

BIRMINGHAM
MAR 20
7 PM
1951
ALA.

AIR MAIL
6¢
Remember - Only you
PREVENT
U.S. POSTAGE
FOREST FIRE

RECEIVED
MAR 22 1951
C. & R.
V. A. HOSPITAL
Houston, Texas

Mr Elmer Key Sanders
2002 Lakewood Drive
Houston
Texas

V.A. Hospital.

Sanders Pike Road
2745-
Birmingham
Ala.

Home - Tuesday

New E. R.

Just a note with
enclosures - Gustav's
last note was post
marked New York.

I was interested in
an article in Fortune -
dissecting causes for cities
New York. says Fortune
sells ideas - etc.

Texas it says - is great
in producing wealth.

Boyle could be used
to describe - like N. Y. &
Houston ^{2. say} - So glad
you are meeting
folks & making
friends - you are

so charming that
this is easy. Saw
some people at lunch
recently - who asked
about my Sweet Son
also Smart Son. I
could have said.

Remember when
you said this V. Sa.
Med. setup would be
the start of Gen. Med.

I begin to see refer^s
ence to a plan to ^{2.12.5}
combine all Med
services to Sat Service
men & ex service men.
This huge V.A. Hospital
program. would
be the core. I guess.
Could you be frozen
in your job? if so.

Mrs. William Francis Cutten

Sun. night

Jones -

Tomorrow I'ant to Phil-
delphia & back w one of the gals who
is going down to the dentist. I
shall chiefly browse in the drapery
fabrics etc. + a studio couch for
the den. Fri. we plan to go to
nyc + spend the night + look at
EK's present things to us -
amplifier etc. for our music +
drapery stuff etc. - Sue a fun!

Bill is getting over his flu
in good shape - a little hoarse -
ness but we are trying to clear

it up with a fair degree of success.

Mon PM

Good day in Phila - not too
rewarding in what I actually
accomplished but looked a lot ^{at}
some ideas & bought myself a
pair of comfy walking shoes.

Today I'm in a dither of
color - trying to get the
decided in den - kitchen
color scheme.

Muriel & Tim will probably
be here this weekend & sleep in
W. go. apt. - Tim is looking at
college campuses.

Be sweet

All our love

BV S

Hospital row between veterans and president breaks out anew

WASHINGTON, March 15—(P)—The long-standing disagreement between some members of Congress and President Truman over the Veterans Hospital program has broken out again.

The House veterans committee Tuesday approved a bill to direct the president to permit construction of new VA Hospitals and additions

to others that would add 16,000 beds.

Mr. Truman cut back the program by 16,000 beds late in 1948 because, he said, the additional capacity was not needed and because of difficulties in staffing the facilities.

A spokesman for the Veterans Administration said Wednesday that even if Mr. Truman changed his mind and ordered the facilities built he didn't see how doctors and other personnel could be obtained.

He said that with the drafting of young doctors because of the Korean war the VA is unable at the moment to staff completely the hospitals already constructed.

THE BILL approved by the veterans committee Tuesday is virtually identical to one passed by the House in the last Congress. That measure died in the Senate.

Approval of the present bill by both houses would not assure restoration of the cut-back because Mr. Truman would also have to approve it.

Unless he has changed his mind, it seems probable that he would veto such a measure. These are the hospitals that were eliminated by the president's cut-back order and which the bill would order constructed:

Americus, Ga., 250 beds; Charlotte, N. C., 500; Chattanooga, Tenn., 500; Columbia, S. C., 200 bed addition; Decatur, Ill., 250; Detroit, 500; Duluth, Minn., 200; El Paso, Tex., 500; Gainesville, Fla., 1,000; Grand Rapids, Mich., 200; Greenville, S. C., 200; Harrisburg, Pa., 200; Houston, Tex., 1,000; Klamath Falls, Ore., 200; Memphis, Tenn., 1,000; Mound Bayou, Miss., 200; New York City, 1,000; Norman, Okla., 750; Salisbury, N. C., 921; San Diego, Calif., 200; Tallahassee, Fla., 100; Thomasville, Ga., 100; Toledo, Ohio, 1,000; Tubelo, Miss., 200.

IN ADDITION, the Atlanta, Ga., hospital which was ordered cut back from 750 to 500 beds, has been eliminated entirely. This elimination occurred last year when the president ordered the VA to take over the Army's Oliver General

Billion miles of safety

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 15—(P)—Chicago & Southern Air Lines reported today that it had com-
safe fly-

Hospital at Augusta, Ga.

These are the hospitals that the president ordered reduced in size and which the bill would restore to original size:

Chicago, from 1,000 to 500; Cincinnati, 750 to 500; Cleveland from 1,000 to 500; Cleveland neuropsychiatric from 1,250 to 1,000; Kansas City, Mo., from 745 to 500; Louisville, Ky., from 750 to 500; Pittsburgh from 1,200 to 750; Pittsburgh neuropsychiatric from 1,250 to 750; St. Louis from 1,000 to 500; Syracuse, N. Y., 1,000; Washington, D. C., from 1,000 to 500.

