



International College of Dentists

Australasian Section

Newsletter

JUNE ISSUE 1992

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Convocation in Auckland was a great success both academically and socially. Ninety four members and guests were present. We were fortunate to have Dr. Kazuo Yamazaki, President of WDF (formerly FDI), Dr. Huen-Taik Jhee, President of the Asian Pacific Dental Federation, Dr. John Forrest, World President of the International College of Dentists, Dr. Marsden Bell, President of the Congress and Dr. P. Gonzales, President of the Philippines Dental Association, in attendance.

Following the Induction Ceremony a period of fellowship preceded the luncheon. This gave everyone a chance to mix and meet and I think it is a part of the occasion to which we should adhere.

Our World President, Dr. John Forrest and his wife were present for the Convocation and Congress and added lustre to the occasion, although the cricket World Cup seemed to cause him a little pre-occupation in the early hours!

Fellow Bob Norton and I went to the Cook Islands after the APDF Congress. We were made most welcome. The Director of Dental Services, Dr. Terepai Tairea, very kindly arranged a meeting with many of his dentists, school dental therapists, technicians and chairside assistants prior to visiting some of the clinics. We were able to discuss their comprehensive preventive program which is achieving very good results. Maximum use is being made of toothbrushing, oral hygiene instruction, fluoride in rinses and toothpaste and dietary guidance. Each child is supplied with a toothbrush and paste which is replaced on request.

The dentists were all trained in Fiji, the therapists in Fiji, Hong Kong and Australia. Dr. Tairea himself had both a Diploma and Masters Degree from Sydney University. I have never seen such an enthusiastic group of dental personnel. They live and breathe dentistry and prevention.

We showed a video on Composite Resin Inlays which we had taken with us and followed it with a short lecture on various aspects of dentistry which were new to them.

After an excellent morning tea we departed with a generous gift of a box of tropical fruits.

Since returning, Bob has sent a set of Australian Dental Journals which they requested. We have also been able to put an Australian dental supply house in touch with them to help them overcome a hiccup in the continuity of supplies.

Rarotonga is a rarity in the South-West Pacific - they do not need monetary help, only advisory assistance.

Sydenham Dobbin
President

Syd Dobbin
President
N.S.W.

Spyros Halikis
Vice-President
W.A.

Geoff Hall
Registrar
S.A.

Bill Chalmers
Treasurer
VIC.

Don Heffron
Regent
N.S.W.

Tom Speed
Regent
N.Z.

Peter Ryan
Editor
QLD.

INDUCTION CEREMONY AUCKLAND

The handsome new Centra Hotel provided an appropriate setting for the induction of eighteen new Fellows - nine each from New Zealand and Australia - in a simple and dignified ceremony on the morning of Sunday, 8th. March, 1992.

Following a witty introductory speech by the College World President, Dr. John Forrest of the United Kingdom and informative reports by the Australasian Section President and Registrar, Drs. Sydenham Dobbin and Geoffrey Hall, the new Fellows were duly welcomed and presented with their certificates, badges and ribbons by the two Presidents.

A President's Reception for 104 people in the adjacent ballroom provided for convivial fraternisation amongst the inductees, Fellows and their guests.

OUR NEW FELLOWS



Bruce WALTERS (Aust) Patrick TREACY (NZ) Monica THOMSON (Aust) Peter TELFER (Aust) David STALLWORTHY (NZ) James ROBERTSON (Aust) Brian PEAK (NZ) Paul NICHOLS (Aust) Robert MAX (NZ) Peter MAGNUS (Aust) John MACANSH (Aust) George LINN (NZ) Peter HELLEN (Aust) Keith GRAY (Aust) Bryan DOWLING (NZ) Bryan DICK (NZ) Allan COSTER (NZ) Kevin ALDERSON (NZ)

TWO-DAY COURSE IN TASMANIA

The International College of Dentists sponsored A Practical Course in Crown and Bridge Work in Tasmania over a two-day period by Fellow Dr. David Southan of Sydney.

The course, held at ADA House in Hobart in August 1991, attracted some forty dentists from all parts of the state and one from Victoria.

The attendance, approximately one third of the state's registered dentists, was a tribute to the lecturer and his topic. At that time Tasmania was blanketed by snow and many of the participants had to travel long distances over snow-covered roads.

Dr. David Southan's well-presented lecture, pitched at general practitioner level, and illustrated by excellent slides, was well received by an appreciative audience. Dr. Southan and his wife were guests at the ADA Annual Dinner where thanks were expressed to the International College of Dentists for supplying a lecturer of such outstanding quality.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

It is my pleasure to welcome you this morning to this Convocation.

