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DENTAL NEWS

April 1902

A MONTHLY
MAGAZINE FOR
PROGRESSIVE
DENTISTS



**VOLUME
I**

**NUMBER
3**

**PRICE
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Publishers

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The DENTAL NEWS

A Magazine for Progressive Dentists

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Vol. I

APRIL, 1902

No. 3

Published by STOWE & EDDY CO.

1133 Broadway, Cor. 26th St., New York

W. H. STOWE, Editor

F. F. EDDY, Business Mgr.

L. A. KIANDER, Ass't Editor

CONTENTS

Contributions	PAGE
Neglected Pyorrhoea, ROBERT E. PAYNE, D. D. S., M. D.	2
Plaster Impressions of Difficult Cases - W. H. STOWE	5
 Editorial - - - - -	 7
 Miscellaneous - - - - -	 8
 News Notes - - - - -	 17
 Society Events - - - - -	 20

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❧ CONTRIBUTIONS ❧

NEGLECTED PYORRHOEA.

RECEDING GUMS. ELONGATED TEETH.

ROBERT E. PAYNE, D. D. S., M. D., NEW YORK.

Distortion of the anterior teeth, malocclusion, is one of the results of neglected cases of pyorrhoea.

Practitioners of dentistry do not take advantage of all the knowledge at hand in the treatment of this disease and correction of the deformities.

It seems a hopeless task, but if you will take into consideration the fact that the condition cannot be made worse, you are justified in using heroic treatment rather than extract the teeth to insert a plate or bridge.

Accompanying this article are photographs before and after treatment that will give you some idea of the effects of treatment as described below.

Without going into the details or the history of this case, I will briefly outline methods used in many advanced cases to effect a handsome result, and I have proven to my own satisfaction the permanency, comfort and usefulness secured to patients by doing all that you can do in this unfortunate neglected disease.

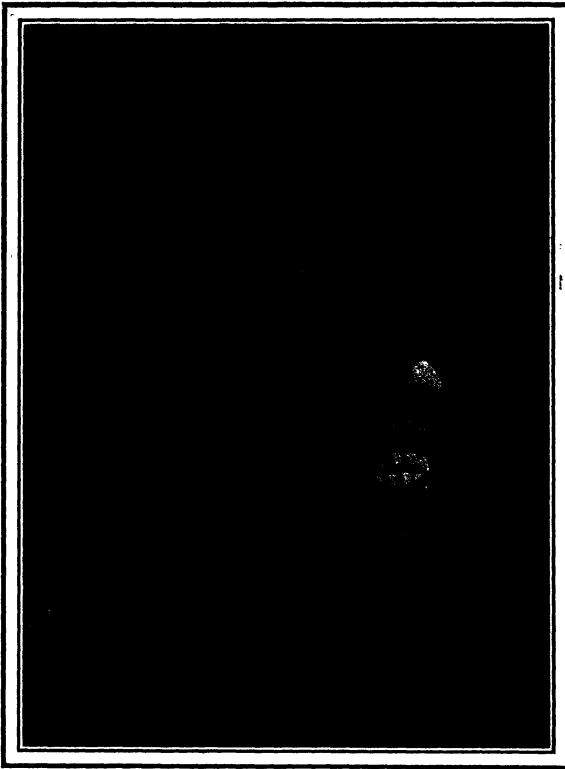
Teeth elongate and the socket fills as the tooth is pushed out of the socket and out of position.

If the tooth drops out, or is so loose it may be extracted with the fingers, inject a two per cent. solution of cocaine and take it out; deepen the socket by means of a Younger-Walker bone drill; treat the tooth, replace it and ligate in correct position by means of waxed silk twist.

Inject loose tooth with a two per cent. solution of cocaine, burr around the pockets with pointed burr and burn out the pocket

with full strength muriatic acid, applied by thin orangewood or broach and cotton to the bottom of the pocket.

This may seem severe, but you have not had satisfactory results in the treatment of pyorrhoea. Suppose you try it. You will be surprised at the improvement. The blood is alkaline and the acid is diluted before it reaches the bottom of the pocket. The toughened mucous membrane being destroyed at the bottom of the pocket



