

Easter

Like many holidays, Easter comes once again with emphasis in many quarters on material rather than spiritual values.

The donning of new attire for the Easter Parade actually may date back to the days of Emperor Constantine, but regardless of the origin of this custom, it seems that today there is much commercialism in what should be a purely religious day.

While the traditional Easter egg does not have any particular religious significance, in itself, it does carry out a symbolism and tradition that reminds the entire family of the joyous celebration—that is Easter.

When we don our finery, this Easter Sunday, and attend the services of our choice, let us not forget the true significance of the day. And let's reflect and be thankful that the American tradition of freedom of worship remains inviolate.

Good Memories And Bad

When he was a kid, Sammy Hartzell liked to stretch out and day-dream under a tree not far from his home in Westover, Pa. It was a pleasant spot and from it Sammy could see much of the countryside. He loved the place and never got tired of going there.

A few days ago Sammy's father walked up the hill. He carried a shovel, and when he got to Sammy's favorite tree he started to dig. He was making a grave because Sammy was coming home to rest forever.

Word had come from Washington that the boy had been killed while guarding the Da Nang air base in Vietnam. But the news wasn't entirely unexpected. Shortly before Christmas his sister had received a letter from Sammy and in it he had expressed a premonition of death. The letter told his sister: "Last night and most of today I've been thinking of things I've got to be thankful for. Seems like the Lord and I understand each other, and that is such a feeling of comfort."

Sammy wrote more, in the same vein. Then he told how he wanted to be buried under his beloved tree and added: "... Let all our memories be good ones."

The memories of the Hartzells and all those who knew this boy will assuredly be good ones, but as we read about Sammy we wondered what about some other young men.

We thought of those over-educated simpletons with scraggy beards and placards who call for a peace which would throw away everything gained by the sacrifices of the Sammy Hartzells.

And the exhibitionists who display their inadequacy in childish draft-card burnings and shrill outbursts testifying to their great idealism, their sublime ethics and their love of all mankind.

We wonder how these miserable characters will end up in the years to come. We wonder about their memories, and if they'll be the sort that anyone can live with.

Somehow we doubt it.

The Right To Know

More and more informed commentators are expressing concern over an excess of secrecy within government. The general public, they believe, is being deprived of vital information which it has the right to know.

It is obvious that the secret label must be attached to certain facts and programs involving the national security. But that, certainly, is as far as the withholding of information should ever be allowed to go. The danger is

that secrecy may be used to cover up mistakes, misjudgments, and situations which would prove highly unpalatable to the voters.

The right to know is essential protection for a free people. To deny that right is to use a tool of the dictators.

According to the National Industrial Conference Board, 10 years ago, less than one family in 10 had an annual income in excess of \$10,000, measured in today's dollars. Now more than two out of every 10 families are in that bracket, and it is estimated that by 1970 over a third of the nation's families will reach or exceed it.

Babson's Point of View On Medicare and No Care

By ROGER W. BABSON

Babson Park, Mass., April 7—Just a short while ago, Look Magazine published a very revealing article on the type of care which Americans can expect from hospitals generally throughout the land. It was frightening, to say the least. Inefficiency, ineptness, and downright carelessness on the part of both nurses and doctors were featured. Many have since rushed to the defense of the profession. But what we should all be worrying about is the added coming impact of medicare.

ALMOST UPON US
If the quality and quantity of medical care are open to criticism now... what will be the situation when the avalanche of elderly patients needing treatment starts hitting the wards and nursing homes July 1st? That is less than three short months away. Studies of statistical data suggest that conditions may become chaotic in some areas.

The first wave of our senior citizens who will seek "free" hospitalization under medicare will be a big one. Naturally those who can postpone a visit until Uncle Sam will pay the bill are going to wait for July 1. But doctors look for an even bigger flood tide of the elderly to knock on hospital doors at the first cold blasts of autumn. That is the season when aches, pains, and respiratory diseases really kick up.

SOBERING FACTS
Hospital beds in non-federal-government institutions are estimated to be about 790,000. Right now about 76 per cent of these are occupied. But that figure is an "average." Like other "averages," it is misleading; for in many areas shortages of hospital facilities are already critical. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that big demands will not be made in precisely the spots where beds are scarcest.

