

basic clinical medicine, mid-wifery, and public health. It equips a nurse to evaluate and handle many situations which a course in an ordinary nursing school does not do.

Dr. Rubin told the audience how his group in California had used the services of technicians and paramedical personnel for

many years. Their program is set up so that by the time the patient gets to the physician he has with him a file containing an extensive amount of data such as electrocardiogram and lab tests. He emphasized that this has not led to depersonalization of services but has left the physician more time to devote to his patient.

PANEL VI: PATTERNS OF FUTURE PRACTICE

Reporter - KEE CHEAH

CHAIRMAN: Dr. Blishen

PANELIST: Dr. Rice
Dr. Wilbur
Dr. Leighton

Dr. Blishen: There are many forces in and outside of Medicine which will mould the changes in the future practice of medicine. The panel will try to portray these forces and foresee the changes.

- (1) Dr. Rice will look at two factors: population changes, and supply of medical manpower.
- (2) Dr. Wilbur will next consider the tremendous growth of medical knowledge, and the problem of specialization.
- (3) Dr. Leighton will try to show how Psychiatry is becoming more interested in Public Health.

Dr. Rice said he wished to focus on four changes at the present time which he thought would necessitate a re-thinking and a re-organization of medical services to serve the public better.

(a) **Demographic or population changes.** In the coming decades, the Canadian population will be increasing rapidly, and this will cause an increased need for medical services. But, care would have to be taken that the services should be equal and available to all. Three kinds of Health care would result - rural, urban, and metropolitan. The rural services would consist of satellite facilities visited by regional physicians. The urban and metropolitan services would see group practices and municipal clinics flourish, with primary health care being taken over by paramedical personnel.

(b) **Increased demand by Society for better Medical care.** Increased affluence and better mass media communications would result in increased demands for medical care. A more health conscious and perhaps hypochondriac public, together with third-party payment of medical schemes, might lead to a fall in medical care standards unless special plans were drawn up.

(c) **Shortage of Medical manpower:** Increases in the enrollment in medical schools seems to be offset by the increasing need for physicians in many fields. A solution would be to make more use of paramedical personnel, in handling the more technical side of medical practice.

(d) **Changes in medical education** must be suited to producing the correct type of physician needed by the populations of the future.

Dr. Wilbur spoke mainly of the U.S.A. Huge sums of money are being spent on health in the U.S.A. annually, but still medical care is not currently available to many groups of people there, probably the people who need it most.

Medical care can be likened to a four-legged stool, whose four legs are knowledge, finances, manpower, and facilities. The stool must be stable, i.e. the amount of money spent should be proportionate to the knowledge known, etc. Right now, the four legs of the stool seem to be growing independently of one another.

Dr. Wilbur contends that the head of the "Medical Committee" or "team" serving the patient should be a generalist-physician, with ultimate powers in directing care.

Dr. Leighton: Psychiatry is more than ever moving right into the central field of medicine, and becoming more concerned with Public Health. With the age trend of the population shifting upwards, psychiatry has become more and more related to general medicine, and also has developed closer links with non-medical workers, e.g. social

workers. The outcome of these developments can be outlined as follows:

- (a) Groups practice is increasing, and psychiatrists will be playing an ever growing role in these groups.
- (b) Paramedical personnel will become more important.
- (c) The Public Health concept of the future will be the Health centre, which will embody community health of every type; research, and medical education.

Compliments

MARITIME TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.

A Complete Travel Service

AMERICAN EXPRESS

REPRESENTATIVE

1704 Granville St.

Phone 422-4441



Lamplite Lodge

1467 South Park Street, Halifax, N. S.
(Near Corner Spring Garden Road)

Proprietor — Margaret Speed

Superior homelike accommodations

Double and Single Rooms—Private Baths, T.V.'s

Continental Breakfast—On the House!

Telephone 423-8078

THE UNIFORM SHOP

Lord Nelson Arcade

5675 Spring Garden Road

"Where Your Professional Appearance Matters"

Men's and Ladies' Uniforms

Phone 423-8798

Halifax, Nova Scotia