

APPENDIX C

Principal Minority Report of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care

The authors of the minority report were all physicians except A.M. Schwitalla, who was a priest and president of the Catholic Hospital Association. The eight physicians who signed the minority report were also a minority of the physicians on the CCMC.

The principal minority group made several recommendations.

Government Competition

Government competition in medicine should be discontinued and its activities restricted to: care of the indigent and patients with diseases that could only be cared for in government institutions; promotion of public health; support of the medical departments of the army, navy, coast guard, and geodetic service, which have patients who, because of their location, cannot be served by the general medical profession; and care of veterans suffering from service-connected disabilities and illnesses, except for tuberculosis and nervous and mental diseases.

Care of the Indigent

Government care of the indigent should be expanded, with the ultimate object of relieving the medical profession of the burden.

Medical Service Appraisals

The minority concurs with the majority in recommending that state and local agencies study, evaluate, and coordinate medical services and give special attention to the coordination of rural and urban services.

General Practitioner

A concerted effort should be made to restore the general practitioner to a central place in medical practice.

Corporate Medicine

The corporate practice of medicine, being financed through intermediary agencies, should be vigorously and persistently opposed as being economically wasteful, inimical to

the continued and sustained high quality of medical care, and unfairly exploitative of the medical profession.

Careful Trial

New methods should be given a careful trial that can be fitted into present institutions and agencies without "interfering with the fundamentals of medical practice."

Planning by Medical Societies

State and county medical societies should develop plans for medical care.

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