I am particularly pleased to welcome the International President of the ICD, Dr. John Forrest and his wife from England, the President of the APDF, Dr. Huen-Taik Jhee, the President of the Australian Dental Association, Dr. John Southwick and Mrs. Southwick, the Chairman of the Organising Committee for this Congress, Dr. Marsden Bell and Mrs. Bell, the Secretary of the APDF, Dr. Oliver Henedige from Singapore and finally, the new inductees and their wives, husbands and families.

As you can see from the group here before you, we are truly an international society. All of our distinguished guests are Fellows of our College and they give you an idea from the positions they hold what a great influence for good in dentistry they are.

We do not hold many meetings. When we do meet as a Section it is generally as we are today, in conjunction with a dental congress. This way we keep the burden of attendance to a minimum and it allows all of us to attend a congress.

I will talk of the College in more (but not lengthy) detail later.

For now I must extend our thanks to those people in both countries who have worked hard to make this function happen - in particular our hard-working Registrar, Dr. Geoff. Hall from Adelaide and Dr. Tom Speed from Auckland.

I extend a warm and friendly welcome to each and every one present.

The idea of an international college of dentists was first talked about in 1920 in Japan at a dinner party when Dr. Okamuro, who had been practising there for 23 years was being farewelled before he returned to America. He suggested an organisation be set up to learn what progress the dental profession was making in all parts of the world and in distributing such information to dentists everywhere.

The FDI and other dental groups were told of the plans to set up an organisation which was to be composed of leading dentists around the world which would promote cordial relations within the profession and help provide for the dissemination of scientific information. The other organisations could see no conflict of interests and in July of 1928 the International College of Dentists was incorporated.

The first Convocation was held in 1930. It is of historical interest that one of the foundation Regents was Dr. W.G. McKern of Sydney, Australia.

It was decided that countries with a large number of dentists might each organise a Section. The first Section was organised in the USA. An Australian Section was authorised in 1964 and in 1977 this was expanded to become the Australasian Section and include New Zealand, Fiji, New Guinea and Papua and cover all countries in the South Pacific area.

It is a great pleasure for us to have here one of the foundation members - our International Councilman, Dr. R.Y. Norton. He is one of the most energetic members of our profession and has been chairman of most dental organisations. All of the organisations have benefitted and expanded as a result of his enthusiasm and organisational ability.

I do not know how many members we have but membership is guarded jealously. There is no harder jury than one consisting of one's peers. Each candidate is very carefully scrutinised and does not become a member unless he or she comes up to very high standards.

Our Secretary-General, Dr. Richard Schaffer commented recently: "No other organisation, even though they may think so, has a matrix of outstanding leaders in dentistry in place, who are willing to do things that beneficially affect our fellow man as we have."

We need to grow in size, not just for members, but because there are so many highly qualified men and women in our wonderful profession who have not been invited to membership. They should have the same opportunity that you have - to be a Fellow in the International College of Dentists. We are not a good old boys club; we are a fellowship of highly qualified professionals who have been recognised for conspicuous and meritorious service to the profession. Let us be sure to seek those who meet those high standards.

What do we do? Our Registrar, in his Report, will tell you of what we have done in the past. What of the future?

There is always something to be done. We are only limited by finance. Perhaps we should be looking for sponsorship from the dental industries.

One project which we are currently investigating is an international student exchange. It is possible that the meeting of deans might consider discussing it this week.

A second project concerns our friends in Western Samoa. Their country was decimated by a violent cyclone late last year. The Embassy has given me a list of their dental equipment shortages and we are discussing how we can provide what they need. If any of you have any ideas, please approach me or any of the Regents while we are together for the next few days.

Finally may I thank the President, Dr. Jhee and Congress Chairman, Dr. Bell for allowing us to have this Convocation in conjunction with your Congress.

Again, a very warm welcome to each and every one.

INTERNATIONAL LEADERS



Miss Kum KOIKE (Interpreter), Dr. JHEE Huen-Taik President APDF, Dr. Kazuo YAMAZAKI President WDF (FDI), Dr. Syd DOBBIN President ICD, Mrs. J. FORREST, Dr. John FORREST World President ICD, Dr. W. Marsden BELL President APDF Congress, Dr. Primo GONZALES Past President Philippines Dental Society, Dr. Tom SPEED APDF Congress Secretary.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

The last twelve months has seen continued activity within our region. The Australasian Section of the College, including today's inductees, now totals some 292 Fellows of whom 36 are from New Zealand. This total number represents about 4% of registered dentists in our area and we believe our fellowship of the College is indicative of those dentists who have contributed most to their profession and to the community. They are certainly recognised as such by their peers.

