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# THE PROGRESSIVE DENTIST

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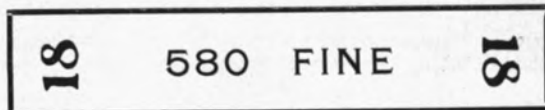
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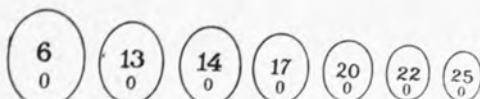


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# The Progressive Dentist

Vol. 2

June 1913

No. 9

## I GREET YOU—A. D. C. G. N. Y.

By L. LEVITT, D. D. S.

I greet you Allied Dental Council of Greater N. Y. ! for like the rising sun, you will not only shed light upon the hitherto unknown, but likewise inoculate life into the lethargic and complacent part of the community you now represent.

You have a difficult task before you, but in unity is strength and you will overcome all obstacles in your path. If you fail, it will be our disgrace and the profession will sink lower, if such a thing is possible. If you succeed you will revolutionize the profession. Your activity is manifold, but has been arranged under three groups, viz: education, legislation and organization. We shall not speak of them in the order as they appear in the resolution drawn up at the first meeting of the Dental Council, but rather in the order of importance, as it appears to us.

At first glance it seems that the most important work at the outset is organization, for nothing can be done by segregated individuals, no matter how great their number is, but in the first place the very first step towards organization, which is necessary to carry on the work, has been already accomplished in the election of a representative body by the constituent societies of the Council; in the second place, organization has a much broader aim than confederation and of this we shall speak in a future article. We shall give now a brief outline of the conditions that exist in our profession, which call for legislative work.

We have to rid the dental profession of the malignant and parasitical growths before we proceed to improve its general health; we want to abolish the conditions which impede our progress or at least to improve them to such extent, where we can proceed unhindered in the more important work of self-improvement and the education of the public at large.

There was a time, when "survival of the fittest" was understood in a different sense than it is understood now. It practically meant the physical superiority of the "survived" over the "perished." Stronger muscles, greater endurance, greater cunning, were the supreme factors of thriving and producing offspring, while those endowed with the above enumerated qualities to a lesser degree and are therefore, weaker in their struggle for existence, have but little chance of thriving and leaving posterity and are for the most part doomed to perdition. This is the gist of the great biological idea of evolution with its numerous phases and divisions that has been laid down a half of a century ago by our great biological celebrities and has been discussed ever since by greater and smaller lights of our scientific constellation. Not so is it understood now; the light of recent scientific investigation, shed upon biological as well as social phenomena, revealed facts which, though far from denying the importance of fitness in the struggle for existence has nevertheless changed the entire aspect of evolution by introducing another factor of

not lesser moment—"mutual aid" which is found to be one of the most powerful factors in the life of gregarious animals and still more powerful in the life of man.

It seems as if nature itself recognized the futility of ruthless annihilation, and in order to counteract the destructive tendency of the "survival of the fittest," has inaugurated the more humane tendency of "mutual aid," whereby the species are enabled by united and well organized efforts not only to cope successfully with the elements of nature in the attainment of subsistence, not only to conduct the defence against the invasion or attack of an enemy, but likewise by the well organized function of a community, to improve the individual himself and instead of sparing the strong and destroying the weak, make the weak strong and useful members of the community. Thus we see that these co-existent tendencies in nature, though working in a parallel direction and towards the same goal, are, nevertheless as diametrically opposed in their methods, as to become extremely antagonistic to each other. Nowhere is the war between these tendencies so strikingly manifest, so universally recognized, as in the present social life. The facts are too conspicuous, too obvious to require illustration while the inherent tendency of strife between man and man is raging unmercifully.

The idea of organization for mutual aid is more and more permeating the minds of the people while the feeling of combat and competition is still adhering tenaciously to human nature, the feeling of solidarity, the idea of "brotherhood of men" is slowly but surely gaining ground, slowly but surely encroaching upon the domain of strife and antagonism, breaking up old traditions undermining outlived institutions, obliterating antiquated ideas and in time will destroy the last vestige of the barbaric "survival of the fittest" except the historical records which will mark the stupendous progress of man.

Do we need facts? The organization of gigantic industries, of large municipalities, of educational, political, health and welfare promoting institutions of national and international accommodations and above all the rapid growth of powerful labor organizations, are only a few instances of the universal tendency of mutual aid variously applied—the tendency which made humanity what it is to-day and which is destined to lead it through transitional phases to our goal—the co-operative commonwealth. Let those who revel in wealth or serve the interests of the same, denounce with foaming lips the approaching economic liberty, let them grow hoarse in praising the present social order, their powerless vituperations can no more stop human progress than the light breeze can change the course of a mighty river. We are on the threshold of a new era.

But strange as it may appear, it is nevertheless a fact that the professionals in general and dentists in particular have, until recently, been almost entirely segregated. While members of other callings and even artists of various denominations have recognized the advisability of organizing for mutual aid and individual improvement, for upholding and uplifting their profession, the dentists remained isolated and as a consequence of this isolation the profession sank lower and lower. At first a few of our own midst began undue advertising of "low rates" and "high class work"; advertising proving to be very effective means of attracting "trade" the "increased business" and popularity led to the opening of branches and soon "outside" money men finding it a



"very profitable investment" laid the foundation of the cancer of the dental profession the dental parlor, which grew and spread with the persistence and rapidity peculiar to that malignant growth, but the process of decay didn't stop there.

Some of our brethren, who worked up a practice that kept them too busy, yet a practice not large enough to enable them to employ the services of registered men as assistants, instead of advancing their fees, in order to decrease the volume of work, thereby giving opportunity to the beginner to work himself up, began to instruct their laboratory men to work at the chair and assist them during the busy hours. As a consequence a man who helped at the chair for a year or two and has learned the "tricks of the trade" began to treat his friends and relatives on a Q. T. From friends and relatives the benefit of his experience is extended to neighbors and their friends and relatives ad. infinitum; he establishes a practice, at first secretly, but, not meeting with any opposition, he begins to practice openly. Some of them join partnership with a "legal man," others employ a legal man in the noble and exalted capacity of a figurehead, still others have their signs embellished with the name of some "friendly dentist" under whose protecting wing they continue their piracy unmolested.

But this is not all, nor is it the worst. Some of these "worthy Danes" are honoring our profession by going from house to house with a spacious valise filled with instruments and materials (not excluding the forceps) offering "dental services" at exceedingly moderate prices, much the same as a peddler of matches or shoe-laces, and if told by the unsophisticated tenant that such services are desirable, they enter the apartment, spread a napkin on a table or chair, arrange the instruments on it, seat the "customer" comfortably in a rocker, facing the window, place a coal scuttle or pail near the "dental chair" and at once proceed to perform the required operation to the curiosity and joy of the "kids" witnessing the great coup de theatre.

"This is not the worst" suggested a brother practitioner with an acrid smile on his lips, "They are going to dispense "dental services" from a chair on wheels with bells attached to the head-rest to announce the arrival of the "dentist" who will wheel his "office" through the streets in a manner very similar to that of the Italian junk dealer or the grinder of cutlery.

