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The Concept of Mainstream Medicine for All Californians—Part I Fifth Progress Report of the Committee on Role of Medicine in Society

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Abstract

This Fifth Progress Report is to be printed in three parts in *California Medicine*. Following the appearance of Part III the report will be bound in a pamphlet which may be ordered at $1 a copy from 693 Sutter Publications, Inc., 693 Sutter Street, San Francisco, California 94102.

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Medicine in Society

The Concept of Mainstream Medicine For All Californians

Fifth Progress Report of Committee On Role of Medicine in Society

PART I

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*"A profession has for its prime object the service it can render to humanity"**

THIS REPORT is presented as a logical sequel to the earlier progress reports of the Committee on the Role of Medicine in Society. Its thesis is that if "the American people are committed to a policy of one-class, one-door, high quality medical care available to all, to the limits of our resources, without discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color or economic circumstances," as Anne Somers has stated,† then by definition and de facto this can only be "mainstream medicine." This *Fifth Progress Report* therefore assumes that "mainstream medicine" as we know it today can and must undergo whatever changes are necessary for it to become the instrument through which the national purpose in health care will be achieved. This report will seek to analyze the present situation and to develop in broad outline some of the actions and programs which probably will be necessary in order to reach the goal of "Mainstream Medicine for All Californians."

The previous reports of the Committee provide much of the background upon which this study and its recommendations are based.

¶ **The First Progress Report** (March 1964) established goals for the Committee and recommended "that the policy of the California Medical Association and of the medical profession of the nation be that of assuring every individual of good medical care by doctors of medicine,

Committee on Role of Medicine in Society: Burt L. Davis, John B. Dillon, Sanford Feldman, Elmer F. Gooel, John T. Saidy, Marvin J. Shapiro, Malcolm C. Todd and Malcolm S. M. Watts, chairman; and, ex-officio, Henry V. Eastman and E. Kash Rose.

September 1969

**Percival's Medical Ethics*, edited by C. D. Leake, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, 1927, p. 257.

†Anne Somers, J. Med. Ed., 43:479, April 1968.

Selected References

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