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terms. Only the other day, before a service club, he made this significant statement: "We cannot disregard the fact that if we operate a plan ourselves, we in Ontario will have complete control over any alterations in the plan that may be made in the future. We also will have complete control over the reserves that will be built up to give security to this plan."

Then there is the question of revisions that may be needed for other reasons. Both the federal plan and the Quebec plan, for example, are related to regular earnings over a period of years. This leaves still open the issue raised by Premier Shaw at the recent Quebec conference—namely, where our farmers, fishermen and others whose earnings cannot be calculated in this manner, come in. They need pensions, too, or don't they?

At this rate, it looks as if the Canada Pension Plan is due for a long period in drydock. But let's be optimistic. Let's hope, at least, that it will get launched in time for the opening of our Northumberland Strait Causeway!

On Strike In Belgium

At this distance it is hard to determine the merits of the controversy that has caused 10,000 doctors to go on strike in Belgium; but it is unfortunate indeed that the death of a child should have focused world attention on it. According to police reports, the child died of a lung condition after waiting six hours for medical treatment, and two physicians have been charged with negligence in connection therewith.

Belgium has had compulsory medical insurance since 1945, but the controversy leading up to the strike is of quite recent origin. It was prompted by a new law which in effect lets the state set the scale of fees for medical care. In their protest strike, the doctors demand emergency arrangements to treat urgent cases, but opponents claim that this failed to meet the nation's needs.

Under the old system, the patient paid the doctor whatever fee was agreed on between them. The patient then got a certificate (it made no mention of the fee) and presented it to the government for reimbursement according to a fixed fee schedule usually well below what the doctor actually charged.

Under the new law, the patient pays no fee for medical care, and the doctor has been free to pay income tax on more or less whatever portion of his income he pleases. The Times of London commented editorially, "It has been estimated some have declared about a third of what they actually receive."

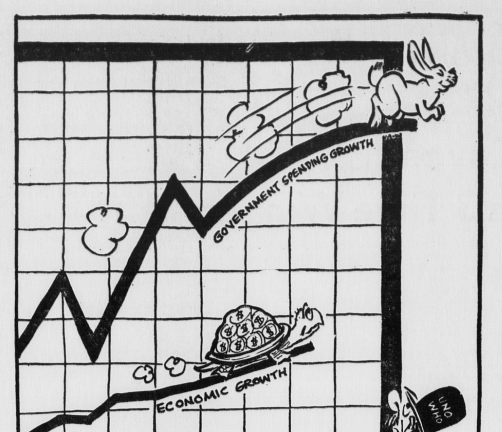
The new law would require the doctor to give a receipt for money received, forcing him to pay the tax on his entire income. It would set the patient's reimbursement from the government at 75 per cent for standard cases and 100 per cent for widows, orphans, invalids and patients suffering from serious illness such as cancer. The medical federation claim the new law is a step to complete socialized medicine, and it is on this basis that they are opposing it.

As indicated in our news dispatches, new contacts have been established between the doctors and the government, and there is hope that negotiations for a settlement may open later this week.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There is for sale on the world market a rare and peculiar product that is exported by only one country—Finland. The product is dried art. eggs, which biologically speaking are not eggs at all but miniature-sized chrysalises that include the ant larvae. The producer is the wood ant (Formica rufa) or red ant, as it is called in Finland. The consumers? T. pet birds and fish.

Canada's newest daily paper is also its northernmost—the Grand Prairie Daily Herald Tribune, with a circulation of 6,700. The Tribune will be trucked on the day of publication to Fort Nelson, B.C., 300 miles up the Alaska Highway, and to Hay River, N.W.T., 400 miles up the Mackenzie Highway on the shores of Great Slave Lake.



WE SEEM TO HAVE THE FABLE TWISTED

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Well Advised to Avoid An Election

The political mood of Parliament Hill changed abruptly last week. Immediately after the Quebec City conference of federal and provincial premiers, suddenly the air was filled with talk of an early election. Previously it had been well understood that the great majority of MPs did not want an election this year, and accordingly it was expected that one or other of the opposition parties would always give Prime Minister Lester Pearson the minor Liberal government the outside support necessary to prevent its overthrow.

After Quebec, however, the Parliament Building throbbled with the report that the Prime Minister was being pressed by some of his close advisers to call an election voluntarily in June, without the compulsion of a defeat in Parliament. The creation of a Canada-wide popular pension plan would be an election-winning issue, said these hothouse.

