

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214 W. Maryland St.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, NEA Service, and Audit Bureau of Circulation.

Price in Marion County, 3 cents a copy; delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.

Mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, 65 cents a month.

RILEY 5551

Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1940

IN THE NORTH SEA

It may be days or weeks before we get even a roughly accurate idea of what is being done by and to the British Navy in and around the North Sea. And it may be years before the precise truth can be set down.

The admirals are still arguing about the battle of Jutland, 24 years after the event. During the days immediately after that great engagement both the British and the Germans were concealing some of their heavy losses. Today's claims and counter-claims must be judged in that light.

There is an axiom about Jutland that is worth mentioning in connection with the mystifying goings-on off Norway: Then, as now, the destruction of the British fleet would have lost the war for the Allies.

When nightfall at Jutland hid from view the German High Seas Fleet, with which the British Grand Fleet had been trading broadsides since mid-afternoon, Admiral Sir John Jellicoe could not take chances. Given daylight, his overwhelming preponderance of ships and guns were reasonable insurance against real catastrophe—although it is said that if Jellicoe, at 6:15 p. m. on that day, had deployed his fleet to starboard instead of to port, "irretrievable disaster might have followed." But in darkness the risks of surprise, of mines and torpedoes, were too great to permit a venture into the enemy's own waters—with the British Empire literally at stake. So Admiral Scheer was able to escape.

Today the German Navy is far less formidable than was Scheer's in '16. But there is the German Air Force, with its new bases in Denmark and Norway. And no matter how the admirals sneer at the value of bombers against heavily armored battleships, it may well be that they dare not risk too many of their first-line craft in waters where Hitler could throw bombers by the hundred at them.

If German bombs were to put six or eight British capital ships out of commission, the Allied prospects would be grim indeed.

You may be sure that Winston Churchill, himself one of the chroniclers of Jutland, would hesitate a long time—resolute leader though he is—to expose the main British Fleet to mortal danger.

Some such consideration may explain the seemingly limited nature of the British naval collaboration with the unhappy Norwegians, and the reported continued presence of German warships in the North Sea and the Skagerrak.

STILL UN-HATCHED—II

AGAIN the House Judiciary Committee has postponed action on the new Hatch bill. It is well known that some of the members of the committee want to sabotage this legislation. We don't believe that a majority of the members are guilty. But it is obvious that the minority is getting its way—and so long as that is true all members must be held accountable.

The bill was passed by the Senate March 18. On March 27, a House subcommittee made a unanimous and favorable report. Since that date the full House Judiciary Committee has considered the Hatch bill twice a week, and twice weekly it has postponed action.

The members of the committee are:

Democrats—Sumners of Texas, Celler of New York, Weaver of North Carolina, Healey of Massachusetts, Walter of Pennsylvania, McLaughlin of Nebraska, Hobbs of Alabama, Murdock of Utah, Tolan of California, Creal of Kentucky, Byrne of New York, Massingale of Oklahoma, Satterfield of Virginia, Barnes of Illinois and Gibbs of Georgia.

Republicans—Guyer of Kansas, Hancock of New York, Michener of Michigan, Robison of Kentucky, Reed of Illinois, Gwynne of Iowa, Graham of Pennsylvania, Pierce of New York, Monkiewicz of Connecticut and Springer of Indiana.

FARM ITEM

THE Department of Agriculture promises that checks for almost \$60,000,000 in balances due on 1939 soil conservation payments will be mailed to farmers as soon as possible. Congressmen have urged that the payments be speeded up to facilitate spring planting. The hope is entertained in some quarters, though not so openly expressed, that they may also facilitate fall harvesting—of ballots.

MEXICO IS ANGRY

DISPATCHES from below the Rio Grande tell how all the newspapers and all political factions of Mexico have joined together to express resentment toward Secretary Hull's note on the oil expropriations.

For more than two years now the politicians who are running the Mexican Government have been telling the people that President Roosevelt and the New Deal Administration in Washington were in complete sympathy with the oil property seizures. Of course that never was true.