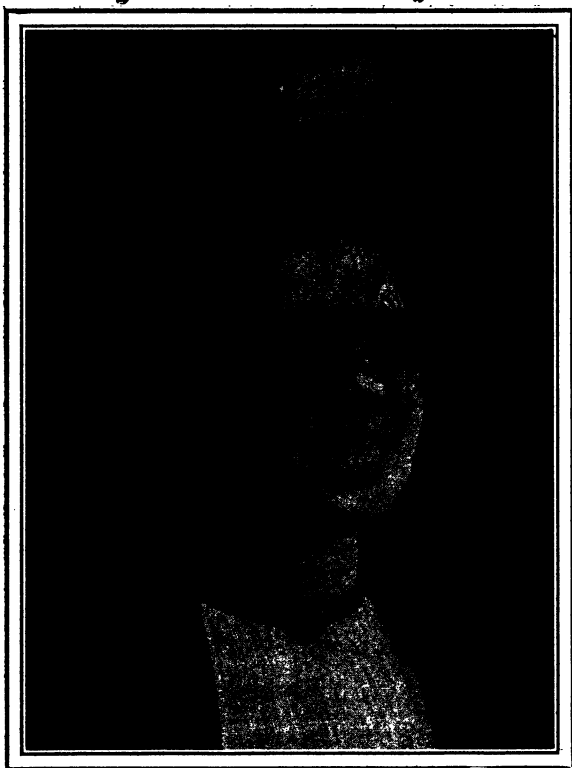
MALOCCLUSION.

and the pocket being thoroughly sterilized by the acid, healthy granulations immediately spring up, closing and filling in the pocket. To protect the gum while applying the acid, use oleo sterate of zinc and rolls of absorbent cotton.

Teeth moderately firm, but projecting or out of position, treat by devitalizing and amputating at the gum margin. After cut-

ting out a V-shaped section, replace the crown upon its own root in correct position in the arch by means of a gold wire, cementing the two parts together. It may be necessary to bend the wire to an obtuse angle—sometimes almost to a right angle—to replace them in the arch.

If the teeth you re-plant, implant, transplant or amputate are too wide to go in the arch, take a little off the approximal surfaces



AS DISMISSED.

until they can be replaced in the arch, then ligate all with Richardson's silk twist, C or D, until normal conditions return and the teeth become firm.

If you find the teeth that have dropped out are absorbed or are rough at the end of the root, or are covered with tartar so that they are necrosed, if the crown be sound, cut off the root; secure

a firm, healthy, straight root that has been extracted from some one more than forty years of age, adjust it to the crown and re-plant this, after joining the crown and root by means of a gold pin. Keep the crown always soaked in sterilizing solution, but do not sterilize the root, covered with pericemental membrane, until an hour or two before you re-plant. If you do not keep the crown immersed in a solution, it might split; but if you will keep it moist it is very strong.

In implanting always select a mature, firm root, covered with a pericemental membrane and extracted from a person beyond forty years of age; cut out a section between the crown and the root and unite the parts. This will reduce the size of the root both in length and reduce the cone shape. Remember that after extraction absorption takes place and a full-sized root can never be implanted successfully. Surgical cleanliness is absolutely necessary to secure union. Before implanting cut a double flap, as has been described many times by Dr. Younger.

I will give details of various methods covering this ground later.

PLASTER IMPRESSIONS OF DIFFICULT CASES.

It is frequently necessary to obtain an impression of the four or six anterior lower teeth which have become loose from pyorrhoea, an excessive accumulation of tartar, or other cause, in order to construct a retaining appliance to hold them in position during treatment. Impressions of these cases, or of those which are often found, where one or two inferior incisors are missing, with the adjoining teeth either loose, or out of position, and standing at different angles, are extremely difficult to obtain, and if attempted in the usual way, it is impossible to secure an exact duplicate of the natural teeth, for the reason that wax, modeling compound, or other plastic material would of necessity "draw" badly upon removal from the mouth, while a plaster impression, taken by the ordinary method, would need to be withdrawn while very soft, with unsatisfactory results, or the operator, however skillful, runs great risk of removing with the plaster one or more of the loosened teeth.

The following method, which has been used by the writer for several years in such cases, renders it possible to obtain a perfect plaster impression, with very little trouble, and absolutely no risk

of disturbing the teeth, however loose they may be. Instead of the usual cup, take a piece of any soft metal, the most convenient being a perforated tin, which can be procured at most hardware stores, but a piece of air chamber metal will do. Cut from this two pieces, each about one and a half inches long and three-quarters of an inch wide, and bend them slightly to conform somewhat to the curve of the arch. Mix impression plaster rather thin in the usual manner, place a little upon the convex side of one of the metal plates and carry into the mouth against the lingual surface of the teeth, and if any are so loose as to be pressed outward by the plaster, they may be straightened before the setting process begins. Allow the plaster to extend above (not over) the ends of the teeth about a quarter of an inch, and while in the mouth and still soft, take an instrument and partially smooth this exposed material. When sufficiently hard, remove by pressing it gently inward, away from the teeth; take a sharp knife and trim the edge of the plaster which extended above the ends of the teeth, to a smooth surface, make slight guide holes or grooves in it, varnish with sandarac, and replace in its original position in the mouth.

