



International College of Dentists

Australasian Section

Newsletter

EDITOR N. HENRY

ISSUE No. 7

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EDITORIAL

The healthcare professions throughout the world are facing changes that make the practice of dentistry more stressful than ever before. As these changes from the bureaucratic, environmental and legal intrusions into health care become more prevalent, the quality and quantity of the care can become less and the cost of its delivery is becoming greater.

We, in the College, by virtue of our knowledge of good dental practice should remain alert to these changes. We should evaluate them critically, accepting those that are beneficial and resisting forcefully those based on false emotion and distorted facts.

We must maintain the highest standards of patient care and encourage research to develop techniques and materials which will contain the ever burgeoning cost of practical dental treatment. For unless cost of providing dental services is contained, the maintenance of the dentitions of our retired and aging populations will soon be beyond their financial means. This will be a sad reflection of the decades of careful, conservative dental care we have all given to these long term patients.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Victor Barry once wrote "a profession without its backbone of integrity intact is like a tent without a pole and will quickly succumb to the winds of change".

When I see professional hospital staff in uniform standing outside the hospital building smoking, it seems hypocritical. It is even worse when a Minister for Health is seen smoking. As dentists we must accept responsibility for the profession we represent, not only in the surgery, but in all our activities if we are to retain the position of high regard earned over the past 50 years.

If a dentist is caught dealing in drugs all of dentistry is disgraced. If a dentist injures a patient while attempting treatment beyond his/her skills, the headlines which follow bring everyone's competence into question.

A decline of standards is evident in most of our society and has come about, in part, because the sensitivities are dulled a little at a time - like a cancer - the erosion creeps into society unchallenged. The best defence against this decline is a personal set of values and principles and resolution that these will not be affected by outward decline.

The purveyors and promoters of a decline in standards respect no other person and feel little responsibility to principles. Their main motive is money and the real losers are the recipients of their services.

In the last decade we have witnessed easing of advertising restrictions - in my antiquated thinking I find a sign three metres by one metre promoting a family dentist offensive. I shudder at the emphasis on profit driven practices stimulated by the ever increasing courses on marketing. No one can deny a dentist has worked hard over many years to graduate, has expended much capital if in private practice, has great responsibility for patients in his care and is entitled to above average financial reward. To over-service for dollar gain, to damage our credibility by falsifying health fund claims for dollar gain, to make a crown when less is better for dollar gain, to boast you have more modern technology than others for dollar gain are not the motives of a true professional.

I have grown somewhat pessimistic in recent times at an apparent fall in the standard of professionalism generally and I trust those who have earned our Fellowship have accepted the ongoing commitment to strong and honourable leadership by example. Remember you cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

W.D.Heffron. C.B.E.

AUSTRALIAN ELECTED I C D VICE PRESIDENT

At the International Meeting held in Korea, in September, Dr Sydenham Dobbin A.M. was elected as Vice President of the International body of the College.

After service as a pilot during the second World War, Syd graduated from the University of Sydney Dental Faculty. In 1952, he went to Yass (NSW) where he continues to conduct a busy private practice. He served on the local municipal Council for thirty years with a record nine terms as Mayor. It was his influence which led Yass to become the first Australian mainland town to introduce fluoridation in 1956, well before the capital cities. In

1986, he was honoured as a Member of the Order of Australia for services to dentistry and the community.

A Fellow of the International College of Dentists since 1972, he has served the Australasian Section on the Board of Regents for seventeen years, being President from 1992-95 and then as International Councillor for the Section. In 1995, he achieved the special honour of being made a Master of the College. His recent election is but a further landmark in what has been a most outstanding career in his profession.

PRESIDENT:
W. Donald Heffron, C.B.E.

VICE PRESIDENT:
Geoffrey C. Hall

PAST PRESIDENT:
Spyros E. Halikis, A.M.

TREASURER:
William E. Chalmers

INTERNATIONAL COUNCILLOR:
Syd Dobbin A.M.

EDITOR:
Neil L. Henry, A.M.

REGENTS:
L. Peter Ryan and Tom Speed

REGISTRAR:
Robert J.F. Butler

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

The membership of the Australasian Section currently stands at 390, including 62 Fellows from New Zealand and 2 from Fiji.

As reported elsewhere, Syd Dobbin (NSW), a Master of the College and Past President of the Australasian Section, has been elected to the position of Vice President of the College, a remarkable honour for him. Fellow Jeff Annan has been elected as President of the New Zealand Dental Association and Fellow Neville Hill as been elected to the Executive of the Australian Dental Association.