Finally Mr. Hull has made our Government's position public, and in language which cannot be misunderstood, has called for an end to the delays and evasions of Mexican officials in meeting the issue of providing adequate compensation to American citizens whose properties have been taken from them. In suggesting "immediate arbitration," he has followed the only peaceful course left open.

In the controversies that follow, we think the Mexican people will not be slow to grasp the one outstanding fact—that Senors Cardenas, Toledano, et al., in claiming comradeship with the Washington New Deal, have not been telling the whole truth. And it will soon become apparent that, owing to their conduct of affairs, their country's economic conditions, already bad—because of the scarcity of capital, decline of exports and rise of living costs—must inevitably become worse. When that prospect dawns, it is not likely that the Mexican people will direct all their resentment against the United States and Cordell Hull.

Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

Wherein He Lists Five More in Labor Ranks Who Have Records And Promises to Name Some More.

NEW YORK, April 13.—Albert Miller recently was sentenced to six months in the workhouse on his plea of guilty to a charge of fraudulent voting in Manhattan. Miller's probation report showed that he was secretary and treasurer of a local of the Bowling and Billiard Academy Employees Union, a subsidiary of the Building Service Employees International Union. The official list of the B. S. E. I. U. is heavily infested with men with criminal records and veteran racketeers of the Lucky Luciano and Little Augie mobs. Miller's police and criminal records date back to 1930, when he was arrested for smuggling in Philadelphia. They include a term of two and one-half years in the New Jersey State Prison and the Rahway Reformatory for robbery in Camden and three months in jail on a similar charge of "disorderly conduct and suspicion" in Merchantville, N. J.

IZZY SCHWARTZ, organizer of local 32-J of the Building Service Employees Union and international representative, by appointment, of George Scallise, the Brooklyn labor racketeer, was indicted recently, accused of attempting to extort money. Izzy's record, in the files of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, reports a previous conviction on a morals charge and a sentence of 11 months.

The president of another local of the Building Service Union has a record of a prison term in Atlanta and Lewisburg, Pa., on a charge of possessing and attempting to pass money-orders which had been stolen in the robbery of a postal substation in Worcester, Mass.

There is a conviction on a charge of conspiracy in the record of still another local official of the B. S. E. I. U. in New York whose present duties give him authority to sign jobs in rotation to union members and opportunities to sell those jobs. The conspiracy consisted of a plot with other employees of an office in the government of New York County whereby certain fees were misappropriated and book entries were falsified. The man served a term in prison.

The names of these latter two are withheld on the ground that they appear not to be professional hoodlums or associates of hoodlums, but William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, may have the identifications on request.

IZZY SCHWARTZ, on the other hand, is an old colleague of Scallise and appears to have been the strong character who shoved Scallise to the fore in New York affairs of the union, from which position of prominence he was selected by the Chicago mob for the presidency.

Albert Manganaro, secretary-treasurer of Local 202 of the Commission Chauffeurs and Drivers of the Teamsters Union, recently was sentenced to from three and one-half to seven years in prison and warned to remain out of union activities on his release, with the admonition that his next conviction would result in a term of from 15 to 30 years.

Manganaro began his criminal career as a thief in 1933, when he stole some bags of coffee by just loading them on his truck and driving off.

Thus five more criminals or ex-convicts are added to the A. F. of L. rogues gallery of 100 promised to Mr. Green. They are no giants, but the rank and file do not deal with the giants of the international unions. They deal with the local officers. I will give Mr. Green some giants soon.

Inside Indianapolis

Maj. Gen. Tyndall, Businessman, Soldier . . . And Mystery Story Fan

PROFILE of the week: Maj. Gen. Robert Henry Tyndall, who is busy getting ready for his last big Army maneuvers in the field before he retires in May, 1941. Gen. Tyndall will be 63 on May 2d. He is one of the Army's few major generals who didn't come up through West Point. As a matter of fact, he quit school in the fifth grade to help support the family. He's been doing pretty well ever since.

He keeps surprising friends when they're discussing some particular business by remarking casually that he used to be in that business himself. He was, too. He's been a grocer's clerk, a milkman, a salesman, a partner in a tailoring firm, operator of a clothing business, a merchandise brokerage firm, a real estate man, a banker, a window trimmer and a participant in perhaps a dozen other types of business enterprises.

