

"Despite his love of medicine he did not see it as a proper occupation for women and absolutely forbid an older daughter, Martha, to enter medical school. However, by the time Dr. Ruth was ready to decide on a career, the world had changed and he encouraged her." She graduated in 1933 from The Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, formerly The Female Medical College of Pennsylvania. Legally organized in 1850, the medical school was the first one approved for women in the world.

PARALLEL LIVES

Two of the honored country doctors, P.L. Hathcock and Jesse Thomas Wood, have significantly parallel lives reflecting the important legacy of family and education. Both were born the same year, 1878, six days apart and were raised in small towns. Both became country doctors and each had two sons who became physicians. Dr. P.L. Hathcock's sons, Preston Loyce and Alfred Hiram, became general practitioners with their father in Fayetteville. A son-in-law, Dr. Ralph E. Weddington, also practiced with them at the Hathcock Clinic. In 1957, Dr. Alfred H. Hathcock moved to Batesville, his wife Mary Louise Barnett Hathcock's hometown, to practice medicine. His son, Alfred Barnett, was an orthopedic surgeon specializing in hand surgery at the Holt-Krock Clinic in Fort Smith. Dr. Alfred Barnett Hathcock's son, Stephen, "Sixth Generation M.D. Blends Conventional Medicine with Alternative Remedies," practices in Little Rock.

Dr. Jesse Thomas Wood's sons, Julian Deal and Jack Augustus, became general practitioners in Seminole, Okla. Jack left for a general surgery residency. Upon completion of his training, he joined Dr. J. Warren Murry in Fayetteville. Currently, Dr. Jack Wood's son, Stephen Thomas, a third-generation M.D., is following his father's footsteps as a general surgeon in Fayetteville. Dr. P.L. Hathcock and Dr. Jesse Thomas Wood died 12 days apart in the same year, 1969.

EDUCATORS AMONG US

Educational and leadership threads were woven in the country doctor's legacy to us. Among those contributing to their profession and community were Drs. Ellis, Mock and P.L. Hathcock. Drs. Ellis and Mock were both members of the Arkansas Board of Medical Examiners and presidents of the Arkansas Medical Society. Drs. Ellis, Mock and P.L. Hathcock were active on school boards. Dr. Ellis served 15 years on Fayetteville's school board and four years as chairman. Dr. Mock was president of the school board that built the first important school structure in the Prairie Grove district. Dr. P.L. Hathcock, at 18, was superintendent and taught at the Silver Rock school he attended as a child. When Dr. P.L. Hathcock practiced in Lincoln, he was a member of the county school board.

The venerable country doctor is remembered as having a one-on-one relationship with patients. However, he was also interested in community health and welfare. Dr. Harvey Doak Wood (Jan. 8, 1847–May 13, 1938) organized the Washington County Health Office in 1913 and was public health officer in 1913–1917. The importance of public health can be appreciated in a statement he made.

"May I mention but one instance of the progress in medical practice in the 62 years that has given more comfort and a higher appreciation of the greatest of all professions is the perfection of a diphtheria antitoxin that has saved the lives of millions of human beings."

Incidentally, Dr. Wood was the 50th president of the Arkansas Medical Society; his

patents included the Wood splint, a modification of the Hodgen splint with myodermic traction; and he coined more medical words than anyone else in his time. Dr. P.L. Hathcock also served as Washington County health officer for several years. With respect and deference to Dr. P.L. Hathcock, who did not like his initials spelled out, this author has refrained from doing so.

Fayetteville Ordinance 181 established a city board of health in 1906. Dr. Andrew S. Gregg (1857–1938), a country doctor and two term city alderman, was a two-term city health officer at the time of his death. He also served on the Arkansas State Board of Health. Because of a national emergency in 1944 and being without a health officer, Ordinance 877 was passed and approved April 3, 1944, designating the mayor as health officer. Ordinance 881, recreating the separate office of city health officer and repealing Ordinance 877, was passed Aug. 21, 1944. The importance of a public health officer at the city and/or county jurisdictional level cannot be underestimated. "Continued economic and population growth in Northwest Arkansas is related to the pattern and standards of existing public health practice."

"Lessons for the New Millennium From the Legacy of Country Doctors" fortunately have been recorded in literature, painting, poetry, radio and TV. Examples are: "Horse and Buggy Doctor," a historical account of the times, author Arthur E. Hertzler, M.D. (1870–1946), is the embodiment of a country doctor's life. The story was written in 1938, Milburn Stone, an actor who portrayed Doc Adams in the TV show "Gunsmoke," was asked to write the preface to the edition commemorating the author's 100th birthday:

"... For I feel certain that Dr. Hertzler was invited into heaven, where he can spend his time watching baseball games and sharpening his championship skill with a target pistol. Yet, he may have been offered an option. Perhaps, having conquered Kansas winters, he may have challenged hell. Possibly he is riding around that region in a battered old buggy drawn by an unpredictable horse, soothing the fevered inhabitants and calling the attention of Satan and his staff to the stupidity of attempting to standardize everything."

