into their offices regardless of whether the patient is to pay the regular fee, a prorated fee based on income or, if without income, no fee at all. These doctors know that the average American family can meet the ordinary expenses of the medical and dental medical care if it is given the opportunity to work at a reasonable wage and the sickness expense is prorated to the income. They also know that a self-respecting American citizen wants to get his medical service in the same manner that he gets his other needs and not by government edict. What he wants is a steady job with a good income with an opportunity to exercise his own judgment and not a lot of unnecessary cut-rate laboratory examinations. If such a laboratory were built and staffed with qualified physicians, the actual charges would be the same or more than the present schedule of fees. Probably more when one considers the loss of efficiency in public works."

Interpretation Necessary

"Of course, the actual production of X-Ray films is not the practice of radiology any more than the making of an electrocardiograph is the practice of cardiology. Electrocardiograms can be produced technically at a very low cost, but from a clinical standpoint they are worth no more than the celluloid film they are made on, unless interpreted by a cardiologist."

"There is a large amount of X-Ray work being done by physicians who have not qualified as radiologists, and it would doubtless be charged for such examinations should be considered unreasonably high."

"Unpredictable major medical expense is the type of medical service financed through the Medical Service Plan at the Medical and Dental Business Bureau and not the smaller fees for X-Ray and laboratory examinations."

"These are figures for the past 17 months, the year of 1937 and the first five months of 1938:

Medical service plan cases:

Interviewed 1,946

Completed 1,228; amount \$185,187.59

Household 1,089; amount \$3,894.22

Doctors \$109,793.52

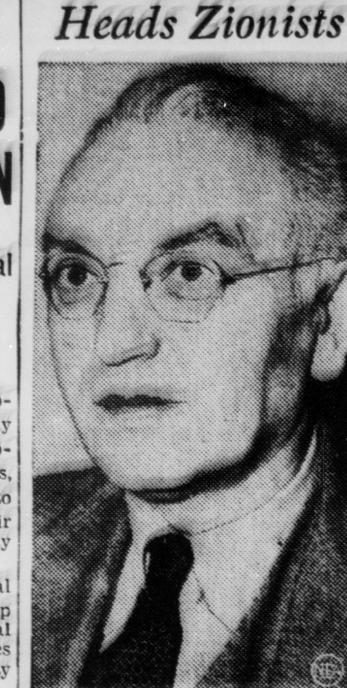
Service to head of family \$961

From the above figures it is apparent that more than 85 percent of the patients seeking financial help had illness that required hospitalization."

Auto Injuries Fatal to Evansville Girl, 4

EVANSVILLE, July 7 (U. P.)—Elsie Hagen, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hagen living near here, died last night in a hospital of injuries sustained earlier when she was struck by an automobile driven by Victor Arterberry, 27.

Mrs. Ada Wheat, 31, died here last night of injuries sustained in an automobile accident at Booneville.



Heads Zionists

RING VALUED AT \$275 IS STOLEN FROM PHYSICIAN

Burglary of Three West Side
Homes Is Solved,
Police Claim.

Dr. Henry Chipps reported to police that some one entered his apartment, 1739 N. Pennsylvania St., early today and stole a ring valued at \$275, other articles valued at \$15 and \$8 cash. He said he was absent when the theft occurred.

The Chipps theft was one of several reported to police overnight and brought the total loot to about \$450.

The police captured an alleged filling station burglar and reported a confession in the recent burglary of three West Side homes.

Officers arrested Earl Fisher, 17, 1507 Madison Ave., on a burglary charge, saying they found him in a filling station at 1526 Madison Ave. He had entered by breaking a rear window glass.

Burglary of the West Side homes appeared solved today as detectives claimed an alleged confession from Fred Owens, 41, of 508 S. Meridian St., who is charged with the recent burglaries which, without being too definite, should not be too definite. It was understood, however, that in view of last night's "sensations" the authorities would take steps to see that in the future the gowns of those presented fulfill Buckingham Palace traditions, being attractive without being unduly sensational.

Thomas Smith, 6020 Bellfontaine St., reported to police that his pocket was picked in a downtown Saturday and a billfold containing about \$50 taken.

A \$25 tire, tube and wheel and a set of keys were taken from the car of Otto Ayres, 913 Chadwick St. Mr. Ayres told police. He said thieves entered his locked garage by prying off the staples.

Robert Austin, 538 N. Temple Ave., reported the loss of a precision billfold containing \$15. The theft of a \$20 radio from his home was reported by Walter Reynolds, 22, 1325 Commerce Ave. Auto tools worth \$15 were also taken from his garage, he said.

City Engineer Henry B. Steeg was in Chicago today making application with PWA regional officials there. He asked a grant of 45 percent of the project's estimated \$3,085,000 cost.

The league's resolution, signed by its officers and trustees, said that South Side residents have sought the Federal Government now has funds for municipal public improvements.

Asks Bridge Grant

Adopted June 30, the resolution said that Federal allotments must be made before Aug. 31 and that the money should be available as soon as possible.

Mr. Steeg also took with him to Chicago an application for a PWA grant to aid construction of the 38th St. bridge over the Canal part of the extension of 38th St.

He will apply soon for grants for construction of the Warfield sanitary sewer and W. New York St. bridge over White River.

PWA officials have notified City officials that applications for grants for the Municipal Airport building and the improvement of S. East St. probably will be sent to Washington this week. Mr. Steeg said.

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The entertainment is to be a weekly affair and the next one will be next Wednesday night.

Today's activities include instruction in defensive chemical warfare, pistol marksmanship and hygiene.

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