Poor brother practitioner! His prophesy reminds me of a man, who was selling barometers to farmers. His barometer consisted of a square blotter and when asked how it was to be used in order to foretell the changes of the weather, he would instruct the purchaser to slowly approach the window put the barometer on the palm of his left hand and open the window with the right hand, thrust the hand with the barometer out as far as possible and keep it there for a few minutes. If drops of water appear on the barometer, it signifies "rain" if not dry weather.

My poor honest brother practitioner predicts something which painless Parker is doing for the past thirteen or fourteen years, with the difference that he employed a horse to pull his "office" and that he "pulled teeth free of charge, thereby inducing people to call at any of his cornucopia of offices, where he, not only "pulled" their teeth, but also their legs. But the best feature of the prevailing conditions in our

profession, one that puts the finishing touches to the situation is that it opened an inexhaustible source of income for all sorts of swindlers and impostors.

Just a few weeks ago, the writer of this article was told by a patient that he was swindled to the amount of thirty-five dollars by a so-called Russian dentist, who offered to make dental work estimated at \$85.00 for only \$35.00 if he was given the money in advance; the money was given to him but the work was not forthcoming and, having collected in a similar way a considerable sum of money from numerous other would be patients, the impostor disappeared.

Another individual of about the same category opened an office and began to advertise heavily; he had his name Dr. — Surgeon Dentist, painless extractions, crown and bridgework a specialty, etc., in large letters on his signs. He was an illegal practitioner, but he didn't intend to keep up long as soon as he collected a sufficient sum of money in deposits (these people know how to get a heavy deposit without doing any work) he vacated the flat at night, leaving the signs behind him, not having paid his rent, his grocers' and butchers' bills, and several neighbors of whom he borrowed cash. All this tends to show the horrible conditions prevailing in our profession and our first step is to abolish these conditions. Some dental practitioners (especially those who are unaffected by these evils) expressed themselves that this is a bread and butter cry, that this is a painful outcry against competition. Be it so, are we in the wrong then? Picture the feelings of a young man who, having gone through several years of hard work, fear, anxiety and an enormous expense to obtain his right to practice, hangs out his shingle and while waiting with a throbbing heart for a patient, finds out that a man next door, who hasn't put in a stitch of work to make him fit for the profession, who very often can hardly read and write, practices the same profession and looks with a sinister smile at the dupe, who has wasted so much precious time, energy and money. Would you blame him for the painful outcry?

And yet it is not the material consideration that plays the principal part in the protest against illegal practice, no!—a thousand times no! It is the moral side of it that the outcry is due to.

The demoralization of the public who does not differentiate between the licensed dentist and the illegal sneak is enormous. They judge the dental profession and its methods by their representatives, legal or illegal, hence the confidence and respect on the part of the population that the dentist could have enjoyed is entirely lost.

What opinion can the people entertain about a profession whose "members" go from house to house soliciting dental work, who recommend the extraction of healthy teeth with or without superficial cavities in order to put in more bridgework, who neither possess the knowledge and skill, nor the desire of treating a root canal properly and whose operations are for the most part disastrous in their results?

The dental profession is placed in a position where it has to share the discredit and lack of confidence created by the illegal practitioner in the minds of the people. Bad, very bad! What is to be done? The answer is: organize! get to work! Let all our attention be centered upon the removal of the cancerous growth! How? and here we arrive at the discussion of the ways and means.

The first step made by the A. D. C. G. N. Y. the calling of a mass

meeting was a splendid achievement in spite of the fact that no important steps were decided upon or any definite conclusion arrived at. The service that this meeting rendered to the profession consists in the first place of calling the attention of dentists to the existence and work of the A. D. C. G. N. Y. and in the second place, of airing the opinions and sentiments of our fellow-practitioners. In order to proceed with the work intelligently, we want to study the prevailing opinions and sentiments of the dental practitioners, regarding the conditions existing in our profession. Unfortunately the measures proposed at the meeting for the control of illegal practice are for the most part inadequate and ineffective in that they only tend to locate the illegal practitioner and not to prosecute him and in that respect Dr. Ottolengui's measure is the most convenient. Dr. Daily's proposition of giving over the matter of prosecution of illegal practitioners into the hands of the Board of Health is altogether inadequate and illogical, for, besides the tendency of this measure to corrupt our only decent city department, the latter is absolutely unqualified and incompetent to carry on such work.

Neither can Dr. Rice's proposition of imposing a tax on dental outfits be conducive to the control of illegal practice. Dr. Schwamm's contention that the present laws are adequate in the restriction of illegal practice if properly enforced is partly right, for as a matter of fact, the enforcement of the law is often more important and effective than the introduction of new laws on paper and here we come to one of the most important points in our activity, i. e. the improvement of the methods of enforcing the laws. But as we said before, Dr. Schwamm is partly right, for the present laws are very far from complete and clear and if we are to start a vigorous enforcement of the law, we may well improve it first and enforce the proper thing subsequently. Our personal opinion of the matter in question is that most of the proposed remedies are good to some extent, but that they are all palliatives; none of them is of a nature that can solve the problem. Why? Because in order to find a remedy for an evil, we have to find the cause for it and remove it. What is the cause of illegal practice of dentistry? Why do we not find a similar state of affairs in other professions? It is a well known fact that while the medical profession is swarmed with advertising physicians, medical institutes and specialists claiming positive cure or money refunded, they are nevertheless legal men, duly licensed physicians, whom the medical profession may bar from joining the medical or scientific societies, but whom no power in the world can deprive of their right to practice or of their advertising space in the news-papers; their existence can be traced to ignorance, pure and simple, but never to poverty, for, the money that these fakirs obtain from their victims exceeds, by far, the highest fee of an ethical and reliable physician. Almost the same can be said about law. The profession is full of advertising accident, divorce and patent lawyers, whose success, whose very existence, depends solely on the ignorance of their clients and yet, not one of them can appear in court to defend a case, unless he is duly licensed to practice law.

Not so is it with the dental profession. The Government and public at large hardly consider it a profession and are indifferent to its welfare. What is the cause of this state of affairs? The cause is double. a) Ignorance. b) Poverty. Although from a social standpoint these

two factors can be considered as one, for it is an axiom that poverty is the mother of ignorance and vice versa (this seems to be the only known instance wherein mother and child are interchangeable.)

Now, ignorance and poverty.

Let us take up the later of the two, as it is, in our estimation the less important.

While poverty is a powerful factor in social life and in the case in question is instrumental in creating and maintaining ignorance (the second half of the Siamese twins), it is nevertheless by far not the principal cause that gave birth to illegal practice. It is true that some go to the illegal man because his fees are much lower, but the number of such is not sufficiently large to give weight to it.

The writer has studied the situation to a degree of a fair knowledge of it and as a result of this study can state with a considerable degree of certainty that most of the illegal men charge \$4.00 per crown or bridge-work, while a smaller number charge less than \$4.00 in exceptional cases the charge is \$2.50 to \$3.00, but isn't it a well known fact that many legal men charge the same for their work—nay, some advertise a \$3.00 crown.

It follows, therefore, that it is not the price that lures the patient to the illegal man. What else? Some maintain that the patient feels more at home in the office of an illegal man, because there is no necessity of care-taking of dress, she leaves her kitchen and without improving her habiliment, often with her apron on, runs in next door or next house for the treatment of her teeth. There are some other unimportant considerations, but while this may be true in a few instances, it is by no means sufficient reason for patronizing the illegal man.