The last Convocation was held twelve months ago in Adelaide at the time of the 26th. Australian Congress and proved to be a most successful occasion. The Executive has met once since then and a meeting of the Board will be held in May. Our Councilman, Bob Norton, attended the meeting of the International Council in Seattle last October and several items from that meeting will be discussed at the next Board meeting. The President, Syd Dobbin and Bob Norton will be visiting the Cook Islands following their stay here to speak to locals and and explore ways of assisting people in that area.

Our Newsletter has an increased circulation with an exchange arrangement already operating with the European and North American Sections of the College, and the Board will be looking at the possibility of further exchanges with other English-speaking Sections including India, Korea, the Philippines and Mexico. A list of names of Fellows of the Australasian Section was published last year and distributed to all Fellows. It is anticipated that an updated list will be published next year. The world-wide College Roster of all Fellows of the College should be distributed shortly through 'The Globe'.

The College continues to support various projects and is always seeking to assist with new ventures. Following completion of some activities in the South Pacific region, the Section, through New Zealand Fellow Terry Cuttress is progressing on the continuation of the Tongan periodontal project titled 'Adopt-A-Village' and is also looking at the need for a programme and personnel to deal with oral health in the area. The Board will also give consideration to other projects at its next meeting, including the sponsorship of lecturers at congresses and a possible student exchange programme.

The crown and bridge course held in Hobart last year proved to be most successful. It was presented by Fellow David Southan from Sydney and was attended by 40 dentists within Tasmania and one from Victoria. Courses have been held previously in Darwin and Cairns and it is hoped that the College will be able to sponsor similar courses in the future.

Following our meeting in Adelaide twelve months ago, the duties of the various officers have been streamlined to make the running of the Section easier, particularly for the Registrar. Don Heffron, whom I followed, did almost everything single-handed including the handling of the finances and the writing and publication of the Newsletters - all this besides the normal on-goings of the College. We now have a very active Treasurer in Bill Chalmers who knows where every dollar is or was, and the appointment of an Editor, Peter Ryan, has been of great benefit, not only on the publication and printing side, but also on the gathering of material and the editing of it. Don has attended the last three N.Z.D.A. Conferences and sends his best wishes to all his friends in New Zealand. Fortunately, he is still on our Board of Regents.

I wish to thank Geoff Jenkins and Tom Speed for making the bookings and appropriate arrangements for this meeting in Auckland and the luncheon following. It is not easy to deal with this from across the Tasman and their assistance is much appreciated.

Finally I extend my personal congratulations to those who are being inducted today. In different ways they have all contributed greatly to their profession and I trust they will find fellowship of the College most rewarding.

CYCLONE

'VAL'



SAMOA
XMAS
1991

THE DENTAL CLINIC AT APIA

Christmas in Samoa calls up visions of South Pacific tranquillity. Alas, last Christmas brought quite the opposite in the form of a devastating cyclone innocuously called "Val".

This picture is of what Val did to the islands' dental clinic - a heap of rubble.

The Board of Regents of the Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists resolved to sponsor assistance for their unfortunate colleagues.

A dental X-ray unit has been kindly donated to start an appeal but much more is very obviously needed. A list has been supplied by the Western Samoa High Commission. (American Samoa is under the aegis of the American Section).

Supplies can be new or used, surplus or outdated, anything that might offset the loss of so much stock. Regrettably, old surplus equipment is of very limited use due to compatability and maintenance problems.

The list supplied by the High Commission of items most needed is:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Electric sterilisers | 6. Dressings - Zinc oxide powder and liquid |
| 2. Extraction forceps and elevators | 7. Disposable needles |
| 3. Hand instruments | 8. Composites and amalgam |
| 4. Dental syringes | 9. Plaster of Paris |
| 5. Impression materials | 10. Any other supplies |

The Board resolved not to confine the appeal to Fellows of the College, but suggests they also approach colleagues in their vicinity for additional assistance. For example, a local supply house could be contacted for surplus or outdated stock. Local sub-branches study clubs and newsletters could be advised of the appeal, or a few telephone calls made.

All material is to be forwarded to our President, Dr. Sydenham Dobbin AM, 76 Comur Street, (PO Box 111), YASS NSW 2582. Syd has generously offered to store the materials and prevail on his rich and powerful friends in nearby Canberra and Sydney to consign them to Samoa as soon as possible.

The President has a very special concern for our colleagues working under duress in remote areas of the Pacific. It is surely a reasonable expectation for all Fellows and their local colleagues to share his concern for this one-off appeal for help.