Now prepare more plaster as before, place it upon the concave side of the other metal plate, and carefully place against the labial side of the teeth, taking care that the soft plaster comes in contact with the varnished surface of the first portion. When this has set, the two parts may be easily separated, and after removal from the mouth will be found to fit each other exactly, and when waxed together, varnished and carefully poured, the result will be a model which is an exact reproduction of the natural teeth in all their ugliness, undercuts, interproximal spaces and all—so perfect as to amply repay the operator for the extra care and time consumed.

W. H. STOWE.

Once an implanted tooth has become firm and rigid, if it is not allowed to occlude with other teeth to cause traumatism, it may be firm and useful for years. The chances for success are greatly in favor of single spaces, where one tooth is to be replaced, and where a plate or bridge would be disfiguring.—*Dr. R. E. Payne, in Items of Interest.*

www.libtool.com.cn**EDITORIAL**

This month it is not only our opportunity, but almost our duty to boast a little. We don't want to tire our readers by blowing our own horn too loudly, but we think those of our friends who have shown enough interest in our "youngster" to subscribe, ought to know how well it has been received. Subscriptions are coming in rapidly, and we hear many favorable comments, while many of our exchanges speak well of our appearance and brightness, and all wish us success. Again permit us to impress upon our readers the necessity of their co-operation in making the little magazine still more "newsy" and interesting, by sending in their contributions on any subject of interest to dentists, together with such news notes, practical points, or occurrences in daily practice as may come to their notice. As before stated, we shall use every effort to make the *News* bright and interesting, and have arranged with a number of prominent and well-known members of the profession to contribute short articles never before published, which we promise will be of special interest and benefit to the busy practitioner.

The flattering manner in which our publication has been received encourages us to use still greater endeavor, if possible, to so improve it as to make it of value to every progressive dentist, and a welcome monthly visitor. We would urge all who may receive this number as a sample copy to subscribe at once, in order that no numbers shall be missed. We know it will prove a good investment—as the advertisers say: "We guarantee satisfaction or refund the money."

Dentist going abroad will sell finest outfit complete. See Ad.
Page 22.

MISCELLANEOUS

DISSIPATION.

As R. Kipling, Esq., parenthetically explains in the course of his popular little poem entitled "Bobs," "This ain't no bloomin' ode," so I, at the outset, after taking such a subject for discussion as "Dissipation," ought perhaps to explain, lest some of you might expect a dissertation on "Intemperance, and the Necessity for Prohibition." You are all aware that there are many forms of intemperance. Some temperance lecturers are very intemperate in their speech. There are also, taking the word in its wide sense, many forms of dissipation. To-night I refer specially to the dissipation or scattering (which is the literal meaning of the word) of energy, talents and time so prevalent in this age of hurry.

Take, for example, our reading. In these days of "the making of many books" the great danger is that our range of reading will be so promiscuous and diffused as to be worse than useless to us. Nothing is so diametrically opposed to true scholarship as the indiscriminate reading of current literature. Our fathers were men of fewer books, but had a larger percentage of good books than we. I recently heard this form of mental dissipation compared with the dissipation of the morphine or cocaine fiend. There comes a time in the history of the person who forms this bad habit of constantly reading light literature when he will read nothing that will not produce in him a thrill of excitement, just as the victim of the drug habit must have his period of exaltation, no matter how intense the depression following. In both habits the after effects are similar in some respects—loss of memory, brain power, and an ambition for better things generally. This habit of reading trash is easy to contract, and may take as great an effort of will power to overcome as for many an inebriate to give up his cups.

In a profession making such phenomenal progress as is dentistry, you will agree with me there is much to be read if we would keep ourselves from becoming back numbers. The dentist who neglects to read the dental journals and the best of the text-books on dental

subjects will very soon find himself the companion of the men who never attend a convention—the rank outsider.

You will agree with me that the young graduate in any profession who thinks that his education is completed when he has had his sheepskin framed and his shingle painted and hung, is making a grievous mistake. Just that mistake is being made every year by young men who are graduated from our excellent School of Dentistry. Many a young dentist thinks he has completed the cycle of dental science, and for him there are no more worlds to conquer, except it be that he is anxious to acquire a practice in the shortest time possible. It has seemed to me that more could be done by our college professors towards impressing the students during their college course, and particularly during their final year, with the necessity for continued study after graduation, and with the desirability of every young man keeping himself in touch with his profession and up-to-date, by not only subscribing for two or three dental journals, but also by joining and attending his local and provincial dental societies.