What is the true cause then? The writer's personal opinion is that the principal cause is the ignorance of the people, who do not know that a dentist is one who passed through a professional training in a college, whence he obtained his diploma and passed the state board examination, whence he received his license to practice. A lady expressed her surprise once, when the writer explained to her that the man (she gave his name) who put a crown on her abscessed lateral, without treating the canal, has no right to practice. "Why hasn't he?" she asked, "doesn't he know how to do it?" This illustrates their total ignorance that a man has to be licensed in order to practice dentistry.

It is just as surprising to them as it would have been if they were told that a man, who can make a pair of shoes, has to obtain a license for making them.

Another lady asked the writer to teach her sixteen year old son the "dental trade." The writer, thinking that she meant prosthetic work, told her that his mechanic is too busy for that. "No," she exclaimed, "I mean to work at the chair."

Ignorance, pure and simple, is at the bottom of it all. So we see that while ignorance on one side fertilizes the soil for illegal practice, the unconscious, undignified and near-sighted dentist plants the illegal practitioner, both work hand in hand—one to give birth, the other to nourish the wolf.

Now the remedy:

To do away with the employ of illegal help by our fellow-practitioners is a simple matter. He will have to give it up or steps will be

taken to revoke his license. The ignorance of the public is a mouse and can be destroyed best by the famous old cat, that has destroyed so much of it that there is no doubt that it will destroy this part of it also.

And here we come to Dr. Chayes' plan which we purposely omitted in our criticism before with the intention of handling it at the proper moment: "Education of the masses" is his motto. A very good idea, but how does he propose to do it? By hiring a page in four or five newspapers? The enormous expense of such undertaking can only be justified by similar results. Can we expect great results from a page printed in large type (no one will take the trouble of reading small type) conveying to the readers a few facts of hygiene and an advice to beware of illegal or dishonest practitioners? By no means! Besides, the newspaper reading public is more or less intelligent and is, with few exceptions, not patronizing illegal dentists. We want to reach the illiterate non-reading public, who are for the most part victims of this plague. This could be attained by arranging public lectures in each district by the local dental society with stereopticon views or even motion pictures, if necessary. The audiences should be addressed by good speakers, preferably dentists, in the language of the particular locality. Such lectures can be arranged at regular intervals at a comparatively small cost covered by a fund raised for the purpose.

It does not follow, however, from all considerations here submitted, that the prosecution of the illegal practitioner should be stopped, that he be permitted to practice unmolested; this would be absurd, as in treatment of a disease, while we remove the cause of the latter and use prophylactic remedies to prevent its recurrence, we nevertheless do not leave the already affected tissue untreated, so we shall not let the illegal man to remain in the blissful dominion of "do as you please." We shall conduct a vigorous all-sided campaign against that malignant growth that undermines the dental profession and we haven't the least doubt that our efforts will be crowned with success.



## **ANOTHER LARGE-TYPE ULTIMATUM FROM THE HAND OF THE "ETHICAL."**

(In reply to May, 1913, Cosmos Editorial.)

By DR. A. E. BERYLSON.

Poor "ethics," the hypocritical badge of the would-be aristocracy of our profession and the dogmatic religion of the true-believers, is again forced to the front, this time to lend the countenance of decency to a pretense, which wrong from its inception, became more shameful and audacious as time went on. So intolerant and arrogant were the claims incorporated in letters patent procured by Dr. Taggart to manufacture a device for casting gold-inlays, so impudent were the demands based on such rights, made upon the profession by those acting apparently in the interest of the inventor, demands, such as were embodied in a circular sent to almost every dentist in the land, asking for a fee of fifteen dollars to be paid to Dr. Taggart for the right to practice the **process** of casting gold inlays that it roused public spirited men such

as Boynton and a host of busy dentists, who sacrificed their valuable time in serving as witnesses to prove to a court that Taggart's claims to the **process** of casting gold inlays has no leg to stand on. The testimony there given plainly bears the implication that Taggart was unprincipled enough, leave alone "unethical," in procuring his letters patent to manufacture a device for casting gold inlays, to incorporate and lay claims to a **process** which was in general use in different trades since time immemorial and which was for a long time the common property of the profession. In other words, to use plain language, he simply made an attempt to rob the profession of a procedure by procuring a patent right to call it his own and then tax every dentist at will for using said procedure.

The editor of the "Cosmos" admits all this, that Dr. Taggart has no legal right to the procedure. All this is very well and good. But the editor thinks that the legal phase of this matter would appeal only to two classes: "those who view the matter wholly from the legal standpoint and who will, of course, decide that they owe him nothing," and those "who down in the depths of their souls realize that they owe him much, will consider the obligation more than cancelled by the fact that he tested his right to a reward for his service to dentistry by a suit at law." These individuals are made of common clay, merely bipeds. The court sustains them in their extreme unwillingness to pay a reward and they feel happy. But, gentlemen, having done away with the common herd there is still left a third category—a category that is surely destined to bring about the millenium—"those whose ethical sense is not measured nor measurable by the restrictions of a **so-called code** but is expressed in the spirit and practice of the "Golden Rule." It is a great pity the editor of the Cosmos does not specifically show us what application they would make of the "Golden Rule" in this particular case, but after much guessing it becomes apparent that the gentlemen will give Dr. Taggart credit for his invention and that, according to the editor who seems to take the responsible tone as though he were their spokesman, **they owe him a duty.**

Did you ever! After such splendid expectations I merely find that they will give Taggart unspecified credit and that they owe him a duty. In the name of all that is "ethical," tell me what is the matter with these "Golden Rulers"? Have they not paid their duty yet? What are **they** waiting for, they whose "ethical sense is not measured not measurable by the restrictions of a so called code." Now please stop all that silly nonsense. What is the use writing a four-page-large-type-editorial about "a duty" when the so called National Protective Association acting in certain interests through its circular sent throughout the land has been willing to exchange said duty for the tangible, comprehensible, definite amount of fifteen dollars from each dentist. Do not all these "Golden Rule" arguments and second-hand "ethical" concepts advocated in large-type-editorials seem like so much wind!

In comparing the second category of gentlemen who realize that they owe Taggart "much" but would not pay because of a court decision and the "golden rulers" who simply **owe him a duty** I fail to distinguish the difference. What difference is there between these gentlemen, and what difference is there in the relation of these gentlemen and the "Golden Rulers" to Dr. Taggart since that which the latter owe him is merely

a **duty** and they keep on owing it to him. I would rather be shown by the prophet of the true-believers how much, if a duty were convertible into hard cash, would each "golden ruler" be obliged to pay to Dr. Taggart as a reward for his services to dentistry, and what in particular kept them from paying it, that is, fulfilling their duty, a duty, mind you, which, according to the Cosmos editorial, they still owe to him.

And now as to the services that Dr. Taggart did to the profession. Is there a sane dentist who would make the least effort to deny that Dr. Taggart did the profession a service? But no sane dentist would think for a moment that because he did a service to the profession in general he particularly owes Taggart a "duty," still less a duty convertible into hard cash. The fact that Dr. Taggart procured letters patent covering even the process of casting inlays shows moreover that his motives were not inspired by altruism, if such motives he had at all in his mind while working upon his invention.

