

The only medical school in Kentucky is maintained at the University of Louisville, a municipal institution. The resources of the University of Louisville are inadequate to maintain an effective program of medical education without some State support. Should the Medical School of the University of Louisville be transferred to the University of Kentucky and given substantial State appropriations? Or should the University of Kentucky set up a second medical school with adequate support from state funds? Or should the University of Louisville become a State supported (and State controlled) institution for the purpose of medical education? These are among the alternatives that must be explored in making a final decision. There is no question about the need for the enlargement of opportunities for medical education in Kentucky. And whatever alternative is chosen, the cost will be large. The choice among the available alternatives involves fundamental decisions regarding the pattern of the State's organization for higher education.¹⁵

Further reference is made to this matter in the following language:

The time available for the work of this survey did not permit the analyses that would be required for a recommendation concerning the expansion of medical education facilities supported by State appropriations. The problem is so urgent, however, that a comprehensive study of it by some professionally competent body should be undertaken promptly. The University of Louisville, by the very nature of its resources, unassisted cannot provide either the quality or the quantity of medical education required to meet the needs of the Commonwealth.¹⁶

As suggested above, the establishment of a first-class medical school at the University of Kentucky will involve the state in large expenditures, but if such a school is to be built, there

¹⁵ *Public Higher Education in Kentucky*. The Division of Higher Education, U. S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., p. 5. A report to the Committee on Functions and Resources of State Government. Issued by the Legislative Research Commission as Research Publication 25, Frankfort, Kentucky, 1951.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 47.

should be no compromise with quality. The state needs a great center for medical research; it needs a post-graduate center to which the practicing physicians of the state may return for refresher courses, observation, special research, and clinical experience; and it needs further a large state hospital to which counties and cities may refer indigent patients, and which may serve, as well, to provide that scope and variety of clinical experience so badly needed by both practicing physicians and students in training. It is not implied, of course, that a state hospital would be for indigent patients only. On the contrary, it would have many paying patients. As a matter of fact, hospitals of this character in some states have been so managed as to be essentially self-supporting. One needs to visit the great medical centers such as are found at the University of Michigan, the University of Minnesota, the University of Iowa, or more recently, the University of Washington, to understand fully what is comprehended by a state-university medical school of quality.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that a medical school must not be built at the expense of other divisions of the University, or at the expense of the state colleges. The existing colleges of the University of Kentucky are not at present adequately financed. They need more money, not less; and the amounts needed in the future are likely to increase materially, rather than decrease.

If the state is to have the kind of medical school referred to above, it must expect to spend several million dollars for buildings and equipment over the course of the next 10 years, and it must be prepared as well to carry an annual operating cost of at least a half-million dollars when such a school is in operation. It will be necessary to think in terms of a medical sciences building to house laboratories, lecture rooms, and other instructional and research facilities; a state hospital of from 300 to 500 beds; several hundred thousand dollars worth of equipment; and an extensive medical library. The library would, of course, be housed in the medical sciences building, and it is