The weeks and months during which a young student is waiting for his patronage to grow, are, if he only knew it, invaluable to him in fitting himself for his life work. If, during these idle hours habits of industry are formed along the lines of professional reading and scientific experimentation and research, the later years will not be as barren of usefulness to the profession as is the case with many of us. Our education is at fault if we are not taught to think things for ourselves, instead of blindly accepting as gospel all that we find in journal or text-book, or hear in college lecture-room. The professor who says, "Young men, think for yourselves," has given the students the best advice possible to be given to any one beginning study in a liberal profession. The young professional man settling in a town or city is naturally extremely anxious to get acquainted, eagerly accepts every invitation to mingle with society as an opportunity to gain friends, and, incidentally, patrons and patients. If he be a young man of good address and "sunny ways" he will soon find himself wishing there were more nights in each week, that he might take in all that society offers him.

In addition to society, he may think it advisable to join two or three fraternal societies. In some of these, with his education and ambition, he will naturally become an officer, and much time will

be necessary to keep in touch with the details of business dealt with. If he be religiously inclined, he will become prominent in his church and young people's society or Sunday school, which is right in its place and in moderation. If he is ambitious to shine politically, the municipal campaign opens a tempting field for him, and he may aspire to the Council, or he may become School Trustee, a director in his local Public Library Board, all in his laudable ambition to be of service to his fellow-townsmen. I have no word of condemnation for the desire to serve the public in these capacities, but simply to point out the dangers of dissipation, of "diffusiveness to the point of inefficiency," as some one has said.

In these days men are finding out that even one profession is too broad for them to possibly hope to excel in the practice of all its branches, and so the tendency of the age is towards specialization. In law we find the formation of large firms, composed of men, each of whom devotes himself to one distinct branch of law, and thus becomes particularly efficient in its practice. In medicine we find the same condition on the increase, and few physicians now pretend, except of necessity, to care for the whole human body. There is also a tendency, in dentistry, particularly in large centres of population, towards the development of specialities—prosthetic, orthodontia, extracting, pyorrhoea treatment, implantation.

Surely if the most up-to-date men of our profession find it conducive to efficiency and profitable withal to confine themselves to the practice of one branch of dentistry, it is self-evident that one man cannot be a good all-round dentist and all that the times demand he should be in skill, etc., and at the same time be engaged in a half-dozen or more other lines, all diverse from dentistry and from each other.

It is a most important announcement that was made at the last meeting of this society, when the executive committee reported favorably on the offering of prizes for the encouragement of original lines of research in dental science. The sportsman with the shot-gun may do havoc in the flock of sparrows, but it is the heavy rifle alone that will be effective with large game worth bringing out of the woods.

If we want to produce anything worth a place in the annals of our profession, we must specialize, study some particular line towards which our talent or fancy directs us, and it is only by such

methods of work by such men as Black, Flagg, Ottolengui, Case Johnson, Peck, Price, Younger, and others of our contemporaries, not to mention many who have laid deep, broad foundations and then passed away, that dentistry has reached its present proud position among the liberal professions. It is only by a continuation of such self-sacrificing work that further progress will be made, and much that is dark and mysterious to-day will have the sunlight of science turned upon it. With the present stress of competition it is not fair that our best men should devote themselves to such problems without some recompense for the loss. Any scientific research that will benefit humanity is, to my mind, a matter which it would, under proper conditions, be competent for the State to recognize and aid substantially. Until that time shall come we must undertake to share in the sacrifice by providing substantial prizes for such work as is worthy of a place, as original research. If I succeed in making any one present stop and think over how much he is contributing to the sum total of scientific dental knowledge, I shall feel repaid.—*G. S. Martin, D. D. S., in Dominion Dental Journal.*

CANADA SMUGGLES FALSE TEETH.

The notion that Canada has bitten off more than she can chew in the Alaskan boundary dispute is all wrong. For years she has been smuggling thousands of dollars' worth of American false teeth. She now has masticating facilities that will enable her to crack almost any international nut that falls across the border.

That "our lady of the snows" is prepared to chew almost any old thing that comes her way is indicated by disclosures just made by the Dominion customs authorities. These officials, according to dispatches from Montreal, have uncovered frauds in the customs department amounting to many thousands of dollars, chief among them being the importation of American false teeth and other dental supplies, without paying duty on them. The smuggling of false teeth, it is alleged, has been going on for years.

Of course this is rough on the Dominion exchequer, but it speaks volumes for American store teeth. Instead of getting her teeth from the mother country, Canada prefers to grind her Indian corn or buckwheat cakes on American molars, and the people are ready

to risk fines and imprisonment to smuggle them across the border. And here is where the mother country may well exclaim:

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is
To have a thankless child!"