Quite the contrary, in procuring his patent rights he intended to be the sole man controlling the sale of his machine, and as I believe, intending to reap as much in the shape of royalties, etc., as would be possible. Such rights to the sale of his **machine**, he still possesses. And should he take a notion to name a million dollars the price of his machine there would not be a man in the United States who could sell it to us for less.

I also believe that, in spite of his service to the profession, if he could possibly stop the sale of other, and sometimes better machines that are constantly put on the market, he would probably do that too. Thus making it difficult for a dentist of ordinary means, the type of dentists most predominant, to own a machine altogether, since the Taggart machine intended to be, at least in the beginning, quite expensive.

Being a man of average means I procured a machine, which I find most efficient, and for which I paid only twenty-five dollars. But it pains me to say that there is a man who identifies himself as a "Golden Ruler" and avowed "ethical dentist"—not without a duty, I presume, for to be ethical without a duty is even a much nastier business than to have a duty without being ethical,—who never thought of patronizing Taggart when he wanted an inlay machine, but was so unscrupulous as to buy a twenty-five dollar machine, soberly remarking afterwards that this machine possesses a double virtue, both in being cheaper and seemingly superior.

Now all this airy talk about "ethics" and the "Golden Rule" may be good enough both for Sunday schools and large-type editorials. In practical life only such utterances are of any use that are based on the solid foundation of common sense. In practical life these "Golden Rulers" like so many ordinary mortals, when it is to result in a material advantage, wait for courts when courts are to decide, and buy a machine, which while, at least, just as efficient cost them rather less than more, and all that these gentlemen owe to the man who made the cast inlay practical in every day dentistry—all they owe him is a **duty**.

But whatever the large type editorial meant to bring out but did not (is it from lack of conviction, or courage, or an innate common sense not required in large-type editorials) there is no doubt that everybody is willing to praise Taggart for the invention he hit upon, and championing his cause is not only superfluous but even ridiculous. The

meaning of the large-type-editorial intended to bring out is very vague and indefinite and for the world of me I cannot see what **practical advantage** may result to Dr. Taggart from such childish prattle.

In conclusion I desire to state that while we all feel in some measure morally indebted to Dr. Taggart we do not owe him anything in the shape of money. He still enjoys the privilege bestowed upon him by the state in the shape of patent rights which is all that is given to other inventors under similar circumstances. He still enjoys the right to his machine and there is no doubt that he collects the rightful royalties due him that result from its sale.



## DENTISTRY IN THE TALMUD.

### A Valuable Contribution to the Early History of Dentistry.

By SAMUEL GREIF.

(With this issue we are beginning a series of articles written by Samuel Greif, 1914. We think that our readers will appreciate the series for its many points of historic interest.—Ed.)

The Talmud is the great Jewish encyclopedic work of knowledge. It has been a source of profound interest to all who have ever turned to it, and has fascinated the exceptional ones who have been fortunate of having learned to understand it. It is the great reference book, employed for almost two thousand years, always rendering abundant material of both interest and value for topics of every description.

The extracts following are almost a complete survey of the dentistry of the Talmud. Dentistry as a distinct science is comparatively modern. It might have existed in some form during the days of the Talmud. Yet we find that even in the days of the Talmud there have been Jewish physicians specializing in dentistry. In studying the character of the ancient Jewish physicians we find that nearly all have specialized in some important branch of medicine. As the first three prominent Jewish physicians are named Chanina, Rab and Samuel. Chanina (ben Chanina), was the pioneer. He also has the credit of inserting natural and artificial (wooden) teeth as early as the second century. Thus, while being the first prominent Jewish physician, Chanina may also be named the pioneer Jewish dentist. Rab distinguishes himself in the earnest study of anatomy, expending large sums of money in procuring subjects for dissection. Samuel was known as a skillful accoucheur and oculist.

The extracts are given here in the order of the arrangement of the Talmud. They are accompanied by explanatory notes, together with the commentaries of Rashi, Rambam, Tosafath and others.

**Berachoth, 40a.**—Whoever has eaten a meal without having eaten salt, whoever has drunk a beverage without having drunk water, will be worried during the day by the fetid odor from the mouth, and during the night will be worried by the quinsy.

R. Mari said in the name of R. Jochanan: Whoever was accustomed to eat lentils once every thirty days, kept quinsy away from his house; every day, however (if one should eat), he would not. For what reason? because of the fetid odor from the mouth.



NOTE. The question of oral hygiene, as well as hygiene in general, seems to have been a prevalent one with the Talmud. As a matter of fact the science which has recently become so prominent has had its principles masterfully laid down by the great Jewish instructor Moses. The numerous references to hygiene in the Talmud are naturally the result of emphasis laid upon this science of health preservation in the Bible.

**Ber. 44b.**—The Rabanan have learned: The spleen is good for the teeth but bad for the entrails; bran is bad for the teeth but good for the entrails. The Master said: "The spleen is good for the teeth but bad for the entrails." What remedy is there? It is chewed and thrown away (being injurious to the digestive apparatus). "Bran is bad for the teeth but good for the entrails." What remedy is there? It is cooked well and swallowed (being injurious to the teeth). (See Sabb. 110a).

R. Yitzchak said: Those who eat cabbage before the fourth hour must not be spoken to. For what reason? Because of the odor from the mouth. Said R. Yitzchak: It is forbidden for every man to eat cabbage before the fourth hour.

RASHI. Not being the usual time for a meal, the odor will be offensive to those who may talk with him, his stomach being otherwise empty at the time.

NOTE. Evidently the hygiene taught by the Talmud is of a two-fold nature. It is preventive, warning against the use of bran which is injurious to the teeth, and even **prohibiting** the use of cabbage because of the offensive odor; and curative, advising the use of milt for the teeth to keep them in perfect condition. As a means also for disguising the offensive breath the Talmud advises the use of various aromatic substances. (Sabb. 62a, 65a, 90a; B. M. 113b.)

**Ber 54b.**—"The stone that Og, King of Bashan, wanted to throw upon Israel." The explanation is this. He spoke: How large is the camp of Israel?—Three **parasius**. I will go then and tear out a mountain of three **parasius** and throw it upon them and kill them. He went and tore out a mountain of three **parasius** and carried it on his head. But the Holy One, blessed be He, caused the ants to eat it through, so that it fell upon his neck. As he wanted to throw it off, his teeth bent themselves upon one side and upon the other, and he could not throw it off. And therefore it is written (Psalms, iii. 8.) "The teeth of the wicked dost thou break." This is according to R. Simeon b. Lakish; for R. Simon b. Lakish said: What is meant by that phrase: "The teeth of the wicked dost thou break"?—do not read 'break' (**shibarta**) but "distend" (**shirbarta**).

NOTE. Og, king of Bashan, has won his fame by having been the tallest man one can imagine. We do not know how big he was, but he was surely "as big as Og melech Habashan." The idiom is one of the commonest in the Yiddish language. Og melech Habashan was the "leviathan" of man. His Biblical description is as follows: "For only Og, king of Bashan had been left of the remnant of the Raphaim; behold, his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; lo! it is in Rabbah of the children of Ammon: nine cubits is its length, and four cubits its breadth, after the arm of a man." (Deut. iii.11.) The agadic tale in the Talmud

of his abnormal teeth is well in conformity with his description in the Bible.