GEN. TYNDALL is just about average height, slightly on the stocky side, but nevertheless trim. He's careful about his figure. He has a close-clipped military mustache, black eyebrows and light gray hair. He looks every inch the soldier.

In uniform, he looks severe and stern, but he's not that way inside. Truth is he probably never bawled out a green private although he is known as a strict disciplinarian. He entered soldiering in '97 when he enlisted for the war with Spain. He was back in the Army for the Mexican rumpus and then went to France for the big blowup. Over there, he was known as Fighting Bob. His friends call him Bob.

The general is an ardent Republican. Some New Deal policies make him appear mildly apologetic when he starts talking about them. His family's political leanings disturb him and family gatherings are usually bombastic affairs.

HE HAS DECIDED OPINIONS and he doesn't hesitate to express them. He may take a glance at a newspaper and if he disapproves of a political story, give anyone standing near his vociferous unsolicited opinion.

He dislikes people trying up telephones in desultory conversation. Phones are for business, he says. He dislikes indecision and four-flushing and lack of punctuality is almost a court-martial offense with him.

He loves soup and will take three bowls at a sitting without blinking. He is an avid reader of newspapers and magazines. He loves detective stories—the more terrifying the better. Mrs. Tyndall, though, won't let him put them on the library table. He is fond of all kinds of animals, including the wooden horse he keeps at his Zionsville farm to fool visitors. Right now his chief interest is waiting to become a grandfather.

A Woman's Viewpoint

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

EVERY spring comes a morning when I lift my eyes from work and catch my breath with joy. For the delicate pattern of my redwood tree is outlined in pink amid the new greens and old browns of the woods that edge the river.

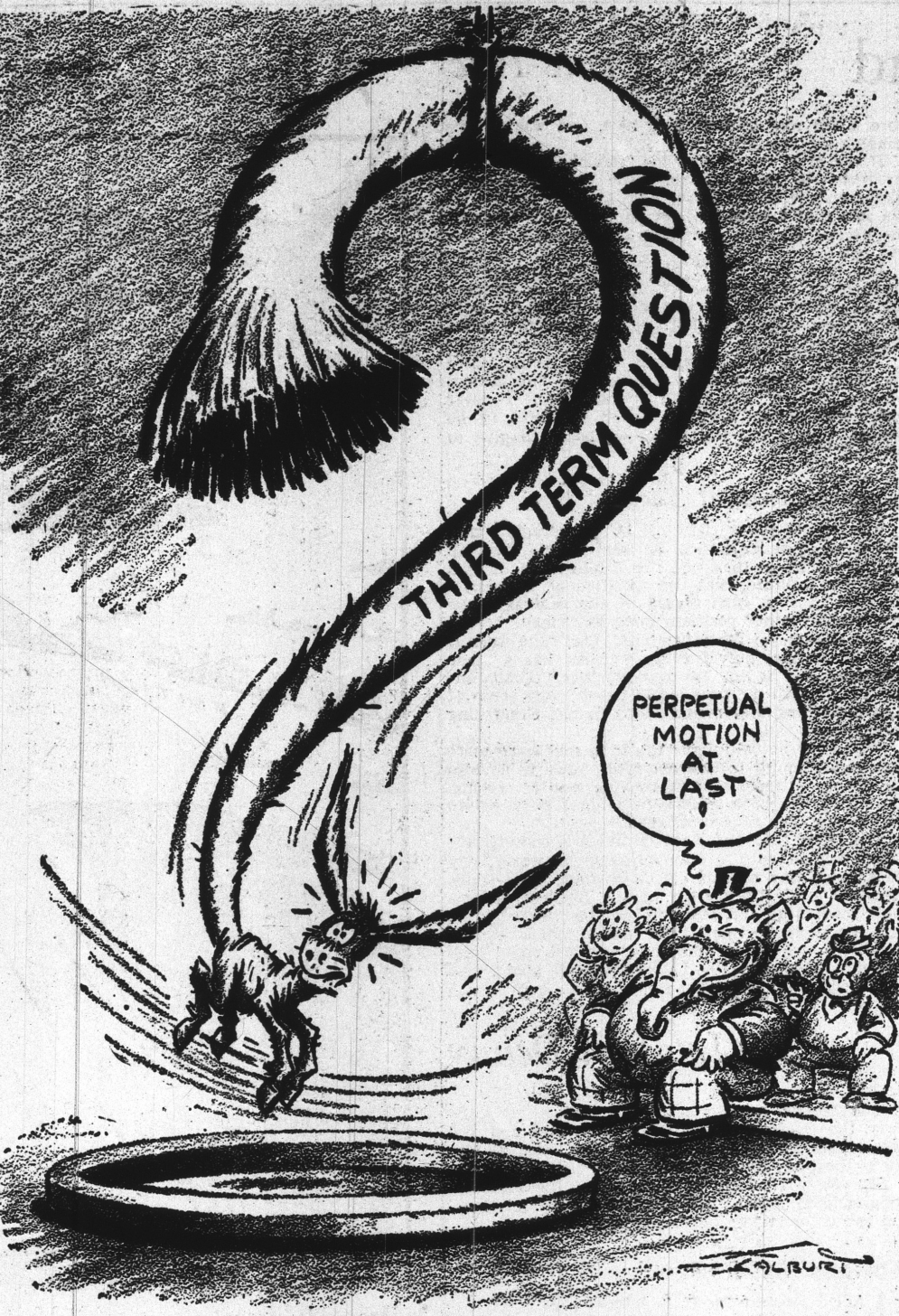
It isn't really my rebirth, since it stands on the ground of a neighbor across the street. But it is mine by right of service and because its beauty is so accessible to my vision.

