

SEEK HEALTH BUDGET BOOST

Legislators Asked to Grant Increase

The appropriations committee has returned to the House a bill asking for an annual increase of \$100,000 to the state department of public health with the recommendation that it "do pass." In the face of a determined economy program the director of the budget, with the approval of the Governor, endorsed the bill on the grounds that an expansion of public health service will result in distinct economy in the long run. Parsimony in connection with this important official activity, according to administration leaders, amounts to wastage rather than saving.

Chicago, it was pointed out, has become the healthiest big city in the United States through efficient public health work. The entire state can enjoy a similar record by the same means. For three successive years the death rate in Chicago has been lower than that for the down-state whereas it was formerly always greater.

More Than Pays Way

"Health work more than pays its way," declared Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, state health director, in commenting on the bill. "Two decades ago, for example, typhoid fever caused 20,000 more cases of illness per year in Illinois than it does now, and 20,000 cases of typhoid would cost \$2,000,000 in cold cash. Typhoid would come back but for the vigilance of the health department that now asks for a total appropriation of half a million dollars annually.

"Another example is diphtheria. This disease now causes an average of 10,000 cases and 100 fatalities annually. Sufficient public health service would eliminate this malady because it is positively preventable.

"Illinois now spends less than 7 cents per capita per year for public health service compared with 27 in Massachusetts, 25 in Pennsylvania and 14 in New York. The little state of Maryland employs 10 field physicians to serve 716,000 people while Illinois employs seven field physicians to serve over 3,000,000 people, the down-state population.

Need More Physicians

"The \$100,000 increase is requested for the purpose of enlarging the number of district health superintendents from 25 to 35. In other words it would provide a public health field physician for each group of four instead of 11 counties. In many sections of the state these field physicians represent the only active public health service that is carried on. One active health superintendent for 11 counties is on a par with one fire engine for a dozen towns. Neither can be in but one place at a time while trouble is likely to start in a dozen places simultaneously.

"The proposed increase is a very modest request in view of the value of the service that it will provide."

Students Subscribe \$50 Toward Tornado Relief

Students of New Trier high school took up a collection for the relief of tornado sufferers in southern Illinois Thursday noon of last week. The work of collection was undertaken by the Girls' club and nearly \$50 was raised. The money was forwarded to the Chicago Daily Tribune relief fund as New Trier's part in helping the victims of the disaster.

Students to Witness Life Saving Methods

New Trier high school students will have the opportunity of witnessing a junior life-saving demonstration in the tank room of the gymnasium this afternoon when J. S. Law, new director of life-saving for the Chicago chapter of the American Red Cross, will give an exhibition.

The purpose of this is to stimulate interest among the students in learning how to swim and how to save another person's life, if the occasion arises.

A similar demonstration, given last year at about this time, created much enthusiasm among the boys and girls of the school. Many useful things were demonstrated, such as how to float, how to approach a drowning man, what holds to use, the method of breaking his death grips, the way to tow him ashore, and the like.

Mr. Law will be in Chicago from March 24 to 28 inclusive, at which time he will give life saving demonstrations to different schools.

Mr. Law will be assisted by some of the girls and boys of the school who are taking up such work.

Caesar Picture Thrills Audience at New Trier

"Julius Caesar," the Italian film depicting the life of that hero of ancient Rome, was shown at New Trier high school Tuesday under the auspices of the Latin department of the school.

The film was made in Italy. The cast was headed by Anthony Novelli, because of his resemblance to the great man, and is said to include 20,000 persons. It was given a very enthusiastic reception by the students.

