

were carried out on plans similar to that followed in the first study of medical education. They were efforts to evaluate current practices and to recommend lines of improvement.

Recently a rather extensive survey of engineering education was made under the auspices of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. This survey was "directed to a study of the objects of engineering education and the fitness of the present-day curriculum for preparing the student for his profession." It was designed to set forth the nature and the weakness of the curriculums in operation and to indicate such modifications or developments as would seem to make for sound, well-balanced, and fruitful courses of study for engineering students.

Practically all of the engineering schools were visited by one or more members of the survey staff, and the schools supplied extensive data on their curriculum policies and practices. Graduates of engineering schools, influential members of the principal national engineering societies, and engineering teachers, through questionnaires, contributed observations of the need for training in engineering, the value of the training available, and the reforms which should be made. On the basis of these facts and opinions an effort was made to appraise the curriculums in engineering and point the way of progress. The findings were reported in great detail in a document of more than a thousand pages.

The surveys mentioned exemplify the investigations which have been made to evaluate current practices and show how those practices should be improved. There have been a number of surveys of this general type. They have been productive of much good, and the progress of higher education owes much to them.

### 3. SURVEYS TO DEVISE CURRICULUMS

The second group of curriculum surveys are designed to establish in detail the content which should comprise curriculums. They are not much concerned with the curriculums offered by the schools. Rather, they seek, from a study of life situations, to discover the social needs which men and women attending a given type of educational institu-