

4-1934

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Recommended Citation

(1934) "Looking Back Over the Year," *The Dentoscope*: Vol. 13: Iss. 11, Article 5.
Available at: <https://dh.howard.edu/dentoscope/vol13/iss11/5>

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LOOKING BACK OVER THE YEAR

A RÉSUMÉ of the year reflects many interesting activities and significant results for the College of Dentistry. In short, it has been a busy year for both student and teacher.

The formal opening of school ushered in a comparatively large, enthusiastic, and serious-minded Freshman class, the size of which tripled that of last year's. This encouragement, in itself, from the outset, gave added impetus to the general outlook for the year's work. Especially was this increase in numbers gratifying when the "signs of the times," economically, forecast a rather gloomy picture over the prospects for the enrollment and retention of students, many of whom had suffered financial reverses. This trend, however, was greatly counteracted by the spirited enrollment campaign sponsored by the faculty.

That the College of Dentistry of Howard University is doing an effective share in impressing upon the minds of young men and women the importance of the dental profession is attested to by the strikingly cosmopolitan Freshman class. Students of this group hail from far corners of the earth, as well as from distant sections of our country. An inventory of the class membership shows that the British West Indies, South America, and Russia, alone, have nine representatives. The remaining members of the class hail from ten states including the Atlantic, Pacific, Middle West and Southern States. Such a wide distribution of students from one class is indicative of the far-reaching public confidence enjoyed by the College of Dentistry.

Another indication of desired progress was given in the return of two graduates of Dentistry of Howard University who came back to enter into post-graduate work. Dr. Stephen D. Miller, of the class of 1920, after twelve years of successful practice in Springfield and St. Louis, Missouri, saw fit to return to his Alma Mater for additional work in Clinical Dentistry. The interest and appreciation of the work expressed by an alumnus of Dr. Miller's experience and ability serves as an index to the nature of the work offered. Like interest in the post-graduate courses was shown by a last year's graduate in the person of Dr. Garey M. Browne, of Washington, D. C. Since the completion of this course, Dr. Browne has taken and successfully passed the District Board Dental Examination. He contemplates opening an office shortly. Doubtless, the presence of alumni within the student ranks will prove a wholesome and stimulating influence.

A noteworthy precedent was set in the College of Dentistry this year by the extensive aid given to students by way of tuition scholarships. In view of the financial difficulties which students, especially in the pro-

fessions, have encountered during this depression, the Faculty of Dentistry set the pace by establishing a "Faculty Scholarship" to be awarded to a candidate for the Freshman class, on the basis of scholastic promise and demonstrated need.

The occasion of this writing also offers a splendid opportunity to give a public expression of gratitude to Dr. Louise C. Ball, a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard University, for her generous offer of material aid by way of a tuition scholarship. This award is to be made to a worthy young woman of high scholastic attainment, who is interested in dentistry as a career. In view of the pending plans for a class for Dental Hygienists to be inaugurated at the opening of the ensuing year, Dr. Ball has, again, offered encouragement in the form of a tuition scholarship to be given to a young woman of high scholastic attainment who wishes to pursue the Dental Hygienist course.

In addition to these awards, the University, through its Board of Trustees, set aside seven and a half per cent of the money collected from student fees to be used for scholarships. Scholarship grants from this fund were made to five dental students. Again, through the Federal Emergency Relief Administration has come a new source of student assistance. Under this project, three dental students have received work scholarships. This brings the total number to nine students who have received scholarship aid in the College of Dentistry during the year. This unprecedented effort to relieve financial stress among students on the part of the faculty, trustees, and the Federal Government, not only manifests the wide-spread need, but it bespeaks the courage and devotion of friends of education.

The Faculty of the College of Dentistry has made worthy contributions in progressive phases of the profession aside from those in the classroom. A creditable representation was made at many important dental conventions.

At the Annual Meeting of the National Dental Association held in Atlantic City, clinicians and essayists, representative of every department in the College, made presentations. The following table or chair clinics were given by members of the staff:

"Demonstration in Pressing Resovin and Curing Luxene"—Dr. Adolphus Walton.

"Preparation for Porcelain Jacket Crown" and "Ceramics for Porcelain Jacket Crown"—Dr. Claude T. Ferebee.

