

GETTING SMART

NEED FOR MORE DOCTORS IN URBAN AREAS URGENT AND NECESSARY

The nation's medical schools have been warned that federal funds may soon be cut for medical student recruitment and tuition support. Dr. Charles C. Edwards, Assistant Secretary for Health, Education, and Welfare, gave such a warning at a Washington meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges. He said the continued financing of the Health Manpower Education Act threatened to create a "doctor surplus."

He further stated that if we maintain the current rate of medical graduates, in 1985 the United States will have 50% more physicians, 40% more dentists and 60% more registered nurses than it had in 1970.

There were 334,025 physicians in the U.S. in 1970. The National Medical Association states that of this number only 7,000 are Black. Edwards estimates by 1985 there should be 501,042 doctors in the U.S. or 1 doctor for every 478 persons. Today there is 1 doctor for every 612 persons. What makes this a surplus? We know that there is still a chronic shortage of doctors in the urban areas, particularly Black doctors. Often the ratio is 1 in 10,000. We suggest that federal support should be continued in this area of vital need.

I called the office of Dr. Edwards to find what criteria was used to determine a doctor surplus. His reasons were not entirely based on numbers. I talked to his public service director, Tom Fliger, who revealed that Dr. Edwards feels there are surpluses in various medical fields. He cited surgeons. Again, asking what surplus meant, he explained that because there are more surgeons, the demand would lessen. A similar argument has been advanced by the American Medical Association.

The thought of having a surplus of doctors is incredulous! I am more concerned with the derives from bureaucratic and political goals because the number of people who are poor, who are hungry, who are in need of assistance is not shrinking at all. Congress, which burdened the Administration's welfare reform proposals with so many punitive amendments as to make them unacceptable, must now act to provide for a national income floor below which no family will be allowed to fall and to insure that the hunger and economic insecurity that stalk the lives of millions of people will finally be a thing of the past.

Employment. This may be the most crucial area of all, for despite the rosy figures coming out of Washington, the structural disfunctioning of our economy is such that millions of people are incapable of finding work, even in a period

such as we now find ourselves, with rising prices, rising profits and rising employment. Even the official figures admit that over four million people are out of work. And there are twice as many who are unemployed but not officially counted as such, or who are underemployed, working full-time for below-poverty wages, or working part-time when they want full-time jobs.

"And so I renew the Urban League's call for a national Full Employment Policy that insures a decent job at a decent salary for everyone willing and capable of work. Federal hiring programs and federally-backed economic development programs to put people back to work can help put the economy on a firm basis, can erase the divisions created by competition for scarce jobs, and can begin the long process of bringing Americans together again in a society of harmony, cooperation and equality. The drive for a national Full Employment Policy is one that should unite all groups in a coalition grounded in economic reality and mutual respect, just as the great civil rights coalition of the 1960s was grounded in idealism and a thirst for justice.



TOP CHOICE — The "Media Woman of the Year" honors went to Ethel L. Payne, center, Associate Editor for the Sengstacke Publications, during the annual convention of the National Association of Media Women held recently in Kansas City, Mo. The internationally-known columnist and commentator on CBS-TV Spectrum is seen being congratulated by Kansas City Mayor Charles B. Wheeler, Jr., second from right, following the Awards Banquet sponsored by Pepsi-Cola Company. Others are: Doris Saunders, right, of Johnson Publications, who accepted the "National Achievement Award" for publisher John H. Johnson; Lois K. Alexander, President, NAMW; and Sam Hall, Manager Communications Programs, Pepsi-Cola Company.

"There is much else to be done: in public safety, in housing, in health, in a host of other areas so long neglected. But this is a minimum program that the Congress can undertake now-in this session-to reaffirm the integrity of the governmental process, to demonstrate to its deprived citizens that it is concerned with humane goals, and the rescue the nation from the awful prospect of further drift and indecision."



ALPHA ZETA OMEGA — Recently initiated into Alpha Zeta Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Sorority seated left to right: Sorors-Martha Johnson, Elizabeth Knight, Gladys McAdams. Standing: Sorors Almata Jordan, Pauline Woods, Hazel Smith, Barbara Lewis, Gwendolyn Paschall, Christianna Link.

Spring Lake Doctor and Wife Are Sentenced

GREENSBORO — A Spring Lake doctor and his wife were fined a total of \$30,300 and placed on probation for three years by a federal court in Washington, N. C. Monday (11-5) for wilful failure to file federal income tax returns.

Dr. Eugene R. Shanahan, 52, pleaded nolo contendere to three counts of wilfully failing to file federal income tax returns for the years 1968, 1969 and 1970. Joanne M.

Shanahan, 42, his wife, pleaded nolo contendere to charges of aiding and abetting her husband's wilful failure to file federal income tax returns.

Judge John D. Larkins accepted the pleas of the defendants and found each guilty on all counts.

Dr. Shanahan was placed on three years probation and fined \$10,000 on each of the three counts. In addition he was

directed to pay all civil tax penalties involved.

Joanne Shanahan, a registered nurse, was placed on probation for three years and fined \$100 on each of the three counts.

A special agent for the IRS testified that Dr. Shanahan had a gross income of \$90,603 for the years 1968-70 on which tax returns should have been filed.

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Energy Saving Plan Taken By UNC at C. Hill

CHAPEL HILL — Energy conservation measures for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill were announced recently by Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Claiborne Jones.

Although the University has enough fuel on hand or on order to heat offices and dormitories this winter, Jones urged all departments to work toward the goal of 10 per cent reduction of fuel consumption.

He also said state-licensed motor vehicles operated by University personnel are not to be driven at speeds higher than 50 miles per hour except in emergencies. Violations will be investigated. Jones urged those using University vehicles to drive only when necessary and to car-pool when possible.

Heating controls are being adjusted to reduce building temperatures five-six degrees and the working hot water temperatures is being reduced to the feasible minimum in areas where water temperature is not crucially important.

The University, which uses approximately 900 tons of coal a week in cold weather, has on hand 8,000 tons of coal and one million gallons of fuel oil.

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