It is mine for another reason. Every April it becomes a red badge of courage. Its tender grace reminds me of something I must never forget. It is a very important something. There was a day four years ago when nothing mattered very much any more. There seemed no sense in living. There seemed no sense to anything.

And it was on that particular day, so well remembered for its pain, that the rebirth became more than a small tree growing beside many taller and stronger trees. Suddenly and miraculously it breathed a message of hope to one who was badly in need of it. The sense of a voice speaking was strong; it seemed to say, "You can get through today; don't think about tomorrow or all the other tomorrows. Do your work only for this one hour."

It's hard to talk of these experiences of the spirit. We can't explain them; we can only feel that they are true because they have happened to us and because they leave their permanent impressions on our beings.

The Tail That Wags the Donkey!



The Hoosier Forum

I wholly disagree with what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire.

QUOTES DANIEL WEBSTER ON CLAMOR GROUP

By Voice in the Crowd

This is a bit of Daniel Webster's speech to the United States Senate in 1838, over 100 years ago. This is for the benefit of a party who now partially quotes Jefferson.

"There are persons who constantly clamor. They complain of oppression, speculation and the pernicious influence of accumulated wealth. They cry out loudly against all banks and corporations, and all means by which small capitalists become united in order to produce important and beneficial results. They carry on mad hostility against all established institutions. They would choke the fountain of industry and dry all streams."

"In a country of unbounded liberty, they clamor against oppression. In a country of perfect equality they would move heaven and earth against privilege and monopoly. In a country where property is more evenly divided than anywhere else, they rend the air shouting agrarian doctrines. In a country where wages of labor are high beyond parallel they would teach the laborer he is but an oppressed slave."

"Sir, what can such men want? What do they mean? They can want nothing, sir, but to enjoy the fruits of other men's labor. They can mean nothing but disturbance and disorder, the diffusion of corrupt principles and the destruction of the moral sentiments and moral habits of society."

"SPEAKS GOOD WORD FOR TRAILER FOLK"

By Zeman Goddard

Why belittle our trailer population? They are just a result of capital versus labor, the age-old controversy—together with the blood of adventure bequeathed to us from our immigrant and race mixtures.

