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1952

Campaign

I do, however, question his judgment in this particular instance + I would like to ask him a question.

Doctor, if a patient came to you + he suspected he had a cancer, could you, by just looking at him give him a "yes" or "no" answer to his question? Or would ~~say~~ call for an examination + give him various tests before you made your final diagnosis + came up with your answer?

As a layman, Doctor, I believe you would follow the latter course, would you not? And yet you ~~do not~~ <sup>are loath</sup> to credit me with sense enough to follow a similar procedure in my study of a bill which I am duty bound to examine + apply various tests to before I can make my final diagnosis + arrive at <sup>a fair</sup> ~~my own~~ decision.

Do you remember, Doctor, a letter you wrote me on March 11, 1950, in which you said:

"I am, of course, aware of the fact that legislators are constantly bombarded by pressure groups, but to me a legislator has a greater responsibility than just voting with the majority. He should study both sides of a question + base his decision on whether or not a measure is to the best interest of this country + its people as a whole + not whether it is for the benefit of himself or any particular group of individuals."

Do you recall, Doctor, my answer to you of Mar. 15, '50  
wherein I said:

"You are right when you refer to the pressures  
which are constantly bombarding legislators. This  
trend is getting to be more terrific as time goes  
on + the only thing that surprises me is that the  
Members are able to hold up as well as they  
do under the stress + strain of political life".

Doctor, I want you + the people of Montana to know  
that I will not bow to pressure from any source - be  
it a person, an organization, or a corporation. When the  
people elected me to Congress they had faith in me + they  
trusted me to use my own best judgment. I have done my  
best to be worthy of ~~it~~ my trust + I have tried to justify  
the faith reposed in me.

Let me, in concluding this part of my speech, join  
with my friend, Senator Hunt of Wyoming - a dentist of distinction  
+ a man of integrity, who said <sup>in the Billings Gazette of April 26</sup> last April 25 in Dallas, Texas, that:

"Congress recognizes the problem of medical care  
for low-income families + we are waiting  
for + expecting a proposal from the medical  
profession."

Senator Hunt, like me, is opposed to "socialized  
medicine" + I concur fully in the statement just read. Do you?

⊗ I wish that to all questions I could give a straight yes or no answer. However, I ~~cannot~~ that would brand me as a fool who does not study a problem + as one whose thinking is done for him. There are many questions I cannot answer, even after long study, until the time comes for a vote — + I have never yet failed to stand up + be counted at that time.