

Mr. ROGERS. Let me ask you this. Do you use the doctors in the hospital as instructors?

Mr. BLAIR. I would say only to a minimum extent. Formerly, the doctor was a very prominent part of the faculty, but over the last 15 years this role has been just about reversed. He provides, normally, lectures on very specific points, but the lectures are overwhelmingly provided by the faculty of the school of nursing or by the faculty members of the college with which the school may have an association for basic science and general education.

Mr. ROGERS. Well, then, your instructors, there, for instance, you have your nurse instructors—

Mr. BLAIR. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Would they also do hospital work or would they devote their time exclusively to—

Mr. BLAIR. No. They are fulltime.

Mr. ROGERS. I see. All right. Any questions?

Mr. SKUBITZ. Mr. Blair, insofar as nursing schools are concerned, my education has been sadly neglected. I would like to ask you a few questions about them.

Mr. BLAIR. Please do.

Mr. SKUBITZ. How many years does a student attend nursing school before she can graduate?

Mr. BLAIR. Well, this depends upon the school. At present there are nursing education programs and associate degree programs which involve residence requirement of about 21 months, two academic years and the intervening summer. There are some two-calendar year programs, there are some of these sponsored by hospitals. Hospitals also sponsor—have curricula involving three academic years with the summers off. There are some that have two calendar years and then the third year being an academic year. There are those that have three calendar year programs.

Mr. SKUBITZ. What are the requirements to be a registered nurse?

Mr. BLAIR. The requirement is simply to pass this one State board examination which is the same examination given in all of the 50 jurisdictions.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Does the student usually have to attend school 2 or 3 years in order to—

Mr. BLAIR. This is governed by State law. Formerly, there was a pattern requiring 3-year residence. Now, I think all have probably reduced this to 2 years or graduate from an approved program.

Mr. SKUBITZ. How many hours does a student go into a classroom for instruction each day?

Mr. BLAIR. This will vary quite widely, I believe, also among the schools.

Mr. SKUBITZ. Well, is it a half a day or do they attend classes all day long?

Mr. BLAIR. Some days, yes. In our particular program, I think our faculty has in recent years developed what they call class days and as I understand it, I think all of their classes in a particular specialty, for example, may be given on 1 day and then their supervised clinical experience will occur on certain other days. I think there is a heavy emphasis on the didactic work during the first year, first portion, whatever it may be, and then a—something of a shift to emphasis on the