"Orthodontia"—Dr. Emmett J. Scott.

"Dental Pathology in Relation to Roentgenology" and "Apicoectomy"—Dr. John A. Turner.

"Crown and Bridge"—Dr. Percy A. Fitzgerald.

“Root Canal Therapy”—Dr. Frederic P. Barrier.

“Partial Denture Impression Technics”—Dr. Eugene E. T. Mavrittc.

Dr. Walton also presented an essay and conducted an open forum on “Practical Dental Problems.”

An essay entitled “Ethics in Dentistry, Past, Present and Future,” was presented by Dr. Russell A. Dixon, Dean of the College of Dentistry. The convention was very ably presided over by Dr. Jackson L. Davis, vice-president of the organization and instructor in the Department of Oral Medicine.

Another feature of singular interest, which was contributed by the dental faculty, was that of a project placed on exhibition at the Centennial Dental Congress of the Century of Progress Exposition held in Chicago. Drs. Dixon, Fitzgerald, and Hendrick were present at this Congress at which more than twelve thousand dentists were in attendance.

Immediately following this convention was the Annual Meeting of the National Medical Association at which Dr. P. A. Fitzgerald of the Crown and Bridge Department gave a clinic in “Ceramics.”

Dean Dixon was guest of the First and Second District Dental Society of New York at the Conference of physicians and dentists held in connection with the Ninth Annual Session of the Society, December 4-8, 1933. Dr. Dixon was invited to discuss the theme presented by Dean M. C. Winternitz of Yale University Medical School. The program in general was rich in professional value and many outstanding educators of the East made major contributions.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science, which is made up of the outstanding educators and authorities in every field of science, convened in Boston during the Christmas holidays. Dr. Dixon enjoyed the distinction of appearing on the program. He presented an essay, illustrated by lantern slides, entitled, “Histopathological Changes in Pulp and Dentine Under Different Filling Materials.” This paper dealt with research conducted by Dr. Dixon in connection with his graduate work at Northwestern University.

By special invitation, this same dissertation was presented before the International Association for Dental Research held in Chicago. Other representatives of Howard University attending this meeting and the American Association of Dental Schools, which directly followed it, were Drs. Garvin, Hendrick, Turner, and Walton. The latter convention proved to be of momentous value because of the exhaustive report of the “Committee on Curriculum” based on a scientific study of dental curricula for the past three years.

By courtesy of the American Dental Society of Europe, Dr. Dixon has been placed on program to present an essay on a phase of his research work. The meeting will be held at The Hague, Holland, during Whitsuntide, May 17-21, 1934.

It is always a pleasure to do honor to those within the ranks, who, by some special achievement, have been given noteworthy recognition. Dr. Emmett J. Scott, Instructor in Orthodontia, was given membership in a chapter of the honorary fraternity, Omicron Kappa Upsilon, which was recently organized at Harvard University in recognition of noteworthy scholarship. Upon Dr. Russell A. Dixon was conferred the degree of Master of Science in Dentistry by Northwestern University Dental School after the completion of graduate research there. A part of his laboratory material was prepared by him in the School of Medicine of Howard University.

By thus looking back over the year, one fact is evident—that the propelling force which is driving the educational program of the College of Dentistry steadily forward exists in the conscientious attitude and full appreciation of the progress now being made. With the appointment of Miss Alicia P. McKinney, the prospective organization of the department for Dental Hygienists at Howard University, at the beginning of the ensuing year, will be a certainty. Miss McKinney is a graduate of the Oral Hygiene Department of the Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery, New York. This department was organized in 1916 by our dental Trustee, Dr. Louise C. Ball, who presided over it two years as its dean. It was the first department for the training of dental hygienists to be formed in connection with a university.

Before the close of the school year, the physical efficiency of the organization will be greatly increased by the extensive remodelling and renovation of the building which is already under way. The ultimate advantages to the college offered by this new improvement will be:

A closer co-ordination of the various correlated units of instruction; the improvement in laboratory space and equipment; and, finally, more cheerful and inviting surroundings in which to "carry on."

By way of a summary, it may be said that the fundamental policy directing the work of the College of Dentistry is that it is striving, above all else, to give to its young men and women the very best by way of an educational and practical background that the profession has to offer.