Many experienced Liberals were among the predominant and outspoken opponents of a June election. With Quebec committed to opt out of the pension plan, and with the split widening between the federal Liberals and the Quebec provincial wing of the Party, it was hard to envisage any outcome except widespread anti-Liberal votes in Quebec.

Another WEAKE HOUS? How would Mr. Pearson show with only 129 of the 265 seats in the House, except to build this up to a working majority, if he would actually lose seats in his present Quebec stronghold? He would generally still live here, but the long MP seeking an election this year was Mr. D. who, despite the evidence of the polls and the mood of the public, talked of boosting his 83 seats up to a majority position. While all his party members in Parliament agreed with him that the Pearson Government has enriched the public by its performance, only the purblind seriously believed that the Canadian public would ever again commit its fortunes to Mr. D. There is however an anti-D. Conservative body of opinion in other parties as well as among the anti-D. Conservatives here, who confidently predict that the Conservative, under any circumstances, would not expect to win about 165 seats in an early campaign against the Liberals led by Mr. Pearson.

Withdrawal of Colonel John Givens, Jr., from the United States Senate primary ballot in Ohio because of his uncertain medical future is a supreme piece of irony almost unmissable in fiction.

Now, Sir, this is the job the Federation and the Minister are asked to do. The meeting was re-arranged in this directive and emphasized the need for immediate action. We are not going to get a pussy-footing in this matter. We do not want the delays and excuses which have let the efforts of our Beef Producers and tobacco growers fizzle out.

NEW DELHI (AP)—An Indian government spokesman has said it has reasons to believe the Communist Chinese were behind the assassination of Butua's Premier Jigme Dorji. But it said it is unable to go into details. A foreign ministry spokesman told reporters: "The alleged assassin is known to have some connection with the Chinese."

April Cancer Detection Month

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen Cancer originates as a rule on the surface of some tissue, such as the skin, nose, perhaps the mouth, stomach, intestine, or bronchial tube. Other examples are the prostate gland, the uterus or a duct in the breast or prostate gland.

One low cell is involved at first but it reproduces itself by dividing into two cells, then into four, eight, etc. No one knows how the cell becomes malignant although a virus may enter it and change the chromosomes. Initially the growth is so small as to see except with a microscope. In time, a mass of tumor forms and it is large enough to see or feel. The disease is curable so long as it remains confined to the source; the chance of survival is lessened when cancer cells extend into neighboring tissues or become detached and reach other parts of the body. It is surprising how few feel that this virus in the blood after leaving the original tumor. They need more education. Some cells attach themselves to other tissues.

Cancer cells may drop off the outer surface of the tumor and mix with the secretions of the involved organ. Those in the uterus, for example, lead to the cervical and vaginal sections. This is the rationale behind annual Pap smear examinations on women. The secretions are studied under the microscope; when cancer cells are noted, the test is positive.

The mortality rate of uterine cancer has increased perceptibly during the last 25 years and it is believed many more lives could be saved if the Pap smear were done routinely. The cure rate of cancer of the skin is high. Melanomas of the stomach are as easy to recognize. The majority are detected while it is too late. This explains why the death rate is so high in this type of cancer.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

A California doctor says husbands should be given more freedom. A choice of detergents would do the trick, perhaps? —Calgary Herald.

Women are told it's fashionable to smoke a pipe. What we want to see is one of them lighting a pipe and taking a spike heel! —Windsor Star.

"Millions of people who have telephones don't have bath-tubs," says a statistician. "It's a great pity that so many people are talking when they ought to be taking a bath." —Suburbia Star.

In proclaiming himself the president of Haiti, Dr. Duvalier explained that he is the kind of man a country can produce once every 50 or 75 years. And that's a little too often, even if it is right. —Montreal Star.

When La Scala holds opening night in Milan, Italian women will not see expensive jewelry any more. They will see the things they did, or sported a new and obviously valuable fur coat. The things they did, or sported a new and obviously valuable fur coat. The things they did, or sported a new and obviously valuable fur coat.

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SENTENTIAL PENMANSHIP COMPETITION PRIZE LIST

- The following is a list of the prize winners in the recent penmanship competition judged by Mr. H. B. MacLean of the Maclean Publishing Co. The prize winners are listed in the various grades. The prizes and diplomas will be published in the next issue of the paper. The names of the prize winners are listed in the various grades. The prizes and diplomas will be published in the next issue of the paper.