Mr. John T. Flynn cites the huge idle funds in our banks as a problem that baffles solution. Well, banks in 1933 did not have huge blocks of idle capital, their money was out on good, had and indifferent loans. Now the problem is how to get good loans. Loans are made on security of some sort. Either you have to put up Government bonds or their equal to get bank loans or leave your right eye and left leg

to get a loan. Then these loans are short term loans anyway. Thirty, 60 or 90-day loans are the rule, and such loans are only for quick turnover business. There is not enough of this type of business to take up the huge bank funds looking for a job.

All our laws forbid banks and savings banks from investing in income property direct. Banks are compelled to loan to someone who thinks he can make money out of a loan in the loan time limit, and pay back interest and capital. That bars these huge idle funds from investment in new business enterprise in the form of capital shares of stock. That bars business development except with funds held by individuals who are willing to take a fling at profits from production of goods or services.

We have locked the door on these idle bank funds so tight by law that we suffer from idle money more than from idle men. Can we back track now and allow business expansion with these idle funds through subscription to stock issues of sound business enterprise or must we decay because these idle funds are legally not available except by loans on bonds or mortgages?

Let Mr. Flynn suggest a way to push this money out on money earning property direct from banks. This same condition existed in Germany prior to Hitler's rise to power. Idle money and idle men. Can we escape their fate?

SAYS HOPE RESTS IN CONSTITUTION

By L. B. Hetrick, Elwood

If Voice in the Crowd is right in his analysis that labor is incapable of self government then we had just as well close all the doors tight, and turn on the gas.

If the people don't know how, or for any reason won't use the Constitution of the United States, which furnishes us every means whereby we may transcend our present state of economic instability, the only thing a man can do that has sense enough left to be conscious of danger is to dig out or dig in—but where?

Are we to assume that the necessary formulas are bottled up, corked and sealed in the archives of our educational institutions so that the people cannot learn the simple economic way out of their predicament? Or don't want to know the way out?

There is a righteous, scientific economic plan that will bring a never ending prosperity to the inhabitants of the earth, regardless of race, color or creed whenever the people are ready for such a change.

TODAY I FOUND—

By RUTH E. STEFFEY

Just a little robin
Sitting in a tree,
Titting his head
Looking at me.

Yonder was a fragile
Butterfly so gay,
Balancing there—
Now on his way.

And I'm sure I found them,
Waiting there you see—
Dreams—a dancing round
Weaving webs for me.

DAILY THOUGHT

Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.—Exodus 31:15.

HE WHO ordained the Sabbath loves the poor.—James Russell Lowell.

"Now I know why Mom tells me to put my hand over my mouth when I yawn."

Gen. Johnson Says

If We Can Get a Better Horse There's No Reason Why We Can't Make That Change in Midstream

WASHINGTON, April 13.—"Never swap horses while crossing a stream." "In the case of a continued serious international situation we would have to keep F. D. R." These are typical of the sort of capsuled wisdom that passes for thinking and carries conviction to many people.

The "horse-swapping" precedent was popularized in Lincoln's second campaign but that election did not hinge on that. It turned on the simple issue of whether or not to stop the Civil War without a complete Federal conquest. Carl Sandburg calls August, 1864, the darkest month of the war. Washington itself had been threatened. The conscriptive draft mess was at its malodorous worst. Many in the North were weary of the war. Lincoln himself expected defeat.

Then the tide turned. The North began to favor Lincoln who stood for victory and not McClellan who represented the earlier overwhelming sentiment for a negotiated peace.

The question was not "Lincoln or McClellan" or anything about a horse. It was "victory or compromise" and victory was becoming more clearly visible every day.

WE began to hear about that horse again in 1916. But the question was not nearly so much of the choice between Wilson and Hughes, as of a policy now called "isolationism." Mr. Wilson won by the skin of his teeth and beyond a shadow of a doubt because of the slogan: "He kept us out of war."

The stream-crossing slogan is silly on its face anyway. Why shouldn't you swap horses while crossing a stream—especially if you get a better horse for stream-crossing purposes?

If Mr. Roosevelt's election is to be taken as certain if the war continues to spread and flare it must be either because of some definite policy toward it that will be placed in issue in the election or because he has convinced the country that he would be the best war President because of skill and experience.