Fellow Tilly Peters has transferred to the US Section, following her move to the Dental Faculty at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Also reported elsewhere in this Newsletter, six Fellows from this Section were formally inducted at the International Meeting held in Kwongju, Korea in early September. They were: Stephen Daymond, Peter Kaleski and Ian McWilliam (NSW), John Goodhart and Tji Srikandi (SA) and Clive Wright (NZ).

Since the last report, Life Memberships have been approved for the following Fellows: B Atkinson, T Boshier, T Brown, R Case, L Crawford, J Dallimore, T Dingle, B Drysdale, S Halikis, R Hardham, R Henry, R Hession, D Innes, A Marsden, A Meyers, J Pearson, B Phillips, C Savage, K Versace, E Wagner and G Wing.

The Australasian Section is sponsoring a lecture at the March 1998 Australian Dental Association Congress in Perth and has also pledged \$500 sponsorship to the Dental Assistants Association of Australia to assist them in conducting educational activities in conjunction with the Congress. An annual subscription to the Australian Dental Journal is provided to the Dental School in Fiji and it has also been supplied with educational equipment, for which grateful acknowledgment has been received. Dental equipment for Tonga has been purchased and transported to Tonga by Sydney dental undergraduates who travelled there as part of an elective project. They report that the equipment has been put to good use in the hospital there. Following the previous sponsorship of undergraduate exchange between Adelaide and Hong Kong schools, ably guided by Fellow John Booth, the Board of Regents of the College approved a grant of \$1000 to assist the initiation of a similar programme of exchange between undergraduates of Sydney and Singapore.

This exchange has now been completed with encouraging reports

having been received from the participating students. The Executive of the Board of Regents met in Melbourne on 8th August 1997 and the following matters were considered at this Meeting.

Following consideration of nominations for Fellowship of the College, twelve were approved and invitations have been issued to these nominees. Further nominations are to be considered at the meeting of the Board of Regents scheduled for 13th March 1998 in Perth.

Arrangements for the Convocation and Induction of New Fellows in Perth on Friday 13th March 1998 prior to the ADA Congress were considered. Details of the venue will be advised to Fellows in due course.

The Auditor's Report for the year ending 30th June 1997 was received, adopted and will be formally ratified at the March meeting of the Board of Regents. Income and Expenditure Statements for 1996/97 and the Balance Sheet at 30th June 1997 were received. A copy of the full financial statements can be supplied to Fellows on request to the Registrar. Key elements of this report are summarised as follows:

- Notification has been received of increases in International ICD fees.
- After consideration of these increases, the annual subscription rate was set at \$80 from 1997/98.
- The Induction Fee was also increased to \$80.
- No change was made to the Convocation Fee or the charges for Certificates or lapel badges.
- Total income for the year was \$37,212, compared with \$26,879 for the previous year.
- Expenditure for the year was up on the previous year, \$31,146 compared with \$21,699, making a surplus of \$6,066 (\$5,180 in 1995/96)
- Total net assets are \$65,029.

BOARD OF REGENTS

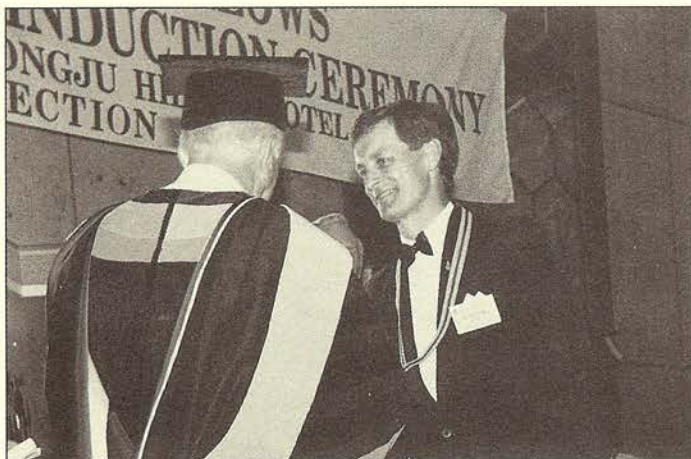
Nominations are called for election to the Board of Regents for the Australasian Section of the College. Such nominations are to be submitted in writing to the Registrar by 31st October 1997.

