# MEDICAL L.T. Directo Fisher Wed. aug. 11th 65

From the American Medical Association - a long-awaited policy statement today - on the government's new Medicare program.

The AMA noting that individual physicians can refuse to accept Medicare patients - if they do it on their own.

Warning, however, that if medical organizations refuse to cooperate in the program - they may haxim violation of Federal anti-trust laws.

Its own aim - said the AMA - will be that of offering "advice and guidance" to the government. In order to provide benefits to patients "in the most meaningful manner" - "with a minimum of disturbance and inconvenience to the medical profession." That - from the AMA.

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A thunderous roar followed by sudden death today -- high in the Chilean Andes. Five men killed instantly -- when a massive avalanche crushed the building in which they were living -- at Portillo, the most famous Ski Resort in South America -- A owned and operated by two New Yorkers. One, Richard Aldrich of the Standard Oil family. Two of the dead are identified as Americans. All of the members of the Portillo ski patrol.

The buried building -- a new annex built to house an expected overflow of skiers. During the World Ski

Championships -- the FIS -- set for next year at Portillo.

In fact, a U.S. ski team and several European squads were already on hand for test runs on the Portillo slopes.

Chilean officials emphasizing however -- that the dead were not members of any international team. The Portillo area, especially some of the region thru which you pass on the way to Portillo, is known for its avalanches.

In Viet Nam - a massive government rescue force - drove today to within a mile of beleaguerred Where a U.S. Special Forces camp - has been under continuous siege by the Communist Viet Cong.

Fierce bombardment by American warplanes apparently dispersing an attacking force of guerillas, That threatened for a time - to split the relief column spectrouts in two.

Far to the south - the first all-Australian fighting men With the bars from the down-under - sweeping Commando-style through Ten villages suspected of harboring the Viet Cong, In that dreaded Zone D -

for Death.

GENEVA.

Russia today dropped a welcome bombshell -- at that

Geneva Disarmament Conference, by declaring itself ready

and willing to negotiate a new disarmament agreement with

the West -- right now -- regardless of the war in Viet Nam.

Said Soviet Delegate Tsarapkin: "We are not eager -to bind the two issues together "because "then," said he,
"we would have nothing -- but permanent stalemate."

First hopeful sign of potential progress at Geneva, after long weeks -- of disappointment.

The State of Massachusetts today declared a state of emergency Greater Boston' - because of the continuing drought along the East Coast. The decree placing mandatory restrictions on the use of water - in Thirty-four communities in the Boston area, Vollowing the breakdown - of voluntary controls.

As of now - Bostonians, forbidden from using water to sprinkle their lawns, to wash their cars, to fill their swimming pools - or for any other non-essential use. Controls much the same as those in effect in New York - all summer long.

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#### WATER FOLLOW BOSTON

This related item - from the White House. The President today signing legislation - to launch a crash program of research into the desalination of sea water.

At the same time - predicting a major breakthrough in this vital field - no later than Nineteen-Seventy.

The project - of world-wide importance - said

the President. Because the desalination of sea water 
"at a price we can afford" - could well be one of

history's greatest contributions to world peace.

### URBAN

The Senate today joined the House - in approving a bill to establish a new Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, Thereby assuring creation of the first new Cabinet post - since Nineteen-fifty-three.

The man most likely to head the new department said to be Robert C. Weaver - present administrator of
the Housing and Home Finance Agency. If so - he
would be the first Negro - ever to hold a Cabinet
position.

### ADD URBAN

A short time later - the Senate also approved the nomination of Abe Fortas - as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Also that of John W. Gardner - as the new Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. And finally - it voted its unanimous approval - of that proposed billion-dollar military pay raise.

## RESERVES FOLLOW URBAN

Across Capitol Hill The House Armed Forces Subcommittee - today

rejected by a vote of Eight-to-One - that planned merger

between the Army Reserves and the National Guard.

Thereby killing the Administration proposal - at least

for the current session of Congress.

The merger - not in the national interest - said the Subcommittee. Because it would "result in an immediate and serious loss in the combat readiness - of the affected reserve units."

The case for death - advanced today by

Dr. Charles Mayo. Head of the famed Mayo Clinic and

Foundation - at Rochester, Minnesota: Who asserts

that the time has come - to let the incurable patient die

in peace.

Dr. Mayo citing the case of his own uncle - a founder of the Mayo Clinic, Who was a victim of incurable cancer - but refused all treatment that would have prolonged his life - and also his agony.

"People of sound mind - have the right to make this decision" - said Dr. Mayo. Because they have "as where the right to die - as the right to live."

CUPID.

The story of how President Johnson inadvertently played cupid -- disclosed today in Detroit, with the announced engagement of Susan Scholle -- to John T. Conner Junior.

Miss Scholle -- the daughter of Gus Scholle. Michigan's top labor union official -- and a frequent critic of big business. Her fiance -- the son of Commerce Secretary John Connor -- who headed a big pharmaceutical firm before his call to government service.

Nuptials set for sometime soon -- say the happy couple.

A true-life wedding of labor and management -- that could happen --said Miss Scholle -- "only in America."

The couple strangers on opposite sides of the fence -so it seems -- until they met at the President's inaugural
ball -- and there discovered they were first-year classmates
at the Harvard Law School. One thing leading to another -and another -- Warren -- until John said to Susan: "will
you be mine?"

BUNNY.

This next -- from Detroit. A local insurance man -suing the local Playboy Club for Thirty-five thousand
dollars, on the grounds that a sexy waitress -- dressed
as a bunny -- pressed too close to him while serving a
drink. And as a result -- stuck him in the eys -- with
one of her rabbit ears.

A little attention -- most welcome -- said the plaintiff.

But he got too much of an eyeful of that Bunny.

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