

Many People Confused On Medicare, Medicaid

Even though Medicare and Medicaid have been operating more than 10 years, many people are confused and think the programs are the same, a social security spokesperson said today.

Although both programs pay for health care, they are different, the representative went on. Medicare, entirely a Federal program, helps pay for hospital care, doctors' services and many other health services for almost everyone 65 and over and for certain disabled people under 65. Medicaid, a Federal-State partnership, pays for health care for certain kinds of needy and low-income people. Some people can have both Medicare and Medicaid.

Medicare is the same in all States, while Medicaid varies from State to State since the States design their own program within Federal guidelines. The only State not having a Medicaid program is Arizona.

Medicare has two parts—hospital insurance and medical insurance. Hospital insurance helps pay for inpatient hospital care and post-hospital care in a skilled nursing facility or at home from a home health agency. Medical insurance helps pay doctor bills and other services not covered by hospital insurance.

Medicaid pays the full costs of these and other health care services for those eligible. Since Medicaid pays only part

of health care costs, Medicaid can pay the difference for those eligible for both programs.

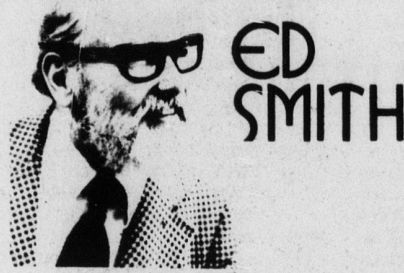
Medicare hospital insurance is financed by payroll contributions from employers and employees. Medical insurance is financed with premiums, with those enrolled paying about one-fourth of the cost and the Federal Government paying the remainder.

Medicaid is financed by Federal and State governments. The Federal share ranges from 50 percent for the richest States up to 78 percent for the State with the lowest per-capita income. States pay the remaining costs, often with help from local governments.

The Ballad of Frankie and Johnny

The murder of Charlie Silver in Burke County in 1831 and the trial and hanging of his wife Frankie for the deed was the sort of tragedy from which legends are made. True to the ways of the mountains, a folk ballad was quickly composed about the event, and historians believe that (somewhat garbled by time) it became the origin of that American classic, "Frankie and Johnny."

On June 28, 1833, Frances Stewart Silver got a new lease on life — although a short one. Her hanging was postponed for two weeks by a Burke County jury. There is a tradition that the tragic (and undoubtedly innocent) Mary Surratt was the first American woman to be hanged, for her supposed complicity in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. She was not, of course, the first woman to be executed in North Carolina, and she was one of the first, if not the first, to be hanged in the entire U.S.A.



The Battle of Echo was probably the biggest military engagement in the history of western North Carolina, yet few people today have even heard of it.

It took place on June 27, 1760, during the French and Indian War.

A mixed force of British and Colonial troops (mostly Indians themselves from New York state) were ambushed and routed by several thousand Cherokee braves in a mountain pass near Franklin, in Macon County.

On July 1, 1863, the climactic battle of the Civil War began near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. North Carolina troops played a large part in the struggle (more on this next week). Among the casualties that first day at Gettysburg was Henry K. Burgwyn, the famous "Boy Colonel" of the N. C. 26th Regt. Burgwyn died in action at the age of 21.

GUEST EDITORIAL

WE'RE TIRED OF A LOT OF THINGS!

We're tired of last winter. We're tired of bother and inconvenience. We're tired of lame excuses, musty jokes and stale propaganda. Particularly we're tired of the exaggerations and the hyped-up propaganda that goes on and on against the Labor Law Reform Bill, which is due for action soon in the United States Senate.

You don't have to be an enthusiast for labor unions to be repelled by some of the propaganda against them, from organizations that must know better. We find the average union member and his leaders are people pretty much like all the rest of us — trying to make both ends meet, feed the

family and stay out of trouble. Instead we see a lot of stuff about "labor bosses" and "czars" and predictions that America will go down the drain into some kind of "labor dictatorship" if the Labor Law Reform Bill is passed. We don't think so; we don't see it happening and we have faith in our democratic institutions.

Rather, we agree with reputable magazines and papers like Business Week, and the Wall Street Journal, and the Labor Law Reform Bill is essentially a set of mechanical adjustments in our labor law — a matter of doing some fine tuning on a 43-year-old statute.



So we hope the Senate will just vote the bill on its merits — which seem to us to be plentiful. Let's turn our backs on the nonsense and the exaggerated propaganda. In other words, let's enjoy the spring — the beautiful spring — and put aside the worries and the scare words of the winter. It will be good for all of us.

READER DIALOGUE

The things we need....

Dear Editor,

Let's get down to the "nitty-gritty" of the dilemma the cities and towns across our great nation have gotten themselves into. Far be it from me to question the need and the necessity of federal grants or funding. It's well and good, if properly used.

Again, let's get down to the "nitty-gritty" as to what has brought the cities to its present woes.

First of all, businessmen, who clown through the years, while making neat profits and gains, failed to foresee and to recognize that every material structure has a tendency of decaying as well as the human body.