Robert J F Butler, Registrar

INTERNATIONAL ICD MEETING KOREA

The third International Scientific meeting and induction ceremony was held at Kwongju, Korea in September. It was another special College occasion, and I urge anyone who has never been to one overseas, to think about going to the next one in three years time. It will be held in Santiago, Chile.

Five Australians and one New Zealander were inducted - Dr. Stephen Daymond (Sydney), Dr. John Goodhart and his wife Dr. Tji Srikandi (Adelaide), Dr. Peter Kaleski (Lindfield), Dr. Ian McWilliam (Paddington), Dr. Clive Wright (New Zealand formerly Adelaide).



Dr. Stephen Daymond's (right) induction to ICD in Korea

The scientific day was most informative. Byong I. Suh President of Bisco spoke on flowable composites and other materials made by his firm "Bisco". Incidentally he said there was no mystery about the naming of his firm (which he owns) as the Bis of Sisco was made up of his initials.

Professor K. Stookey, Dean of Indiana University School of Dentistry spoke on causes, spread and prevention of caries. He has a very interesting manner of presentation, his theme was similar to Rory Hume and Alton Lacey in Darwin. He included the use of fluoride in water supplies, toothpaste and topical applications.

A new section was started in Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam two weeks ago. This was due to the hard work of fellow Herb Yee of San Francisco. Twenty new fellows were inducted.

I again urge all fellows of the College to search for more members of our profession who would be suitable to be honoured by the College with a fellowship. We only have 8148 members worldwide as at 1st. August, 1997 up 140 in a year. Quite a few of us are getting older, so keep your eyes peeled for young achievers who are ethical and professional. If you have anyone in mind contact one of the Regents and get a C V form. Try and get it in for consideration at the next meeting of Council Friday 13th. March 1998 in Perth W.A.

As the Australasian International Councillor and Chairman of the International growth and development committee, I am keen to see the College keep ahead of our losses through retirement, ill health etc.

Syd Dobbin A.M.

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

The Dental Act is again being reviewed and again deregulation seems to be the direction of the report of the Ministry of Health. Issues such as the school dental therapists being able to work in private practices, being independent, or continuing to be employed solely by the state; hygienist registration; should dental technicians/clinical dental technicians all be registered and how the Dental Council will be made up and manage matters of discipline are all up for discussion.

The final act will be probably two years away at the rate it is progressing.

Competency of dentists is a matter that may also be included in some way in the new act. The New Zealand Dental Association has taken a lead in this area and has just completed its first year of a programme of accreditation on a formal basis. Dentists who have attended the required number of hours of courses approved as eligible by the NZDA receive certification to that effect. Attendance at courses does not in itself test the competency of dentists but is a start in that direction. Perhaps the College in its quest for excellence should be looking at this problem.

The Dental Council of New Zealand (the equivalent of the Australian Dental Boards) has this year, following a complaint

from a dentist, issued a recommendation that honours, only obtained by examination, and registered by the Council may appear on a dentist's nameplate or signs. It was decided that the listing of other honorary titles may be confusing to the public and give the appearance that the dentist concerned may possess some special qualification that was not in fact the case. Other honours may be listed on the dentist's stationery but not following the name and should be in a different type.

Fellow Stewart Edward was awarded the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday Honours June 1997 for his services to dentistry and the community. He has been very involved in issues of health, employment, education and the arts where he has focused on Maori affairs in Rotorua. Stewart has been elected Vice President of the NZDA.

Fellow Jeffrey Annan has been elected the President of the NZDA.

Fellow David Crumb has been elected to the position of Treasurer of the NZDA.

Terry Cuttress retired last year from the Dental Research Unit in Wellington and the IADR/ANZ Division held a Terry Cuttress Symposium in Dunedin on August 28 this year in his honour.

Tom Speed

VALE – PETER JOHN COLLINS

It is with much regret that we note the sad passing of Fellow Peter Collins (NZ). He was a past President NZDA, and Honorary Life Member of the Dental Association and died at his home on Wednesday, 20th August, peacefully after a long illness. Peter Collins led the NZDA as its Chairman and President through 1986 to 1990 and during that time he successfully defended the safety and protection of patients and the requirement for dentists to be accountable. In 1988 the New Zealand Labor government attempted to deregulate dentistry with their "Anyone can do dentistry" Bill. Dr. Collins motivated the population, especially consumer groups, who with the Dental Association, turned the government away from this pathway to regulation.

