

Dr. MELTZER. That is a very specific reference. You refer to the internship—that refers to the psychological internship which the graduate student might take while he is a graduate student. What the section does, it says that the psychologist cannot count that experience towards the two years postgraduate experience that he must have before he can apply for a license.

Mr. GUDE. Section 3(D) speaks of the use of counseling and psychotherapy with individuals having problems in the area of work, et cetera. Is it not necessary for a person working in this area to have some knowledge of medicine, for example, for a person to have some knowledge of physical or organic change?

Dr. MELTZER. You are talking as to the training of the clinical psychologists?

Mr. GUDE. Yes, sir.

Dr. MELTZER. This is the pattern of training, to have the psychologist in training work closely in various medical fields. For example, in the five or six years, two and one-half years in the Veterans Administration working in the hospitals, in the out-patient clinics such as here in Baltimore and in Washington. This is one of the reasons, too, that we say to the psychologists, "You cannot offer yourselves to the public for a fee until three years after your degree, because you have to work in a setting which will prepare you for what you are trained to do under the supervision of other disciplines," and so forth.

In the training of a psychologist, he must do an internship. And these internships, invariably, are in medical institutions, in clinics, or in hospitals. Many of the courses are related to the same types. And for two years after the degree, the psychologist would not be able to practice independently. If this were the law, he would have to work under supervision.

Mr. GUDE. Do you think that this educational program, carried forward in a medical environment, is a guarantee under the terms of this requirement to have a degree in psychology?

Dr. MELTZER. I am talking about the specific parts of it, that is, the practical training, in addition to the work in the universities. Other types of psychologists, counseling psychologists, industrial psychologists very rarely see the medical part. The clinic psychologists, yes.

Mr. GUDE. Would this bill provide for the licensing of industrial psychologists?

Dr. MELTZER. Yes, it would.

Mr. GUDE. He would be able to engage in psychotherapy?

Dr. MELTZER. No, that is the situation. Right now at this moment, an industrial psychologist could practice psychotherapy in this city. He is not in violation of the law. He can be thrown out of the D.C. Psychological Society and be sued for malpractice, but he cannot be stopped. What this bill would do is to say that a psychological must practice within the purview of this authority, within the confines of the training in the areas of his competence, and if he steps over that line then we would remove his license and we could stop him. This makes sure that the industrial psychologist would not do so. He would be thrown out of the organization, which is all we can do now. And he is going to be unprincipled. If he is that will not mater.

Mr. GUDE. Where would this guarantee be?