

Harvard School of Public Health alumni meeting
25 October 1967

define
important statistics

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

10-25-67

This has indeed been an eventful year for me with many new challenges ^{the joy of accomplishment} tempered by a large dose of sorrow related to the deaths of five of my patients & friends. The Apollo fire and its program impact has been followed by budget & personnel problems resulting from a struggle between the President and a Congress beset by multitudinous problems domestic & abroad. The final impact will be a slowing of our assault on space after the lunar program and it behooves us to plan & use this time wisely to prepare for the inevitable ~~(crash)~~ ^{with the force to} assault efforts we must mount to conquer this new frontier whose surface has barely been scratched. This subject is really for tomorrow though & tonight I'd like to share a few thoughts about what ^{the} HSPH has meant to me and some thoughts on current challenges ~~(not problems)~~ faced by all of us interested in man & his health.

The school taught me ^{or a physician} to look at health problems in a broad, "community" sense in addition to the concern for the ~~individual~~ ^{individual} with ill health. The recognition of potential problems & thus ^{the importance of} prevention was emphasized. ~~Preventive and predictive medicine are the foundations of my daily endeavors.~~ ^{Preventive medicine means all}

~~that attempt at~~ maintaining the individual in top functional condition and in the broader sense, ^{public health} ~~public health~~ ^{doing good for all} mankind. ~~Appar~~

Had ideas for new buildings at school.

- Center for Population Studies -

Storms camp - out.

No grades - characterization of each student instead.

~~PR activities - Kennedy & other students~~

There are, as all of you know, tremendous shortages of "medical" ^{personnel} & use it in quotes ~~to~~ ^{to} mean all the allied team members necessary to provide preventive or therapeutic care. These nationwide & indeed worldwide shortages are heightened by the increased demands for comprehensive medical care. It seems to me this makes good preventive medicine programs even more important, for we can't instantly create adequate comprehensive ~~therapeutic~~ ^{therapeutic} care personnel or facilities. We must be imaginative about methods too.

~~that of the~~ Computer & automatic diagnostic techniques should be mastered and used to provide ~~some~~ ^{with more} of the physician's time with the patient with ~~the~~ ^{some} knowledge already in hand. Computers are not "cure alls" as anyone who has been billed repeatedly ^{by such systems} knows. The "garbage in - garbage out" cliché still applies & we as humans must use the machines intelligently.

And finally I'd like to have you share my alarm at what I consider ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{most important} preventive medicine problems in our nation. ^{the press & in particular magazines} The press & ^{it's impossible to read} ~~you can hardly go~~ ^{anything} ~~anything~~ these days without reference to hippies, the unwashed society, & drugs. We are rapidly becoming a drugged society with pills for almost everything & obviously many other necessary.
 THE PILL has become a prime topic of conversation and

* Training received from Dr. Barker
+ much craves me to state I lack adequate
definition of the problem & reliable statistical incidence
figures, but the witness available is alarming.

a mother recently told her Dr she needed the ^{prescription} Rx filled for ~~THE~~ ^{PILL} because it really helped her sleep. Puzzled, Dr. said he didn't understand & showed her ^{the} brochure with ~~THE~~ ^{THE} PILLS composition & effects. She said, "well, I give it to my 16 yr. old daughter every day & I sleep better!"

Funny, but its also tragic.

They are trying to escape life's responsibilities & complexities & ^{old} public health problems are being revived in hippie hangout areas - The, Leptos, & V.D. ?
~~Anyone reading Rex Morgan knows they don't smell good.~~

There is a real preventive area. Houston has the ^{unenviable} record of being #1 in teen age venereal disease. #2 sub.

S.F. experienced age 19 - convulsions + I.V. amphetamines.
250 ^{micro} ~~micro~~gms dose LSD - trips for 2 years & warning.

S.T.P. worse. In impressed & frightened!

I'm no drug expert but I want to know the facts + intend to learn + use them.

Time to alert teens & parents ^{the} Broward Co. The Soc.
we must talk to kids in facts and they will listen. ^{in doing}

Don't normalize even though indicated.

Tobacco, Sex, Alcohol and drugs. - need ~~prevention~~
 programs ^{based on} for we have facts ^{signed at the papers.} I don't want my children
 doing any of these & one drug does lead to another -
 inevitable consequences. Let's not concerned!

I want my children to become adults with knowledge to evaluate the dire effects of such things used wrongly and I think use of one drug leads to another and eventually to injection whether due to the environment or other factors. As individuals trained in preventive medicine, let's get concerned, learn and help preserve our most valuable resource, our youth.