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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 19, 1949.

KIEV INSTITUTE WORKS TO IMPROVE  
QUALITY OF DOCTORS

Prof. I. Kal'chenko, Director  
Kiev Inst for Improvement of Doctors

Efficient operation of institutes for the improvement of doctors depends, to a great extent, upon close cooperation with the various public health organizations. The staff of the Kiev Institute is fully cognizant of this fact and consequently sent a survey commission into the regions it serves to determine the needs of the populace.

The results of this first survey were rather disappointing. It was found that most of the local health agencies did not know how to make efficient use of the specialists they were obtaining from the Institute. As a means of overcoming this undesirable situation, the Institute compiled a file listing all the specialties of the doctors who had availed themselves of its improvement courses. They then had a ready file of specialists who could be called on to fill the needs of any region affiliated with the Institute. At the same time, the staff of the Institute conducted a survey to determine the type and number of specialists who were serving in the surrounding areas. Simultaneously they studied actual requirements of the area and were able to determine exactly what specialists were needed and where. At present, the Institute is also conducting a survey among tens of thousands of doctors in 11 oblasts.

During the past 3 years, the Institute has organized more than 60 ten-day courses and lectures in various parts of the area. The personnel assigned to this lecture circuit collected data on the therapeutic and prophylactic network in the rayon and oblast centers. In several cases, these circuit lecturers found unqualified doctors serving in specialists' billets. These doctors were immediately ordered to the Kiev Institute for more training. It was also found that many doctors would not perform even the simplest of operations and frequently sent patients many kilometers to other surgical centers. Severe corrective measures were instituted to overcome this tendency.

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All these facts compiled by the Kiev Institute aided the rayon and oblast health organizations.

Typical data collected is shown in the case of Chernigov Oblast, which was surveyed by Professor Morozovskiy of the Chair of Phthiziatriy. At the time of the survey there were 20 active specialists who had attended the improvement courses at the Kiev Institute. Twenty-eight should be sent to improvement courses, while 14 should attend courses to receive training in some primary specialty. Seven of the rayons have no phthiziatrists. The Institute then conferred with the oblast health agencies and determined methods for overcoming the various shortcomings in the oblasts. The first steps taken will be directed toward eliminating the lack of phthiziatrists. Much of this can be done by reassignment of available specialists, but in the long run it will be necessary to train new specialists.

The central methodological committee of the Institute has worked out schedules and plans of operation for the various specialties. Adoption of these has helped to increase the efficiency of specialist aid to the people.

The Soviet for the Professional Unions of the Kiev Institute has set before itself the task of providing every rural community in Kiev, Chernigov and Zhitomir oblast with a full complement of specialists by the end of this year.

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