

# The Dentoscope

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Volume 15 | Issue 2

Article 3

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12-1935

## Editorial

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### Recommended Citation

(1935) "Editorial," *The Dentoscope*: Vol. 15: Iss. 2, Article 3.

Available at: <https://dh.howard.edu/dentoscope/vol15/iss2/3>

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## The Dentoscope

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## EDITORIAL SECTION

### THE SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN DENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

**I**N the first edition of *THE DENTOSCOPE*, under an article entitled "The Problem of Recruiting Negro Dental Students," it was our privilege to present to you facts concerning the alarming decline of the enrollment of Negro dental students in the Dental Colleges of America and our opinion of the causes which we believe brought about this condition.

The Dean of the Dental College, through personal contact with groups of our alumni and interested parties, has subsequently attempted to remedy this condition. At this time we wish to report, that while we are far from our ultimate goal, we can truthfully say that in the several classes there has been some increase in numbers and a marked improvement in the caliber of our dental students.

The outlook is bright for a continuance in both the quantity and quality of our future students. We therefore, earnestly appeal to you to do your part in interesting well-trained students in the study of dentistry as a profession.

While we will not burden you with statistical data at this time, we believe that five years from now we can say, without fear of contradiction, that dentistry as a branch of health service will be in urgent need of competent dentists to serve our group and will offer to the capable a field of service that will be both socially desirable and economically sound.

WALTER B. GARVIN, D.D.S.

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### THE NEED FOR CLOSER ALUMNI-COLLEGE AFFILIATION

**T**HAT alumni need the college and the college needs alumni is a fact that is well established and undisputed. A student is born into his profession the day he enters his college, and as an infant he spends much of his time in trying to adjust himself to his new situation. He receives the necessary nourishment from his books and from his teachers, who also aid him in the assimilation and in the absorption of this nourishment. In the laboratories, he learns muscular and mental co-

ordination. After a while, he begins to make practical application of this coordination and is permitted to crawl and, finally, take steps alone in the clinic under the parental eyes of his instructors. Under the careful guidance of the teachers, he grows into young manhood and is finally graduated and sent out to seek his fame and fortune, and to represent his college home in his community.

When the graduate leaves his college home, he should not feel that all connections are severed. He has his degree conferred upon him "with all the rights, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto." Important duties of every son are to boost his home and to let the home folks know of his activities and his current address. In return, he can enjoy the facilities and advice which are gladly offered to him. Frequently, fellow alumni inquire as to the whereabouts and activities of their classmates, and it is a great source of regret whenever we are unable to furnish this information.

It is the policy of the administration to maintain a close contact with all of the sons and daughters. This cannot be accomplished unless all write "home" sometimes and keep us posted as to correct address, at least. It is our sincere desire that each one who has not already done so, will write "home" and let us know of his activities so that a record of them may be made upon his file card.

Special attention is also directed to the *Forum*, a new column in our publication. It consists of questions, and answers or discussions, of a practical nature; it is educational in its aspect; and is intended to interest and to benefit those in general practice. You are invited and urged to contribute to this column by submitting your practical problems, which will be carefully considered and discussed.

Truly, the alumni need the college and the college needs its alumni.

J. A. T.

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"Good will is the mightiest practical force in the universe."—*Chas. Fletcher Dole.*