

Medicate: Visualizing the Debate

Name: _____ Date: _____



This editorial cartoon by Gregor Duncan accompanied an Op-Ed piece in a March 1935 issue of *Life* magazine. The editorial, written in the midst of the Depression and before the passage of Social Security, took no position on which among a number of proposals for old age pensions, unemployment insurance, or health benefits was best, but called for action on a plan that would work. Ask students the following questions.

How does the drawing seem to anticipate current debates about the cost of Social Security and, to a greater extent, Medicare?



Look closely at the labeling on the pill bottle in the second cartoon. What point is the artist, Drew Sheneman, making about proposed cuts in the Medicare program?