But empty hospital beds would not solve the overcrowding problem. They would be of little value without an adequate nursing staff. And this is the weakest link in the medical-care chain; 100,000 job vacancies are reported in this field. The figures are broken down as follows: 75,000 openings for registered nurses and a need for 25,000 practical nurses. One of the most vexing shortages may be in the field of visiting nurses. Visiting nurses are slated to play a big part under medicare. Judging from the situation at present, it appears inevitable that the supply will be far short of needs.

HOW BIG THE RUSH?
So much for the availability—or lack of it—of doctors and nurses. An even bigger question mark is the probable size of the rush of senior citizens for "free" care. Some government officials poo-poo the seriousness of the overcrowding threat. But the Surgeon General feels that the surge will be large. What is definitely known is that patients over age 65 now take up about one-quarter of all hospital beds. What if this figure jumps to 35 per cent or even to 40 per cent?

Our only close guidepost to what may be expected is the history of socialized medicine in Saskatchewan, Canada. There, reports say, demand doubled when government medicine came in... and in some areas applicants for care trebled. The feeling is beginning to grow here that any such rush in the U. S. could create a condition bordering on chaos. If this should happen, it would of course affect not only those over 65, but also everyone else—from babies on up... everyone in need of hospitalization.

SHORT-CHANGED?
One thing is certain. It will take cool heads at all medical and administrative levels to prevent a jam-up that could harm the image of the medical profession and bring down anger on the heads of politicians who voted so hurriedly for the "leap forward" without first looking to see if the machine could carry the new load.
It is none too early to set up screening boards. These would attempt to keep the flow of senior citizens toward hospitals from becoming an engulfing flood. Unless this or similar advances moves are taken at the local level, we may find that medicare has become no care!

EASTER MORN



Stories Behind Words

By William S. Penfield

Steeplechase

The sport of steeplechasing—a horse race over an obstacle course—originated in England during the 18th century.

After an unsuccessful foxhunt, mounted hunters often vented their unspent energy by racing through the countryside back to the village.

A village's towering church steeples usually served as a landmark toward which hunters raced. The course took them across fields and over hedges, fences and streams.

A race of this type was called "chasing the steeple," and then "steeplechasing."