So, along comes the government with its assets and programs, with good intentions of helping.

What happens? Well, to be perfectly honest, the business world saw a good chance of fleecing those who have kept them in business, by letting their buildings deteriorate and saw an opportune time in which to protect their own interests.

Therefore, in their greediness to get on the bandwagon to protect their own interests at whatever cost to the taxpayers, and still come out ahead. This is one of the reasons for the present tax rebellion across the nation.

Truth will stand when the world is being turned upside down. While the vultures within our society are rolling those who wish to be honest tax-paying citizens, there are those who stay up at night in their smoke-filled rooms and chambers figuring out ways and means to not only fleece their next-door neighbors, just as well

as their government pretending to be good and law-abiding Americans, who are in the meantime helping the cause of the social communist move to break the democratic process for making this great nation into a state of bankruptcy and into dictatorship.

It's clear as one's nose between the eyes. EVERETTE PEARSON
Kings Mountain

The nitty-gritty of it...

Dear Editor,

A few weeks ago as I was reading the Mirror-Herald and began to read the possibility of an airport in Kings Mountain, I just thought about the things that we need in Kings Mountain.

And, I am hoping that someone will see that we need city buses; and think about the population in this city, the people who live out from the shopping center and don't have a car and those people that work in industrial plants.

I hope that you look into this matter. MISS RUTHIE ADAMS
626 Belvedere Circle

Swimming pool safety begins before the splash

Swimming pool safety begins before you jump into the pool, according to experts at PPG Industries. The firm advises owners to take proper chemical and physical care of their pools for their own protection.

"Keeping the pool water clean and sanitary is of utmost importance," according to Robert F. Kirstein, product manager for PPG's Chemical Division-U.S. "If left untreated, pool water can become a breeding ground for disease-carrying bacteria, which are easily transmitted from swimmer to swimmer.

"This means taking good chemical care of your pool by treating the water with a pool disinfectant containing chlorine, such as Pittcol calcium hypochlorite," Kirstein said.

"When dispensed correctly, chemicals can help reduce swimming pool health hazards by destroying bacteria and keeping the water balanced in terms of acidity, basicity and alkali content."

PPG recommends treatment with one ounce of Pittcol calcium hypochlorite for every 1,000 gallons of water.

Chemical care also can enhance the pool's appearance by aiding the filter system in keeping the water clean and clear, Kirstein said.

Physical care is important because leaves, insects and debris blown into the pool contain harmful bacteria as well as produce an unsightly swimming environment, according to the PPG expert.

Properly equipped pools have filtration systems that constantly circulate the water, filtering out debris and returning clean water to the pool. "Other debris should be skimmed from the surface regularly and pool sides and bottom should be vacuum-cleaned with appropriate equipment," Kirstein said.

Pool maintenance is easy, according to Kirstein, and well worth the time it takes to learn the few basic steps involved in testing and treating the pool water.

A step-by-step pool maintenance plan is provided in PPG's 16-page booklet "The Pittcol Program For Pool Protection." It may be obtained by writing PPG Industries, 10 North, One Gateway Center, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222.

Inflation is a dirty word that is everybody's concern

By HENRY HAZLITT
In "Washington Dateline"

Inflation is a dirty nine-letter word which is every consumer's and businessman's concern. It boggles the mind while it empties the pocketbook. Labor blames Business. Business blames Labor. The Government blames both. For many years, only conservative blamed the government. Most ivory-tower Keynesian economists promoted deficit spending (and hence inflation) as a cure for everything short of ingrown toenails. They warned that economics and inflation were too complicated for the average American to understand. This was to keep Joe and Mary Public in the economic dark with "Keynesian wool" pulled over their eyes.

Ever since Harry Hopkins advised FDR to "tax, tax, spend, spend, and elect, elect," some politicians have sought the hidden-tax idea of inflation. How ever the mood of the public seems to have changed. History will record that the first shot of the 20th century American revolution, against taxes and inflation was the victory of Proposition 13 in California. That was only the beginning. If the pork-barrel politicians don't get the message now, they will certainly get the message on election day. Inflation, high taxes and inflated government budgets are going to be a thing of the past.

Henry Hazlitt, the noted economist, writer and lecturer has provided us with a very simple to understand explanation of inflation and its cause. Here is Mr. Hazlitt's statement: 1) Inflation is an increase in the quantity of money and credit. Its chief consequence is soaring prices. Therefore inflation — if we misuse the term to mean the rising prices themselves — is caused solely by printing more money. For this the government's monetary policies are entirely responsible.

2) The most frequent reason for printing more money is the existence of an unbalanced budget. Unbalanced budgets are caused by extravagant expenditures which the government is unwilling or unable to pay for by raising corresponding tax revenues. The excessive expenditures are mainly the result of government efforts to redistribute wealth and income — in short, to force the productive to support the unproductive. This erodes the working incentives of both the productive and the unproductive.

