

14066 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

Today the education of medical students is under the control of universities and customarily consists of a four-year curriculum, at the end of which the student receives his M.D. degree. A century ago, however, there were, in addition to university-based medical schools, a number of private trade schools training physicians. Because of the low professional competence of the graduates of these trade schools, the training of physicians became a national scandal early in the 1900's. After publication of the Flexner report in 1910, medical education came under the full control of universities; thus nearly every physician now in practice in this country was trained at a university as a medical student.

The second great advance in medical education in this century was the development of full-time faculties in medical schools. This has occurred as a result of our national investment in biomedical research and training since World War II. Today's medical student thus graduates with a rich and broad education in medical science after a four-year exposure to university faculties dedicated to teaching, patient care, and medical research. In such an environment professional competence, commitment to scientific principles, high personal standards are emphasized as the physician's primary and necessary attributes.

After graduation from medical school, the modern physician then takes several additional years of training in a medical speciality or in