

# 'You Ought To Know My Doctor' Is Interesting Paper By Dr. Fred Brown

Editor's Note — The following article was written by Dr. Fred F. Brown, well known Baptist pastor of Knoxville. He has many friends in Haywood, as he has preached in a number of pulpits in the county. His tribute to the medical profession is so interesting that we are publishing it in full.

This article is not an attempt to eulogize the medical profession. Members of the medical profession neither need nor desire eulogies. They would resent such an effort from anyone.

The message is an expression of my sincere appreciation of a group of men to whom I look with confidence, a group of men whom I hold in the highest esteem — our physicians.

### YOU OUGHT TO KNOW MY DOCTOR

Somewhere I have read the story of a teen-age boy who lived in a remote rural community. An accident had left him with a serious injury to his spine, an injury attended by unrelieved suffering. The good county doctor told his parents of a celebrated surgeon in a distant city who could operate, relieve the suffering and practically restore the boy to normal life. The family was very poor, but the illness made it a mere question of provide transportation. The local physician telephoned the surgeon and was told to send the boy on; there would be no charge for his service. The boy made the journey to the distant city, and the delicate operation was successful. In due time the boy returned to his home. Family and friends met him



DR. FRED F. BROWN

boy replied: "It was wonderful, but you ought to see my doctor." When asked about the doctor, "They are kind and good but you ought to see my doctor. You ought to know my doctor."

We are passing through a period just now when some unkind and unjust statements are being made about the medical profession. Recently a prominent man speaking of the doctors of America used words such as "selfish," "mercenary," and other uncomplimentary

## MR. AVERAGE GERMAN VOTER IN THE LIMELIGHT



LEAVING A POLLING STATION in Frankfurt, Germany, Mr. Average German voter finds himself, after many years, so important that reporters gather around him to check on his reactions. One thing was certain—he didn't vote for the Communist Party ticket. Some 24,000,000 ballots were cast and the Christian Democratic Union was well out in front. The Social Democrats were not far behind.

terms. It seems to have become something of an indoor sport in certain quarters to push our doctors around. To such an attitude toward our physicians millions of us reply: "You ought to know my doctor."

The medical profession is an honorable profession. Its history of constructive, sacrificial service to suffering humanity answers all adverse criticism. And the spirit of the physicians of the past — the spirit of faithful, heroic, unselfish service — is alive and manifest in the lives and practice of our American doctors today. All of us know that there are quacks and crooks among doctors just as there are quacks and crooks in any group. I make bold to assert, however, that no group in society can give a better account of its stewardship than the medical profession. As a group they represent thorough, scientific training, high standards of ethics, and steadfast loyalty to their noble calling: "Healing humanity's hurt."

**Personal Experience**  
As I think of the great number of doctors whose knowledge and skill have brought me and members of my family through many serious illnesses—physicians representing surgery, internal medicine, orthopedics, neurology, urology, obstetrics, radiology, pediatrics, eye, ear, nose and throat and dentistry, I say of each of them: "You ought to know my doctor."

**Some Observations**  
A group of us from Knoxville have summer cabins in a remote section of the East Tennessee mountains, near the boundary of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. While in our cabins

one summer some of our wives visiting in a home at the head of a mountain cove found a boy who was horribly club-footed. Immediately we called an orthopedic surgeon in Memphis, Tennessee, and asked if he could do anything for the boy. Promptly Dr. Willis Campbell called his name because he is now in the spirit world—replied: "Bring him to me."

The boy was sent to Dr. Campbell's Clinic. The feet were straightened, and after a few weeks he was returned to the little mountain home wearing braces. When the time came for the removal of the braces I took him to Memphis and left him at the clinic, telling him that I would call for him next day. When I went by for him the following morning he was in the lobby of the clinic. The braces had been removed and he was happy. I said to him, "We have a long, hard drive ahead of us and must get started." He replied: "I want to see Dr. Campbell before I go." I found the secretary and told her that the boy insisted on seeing Dr. Campbell. She went to the boy and told him that Dr. Campbell was operating and couldn't be disturbed. Then, noting the look of disappointment on his face, she said: "Why do you want to see Dr. Campbell?" He replied: "I want to thank him for straightening my feet." She threw her arms about him, drawing him to her, and said: "Go on, boy, Dr. Campbell is as proud of those feet as you are."