Sir Samuel Luke Fildes' (1844–1927) painting, "The Doctor," exhibited in 1891 depicts a doctor seated near a sick child lying across two chairs at home. He is attentively observing her while the parents look on. "The Doctor" also captures a "house call" scene, which ultimately blossomed as a "home health care" perennial.

"The Healer," a poem by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892) to a young physician, with Dore's picture of Christ healing the sick, elicits a comment from Sir William Osler (1849–1919): "A well-trained sensible family doctor is one of the most valuable assets of a community, worth to-day, as in Homer's time, many another man..." "Few men, live lives of more devoted self-sacrifice than the family physician."

"Dr. Christian," airing 1937–1953, was the first radio medical soap later adapted to TV. Actor Jean Hersholt (1886–1956) played Dr. Christian, a humanitarian. "The good doctor was aided by his loyal nurse, Judy Price (Rosemary De Camp), who opened each show by picking up her phone with a perky, "Dr. Christian's Office!"

SUMMARY

Succinctly, lessons for the new millennium from the country doctors are embodied in their spirit.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 28, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 83) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011:

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 83, the budget resolution for fiscal year 2002. I urge my colleagues to join in its adoption.

Our Nation now stands at a historic crossroads. After two decades of growing deficits and rising debt, the Congressional Budget Office has now projected rapidly growing surpluses for at least the next decade. The fiscal discipline enforced by the Republican Congresses since 1995 has now borne fruit.

The primary challenge now facing Congress is preventing a return to the days of deficit spending and rising debt. The FY 02 budget resolution accomplishes this and sets high but reachable goals in the areas of debt repayment and tax reduction.

In terms of debt reduction, this resolution provides for the unprecedented amount of \$2.3 trillion over the next ten years, representing the maximum amount that can be retired without incurring penalties. The retirement of this substantial amount of debt will result in lower interest payment each year over the coming decade. The interest savings can then be redirected towards pressing needs or unforeseen emergencies. Moreover, the retirement of public debt will also lead to lower interest rates as it becomes "cheaper" for the Government to borrow money.

The resolution also provides for some much needed tax relief for American families. It allows taxpayers to keep roughly one-fourth of projected budget surpluses over the next ten years (28.9 percent of \$5.61 trillion) through lower tax bills for all taxpayers.

Overall, taxpayers will keep at least \$1.62 trillion of their earnings over the next ten years. This will be achieved primarily through four separate pieces of legislation, each accomplishing the following: retroactive marginal rate reductions, doubling the child tax credit, providing relief from the marriage penalty, and eliminating the death tax.

In terms of funding requirements, the resolution provides for many Government programs that have critical underfunded needs. Education, Medicare, Social Security, defense, and veterans. For example, it provides a 4 percent (over \$5.7 billion) increase in defense spending to increase military pay, improve troop housing and extend additional health benefits to military retirees.

The budget provides a historic 12 percent increase in veterans spending for FY 2002 to address the underfunded needs, especially in

March 29, 2001

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

5135

the field of veterans health care, of those who served our Nation. This is a refreshing change from the veterans budgets of years past, which were often flatlined or contained only minimal increases.

The budget contains new spending authority of \$153 billion for Medicare modernization, including the addition of a prescription drug benefit, and provides a reserve fund if additional Medicare modernization funds are needed. The Medicare program is in need of a major overhaul, both to reign in overall costs, and bring its benefits package more in line with 21st century health care. This budget resolution starts that process.

I am encouraged to see that this budget includes significant increases for the Department of Education, specifically, an increase for program spending of 11.5 percent for FY 2002. The budget calls for a number of in-

creases to programs including an increase of \$1 billion for Pell grants, a "reading first" initiative to strengthen early reading education, annual math and reading testing for grades 3 through 8 and a tax deduction to help teachers defray the costs associated with out of pocket classroom expenses. Although I support the majority of the budget's proposals, I am concerned with the school choice option, that will funnel Federal funds from public schools to private and religious schools and the streamlining and consolidation of a number of Federal education programs that may be lost in the shuffle.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the budget is consistent with the provisions of H.R. 2, the Social Security and Medicare Lock-Box Act of 2001, which passed the House earlier this year. This act creates a point of order against legislation that reduces the total unified surplus below the

combined total of the Social Security Trust Fund surplus and the Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund surplus. Consequently, the measure creates a procedural "lock-box" protecting the Social Security and Medicare surpluses from being used for any purpose other than debt reduction until the enactment of Social Security and Medicare reform legislation.

This is a responsible budget resolution. It preserves the integrity of the Social Security and Medicare systems, makes necessary investments in Medicare, education, national security and veterans health care, provides for appropriate tax relief, pays down an unprecedented level of public debt, and sets aside a prudent reserve fund for unforeseen emergencies. For these reasons, I intend to support it, and urge my colleagues to do the same.