

proposes to undertake the task of maintaining the present standards but, at the same time, to make dentistry so attractive to the output of the liberal arts colleges that it will attract to dental practice an increasing number of men of outstanding ability.

We have in times past felt that the educational standards of dentistry were being advanced so rapidly that it was difficult for the profession and the public to adapt themselves to the new standards, and it is our hope that the Council on Dental Education may prove to be a salutary and stabilizing influence toward such adaptation.

In the meantime and as a supplementary effort to that of the Council, it would be well for the profession at large to continue its efforts toward education of the public and the medical profession to the effect that dentistry and dental service are of sufficient importance to the health and welfare of the community to warrant and encourage its future development as an autonomous health service of recognized benefit to humanity.

THE GREATER NEW YORK DENTAL MEETING

1940

THE Greater New York Dental Meeting just held in New York City at the Pennsylvania Hotel was what may rightly be termed the second largest dental meeting ever held in this country. Although the registration figures, 13,841, fell somewhat short of those for the 1939 meeting, some features of the meeting elicited more enthusiastic attention than common from those present.

The registration figures for this and last year's meetings are quite remarkable as an indication of the interest in dental society efforts toward a comparatively new form of postgraduate dental education. There were actually registered at the recent meeting 7,594 dentists and 349 dental students, just a few short of 8,000 dentists, and an indication of the unusual interest manifested in the New York meeting.

The plan of the meeting was similar to that of last year, but the increasing interest and enthusiasm manifested in the Limited Attendance Clinics during the past three years impelled the management to enlarge that feature of the meeting this year, with the result that the registration for these clinics was something like 1,600 more than last year.

These clinics, a special feature of the annual meeting, emphasize the

educational *motif* of the meeting in an admirable manner. The Greater New York Meeting was one of the first to inaugurate the Limited Attendance Clinic and the success of the project is conspicuously evident.

The particular feature of large meetings that has always done much to increase their popularity is the social contact with old acquaintances, but the educational *motif* has now supplanted the social. It seems paradoxical that these fee educational clinics were inaugurated and developed during the depression period—an indication of the desire of the dentist to build for the future. This interest in the educational idea and other trends in dentistry encourage us to believe that dentistry will develop more and more toward the biologic and medical aspects of health service.

Associated with the Greater New York Meeting is a medical-dental meeting which has for its purpose the development of closer relations between the dental and medical professions and the development of the biologic aspect of dentistry. That one day of the program was devoted to consideration of the interrelated phases gives emphasis to the desire of both groups to cultivate more assiduously this mutually helpful relationship.

Another feature which the Greater New York Meeting has enlarged is the topic discussions held every morning of the meeting. Under the able direction of chosen specialists, these discussions bring much enlightenment to those eager to study the serious every-day problems of dental practice.

The manufacturers' exhibit was still larger this year, taxing to the utmost the housing capacity of the hotel for this type of exhibit.

The officers of the Greater New York Dental Meeting, Percy T. Phillips, chairman; Charles M. McNeely, advisory chairman; Charles A. Wilkie, vice-chairman and Harold S. Horton, secretary-treasurer, deserve the thanks of all who were privileged to attend this annual affair, which contributes so materially to the educational effort of dentistry.