England makes teeth, but they are not strong enough for Canada, where they crack nuts and chew the bark off of sassafras trees. It is a "tooth and nail" struggle in that rigorous clime, where the battle with the elements is not to the toothless, but to the man whose grinders fit him and are mounted on a modern plate that will "defy the tooth of time."

Perhaps here is a way out of the Alaskan boundary difficulty. Canada needs American teeth. Let her repeal the duty on teeth in exchange for Chilkoot Pass or an inlet through Lynn Canal.—*Troy (N. Y.) Record.*

A NEW FIELD FOR THE GIRLS.

"Have you noticed how generally dentists are employing girl assistants?"

It was a prominent dentist who put the question. The victim in his chair admitted that he had never thought about the assistants.

"It is really a profitable and agreeable field of employment for girls," the dentist went on, "and it is broadening every day. People are giving more and more attention to their teeth, and in response to the demand dentists are springing up like mushrooms."

"Every dentist of the slightest importance needs an assistant, and to-day the assistant is almost invariably a young woman. Why? Well, in the first place the girl does better work. She is more deft, more neat, and quick and tactful. I wouldn't trade one intelligent girl assistant for fifty boys."

"Then, too, the girl doesn't serve notice and trot off to study dentistry just about the time she learned to be useful. That's what the average boy does. It is all right for him to be ambitious, and I would cheer him on, but it is a confounded nuisance in an office."

"When I began business I hired boys in rapid succession. Most of them were no good. Those that were good learned all they could learn here, and then went in for dentistry as a profession."

"I put several of them through a dental college myself and wished them luck, but I never had a really serene moment here in the office until one day a young woman walked in and took possession of the place.

"A woman assistant was rather a novelty in a dentist's office then, but I was sick of untidy, awkward, blundering boys, and of migratory, ambitious boys. I decided to make the experiment. I've abused myself ever since because I didn't make it sooner.

"My new assistant didn't know any more about dentistry than she did about Choctaw, but she was as trim and neat as a woman could be. She had a low voice and she could move around like a flash without making any noise.

"She was so tidy that she revolutionized the office. Not a blessed thing was out of place after she came. She could put her hand on anything under heaven I asked for.

"I never had to tell her a thing twice. She took charge of the books, straightened them out, put them into copper-plate condition. She made all my appointments, saw all my callers, managed the cranky ones tactfully, amused the children.

"I really became more or less helpless. She took everything in hand, me included, and I could rely upon her so completely that I didn't bother about anything myself, except just my work.

"When she married, I felt utterly adrift, but, bless your heart, in walked one of her girl friends and things were right where they were before. After four years, she married, too.

"Four years seems to be the limit here. The girl I have now is just as good as her predecessors, but I've had her only two years, so I'll not lose her yet."

"Isn't losing girls by marriage just as bad as losing boys by ambition?" asked the victim.

"Not at all. In the first place, the boy seldom lasted a year. He wasn't satisfactory while he did last. Taking in a green boy was a horror.

"A girl isn't so bad, even at the start. She usually stays several years, and she's a solid comfort while she is here."

"Don't any of the girls study dentistry after becoming interested in the work here?"

"Now, that's a funny thing. I've never known one to do it, and my fellow-dentists tell me they've never known it to happen."

"The girl seems to enter a dentist's office just as she would go into a shop. She merely wants employment until she marries.

"Every girl confidently expects to marry, though she may not be willing to admit it. While she waits for her natural vocation, she wants to take to the lightest and most remunerative work she can find.

"A dentist's office is far ahead of a shop. I'm surprised that the number of girls applying for employment as dentists' assistants isn't larger, but I fancy that is explained by the fact that the average girl doesn't know anything about the work nor understand how good an opening it offers.

"I pay my assistant \$15 a week, but she is particularly helpful. She can even, in case of an emergency, clean out a tooth and put in a soft filling to relieve a sufferer when I happen to be away.

"She mixes all my amalgam, hammers the gold, adjusts the rubber shield, knows every one of my tools as well as I do, cleans the tartar off teeth to save me time. All this in addition to keeping books and running the office. I could afford to pay her more than I do rather than lose her.

"Fifteen dollars a week is rather higher than the average pay. In most good offices, I believe, the assistant gets \$10 or \$12 a week; but see how much easier the work is than store work or many of the other employments for girls.

"The hours are short—from 8.30 until 6, but there is seldom anything to do after 4 in the afternoon. For much of that time the girl is idle. She sits in the waiting-room, reads, and sees the callers.

"Save when assisting with fillings she is on her feet very little. She is in a comfortable, sanitary office amid pleasant surroundings. Her employer may be a crank, but one takes that chance in accepting any place, and the percentage of cranks in the dentists' profession isn't larger than in any other.

