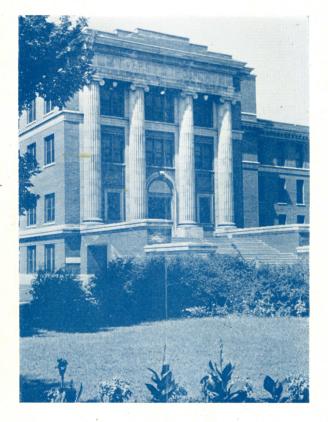
University of Nebraska News

The College of Medicine



PAST
PRESENT
and
FUTURE

The MEDICAL COLLEGE

is Indispensable to the state

In the past the people of Nebraska realizing the supreme importance of education were prompt to organize a University. The enthusiastic enterprise shown by the vigorous new state attracted scholars from far and wide. The University grew and prospered, soon attained an enviable place among state universities. Obviously one of the paramount needs of Nebraska was well trained doctors, and the medical college shared and participated in the University's growth and high attainments.

In the present the medical college fulfills a triple role. Its first purpose is to give the best possible training in all the many branches of medicine to an adequate number of students. Secondly, through the University Hospital, it serves the needs of those people from all counties in the state needing special medical care and which, for pecuniary reasons, they are unable to obtain in their own communities. These patients enjoy great advantages. They receive gratis the services of more than a hundred highly skilled physicians who donate their services to the sick people of Nebraska. The care of these patients by these men illustrates to the student-body the art and science of medicine and surgery in all its numerous phases. These men, though extremely busy in their private practices, give their time to care for the indigent sick and to teach and train the students.



In the Laboratories.

The Importance of Scientific Investigation

The third role is sometimes forgotten. Yet it is one without which medicine would quickly become a mere technical trade, and lose its value to the community. The care of the sick would soon fall into the hands of quacks and charlatans. This third role is one of investigation. It involves the investigation of the causes of sickness, the investigation of remedies for sickness and the investigation of the means of prevention of sickness. No part of medicine demands greater skill or harder work. While the monetary rewards are slender, the rewards of achievement are enormous. It attracts only those with a burning thirst for knowledge. They constantly strive to discover something new, something better, something safer or more certain.

In the Wards.



An Important Home Front Fighter

In times of peace medicine engages in a perpetual war against disease and trauma. In times of war the fight is doubled in intensity. With a large proportion of the faculty engaged in active duty on the battlefronts the remainder is on active duty behind the lines. The medical faculty on the home front has been on constant duty without adequate rest since the beginning of the autumn 1941. The class now graduating has completed its training in three years instead of four. The student body and faculty, though sometimes weary, are proud and willing to continue to do their utmost until victory is won. If, viewing medical training in the past and present, we in Nebraska are inclined to be complacent, we certainly must not be so with regards to tomorrow.

For the future will insist on higher standards of technical skill and more comprehensive knowledge. In all scientific fields the rate of progress shows yearly acceleration. In order to continue to give the state the best possible training in medicine all of the above three roles must not only be maintained but improved. Especially the last—the role of investigation. Medicine has become so vast and complex that it has inevitably given rise to separate fields of specialization.

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