

Mr. SKUBITZ. Maybe too many doctors are going just into the field of research and not enough into the practice of medicine. Maybe we should make some changes in this field. What do you think?

Dr. SODEMAN. Personally, I do not think so, sir. I think that we need those that we have in research at the present time and we are not increasing this component out of reason.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Well, Doctor, in 1967 there were 7,743 graduates. How many of them would you say went into the field of practicing medicine, how many into the field of research, how many into teaching, and how many employed by government and industry?

Dr. SODEMAN. Perhaps Dr. Ruhe has some figures. I can give an educated guess, if he does not have the figures.

Dr. RUHE. We do not have those figures because as you may be aware, it is some years after the man graduates from medical school before what he finally does is determined. He has of course, 2 years of compulsory military service. He has several years generally of graduate education at the internship and residency level.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Can you take any one year, I do not care what year you take, 1961, 1962, 1967, and give us a breakdown of just how many doctors actually go out into the field and practice medicine and how many go into the field of research and how many stay in teaching, and so forth? You know, I have a feeling, Doctor, that a lot of graduates are like Congressmen and Government employees. They get accustomed to a paycheck. When they get out of college, they get into the research field until they can earn a little money but they stay in this field. They never want to get out and practice medicine.

Mr. NELSEN. Off the record.
(Discussion off the record.)

Dr. RUHE. Actually, the percentage that go into research as a major activity is still quite small. Based on informal estimates, it is running somewhere between 5 and 8 percent of our graduating classes. In terms of our numbers of total physicians, the active physicians as they identify their activities, the number really is quite small that identify themselves as being with research as their major activity. As of December 31, 1967, out of 294,000 active physicians in this country, only 4,600 classified themselves—

Mr. SKUBITZ. I am interested in classes. How many of our graduates immediately start practicing medicine or into research or teaching or become salaried doctors in industry? Would you provide this information?

Dr. RUHE. Yes; we certainly can supply that information.
(The information requested appears on p. 303.)

Mr. SKUBITZ. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JARMAN. Are there further questions? Gentlemen, we very much appreciate your taking the time to be with us and to add to the record of the hearing on this important bill.

Dr. SODEMAN. Mr. Chairman, may I express the thanks of all three of us for your kindnesses to us.

Mr. JARMAN. Our next witness is our colleague, the Honorable William T. Cahill, of New Jersey, who will make a personal presentation.