Mr. Roosevelt has as yet announced no definite war policy, but this much it is fair to say: Everything he has said or done is consistent with a policy of participation in war on the side of the Allies; nothing he has said or done is inconsistent therewith.

He can't enter the 1940 campaign without revealing some glimpse of his policy. If, as seems quite clear from the circumstances, it is outright intervention, he is going to get licked.

There remains what is taken for granted by many commentators—that he is best qualified to handle international war relations and our domestic problems. But what are the supporting facts? Almost all of his principal policies regarding our domestic problems are proved and ruinous failures—in agriculture, labor and recovery. It is astonishing that a man could fall so far and so consistently and still maintain that myth.

As for the foreign policy and performance, it has been one of ever-increasing involvement, of an army wholly unprepared although full authority and funds to prepare it were given seven years ago, of greatly impaired financial strength and continuing failure to get our industrial defensive machinery back into gear.

Business

By John T. Flynn

How to Share Abundance Still Big Problem After Years of Tinkering.

NEW YORK, April 13.—This is the season when candidates come forward with programs. Never in history has there been such an eruption of programs, however, as in the last 10 or 12 years. Ever since 1928, statements of those who claim that name—have been telling us how to achieve plenty for all. The inflationists—the managed-currency men and reserve-note issuers—were at it in the first year of Hoover's Administration. The social-credit advocates, with their social dividends to bring plenty to all, had their day. There was Howard Scott with his theory that so fringed the big shot with his big words and his scientific jargon and his promises of an income of \$25,000 a year for everybody.

Then there was President Roosevelt himself, who, intoxicated by the swift, but transient effects of his first months of repair, talked about abundance and the good life for everyone. We have had Dr. Townsend, with his transaction tax, who would give all the old people \$200 a month and run the modest "ham-and-eggs" who offered Californians—and the rest of us who would imitate them—\$30 every Thursday.

And, of course, there were the most extravagant promoters of all—the Republicans who were going to put a car in every garage and a chicken in every pot; some reports have it two chickens, which is more generous than ham and eggs.

Let's Be Reasonable

After 10 years of that we ought to be a little humble in the presence of 10 million out of work and an economic system stalled on dead center and the promoters of abundance with no plan left save to borrow money and run into debt.

It is possible that out of this may come a breath of sanity—sanity born of humility in the presence of a problem which is still a little too big for woodshed economists and hot-stove statesmen.

Candidates for the Presidency might keep this in mind. They might well note the fact that no song among the old tunes is quite so dead as "Happy Days Are Here Again." What is wanted now is a program based upon a recognition of the grim fact that we do not yet know how to produce abundance for all. We do know how to produce enough for everyone. But we do not yet know how to make the economy work to get that abundance distributed.

We ought to be able to do better than we have. If we can better it and in the meantime take care of those who are left out of the distribution, that will be a gain as we seek means to better it some more. But caring for those who are left out must be by us out of our own substance and not out of the substance of the future generations by piling up further huge loans to bedevil our children and prolong our depression forever into the future.

Watching Your Health

By Jane Stafford

THE physicians of America, and this very likely means your own family doctor who looks after Johnny when he has measles, are learning a new branch of medical practice called aviation medicine. At the annual meeting of the American College of Physicians, Capt. Harry Armstrong of the U. S. Army said that "aviation medicine is no longer a highly specialized branch of military medicine but is also of interest and importance to the civil medical profession as well."

Capt. Armstrong believes it will not be long before medical students here will be studying this branch of medicine along with anatomy and bacteriology and the rest of the medical curriculum. Medical schools in Germany and some other foreign countries already give courses in aviation medicine and at least one American university, George Washington University School of Medicine, has made a start by giving a post-graduate course in aviation ophthalmology and aviation medicine.

The general physician, your family doctor, needs to know about aviation medicine so that he can advise his patients whether it is safe for them at their age, or with their heart trouble or other ailment to fly. His patients also want him to advise them about any special precautions necessary, whether it is all right to take the baby on a trip by plane, and what effect flying has on ears and hearing.

The Army, of course, operates a School of Aviation Medicine, training men to examine and care for the health of aviators.