**Ber. 56a.**—Said he: I have seen my anterior and posterior teeth falling out. Said the other: Your sons and daughters will die.

**NOTE.** The Talmudic words for "anterior and posterior teeth" are כְּכִי וְשֵׁנִי. The singular of each is כֶּכָּא and שֵׁן. The latter is commonly the word signifying tooth. Both are used interchangeably for one another. The word **kakka**, however, has received the special signification of **molar-tooth** including the pre-molar or **bicuspid**. Hence **kakka** usually stands for the posterior teeth, and **shen** for the anterior teeth. Rashi here defines kakka as the "lateral teeth called (in French) **molaires**." Frequently the words **kakka** and **shen** stand together as in the above instance. They then seem to have the collective meaning of "denture" rather than anterior teeth. (Sabb. 63b; ab. z. 28a; Chull. 59b.)

I have arranged the following **nomenclature**:

שֵׁן (before Maq. שֵׁן) (Dent. xxxii, 24), with Suf. שְׁנִים, dual שְׁנִים a tooth of man or animal (Ex. xxi. 24.); **ivory**, hence שֵׁן הַקֶּרְנִים horns of a tooth, i. e., elephant's tusks (Am. vi. 4; Cant. v. 14; Ez. xxvii. 15.) [Chald. שֵׁן, with Suf. שְׁנִים, dual שְׁנִים, with Suf. שְׁנִים (Dan. vii. 5, 7, 19.) Also כֶּכָּא, with Suf. כְּכִי, Pl. כְּכִי ]

הַחֲצִיזוֹת **central incisors**. (Bech. 39a.)

הַפְּנִימִיּוֹת **lateral incisors**. (Bech. 39a.)

מִתְלַעֵץ, **cuspid, canine**, cheek or jaw-tooth. (Contraction from יִלַּע, to devour. Pl. מִתְלַעֵצִים. Also מִתְלַעֵץ, Pl. מִתְלַעֵצִים, Pl. מִתְלַעֵצִים, Pl. מִתְלַעֵצִים.) (Joe. i. 6; Job xxix. 17; Ps. viii. 7.)

נִבְיָה **cuspid, canine** (With Suf. נִבְיָה. Pl. נִבְיָה) (Sabb. 63b.)

מִתְאִימוֹת **bicuspid, twin-teeth**; also molars. (Cant. iv. 2.)

כֶּכָּא **molar**. (Pl. כְּכִי.) Also אֲחִנּוֹת, the grinders, i. e., molar teeth. (Ecc. xii. 3; Sabb. 152a.)

רִשְׁוֹן **double row of teeth**. (Job. xli. 5.)

עוֹר שְׁנִים, **gums of the teeth**, also שְׁבִין הַשְּׁנִים (Keth. 60a) and מִקוֹם מוֹשֵׁב הַשְּׁנִים (Rashi, ab. z. 28a.)

שֵׁן דְּחֵלֶב **milk-tooth, deciduous, or temporary tooth**. (Kidd. 24b.)

הַחֲנִיכִים **jaws**. (Keth. 39b.)

מִכְתָּשׁ **socket of a tooth** (so-called for its shape: a mortar). (Judg. xv. 9.)

הַדָּף **palate, roof of the mouth**. (Job. xii. 2; Prov. xiii. 7.)

(To be continued in the July Issue.)

## MOUTH-BREATHING A DESTRUCTIVE HABIT; A FRANK DISCOURSE

By M. J. EMELIN, D. D. S., NEW YORK.

(Continued from May Issue.)

Admitting as we must, that air ought not to pass through any other orifice than the nostrils, we are led to the fact that the swallowing of air in partaking of anything hot is an act for which we must suffer. The temperature of food drink, to conserve health, should be at a point at which a prolonged eating or sipping can be maintained comfortably, without burning the lips and without requiring the swallowing of air to cool what is taken into the mouth. The correct temperature, no doubt, would be different with different people.

But the chief of all reasons against the fallacy of mouth-breathing is readily seen when we reflect once more upon the functions of the nostrils, structural or physiological. The turbinated bodies of the nasal cavity are to retard the incoming cool air, and to provide the largest possible area for the air to come in contact with. The mucous lining of this air-way is studded with a multitude of sensitive glands, to protect the finely organized lining from extremely dry, cold, filthy or dusty air, often charged with poisonous or otherwise irritant gases, or with germs of miasma.

A few successive inhalations of cold air through the nose without rebreathing it through the same channels would so dry, irritate and influence the delicate mucous membrane as to become painful. Here Nature comes to the rescue and so orders this important detail that to each cold inhalation immediately follows a warm exhalation from within, which repasses the same way over the same tiny glands, invigorates them and raises them. In so doing each expired warm breath acts as a tonic to the glands. With each vibration of the glands, to and fro, is thrown out a profuse fluid secretion ready to meet another inrush of cold air. This mucus, aside from its value as a palliative agent, also is a most efficient germ destroyer.

Moreover, the mucus officiates as its own undertaker when a quantity or quality of foreign matter is inhaled which the fluid can not destroy, an irritation and a profuse secretion result and sneezing does the rest. It also arrests and removes the microscopic particles of dust. The mouth has no such agent, because nature never intended that the air should pass through the mouth.

One medical authority says: ". . . but there is another fact, of perhaps greater importance than those adduced, to be urged against this abnormal breathing, and which has not been recognized by the specialist; it is, that the habit of mouth-breathing ultimately unfits the nostrils for the free transit of the air. And it is a well-known physiological law that such disuse induces atrophic degeneration. These glands are atrophied or hypertrophied accordingly either through disuse or misuse, or asthma may be caused by complete nasal obstruction necessitating mouth-breathing." Voltolini and Haenisch have reported cases of nasal polypi producing asthma, and cure in many cases when these were removed.

Mouth-breathing, as commonly understood, means complete disuse of the nasal passages in respiration or that the nasal air-ways are so obstructed by growths or otherwise as to oblige the sufferer to breathe through the mouth. Mouth-breathing usually suggests a picture of the typical adenoid face with the up-curved short upper lip never meeting its lower mate without an effort. The symptoms of the pronounced type of mouth-breathing are too well known to call for enumeration here.

My conception of mouth-breathing differs from the ordinary interpretation. It is one of finer distinction. Mouth-breathing, according to my view, also means even that which occurs in whistling, sighing and yawning, singing and laughing; it is the habitual and unconscious intake of air in talking or otherwise, through lips parted but for a fraction of a moment, through a space even less than 1-100 of an inch.

# The Progressive Dentist

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Dr. LEWIS RICE, Editor  
97-99 Hooper St., B'klyn, N. Y.

Dr. M. S. Calman, Business Manager  
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This magazine maintains an open forum. We appeal to our subscribers to avail themselves more extensively of our pages and send in manuscripts on any topic they think interesting. We are giving space for any criticism offered in good faith. We are not responsible for opinions expressed through the agency of the free forum. We limit our responsibility to what is published editorially only. We also reserve to ourselves the right to alter, abbreviate and correct manuscripts if we deem it necessary. Manuscripts we do not publish are not returned unless so requested in which case return postage is to accompany the request.