"Personally, I think the work is in the nature of a snap for a girl who hasn't the education or talent to fit herself for higher service. A dentist should choose his assistant carefully. She should be neat, quiet, respectful, intelligent, but she doesn't need to be educated.

"I've always obtained my girls through the departing incumbent, but some dentists, when they need assistants, put up notices

on the bulletin boards in the dental depots, and girls who know about the work often put applications there.

"It seems to me, though, that now, when the value of girl assistants is thoroughly recognized and their employment is practically universal in our profession, there ought to be some provision for training girls for the work.

"I ought not to have to take a perfectly green hand each time I want an assistant. There should be a training school. The course need not be a long one. A bright girl can very quickly master all that she is required to know, and she can get her experience in her employer's office.

"If the demand for such assistants increases as rapidly in the next five years as it has in the last five, some such provision for training will certainly be made."—*Pittsburg (Pa.) Gazette.*

ARTIFICIAL TEETH FOR CHILDREN.

Said the dentist: "It is surprising how many children have to be fitted out with false teeth. There is hardly a week that I do not provide artificial grinders for some unfortunate youngster. In most cases this premature toothlessness is the result of accidents. It really seems as though every time that a boy takes a tumble he manages to knock two or three of his front teeth down his throat. After figuring in a mishap of that kind two problems arise in regard to teeth. Either the disfigured chap has got to go through life with yawning gums or fill up the vacancy with false teeth.

"Of course, if the child is quite small, and it is only the milk teeth that are battered and bent, it is unnecessary to talk about plates and such things, as the lost teeth will soon be replaced by new ones of natural growth. It is when the second and permanent installment is done for that false teeth become the only remedy for collapsed jaws. As a rule, parents insist that their offspring avail themselves of this alternative, which many of them do under vigorous protest. Girls seldom put up much of a fight against this first aid to the injured, but some of the boys consider their toothless condition a sign of superiority, and they 'kick' strenuously against the proposed improvement.

"However, not all children lose their teeth through accident. Some young folks raise teeth of such fearful shape that the only

way to beautify the mouth is to draw out the misshapen stumps and substitute artificial masticators of good appearance.

"Another of the surprises of the false teeth industry is the frequency with which people ask for a set of ready-made teeth. It seems that common sense ought to tell the mature men and women that no two mouths are formed on exactly the same lines, and that it is not possible to fit one person with a plate made from the impression of another's mouth; yet, in spite of this very obvious difficulty, we have many calls for stock teeth. Naturally, it is impossible to fill these rush orders. I have, in a few instances, found a set of show teeth that would serve passably well for a few hours, and thus tide the importunate customer over some distressing emergency where teeth were essential to his comfort, but in no case was this expedient endurable for any length of time, and the rented plate was returned as soon as it had served its purpose and a new one made to fit the mouth. These exigencies usually arise from some accident to a former set of teeth. Store teeth are subjected to many vicissitudes. No matter how carefully a person may guard them, there is always more or less danger of their getting lost or broken. Under certain circumstances this is a very grave predicament, and I suppose the sufferers are excusable for their idiotic demand for ready-made molars.

"And that brings me up to another peculiarity of the dental trade. Of late years a good many people whose happiness hangs on portable teeth have realized that the life of their detached grinders is uncertain and have wisely provided themselves with a second set to fall back on in case of emergency. When I first heard of this idea of duplicate teeth, I thought it a decidedly queer notion, and set the old man down as crazy who originated it, but I have since seen the method in his madness, and have urged others to adopt his plan.

"The up-to-date tooth of cement is not such a faultless creation as was its predecessor of several years ago. People nowadays like to think that their individuality shows in their teeth, and many like the characteristic twists and turns of their own organs reproduced in the artificial ones. The strict adherence to nature is not universal by any means, even now, but it is common enough to cause us who are dentists to turn out a good many false teeth that are decidedly faulty, and even positively ugly."—*New York Times*.

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NEWS NOTES

The dental office of Dr. W. H. Jones, Northampton, Mass., was badly damaged by fire, March 12.

Dr. Jared F. Phelps, for half a century a dentist at Cazenovia, N. Y., died March 15, in his eighty-ninth year.

Dr. E. L. Jordan, a dentist of Newton, Mass., has failed. Liabilities, \$3,745.96. Assets uncertain.

Dr. E. L. Backus, a dentist of St. Joseph, Mo., had a narrow escape from severe injury recently, when his vulcanizer exploded and wrecked his office.

A Chicago dentist has been sued for \$10,000 damages by a patient who claims he broke off a drill in one of her teeth after boring through into her jaw bone.

A fire originating in the office of Dr. J. W. Pitts, of Saluda, S. C., not only burned him out, but also did considerable damage to others in the same building on the night of March. 23.