In the last six years Dr. Collins continued to work for dentistry as a practitioner, as a member of the Statutory Dental Council of NZ, and as chairman of the Complaints Assessment Committee, chairman of New Zealand Dental Insurance. He has maintained his connection with International dentistry, where in the past, he has been a most respected leader of New Zealand delegations, especially in the area of practice management and economic systems. Peter Collins was honoured by the Australian Dental Association and the International College of Dentists, as well as his own colleagues in New Zealand with an Honorary Life Membership.

Dr. STEWART EDWARD NZOM

It was a great pleasure to learn of the Award to Fellow Stewart Edward of membership of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queens Birthday Honours, June 1997.

Stewart is well known to dentists throughout New Zealand for his service to dentistry, the last ten years as a member of NZDA Board, and the Executive. Most recently he has been elected as Vice President of the NZDA. Last year he ran one of the very successful biennial conferences in Rotorua.

The Award was made to Stewart for services to dentistry and the community, and at the same time as being a member of a group dental practice in Rotorua, he has been very involved in the life of the community in Rotorua. This has been largely focused on Maori issues involving health, employment, education, and the arts, where he has served on a variety of trusts, and been part of the organisation of major arts and music events in the district.

THE DARWIN CONVENTION

The Third Convention Darwin held from 6th to 10th July 1997 attracted some 160 dentists with approximately another 140 associates and trade personnel. In fact more people wished to attend but as it was the height of the tourist/convention season no airline seats were available.

In Darwin it is always easy to make the social functions enjoyable but we believe this meeting will be remembered for the outstanding scientific programme. Rory Humes' opening lecture on "Caries Management for the Year 2000" was an outstanding presentation and set the standard for the rest of the week.

Syd Dobbin's remarks summed it up - "I really came for the weather, the pool and the social events but in the end I didn't miss a lecture".

The ICD dinner holds a special place in our conventions and the organising committees know to leave the night after the Buff and Barra Barbecue for this function. This year it was held in the typical Darwin style restaurant; ie a converted home on piers within a garden setting.

Fellows and partners filled the downstairs function room and enjoyed the food and companionship. We heard an update on College activities from Syd Dobbin.

We were also reminded of the support dentistry in the Territory has received from the College. I was able to reminisce that had it not been for a 1984 visit by a group of Fellows led by Bob Norton there may never have been a convention in Darwin - and wouldn't that have been a shame.

Kerry Eupene.



20th NSW DENTAL CONVENTION

My wife and I travelled to Coffs Harbour in August this year for this most interesting and entertaining Convention.

It was held at the Opal Resort which overlooks the ocean - a comfortable well appointed venue. The hard working committee produced a Convention which expanded ones thoughts on Dentistry and Quality of Life.

The emphasis was on the Patient and all their associated problems and the Dentists and their ways and means of coping with 'Dental Life'.

We made new friendships at this very relaxed meeting. I even played my first game of golf in twenty five years, and had a memorable score.

The ADIA produced a most interesting trade display and speakers from their group spoke to us on the continuing relationship between Dentists and Trade Suppliers.

I thoroughly recommend Conventions, Seminars etc. They always 'rejuvenate' me to continue my passion and dedication for my chosen profession.

Peter J. Tyas.

STUDENT EXCHANGE 1997 SYDNEY - SINGAPORE

During the mid year break, between July 13th and August 2nd, 1997, two fifth year students from the University of Sydney Dental Faculty travelled to the National University of Singapore as the first part of a new student exchange programme organised by the A D A Education Committee and sponsored in part by the International College. This is an extension of the previously reported Adelaide - Hong Kong student exchange which the college also supported financially.

The two Australian students, Ann Duong and Stuart Deane were billeted with Singapore students and their families and attended lectures, tutorials and seminars at the Dental school. The two students from Singapore arrived at Westmead Dental Faculty on Monday September 15th so their comments will be related in the next Newsletter.

Both Ann and Stuart thoroughly enjoyed their stay in Singapore and have submitted quite comprehensive reports detailing curriculum and teaching methods in Singapore - dental service delivery systems, Faculty costings (Singapore students pay an up front fee of \$13,300 Aust. per year for a four year course) and their unique cultural experiences.

These reports are available from the Registrar to any fellow who wants to read the full account of the exchange visit.

The College and the students are indebted to the A D A Education Committee, Dr. John Booth and the Deans of both Dental Faculties for the initial organisation of this programme.