That boy is now a school teacher. He and many, many others think of Dr. Willis Campbell with boundless devotion and gratitude as they unite in saying: "You ought to

know my doctor." Such incidents are being repeated across America every day. In every city, village, and countryside of our nation these scenes are being re-enacted continuously. They are so familiar that they are commonplace. We have witnessed them so frequently that our eyes are blurred to the magnificent spirit which they represent.

The circle of suffering is always changing, but it is always full. Those in that circle represent every age, color, creed, and station of life. Our physicians spend their lives in that circle where pain and anxiety form an atmosphere that is heavy and tense. Calmly, intelligently, courageously, they wage a ceaseless warfare with the grim, threatening figure of death. It would be timely and appropriate for the people of America to catch the spirit of the little Scotch community so beautifully pictured in Ian MacClaren's "Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush," and applaud our doctors.

If the grateful voices of those in hospitals, clinics, and homes of suffering where faithful physicians quietly minister, were all blended together they would form a mighty chorus sounding across our nation lifting the refrain: "You ought to know my doctor."

In the 19th Century ice from the United States was shipped to China and India.

## Paralyzed Veterans Put Back On Feet

MINNEAPOLIS (UPI)—A couple of University of Minnesota medical scientists have treated paralyzed veterans, with rehabilitation reported for three-fourths of them. Drs. A. B. Baker and Joe R. Brown summed up in a Veterans Administration pamphlet their several years' experience at the Minneapolis veterans hospital.

Chief VA medical director Dr. Paul B. Magnuson in a foreword, described the report as "one of the most encouraging pieces of information ever published by the Veterans Administration."

Baker and Brown say that during a two-and-a-half year period, 289 patients were treated, with 253 being released to their homes and 36 considered to have completed treatment.

Some of the veterans had been hospitalized as long as 20 years.

Only 10 per cent of those treated failed to respond in some way. Some were able to walk again while others were well enough to work.

Recovery time is longer for older patients and those with prolonged disabilities.

Baker and Brown said the need for early treatment is indicated because the maximum benefit was attained by those who had shorter disability duration, with age having only a slight effect.

The pair claimed that establishment of similar programs throughout the nation would save more than \$1,000,000 in one hospital in the first year alone.

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## Lost In Air Crash



RADIO operator aboard the Trans-Ocean airliner that crashed into the sea off the Irish coast, Herbert Asbel, Coney Island, N. Y. (above), was reported one of nine persons who lost their lives. Surface craft were said to have rescued 49 of the 58 persons aboard the plane, which was en route from Rome to New York. Most of the passengers were Italian immigrants going to South America. (International)

A mild winter in 1930 can be a world-wide shortage of natural gas and stimulated development of gas-making machines.