Big Job Awaits Med College Dean

BY ANDREW GLAZE JR.

What kind of school will Dean J. J. Durrett run? That's the big question today at the Medical College of Alabama here.

One thing is certain: The long-time public health worker, whose appointment to dean was announced Saturday, will be greeted with open arms by most of the medical college workers.

Many problems have piled up at the school since the death of the late Dean Roy R. Kracke last Summer.

The new dean is an administrator, and is expected to strengthen the administrative weak spot of the medical college set-up. It also was pointed out yesterday by one faculty member that Dr. Durrett is "not a practicing physician. He won't be afraid to say what he thinks and do a good public relations job for the medical college."

"Since the death of Dr. Kracke the school has been handicapped in getting its case before the public."

He Leaves Federal Job

Dr. Durrett has been medical director of the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, and is retiring from that position to take the deanship.

A native of Tuscaloosa County and a graduate of the University of Alabama, he is expected to understand local problems.

Dr. George Denison, city-county health officer, said, "Naturally we are delighted to have someone at the medical college who understands public health problems. I have known Dr. Durrett many years. He is a fine administrator."

Dr. Durrett was public health officer for Memphis from 1920 to 1928. At the same time he taught public health in the University of Tennessee Medical College.

He attended the Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1914. After graduating he was health officer for Tuscaloosa County for three years. He was an officer in the U. S. Public Health Service from 1917-19.

He also has been head of the Federal Food and Drug Division's work on purity in drugs and chairman of a research committee for



DR. DURRETT

E. R. Squibb. He planned research for the nationally known drug manufacturers.

Expected Here Later

Dr. Durrett was expected in Birmingham between May 15 and June 15. He will face an enormous job at the comparatively new medical college.

First will come the physical problem of moving into the new basic sciences building nearing completion across the street from Jefferson-Hillman. This will involve rearranging of departments in the space vacated at Hillman and Jefferson.

A back-breaking problem will be the continuing financial drain of Jefferson-Hillman Hospital. Although the Legislature is being

asked for funds to put the medical college and hospital on a less shaky basis, no one at the medical center is counting the money.

There are numerous problems of morale and administration at the medical center which badly need attention.

Looming in the near future still are more urgent problems. The Legislature is being asked to provide funds to expand the medical college. This would involve finding new teachers and teaching facilities.

If the Legislature approves funds for aid to indigent patients on a state-wide basis, the dean will have to work out the medical college's role with Montgomery.

Will Supervise Expansion

There are schools for training of anesthetists, X-ray technicians, and laboratory technicians at the medical college. The dean will be charged with any expansion in these facilities. The late Dr. Kracke believed that these schools should be greatly increased in size.

The vast Veteran's Hospital probably will open in early 1952 at the medical center. The new dean will have to find medical personnel to staff the 600-bed Jefferson-Hillman Hospital plus the new veteran's hospital. The new institution is expected to put a heavy drain on nurses and technicians of all hos-

pitals in Birmingham. The veteran's administration pays higher salaries than any hospital in Birmingham.

Medical Group To Hear Texan

The vice president in charge of the University of Texas medical branch will speak in Birmingham Thursday night.

Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, of Galveston, will speak on "The Peculiar Psychology of Scientific Standards." He will speak to the local branch of Sigma Xi, national science organization.

The public is invited. The meeting will be at Hillman Auditorium at 8 p.m.

Thurs. A.M.

TR.MK. REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

Dear Loues -

The beautiful
 shirt for B. arrived
 yesterday + we both just
love it - only I feel like
 a dog suggesting you get
 it + then your up +
giving them both to me -
 they are so extra special -
 I have just lived in
 mine -

Friday A.M.

I started this
 yesterday as I sat
 waiting for hardware
 for some cupboards

in the house - you
were right - the
wool shirt is per-
fect for the sort of
tearing around I
have to do. Thank

you so much - for
both of us. B is
so pleased.

We are en route
to NYC to shop -
F&S things to us -
studio couch - look
at fabrics, etc. -
home tomorrow.

③

I expect Muriel & Kevin
for Sat night & Sun - they'll
Christen the Wyo. and
Kim wants to look
colleges

over some vacation,
during his had snow

So you've had snow
& after blossoms are
out. We had some
yesterday but it's all
gone now.

no Studebaker yet
for B. - we've got
Biley on the road again
this & that makes me

(4)

mobile. B's old Stud-
baker is in such bad
shape that he's using
the Plymouth.

Will stay at King

Crown & probably call

to see Martha & Wallace

Living on Long Island

tonight - or somebody

More later - be

Sweet - love to

you both
B & S

How was a & a?