At a meeting March 11, the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs heard arguments from a large delegation of dentists in support of the bill adding dental surgeons to the medical corps of the navy.

A young man employed in the dental office of Dr. E. T. Laduke, Springfield, Mass., was recently severely burned about the face and hands by the explosion of a retort used in making nitrous oxide gas.

Sometimes you hear a man say "my dentist" with such an air of proprietorship that you would never dream he owes the practitioner fifty dollars which the dental gentleman never expects to get.—*Digest.*

Two California dentists, recently fined \$50 each for practising dentistry without a license, have appealed the case for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of the act forbidding the practice of dentistry without a license.

At the Annual Convention of the Odontological Society of Western Pennsylvania, held at Pittsburg, March 12, the following officers were elected: Dr. C. B. Pratt, of Allegheny, president; Dr. A. Rinehart, secretary, and Dr. J. A. Libby, of Pittsburg, treasurer.

"I don't like your heart action," said the doctor, applying the stethoscope again. "You have had some trouble with angina pectoris."

"You're partly right, doctor," sheepishly answered the young man, "only that ain't her name."—*Digest*.

At the monthly meeting of the New Haven Dental Club, held March 11, the members and guests were treated to an exceedingly interesting talk by Prof. Edward C. Kirk, dean of the dental department of the University of Pennsylvania, who has recently returned from an extended trip abroad.

A girl came into an office to have a tooth extracted. The dentist noticed that she had very fine teeth but sadly neglected them. He advised her to diligently brush them after each meal. To which she frankly replied: "Well, I used to brush 'em some, but when Brother Tom joined the army he took our tooth brush with him."

The Secretary of War has rendered a decision that contract dental surgeons have no official relation to the surgeon of a post, neither have their enlisted assistants, except that they may occasionally be attached to the hospital corps detachment for rations and quarters. Should it for any reason be necessary to recommend the excuse from duty of an officer or enlisted man on account of dental disease the contract dental surgeon will report the case to the surgeon of the post, who will take it up on his register of sick and wounded, but in other cases no report of dental operations will be made except by the contract dental surgeon.

✓ Some months ago one of the dental surgeons of Guy's Hospital fitted a reservist, who was going to South Africa, with some artificial teeth, in accordance with the present regulations. On his return the other day, the reservist thanked him in these words: "They was ~~just like~~ ~~like~~ those teeth, sir. Lots of the fellows wanted to borrow 'em!"—*Dental Record*.

If the teeth are too long, ragged, irregular, or in any way do not conform to correct lines, they should be changed, straightened, the surfaces rounded and carefully polished. It is always a benefit, never detrimental to tooth structure.

Broad teeth in a crowded arch will be greatly improved in appearance by taking off a little on either side, making the tooth narrower, overcoming crowding, preventing decay between and arresting decay, if present. I advocate this in every case as a prophylactic measure at any age.—*Dr. R. E. Payne*.

To harden and protect plaster casts take an ordinary cabinet-maker's glue pot and melt in the inner pot with boiling water, stearin. Have the plaster model perfectly dry and warm, and then place it for from five to ten minutes in the melted stearin. Remove and allow to stand until cool. It will be found that it has a marbleized appearance from the stearin, which has penetrated fully an eighth of an inch. Models treated in this way can be used for fitting clasps or bands without injury to the plaster teeth. It also keeps the models from becoming soiled.—*William Mitchell, in Dental Register*.

The Japanese dentist does not frighten his patient with an array of steel instruments. All his operations in tooth-drawing are performed by the thumb and forefinger of one hand. The skill necessary to do this is acquired only after long practice, but, when once it is obtained, the operator is able to extract half a dozen teeth in about thirty seconds without once removing his fingers from the patient's mouth. The dentist's education commences with the pulling out of pegs which have been pressed into soft wood; it ends with the drawing of hard pegs which have been driven into an oak plank with a heavy mallet.

Dr. Woodward, the health officer of the District of Columbia, has recommended to the District Commissioners that a favorable report be made on House bill 9,858, to amend an act in relation to the practice of dentistry in the District. The bill was introduced by Representative Pou, and provides that section three of the Act approved June 6, 1892, be amended by striking out all the provision in that section which reads as follows: "Provided, that all graduates of dental colleges which require a three-years' course of study shall be entitled to certificates upon the payment of the certification fee, and without examination as to their qualifications."

Dr. Woodward says that the legislation proposed should, in his judgment, be enacted. He says in the absence of a legal standard of qualification for graduates of dental colleges which require a three-years' course of study, it is practically impossible to accord them special privileges, which the existing provision does, without in effect defeating the law. Dr. Woodman recommends that the bill be returned to Congress with a request that it be favorably acted upon.

