

Senator Inman: What do the doctors think of having more general practitioners?

The Chairman: Earlier they said they were in favour of it, senator.

Dr. Bennett: We are, and we are increasing the availability of family practice units. Many of the graduates are being exposed to family practice, because, as you know, when you go through medical school you very rarely as a medical student come into contact with a family practitioner. You are with people who are in the teaching environment and who are not necessarily family practitioners. More and more medical schools are having family practice units where the practice of family medicine is carried on by family practitioners on an instructional basis within the academic environment. This is increasing in the institutions both in Canada and in United States.

I think it is fair to say that indications are—and I think this can be borne out by the College of Family Practice—that the swing to family practice is increasing, and more people are becoming interested in primary contact care.

Senator Inman: My grand parents' doctor, who was also my father's doctor, delivered me, and when anyone was sick and I sent for the doctor, the minute

he came in I felt that everything was going to be all right.

Dr. Cappon: We have determined that one of the great drawbacks to doctors becoming family practitioners—and we did not put this on the record—is the question of medical student selection. When you have got to make 80 to 85 per cent to get into Ontario medical schools, for instance, you have to be an introverted bookworm who is not much good in general practice, and they want you to have degrees and laboratory and medical facilities, but nothing to do with human beings. It is only when the selection process changes that you have the kind of persons who will be interested in people.

The Chairman: Doctor, may I on behalf of the committee suggest that you be our delegate to change that process, I felt that there was a great deal of room for change.

Let me on behalf of the committee say that this was a thoughtful brief. It took a lot of work, but the best part about it was the fact that you let us share with you some of your knowledge and some of your experience. You have given us some information and some idea of your problem, I am sure you realize the extent of our problem. On behalf of the committee, I thank you.

The committee adjourned.