We join with the students in thanking Doctors Jennifer Neo and Betty Mok from the Faculty of Dentistry in Singapore and Professor Murray Walker and Mrs. Georgette Bahari from Sydney who did all the final organisation and detailed planning for these exchanges.

'A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE'

In June 1995 my wife Anne and I travelled to the UK and were privileged to attend the 40th Anniversary of the European Section of the International College of Dentistry.

The meeting was held in York in the UK - a most historic and beautiful city. Over forty(40) new members were inducted in a very impressive ceremony.

The new members came from all over Europe and the first member from the previous USSR. We made some great friendships in the short time we were with our colleagues.

The banquet was held in the York Steam Museum - a fantastic setting! Two hundred and fifty (250) members and partners sat down to a four course candlelight dinner on the platform, with Queen Victoria's railway carriages alongside.

I had taken a letter of congratulations from President Don Heffron for the 40th Anniversary and I read it out at the dinner (in Australian). They seemed to understand me!

It was a most memorable night.

Peter Tyas.

TEN GOOD REASONS TO BE IN PERTH 13 - 18th. MARCH 1998 FOR THE 29TH AUSTRALIAN DENTAL CONGRESS

To meet with and enjoy the company of Fellows and other old friends and to make new ones.

To rekindle your enthusiasm for Dentistry and see, hear about and discuss the newest materials and equipment

To listen to world class speakers and leaders in dentistry who are coming to Australia for the first time.

To see and participate in Pat Henry's extravaganza on Tuesday March 18th - The Clinical Day - Aesthetics 2000.

To choose from a formidable list of Symposia, Theme workshops, Lectures, Limited attendance clinics, Table clinics and Luncheons with learning covering every conceivable facet of clinical dentistry.

To browse amongst the new equipment and materials on show at the 8th. Australian Dental Industry Exhibition in the Burswood Dome from 14th to 16th. March.

To be welcomed, feted and entertained by Chairman Dick Cook and his happy band of Westralian enthusiasts who will present Perth and West Australia to all visitors with much pleasure and panache.

To see the sun set in the Indian Ocean and visit the Port of Fremantle of America's cup fame.

To visit the unique scenery of the South west - vineyards, Karri Forests, Monkey Mia and the goldfields.

And most importantly - to attend the International College of Dentists Convocation and Induction Ceremony to be held on Friday March 13th. at 10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Following the ceremony lunch will be served 12 noon for 12.30 p.m. A notice giving the location and cost of the function will be circulated to all Fellows.

THE TRAVAILS OF THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT

Stop the world, I want to get off, but not in Korea! The 20th. NSW Convention in Coffs Harbour was a thought provoking, mostly non clinical, good time gathering. It was a lead up to the Sunshine Coast sub-branch meeting in Maroochydore. I was tempted to stay in Tasmania; the icy winds off the Antarctic and snow on Mt. Wellington down to the 400 meter level, have a certain appeal for Tasmanians. We enjoy suffering.

The F.D.I. Congress was held in Seoul, Korea this year, 10,000,000 Hyundai's compete for 100 kilometres of road. The local delicacy is 'kimshee', cabbage fermented with red hot chillies, and a bit of fish intestines for added zest. The Australian delegation got about five gallons of ice water to the serving.

Australians are well regarded at FDI meetings. Those who preceded us have set a high standard. Having served my time in Asia, can I attend the AmDA meeting in Washington D.C.? Please!

Herb Hammer.

Herb will receive honorary membership of the American Dental Association at the 138th. Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. on October 18 - 22nd. 1997.

Good on you Herb!

PERSONALIA - CONGRATULATIONS

Stan and Eric Kings have been made Alumni of Distinction by the University of Toronto Dental Alumni. They are the first overseas dentists to receive this award from their Alma Mater for their services to dentistry. The award will be presented to them in person in Toronto on October 25th. 1997.

Reg Hession was elected Speaker at the FDI meeting held in Seoul, Korea from 5th to 9th. September 1997. He succeeds the long serving incumbent Runo Cronstrom from Sweden.

Dr. Katsuo Tsurumake was elected FDI President for 1998 - 99. Dr. Jacques Monnot of France became President - elect and Dr. Art Dugoni (USA) is Treasurer.

David Thomson is a member of the Congress and Education Committee which oversees the planning of World Dental Congresses including the one which will be held in Sydney in 2003.

Brent Stanley (NZ) was appointed chairman of the Individual Members Section.