Very satisfactory artistic results in artificial dentures may be obtained by judicious grinding, or re-shaping the individual teeth to imitate abrasions of natural wear; and also in staining the teeth with the paints furnished by Ash & Sons, and burning them in the electric oven. The fine lines of enamel checks, tobacco stains, etc., can be very perfectly brought out with slight difficulty.—*William Mitchell, in Dental Register.*

✍ SOCIETY EVENTS ✍

The Twenty-sixth Annual Convention of the Vermont State Dental Society was held at Rutland, Vt., March 19, 20 and 21. Drs. Charles C. Patten and J. E. Waitt, of Boston, Dr. F. Bisbee, of Camden, Me., and Dr. A. J. Flanagan, of Springfield, Mass., were among the guests of the convention, and the meeting was one of the most interesting held by this society.

The Connecticut State Dental Association will hold its thirty-eighth annual meeting at Hartford, Conn., Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20 and 21, 1902. Every effort is being made to have a large and interesting meeting. At last year's convention 200 were present. A larger attendance is expected this year. Exhibitors desiring space will communicate with the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Geo. O. McLean, Hartford, Conn.

FREDERICK HINDSLEY,

Bridgeport, Conn.

Secretary.

The Harvard Dental Alumni Association will hold its thirty-first annual banquet Monday evening, June 23, 1902, at Young's Hotel, Boston, Mass. The seventh consecutive alumni day will be held on the morning of the same day at the Harvard Dental School building.

The Massachusetts Dental Society will hold its thirty-eighth annual meeting in Boston, June 4 and 5, 1902.

The Northeastern Dental Association will hold its eighth annual meeting in Worcester, Mass., Oct. 15, 16 and 17, 1902.

COMING SOCIETY EVENTS.

Connecticut State Dental Association, Hartford, May 19, 20.
Pennsylvania State Dental Society, Bedford Springs, July 8, 9, 10.
Rhode Island Dental Society, July 8.
Delaware State Dental Society, Wilmington, July 2.
District of Columbia Dental Society, Washington, December 16.
Maine Dental Society, Camden, July 15, 16, 17.
Maryland State Dental Association, Baltimore, January 30.
New Jersey State Dental Society, Asbury Park, July 16, 17, 18.
New York State Dental Society, Albany, May 14, 15.
Ohio State Dental Society, Columbus, December 2, 3, 4.

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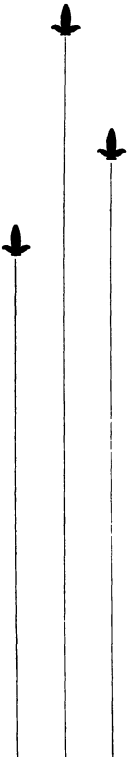
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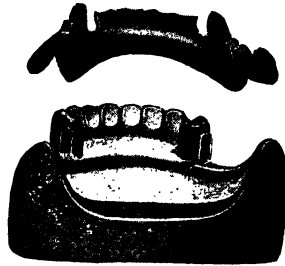
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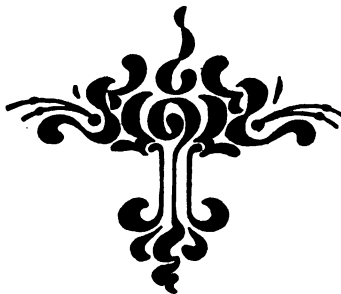
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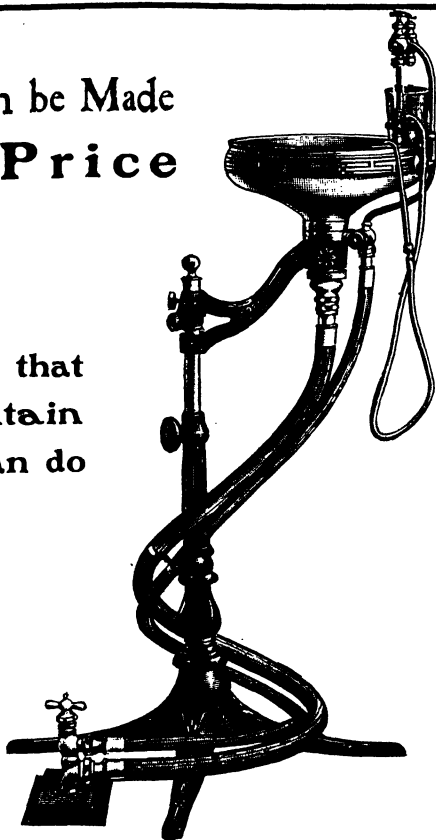
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