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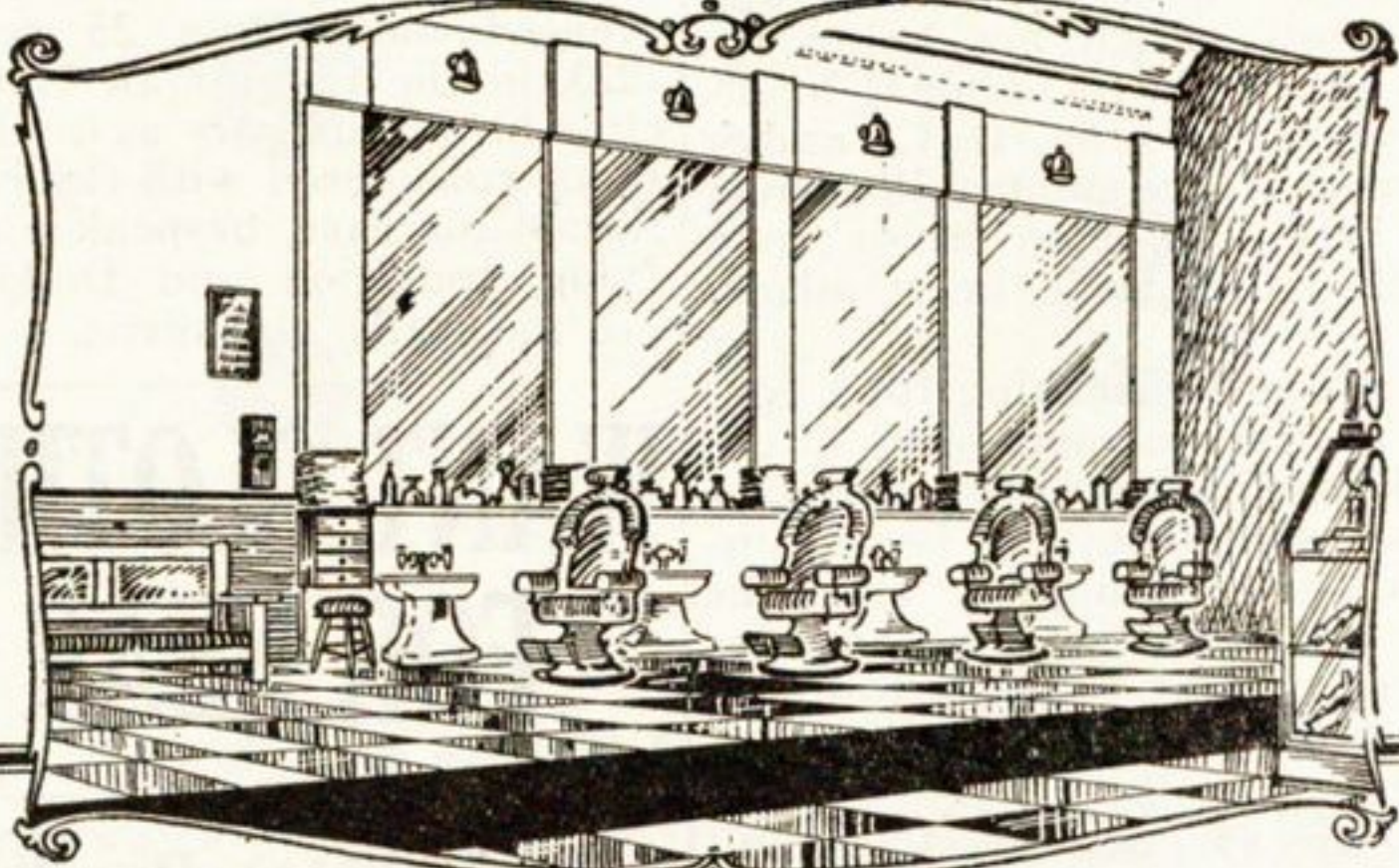
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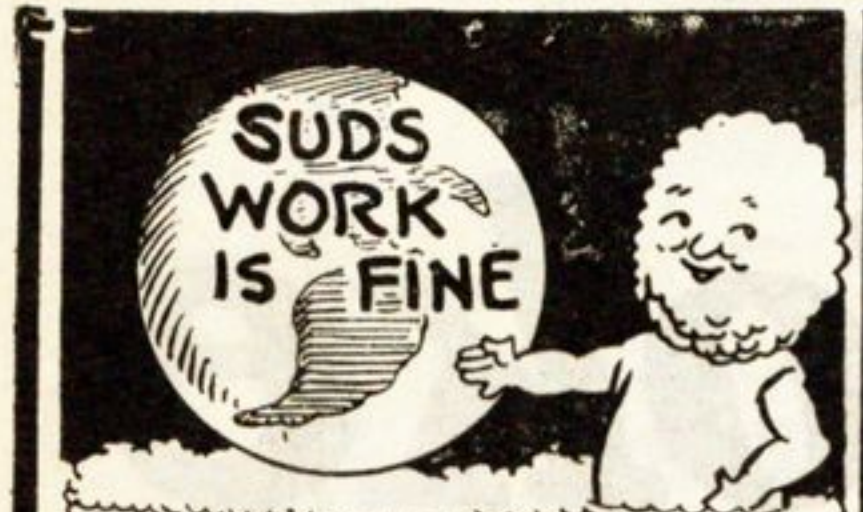
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