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## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Bearing in mind the fact that the practice of dentistry is very taxing upon the resources of energy, bodily as well as mentally, we all feel that we merit a rest and recreation during the summer. The dental societies recognizing this fact are suspending all activities during the summer and allow their members and officers to seek diversion from the oppressing strain to which we all, in the practice of the profession, are heir.

Conceding that all this is well ordered we nevertheless call upon the members of the Allied Dental Council and the officers of its three constituent societies to make an exception this summer and not interrupt the splendid work that has been so successfully carried on during the winter and early spring in order that the splendid work may go on incessantly until an organization is perfected which will be equal to the task.

Such organization to be built up requires the self sacrifice of a good many of us, whose sense of justice is more offended, by the existing evils and iniquities, than that of others. But if we realize that the secret of success lies within organization, no tireless workers will be wanting and let our slogan be "No vacation shall interrupt our activities."

We therefore counsel the members of the Allied Dental Council and the officers of the constituent societies to deliberate upon their official duties, map out the plans and have the machinery in most perfect working order ready as the minute-men. We also call upon the various

officers to keep in close touch with the Council thereby making their efforts more harmonious which will redound to the common benefit of the profession. Unity of action will give rise to a compact organization and the latter shall be made the parent of the most needed thing namely, "Education."

With a strong organization we can carry out the plan recommended by Dr. Levitt, whose article appears elsewhere in this issue. He recommends a campaign of lectures in co-operation with the Boards of Education and Health. This is a very good plan and if properly arranged would do a great deal in the way of enlightening the public regarding oral hygiene and good dental service. Such campaign would yield a great social service to the community and would place our profession in a favorable light before the public which would repay us by recognizing our rights to the protection from impostors.

If we can muster up enough enthusiasm and self-sacrifice to avail ourselves of the opportune moment, it is the coming winter that can place us upon that plane from which a certain element in the profession has kept us these many years. The immediate future holds out good hopes for us; it is our vigor translated into actions which is required to elevate us to that height to which we have been yearning so long. Therefore, Allied Dental Council, get your machinery geared and make an onslaught upon all impediments in our way. On with the war cry: "The Future Is Ours!"



## DENTAL SOCIETY NEWS

### HARLEM DENTAL SOCIETY

Dr. W. S. Engelberg, Sec'y.  
2400 Seventh Avenue, New York

The next regular meeting of the Harlem Dental Society will be held at the Fraternity Building, 67 W 125th street, on Thursday, October 23rd, 1913.

Dr. A. R. Starr, professor of operative dentistry at the New York College of Dentistry will lecture on "Cavity Preparation." The lecture will be followed by an open discussion of the members.

The society has leased a meeting room at the Fraternity Building, 67 W. 125th street for the season 1913-1914.

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### EASTERN DENTAL SOCIETY

Dr. A. LeWitter, Sec'y.  
330 E. 4th street, New York.

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### KINGS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY

Dr. S. H. Filler, Sec'y.  
220 Stockton street, B'klyn, N. Y.

#### REPORT OF THE KINGS COUNTY DENTAL SOCIETY BANQUET.

The banquet of the Kings County Dental Society, which was held Friday evening, April 4, at Willoughby Mansion, will be long remembered by the 130 people present, as one of the most enjoyable evenings of their lives. It was the most successful affair ever run by the Society, and nothing but praise was heard on all sides for the Committee who worked so hard to make the success of the evening possible.

The guests of the evening were Dr. Ottolengui, Dr. Van Woert and Dr. Schlockow.

After a most sumptuous report the assembly was treated with some splendid speeches. Dr. Maurice William, who acted as toastmaster, made the following introductory remarks:

Of course, I may be unduly modest, but so far as I know, my opening remarks delivered at our last annual banquet have not as yet been added to the latest volume of the world's greatest orations. That being so, I am in no position to cite chapter and page. However, those of you, ladies and gentlemen, who were with us last year may possibly recall that the gist of my remarks was to the effect that conditions inherent in our profession were such that in order to cope with them we must band together and that this Society must grow. This magnificent gathering here to-night is proof of the accuracy of that prophecy.

To those of our colleagues who break bread with us for the first time, I extend a hearty greeting. You have joined us to help write dental history. This has been the most fruitful year of our career. We are no longer a house divided against itself, but all elements in the profession now realize more than ever before that there is a common ground upon which we all may meet. So I say that taking it all in all we have a right to feel highly optimistic.

But satisfied? No, no, by thunder! Far from satisfied! For who can feel satisfied in the face of conditions, as for instance the following:

Listen! 'Tis Dr. Harvey Wiley who speaks: "One thousand children die daily in this country and their deaths are due more to **bad teeth** than to any other trouble." Do you, ladies and gentlemen, get the full import of that statement? Think of it! One thousand children die daily in this country and their deaths are due more to bad teeth than to any other trouble. I don't know how that statement affects you, my friends, but to me those are words of burning fire. For they mean that at your door and at my door can the **full responsibility** of this daily snuffing out of one thousand innocent lives be placed. It is you and I who possess the knowledge that can **prevent** this wholesale slaughter of human life and when we fail to impart that knowledge society has a right to scorn us as destructive instead of constructive factors in the social organization.

I call upon you, my colleagues, my friends, rise to your true statures. Let us be men among men and let us do our full share for the general betterment of humankind; in the words of Dr. Evans, "Let the members of the dental profession play their part in the great economic revolution that is taking place. The dental profession should be concerned not only with its professional and scientific interests, but should also take part in the affairs of the government and all activities that pertain to the health of the people and everything that concerns their general welfare." These are the sentiments of Health Commissioner Evans, of Chicago, and I can but add to them, God speed the day.

The president of the Society, Dr. Lief, was then introduced. He reviewed briefly the activities of the Society in the past year and gave credit to those members who had been active in the Society's welfare.

The secretary of the society, Dr. Friedenbergl, was presented with a beautiful gift in appreciation of his faithful services.

Dr. Van Woert responded to the toast, "A Professional Man's Obligations to Himself," and proved that a professional man cannot discharge

his obligation to himself without at the same time discharging his duty to humanity.

He was followed by Dr. Schlockow, who is the principal of Public School No. 109. He spoke to the toast, "The Child, the Dentist, the Community." His scholarly talk sparkled with wit and humor at the same time impressing those present with the importance of the work being done by the members of the Kings County Dental Society for the children of his school. He showed the need of this work spreading to every school in the city.

Dr. Ottolengui, who was the last speaker of the evening, responded to the toast, "A Professional Man's Obligation to Society." Dr. Ottolengui's abilities as a speaker are well known. He kept the audience in good humor with his stories and when he became serious everyone present felt that he was speaking from the bottom of his heart. His remarks were most heartily applauded.

The speech-making was followed by dancing, which lasted until the small hours of the morning.

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### ALLIED DENTAL COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW YORK

Dr. A. Friedenberg, Sec'y.  
425 Bushwick Avenue, B'klyn, N. Y.

The Allied Dental Council of Greater New York met on Thursday, May 22d, at the Stuyvesant Casino.

