

Survey Shows British Doctors Differ on Medical Care Plan

Physician With Affluent Practice Objects; Another Calls It Necessary, Inevitable.

By WILLIAM H. NEWTON, Scripps-Howard Staff Writer
LONDON, Apr. 11—Different doctors have different slants on Britain's new national medical care plan. Take Dr. Cole and Dr. Baker—though these are not actual names, because British doctors don't like being quoted.

Dr. Baker is a specialist in swank Harley St. He is dead set against the health program which provides free medical care for Britons at a cost to the taxpayers of some \$1,140,000,000 this first year. He considers the scheme purely a "vote-catching trick" which will level British medicine downward.

Dr. Baker says doctors were got into the scheme by blackmail—that they were "afraid they would lose everything they had put into their practices unless they signed up with the government."

"Specialists like myself were drawn in because if they didn't join they couldn't get hospital beds for their patients, which of course are essential to a specialist." (All hospitals are nationalized under the British program, but private sections are reserved for private patients who wish to pay for treatment.)

Dr. Baker is in the plan and receives \$800 per year for each half-day of the week to free patients. Thus if he gives six mornings each week to the plan, he is paid \$4800. He may treat private patients beyond this, but total fees for any private patient may not exceed \$300.

DR. BAKER protests against the time that must be taken for filling out forms, says government bureaucrats don't understand what medicine means or the doctor-patient relationship, and that except for Socialists most doctors don't like the health scheme. He thinks doctors are poorly paid now. Yet despite his opposition he said he did not hear critical stories on the British plan printed recently in the U. S.

Dr. Baker acknowledged that before the national health plan, the poor and the wealthy received good medical care but that much of the middle class lacked it. In those days, he said, he gave half his time to surgery for the very poor.

He agrees that Britain's earlier national health law should have been extended to provide better care for the middle class.

But Dr. Cole has quite another attitude than Doctor Baker. His office is on Holloway Road in

Hold Husband In Divorce Suit After Home Fire

Figure in Magazine Arrested on Eve Of Judge's Verdict

Judge Ralph Hamill will not be able to patch up another war-wrecked family home in Marion County Superior Court today. He is unable even to bring the family into court.

The husband, Ballard D. Turner, 31, was arrested by police who were investigating a fire at his home at 215 S. Warman Ave. early yesterday.

In General Hospital, the wife, Mrs. Gladys Turner, 26, was being treated for first degree burns along with her mother, Mrs. Eva R. Roberts, 55. Both were burned in the blaze.

The children, Robert, 8, Charles, 3, and Edward, 2, will be taken care of by Juvenile Aid Division authorities. Ballard, charged with vagrancy, was released to the custody of his attorney in Municipal Court 4 today. The case was continued to April 22.

Tries Reconciliation

Judge Hamill, appalled by the increasing number of post-war divorces, admitted that he was trying to bring the separated husband and wife together.

The case was published in the latest issue of *Life* magazine as "an authentic account of a divorce trial in order to bring about a better understanding of the main causes of broken homes."

They were to appear in court this morning, 60 days after Mrs. Turner filed for a divorce and custody of her three children.

"This is another divorce traced to World War II," the judge said as he took the case under advisement.

As the case unraveled, it took on much the same aspect as numerous other divorces heard in Marion County Superior Court.

Mrs. Turner, who was only 16 when she married 10 years ago, charged her husband with "cruel and inhuman" treatment. She asked for a property settlement of \$4000 and custody of the children.

Lived on Farm

Filing a counter-suit, Mr. Turner charged his wife with infidelity and neglect of the home and children. He said he wasn't trying to stop the divorce, but wanted custody of the children.

In piecing together the story, Judge Hamill learned that the couple had lived on a farm before the war. High wages attracted them to Indianapolis. Mr. Turner said, where he took a job in a local brass plant.

They related how they saved and purchased a \$7000 suburban home.

Turning point in their lives, Judge Hamill noted, came when their second child died.

Mrs. Turner told how she got a job in an aircraft factory to forget. Shortly thereafter, she told the court she had left her husband.

Several reconciliations failed. Mr. Turner said, when he learned that his wife was "seeing other men."

Thus, the case came before Judge Hamill. How it would have ended today, not even the judge cared to divine.

But like their charred and abandoned home, Judge Hamill observed, "there is little left now to save."

DR. COLE doesn't accept stories that some doctors in poorer sections have cleared their offices by giving "group treatments"—asking everyone with a cold to stand, handing them the same medicine, then dismissing them. He says that doctor's patients would disappear in a week.

The health scheme has been much less an innovation in Britain than it would be in America. This country had a medical care plan for workers, though not for their families, as far back as Lloyd George's time.

There are plenty of "bugs" in today's plan and doctors and patients do not hesitate to cite them.

But with such overall acceptance of the plan as there is, probably no political party would be bold enough to advocate ending it.

'Irish' Band to Play At Warm Springs

SOUTH BEND, Apr. 11 (UPI)—The University of Notre Dame concert band, which opened a two-week Easter tour yesterday at Muncie, planned today to make a 150-mile detour for a benefit performance at Warm Springs, Ga.

Band members voted unanimously to add the infantile paralysis foundation to its schedule when the mother of a 20-year-old patient requested it.

Mrs. J. Thomas Sexton, Toledo, O., wrote the band saying her son, Tommy, was "Notre Dame's No. 1 fan."

The band will appear at Warm Springs on Good Friday.

In Indianapolis—Vital Statistics

INDIANAPOLIS WEATHER

Fair weather will continue tonight and tomorrow as a low pressure area moves eastward and a high pressure area, now centered over the Rockies, slowly moves in to take its place. An absence of northerly winds will permit great sun warming tomorrow.

Frost and near freezing temperatures are expected in the northern portion of the state tonight and light scattered fronts in the central portion.

See Weather Map on Page 4.

Temperatures in Indianapolis one year ago today: High 62; low, 33.

Official Weather

UNITED STATES WEATHER BUREAU

Apr. 11

Sunrise.....5:14 Sunset.....6:19

Precipitation 24 hrs. ending 1:30 a. m. 1.75 in. 1.75 in. 1.75 in. 1.75 in. 1.75 in.

Excess since Jan. 1.....2.28

The following table shows the temperatures in other cities:

High Low

Atlanta.....40.....41

Chicago.....40.....41

Cincinnati.....40.....41

Denver.....41.....42

Hartford.....41.....42