3) The causes of inflation are not, as so often said, "multiple and complex," but simply the result of printing too much money. There is no such thing as "cost-push" inflation. If, without an increase in the stock of money, wage or other costs are forced up, and producers try to pass these costs along by raising their selling prices, most of them will merely sell fewer goods. The result will be reduced output and loss of jobs. Higher costs can only be passed along in higher selling prices when consumers have more money to pay the higher prices.

4) Price controls cannot stop or slow down inflation. They always do harm. Price controls simply squeeze or wipe out profit margins, disrupt production and lead to bottlenecks and shortages. All government price and wage control, or even "monitoring," is merely an attempt by the politicians to shift the blame for inflation on to producers and sellers instead of their own monetary policies.

5) Prolonged inflation never "stimulates" the economy. On the contrary, it unbalances, disrupts, and misdirects production and employment. Unemployment is mainly caused by excessive wage rates in some industries, brought about either by extortionate union demands, by minimum wage laws (which keep teenagers and the unskilled out of jobs), or by prolonged and over-generous unemployment insurance.

6) To avoid irreparable damage, the budget must be balanced at the earliest possible moment, and not in some sweet-by-and-by. Balance must be brought about by slashing reckless spending, and not by increasing a tax burden that is already undermining incentives and production.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Henry Hazlitt is an economist, author and lecturer, and a former columnist for Newsweek. He is a regular contributor to National Review, Human Events, the Freeman, and other periodicals. His latest book, "The Inflation Crisis: And How To Resolve It" (Arlington House, \$8.95) will be released July 1978.

On June 28, 1942, the tanker "William Rockefeller" was torpedoed off Cape Hatteras. It was the tenth vessel sunk in that area that month by German submarines. For the first six months of World War II, in fact, "residents of coastal North Carolina was closer to the war than most of our troops overseas."

During the whole of the war, a total of 79 Allied vessels and three German submarines would be sunk off the North Carolina coast. A total of 848 seamen and gun crews would lose their lives, and over 425,000 tons of shipping would go to the bottom.



Poet's Corner

YOUTH

Youth is a time of achieving and believing
A time to be up and renewing,
A time for searching and reaching
Unlimited truths pursuing.

A time for testing and dreaming
Of loving and scheming,
Mixed emotions riding high
Striving for living to satisfy.

A time for choosing and losing
Of accepting and refusing
With so many decisions to make,
No wonder that it may happen
Youth may make a mistake.

A time to be fully aware
Youth is the most precious time that is given,
The accepted time to prepare
For a beautiful life here and for heaven.

A time of deceiving youth into believing
A more convenient time will be,
Youth is much of a beguiler
For today's opportunities will flee.

VIVIAN STEWART BILTCLIFFE

NO POCKET IN A SHROUD

Use your money while you're living,
Do not hoard it to be proud;
You can never take it with you
There's no pocket in a shroud.

Gold can help you on no farther
Than the graveyard where you lie,
And though you are rich while living
You're a pauper when you die.

Use it then some lives to brighten,
As through life they weary plod;
Place your bank account in Heaven
And grow richer toward your God.

Use it wisely, use it freely,
Do not hoard it to be proud;
You can never take it with you
There's no pocket in a shroud.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS IN VERSE

Thou shalt have no other Gods but me;
Before no idol bow the knee;
Take not the name of God in Vain;
Nor dare the Sabbath day profane;
Give both thy parents honor due,
Take heed that thou no murder do;
Abstain from words and deeds unclean;
Nor steal, though thou be poor and mean;
Nor make a willful lie nor love it;
What is thy neighbors, dare not count.

MYRTLE GOFORTH SELECTIONS

IN MEMORY OF GLENN CARROLL
Born Aug. 13, 1907
Died, Apr. 13, 1978

A GOOD HONEST MAN

Glenn's gone now,
God's taken him away
He asked his family
to meet him,
In Heaven some sweet day.

Now his labors are over,
His task of life is past
He has claimed the victory
His pain and suffering is over at last.

He's gone to meet his Dad and Mother,
They're waiting on the other side
There will be much rejoicing
For in Christ he does abide.

We will not say that Glenn is dead,
He's just gone away.
He told his family they would meet him
If they would only watch and pray.
MRS. CURTIS CARROLL
Daughter-in-law

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

PUBLISHED EACH TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

GARLAND DAVIS, JR. Publisher

TOM FACINTYRE Editor

ELIZABETH STEWART Woman's Editor

GARY STEWART Sports Editor

DARRYL AUSTIN General Manager

C. L. HILL Advertising Director

MEMBER OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Mirror-Herald is published by General Publishing Company, P. O. Drawer 732, Kings Mountain, N. C. 28086. Business and editorial offices are located at 204 South Piedmont Ave. Phone 739-7496. Second class postage paid at Kings Mountain, N. C. Single copy 15 cents. Subscription rates: \$8.50 yearly in advance, \$4.25 six months, \$9.50 yearly out-of-state. \$5 six months. Student rate for nine-months \$6.24