The following officers were elected: Dr. Maurice William, President; Dr. M. Mestel, Vice-President; Dr. A. Friedenberg, Secretary; Dr. S. Ph. Ratner, Treasurer.

The Council has subdivided into three committees, viz:

A committee on education, a second on organization and the third on legislation.

It was decided to look for more suitable quarters for meeting purposes. At the next meeting, which is to take place on Thursday, June 5, plans of action will be deliberated upon.

The Council decided not to adjourn for the Summer.

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The following resolution was sent to the Dental Society of the State of New York, at its forty-fifth annual meeting which was held in the city of Albany on May 8, 9 and 10, 1913.

At a regular meeting of the Allied Dental Council of Greater New York (being the Federation of the Eastern Dental Society, the Harlem Dental Society, and the Kings County Dental Society) which was attended by nearly 500 dentists among whom were some of the most prominent men in the country the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Whereas quackery in dentistry has assumed a proportion hitherto undreamed of, and

Whereas this quackery is foisted upon an unsuspecting public, jeopardizing their health and well being, and

Whereas we hold it is the duty of the dental profession to protect both the good name of our profession and the welfare of society in our branch of the healing art, and

Whereas, in the lecture delivered by Dr. Ottolengui before this gathering he has outlined legislation which if carried into effect promises to stamp out this evil which casts such a slur upon the good name of our profession,

Be it resolved, that this gathering most heartily endorses the policy outlined by Dr. Ottolengui and that the State Dental Society being the official representative of the dental profession in the State, start its machinery in motion to the end that these suggestions be placed on the statute books and thus made the law of the State.

The Allied Dental Council of Greater New York.

S. H. Filler, D. D. S., Sec'y.

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## STUDENTS' DEPARTMENT

### COLLEGE NEWS.

**NOTICE TO GRADUATES:**—The June, July and August numbers of the Progressive Dentist will be mailed to your address free of charge as in the past. If you want the magazine to come regularly beginning with the September issue, we will ask you to subscribe to it. Subscription price is 50c. a year.

**NOTICE TO STUDENTS OF BOTH DENTAL COLLEGES:**—The June, July, August and September numbers of the Progressive Dentist will be mailed to your address free of charge as in the past. During the month of September postal cards will be distributed to you, which you will fill out, sign and mail to us and we will place you on the free mailing list. This applies to all students, even those who were on our mailing list during the 1912-1913 college term.

### N. Y. C. D. NOTES.

Examinations are over.

One hundred and sixteen men have graduated this year.

The juniors and freshmen will get their results about June 10th or 13th.

The Forty-Seventh Annual Commencement of the New York College of Dentistry, class of 1913, will take place June 9th, 1913, at Carnegie Hall, 57th street and Seventh avenue, 8 P. M.

Dear Editor:

I find your magazine very interesting and instructive.

Yours,  
Charles Wolff

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### C. D. O. S. N. Y. NOTES

#### COLLEGE OF DENTAL AND ORAL SURGERY OCCUPIES NEW BUILDING.

The new building of the College of Dental and Oral Surgery, with its accompanying infirmary, where the poor will receive free dental services, has been completed, and will be opened for clinical purposes on June 15.



The building is a fine four-story structure on East Thirty-fifth street, near Second Avenue. On the top floor is a large apartment, fitted with a hundred chairs, and all the latest apparatus known to dental science.

On this floor there are also two smaller rooms, one known as the oral surgical clinic, with accommodations for forty students to observe the demonstration, and the other known as the John I. Hart Clinic. In the latter foreign dental scientists will be invited to demonstrate their inventions and discoveries before students.

On the third floor the prosthetic and chemical laboratories are situated, while the second floor has the physiological and historical lecture rooms. On the main floor are two large auditoriums for daily lectures. In the basement is the metallurgical room, fitted with forges for students to make their own tools and apparatus. The college is designed to instruct 400 students.

The officers of the college are Clarkson Cowl, president; John W. Boylston, architect of the building, vice president; William A. Purrington, secretary; Anton G. Hodenpyl, treasurer.

Among those who have contributed toward the new home of the college are Mr. and Mrs. George A. Hearn, J. B. Duke, Clarkson Cowl, C. C. Cuyler, Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, George Clark, Prof. Morris Loeb, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Schiff, Felix Warburg, H. Seligman, Mrs. Washington L. Cooper, Miss Kate Collins Brown, C. Vanderbilt, W. H. Tucker, Andrew Freedman, Joseph A. McAleenan, Fred Halsey and John F. O'Rourke.

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WANTED:—A college reporter for the N. Y. C. D. and one for the C. D. O. S. N. Y. to send in monthly reports to our office about college activities. Salary. Communicate or call any Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday at 15 East 106th street, New York City.

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WANTED:—We want students from both colleges of dentistry who can spare a little time to do remunerative work for our advertising and subscription departments. Liberal commission offered. For information write or call any Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday at 15 East 106th street, New York City.

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## SOCIALISM.

By Ex-Congressman Victor L. Berger.

(From a speech delivered April 21, 1913 before the Columbia University Socialist Club.)

Socialism is generally defined as the "collective ownership and democratic management of the social means of production and distribution."

Definitions as a rule do not explain much, however.

This definition explains even less than usual, because Socialism is not a mere theory invented by some learned professor or philosopher. Socialism is the name of a phase of civilization, just as feudalism was a phase of civilization and as capitalism is the name of the civilization we have now.

Many students of history and of political economy say that Socialism must be the name of the next phase, if civilization is to survive.

Man started as a savage and hunter. The next stages of human progress were those of the nomadic herdsman and the agriculturist. Slavery developed in these stages. The feudal system was the next step, followed by the wage system.

The wage system was a step in the evolution of freedom—the wage worker is better off than the laborer of any previous epoch of human society. But the wage system is only a step forward.

The present wage system has evolved to the trust stage. Trusts have been vigorously attacked for their flagrant evils; yet we also realize the great advantages of the trust method of production and distribution on the largest scale. The trust has introduced many economies. It saves labor and effort, concentrates production and produces more cheaply. It eliminates the middle-man, saves expenses incident to advertising and drumming up trade, and saves paying commissions to jobbing houses and small merchants.

The trust thereby has naturally created a tremendous opposition—especially among the smaller business men. Only the statesmen and politicians of the capitalist system are powerless to cope with the trusts, because when the trusts are trying to make as much profit as possible—or as much as the traffic will permit—they are only doing on a large scale what every small business man does on a small scale.

I have noticed five different tendencies in Congress pertaining to the trust question:

First: There are the stand-patters. They say, "Let well enough alone." They are satisfied with conditions. They want no change. They are afraid any change would be for the worse as far as their special interests are concerned.

Second: There is the group represented by President Taft and his friends. They want to enforce the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Attorney-General Wickersham really brought suit against the Standard Oil Company and against the Tobacco Trust, and secured "favorable" decisions from the Supreme Court. Both the Standard Oil Company and Tobacco Trust were "dissolved" into various component parts. The result in each case was beneficial to the trusts which now, since they are "dissolved," have really, for the first time in their existence, a legal basis on which to do business. The ownership of these trusts, of course, remains the same as before. Their methods are the same and the profits go to the same persons. Naturally enough their stock went up after the decision of the Supreme Court to dissolve.