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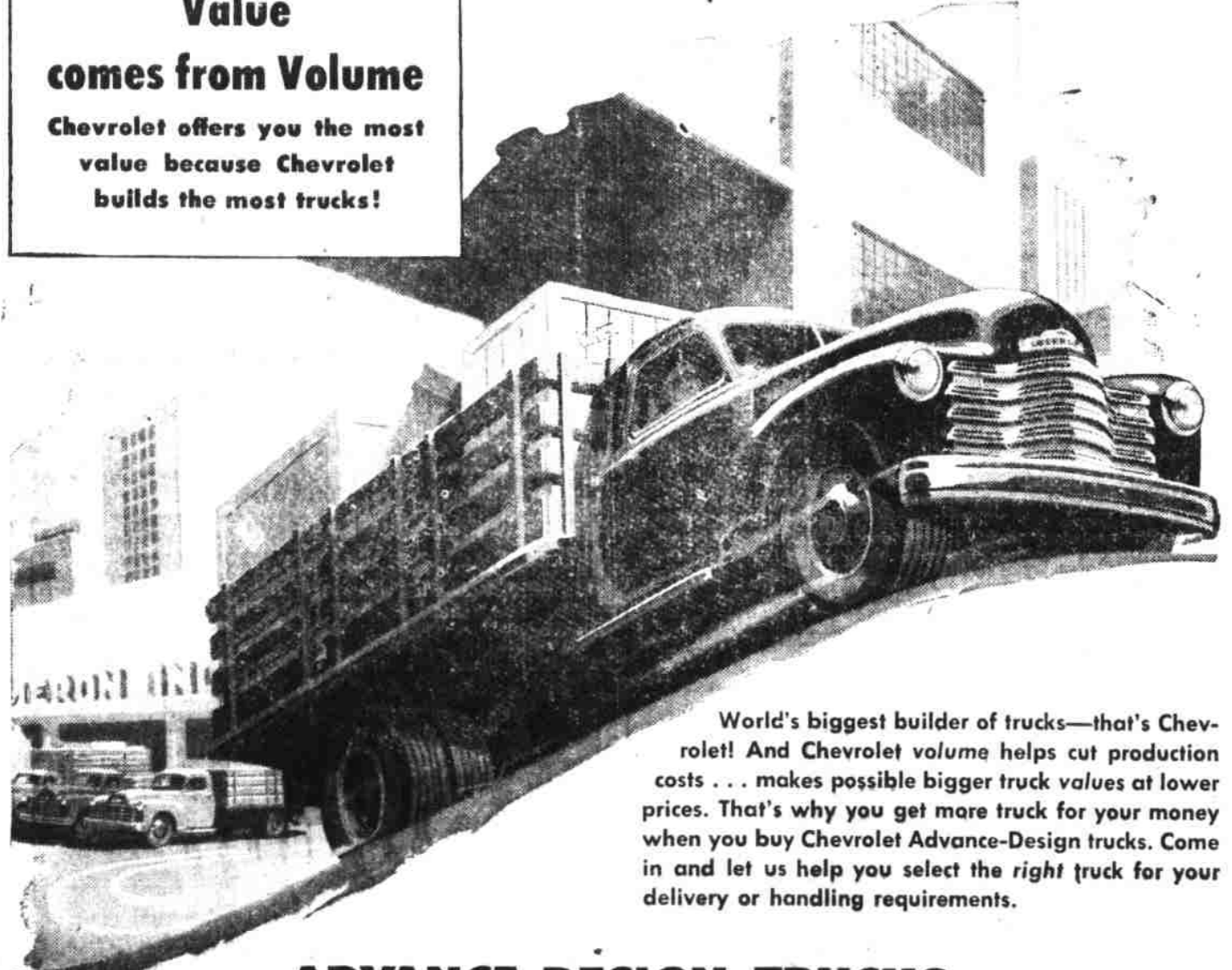
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# For Your Information

To carry out findings of an Emergency Board appointed by the President of the United States under the National Railway Labor Act, the nation's railroads necessarily agreed with the Non-Operating Railway Labor Unions to establish a 5-day-40-hour work week effective September 1, 1949.

This will require the closing on Saturdays and Sundays of many freight stations and offices heretofore open to the public—on the Southern as well as on all other railroads throughout the country—so that employees generally may be given two consecutive days off each week. Under the settlement, the employees will receive for five days' work the equivalent of wages formerly paid for six days' work.

President Truman's Emergency Board points out that the shorter work week is in keeping with the increasing trend in industry, banking and business generally.

For the railroad industry, which must keep the trains running day and night every day in the week, the change will create many difficult problems. The Southern, with your whole-hearted co-operation and sympathetic understanding, pledges to make the changeover with the least possible inconvenience to the public.

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