

# Damas Urged To Spark Drive For Medical School

## Hospital Consultant Finds Need; Suggests Mayor Press For Committees

Mayor Damas was advised yesterday to spearhead a citizen effort to locate a medical school here.

Dr. Charles Letourneau, Chicago hospital consultant and director of Northwestern University's hospital administration department, who is making a survey of St. Vincent's Hospital, told Mr. Damas that talks with Toledo physicians and other citizens have convinced him a medical school is needed.

He suggested that the mayor lead in forming committees of professional, social, civic and business groups to promote a medical school. Toledoans are willing to work for a school if leadership for such a project is provided, he said.

Toledo must first get a positive, rather than a negative, attitude toward the possibility

of a medical school, Dr. Letourneau said.

Toledo, he said, may have the same trouble other cities have. That is that physicians oppose a medical school for private reasons, he said. In these cities, local physicians feel that physicians brought in as professors for the school would be experts and could get some of their local practice.

This situation could be eliminated by pointing out that a medical school would actually benefit local doctors, the community and the entire country, he said.

Toledo must be prepared to fight alone for a medical school, he said. Neighboring cities that already have schools, like Ann Arbor, Mich., Cleveland and Columbus, will not help Toledo get one.

Dr. Letourneau said Toledo "should get going" on the project in an effort to get federal aid. Studies have shown the country needs 10 new medical schools, he said, and the Federal Government will be giving money to cities that are ready to build a school.

### In Touch With TU Officials

Mayor Damas said he is constantly in touch with University of Toledo officials and others on getting a medical school here. He said he is drawing up his own plans for obtaining a Toledo medical school. He said he will take into consideration Dr. Letourneau's suggestions.

Dr. Letourneau visited the mayor accompanied by Harold Jenks, assistant administrator of St. Vincent's. Mr. Jenks said Dr. Letourneau is conducting an extensive survey of the hospital to see how it can be modernized and improved.