

50th anniversary of the great reform of Chilean medical education (1945)

Cincuentenário de la gran reforma de la educación médica chilena (1945).

Cruz-Coke,

The author reminds the reform of medical education of 1945 in which he participated as a student. It was approved by the Decree #201 of april 2, introducing Chilean medicine into a new era of modernity. The reform was planned and conducted by professors Hernán Alessandri (1900-1980) and Alejandro Garretón (1900-1980) who proposed substantial modifications in the organization, methodology and contents of curricula. An active and formative medical teaching was imposed and scientific research was encouraged. The career lasted seven years and had 27 regular and five free courses. A Teaching Commission, with eleven professors and three students, was created to fulfill such reform during the deans-hips of Garretón and Alessandri. As a consequence of the reform, national medicine was modernized in the areas of public health and hospital assistance, since the number of professors, physicians and students increased in the new Faculties created in Valparaíso, Valdivia and Temuco. The teaching-as