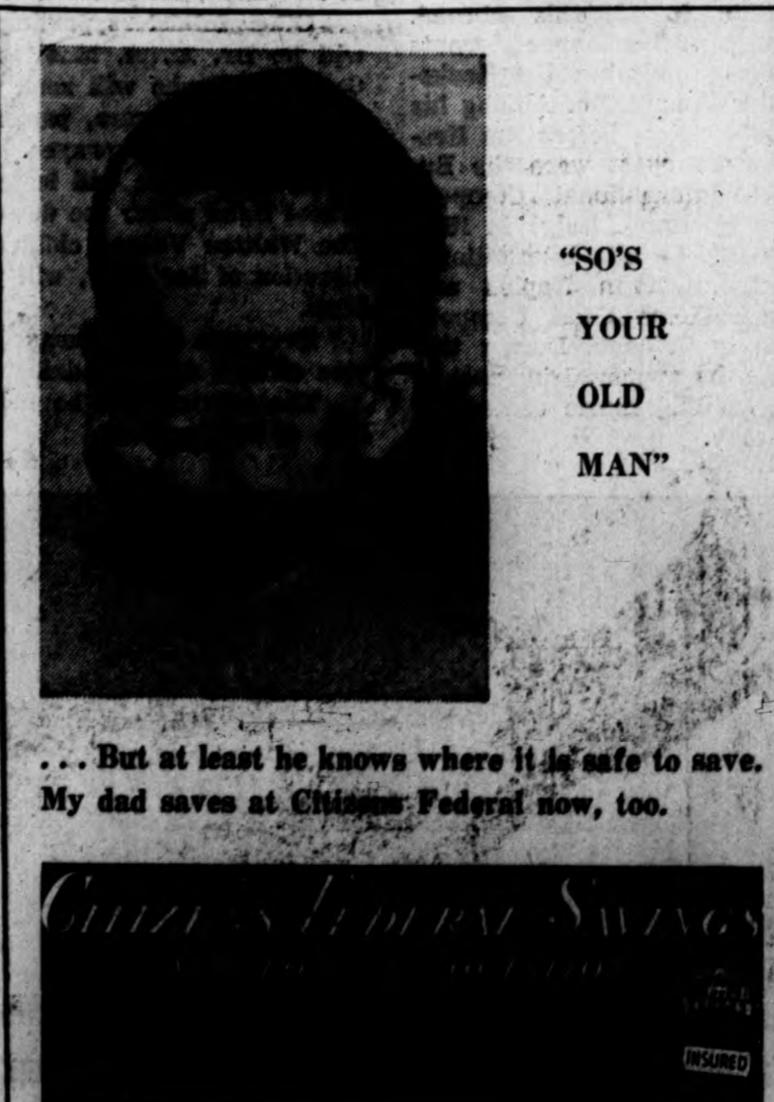


By M. L. OUTZ, County Agent

Beef cattle feeder sales are scheduled April 8 at Spartanburg and Greenwood. The Spartanburg Sale will be held at 2 p. m., and the Greenwood Sale at 8 p. m. A conflict with a near by sale in North Carolina is the reason for the night sale at Greenwood. Requirements are about the same. Only good sound feeder beef cattle will be accepted. This means no bulls or cows; heifers must be guaranteed open. We have forms here at the office for those selling heifers to fill out, sign, and turn in to the sale committee. Rules and regulations have been mailed to producers in the county. However, if anyone is interested in sending cattle to either sale and has not participated in the sales before, then you should call the County Agent's office so someone can take a look at

your cattle to make sure you do not send cattle that are not desirable and will have to be brought back home. This often happens...
I rode to Spartanburg Friday afternoon with three very important gentlemen, N. B. Senn, Woodrow Ziegler, and Bill Senn. I learned from Bill that tomatoes will survive a normal cold snap if vegetable crates are put over them. He says to leave the crate on until the danger passes. I also learned that Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler have moved into their new brick home. Nat Senn showed us a field of oats that are out of this world for this day and time. They are the new Arlington 23 oats. We helped Nat get them last fall.

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Highlights From Clinton High

By PATSY SIMMONS

Last week several chorus members from Clinton High received first-place ratings in the South Carolina Music Educators Association, which Those students from CHS who was held at Belk Auditorium. received first ratings were James Meadows, Johnny Fulmer, Annette Kitchens, and Sheila Gilliam. These students were accompanied by Nancy Hollis. Dusty Jones from Junior High, who was accompanied by Linda Suddeth, received a II plus rating.

tatives elected are as follows:

- 12-A, Jane Boland; 12-B, Linda Cunningham; 12-C, Ronnie Johnson; 12-D, Janice McDaniel; 12-E, Becky Sanders; 12-F, Karen Surratt.
- Also, 11-A, Lonnie Bixler; 11-B, Kay Caldwell; 11-C, Ben Hay Hammet; 11-D, Rita Johnson; 11-E, Judy Reynolds; 11-F, Melissa Turner.
- 10-A, Chris Adair; 10-B, run-over between Pat Davis and June Force; 10-C, Jim Johnson; 10-D, Jan King; 10-E, Mike Rushton; 10-F, Becky Willingham.

This week the Student Council held its spring election. The students who were elected will serve on next year's council. The newly elected Student Council president is Henry Simmons, and the vice-president is Steve Grady.

There will be run-overs in the election of class officers and representatives-at-large next week.

The home-room representatives

Local Seniors Visit Anderson College

Four high school seniors from Clinton visited Anderson College on High School Day, March 26.

The students were: Linda Horton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis C. Horton; Sandra Marse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Marse; Jane Trammell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Trammell; and Nanette Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andy B. Young, Jr.

Career and College Day Set for Tuesday At Bell Street High

The tenth annual Career and College Day will be held at Bell St. High School on Tues. April 12. The theme is "Vocational Reconsideration: The Challenge for Tomorrow's Careers."

Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with an assembly program in the auditorium. Speakers on the program will represent a variety of vocations.

After assembly, students visit vocational interest groups to talk with persons representing colleges, schools of specialization and a number of occupations. Many of the research people are from this community.

Parents and other interested persons are invited to attend.

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CLINTON, S. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1966

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