Third: There is the Democratic party, which wants new laws passed in order to get back to the individualism of Thomas Jefferson and to competition of the old style. That is impossible. These good folks might just as well propose the abolition of the railroad and return to the days of the old stage-coach. The trust form is the modern way of doing business. Business has learned how to walk and will never creep again.

Fourth: We have the so-called Progressive of the La Follette type. They wish to "regulate" the trusts. But regulation must necessarily fail, because the Government cannot effectively regulate anything it does not own. Moreover, the trusts naturally will try to appoint directly or indirectly the commissioners that are to regulate them, or to influence the commissioners after they have been appointed. It will be a matter of business with them. If they do not succeed, they will simply appeal

to the Courts as they have done in similar cases everywhere. And the Courts have to decide by custom and precedent established in centuries gone by. Regulation is, therefore, bound to fail.

There remains only one more proposition, and that is the Socialist proposition. It is the natural solution of the question: namely, the national ownership of the trusts by the nation.

The Socialists contend that complete justice can be accomplished only by the collective ownership and democratic management of the trusts and other social means of production and distribution.

I realize that all this cannot be brought about by a single strike—by one day's evolution. But I know that all legislation, in order to be really progressive and wholesome, must move in that direction.

You will say—how are you going to evolve the new system? How are you going to limit it?

We believe that everything that is necessary for the life of the nation, for the enjoyment of everybody within the nation, the nation is to own and manage. Therefore we shall take over the trusts, railroads, mines telegraphs, and other monopolies of national scope.

Everything that is necessary for the life and development of the state, the state is to own and manage. There are certain business functions that the state will have to take care of, like interurban lines, for instance.

Everything that is necessary for the life and development of a city, the city is to own and manage, not only street cars and light and heating plants, but also abattoirs, public bake shops, the distribution of pure milk, and so forth.

Everything that the individual can own and manage best, the individual is to own and manage. That is simple enough.

Important changes are imminent. We see the trusts not only doing away with competition, but also asking for government interference and for government regulation of prices. In other words we have the spectacle of the trusts surrendering part of their ownership and practically offering that part of the ownership to the government.

Thus the trusts—or at least some of the trusts—are willing to part with their ownership because they feel that their business has ceased to be private concern. The trusts feel that their business has become a public utility—of the most public and utilitarian sort.

But the change is also coming from the other side.

The great majority of the people have no interest in keeping up the present system. The working class especially is bound to become revolutionary as a class.

Our workingmen to-day build a few palaces and many hovels. The workingmen live in the hovels and the few capitalists in the palaces.

Our workingmen in the woolen mills make a small amount of fine clothes and millions of yards of shoddy. The workingmen wear the shoddy and the rich idlers wear the fine clothes.

In former epochs the ruling class was by far abler and stronger—physically and mentally. In former years a few nobles, clad in iron, and trained and accustomed to warfare, could hold in subjection twenty times their number of common people.

The ruling class was also at that time the only class that was in the possession of the wisdom of the world—whatever wisdom the world

had then. The ruling class also had in its favor the belief that this system was God ordained, and that anybody defying it was a rebel to God.

Things are different nowadays.

The working class not only builds the houses, ships and machines—but the working class also teaches in the public schools, writes the papers and books. Not only the man who sets up the type for the papers and books is a working man—but also the man or woman who writes them usually belongs to our class. The capitalist class depends upon us not only for a living, but also for information and defense.

Moreover, we have the ballot. No subjected class in the history of mankind ever before this had the same political basis as the ruling class. On election day our vote is as good as Rockefeller's and we are many, and the capitalists are few.

This system is not the end of all things—not any more than feudalism was the end of all things. It is, therefore, absolutely false to represent Socialists as intending to overthrow or annihilate society—as appealing to the brute passions of the masses. We agitate for the organization of the masses. And organization everywhere means order. We educate, we enlighten, we reason, we discipline.

The Socialists want to maintain one culture and civilization and to bring it to a much higher level. We appeal to the best in every man—to the public spirit of the citizen, to his love of wife and children.

#### **YALE SOCIALIST CLUB CLOSSES EVENTFUL YEAR.**

The Yale University Society for the Study of Socialism closed a very successful lecture season with a debate between George Willis Cooke, of Massachusetts and Dean C. R. Brown of the Yale Divinity School.

The subject for discussion was, "Resolved, That Socialism Makes Adequate Provision for the Moral Values in Life," in which Cooke, a Socialist prominent in the Lyceum Course, took the affirmative and Dean Brown the negative.

Fully 500 students and professors crowded into the Osborn Hall to hear the controversy and hundreds were turned away.

During the past season, the Yale University Society has presented as lecturers Prof. H. C. Henry, Mrs. Jessica Finch, Emil Seidel, Bird S. Coler and Victor Berger. An address in favor of women suffrage was given by Mrs. Carlos French Stoddard. These lectures have all been huge successes.

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**NAMES OF SOCIALIST DOCTORS WANTED:**—An urgent request has been received for the names of doctors who are socialists and especially those who are members of the party. The object is to enlist their co-operation immediately for certain contemplated, concerted propaganda work. Will the comrades who read this kindly send to the Information Department the names and addresses of such doctors, physicians and surgeons at once?

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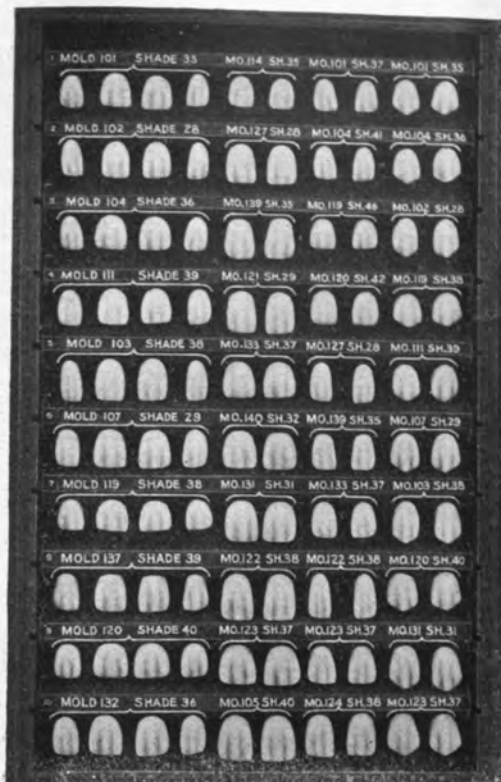
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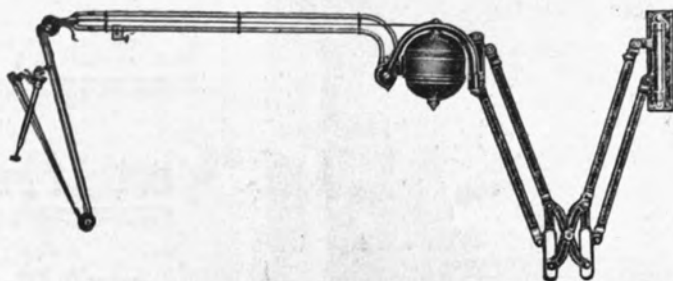
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