

5847

BULLETIN

Virginia State Dental Association

DECEMBER 1921



M. B. RUDD, *PRESIDENT*, Richmond



December 1921



Richmond

76955

D 05 V 81 v. 1-7 cap. 1 20184

REPORT

of the

December 1881



of the

October 1882

Richmond

OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE MEETING IN RICHMOND,
OCTOBER 11-14, 1921.

DR. M. B. RUDD, Richmond	President
DR. W. M. STURGIS, Warrenton	Vice-President
DR. W. N. HODGKIN, Warrenton	Treasurer
DR. HARRY BEAR, Richmond	Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DR. W. E. WHITT, <i>Chairman</i>	Abingdon
DR. F. R. TALLEY	Petersburg
DR. F. W. McCLUER	Lexington

VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

*DR. H. W. CAMPBELL, <i>President</i>	Suffolk
*DR. H. L. SMITH	Charlottesville
†DR. C. E. HARPER	Danville
†DR. J. MITCHELL LEWIS	Richmond
†DR. J. L. WALKER	Norfolk
†DR. J. P. STIFF, <i>Secretary</i>	Fredericksburg

*Terms expire 1922

†Terms expire 1923

‡Terms expire 1924

1922 MEETING.

The fifty-third annual meeting of the Association will be held in Richmond during the month of October, 1922. Plans are now being made for this meeting and the officers welcome the earnest co-operation of all the members of this Association.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT.

We cannot but view with pride the progress and enthusiasm displayed at our last meeting by the members of the Association, as evidenced by the attendance and interest. The manner of the presentation of the essays, clinics and reports of the committees added to the success of the meeting.

The work of the Membership Committee is, indeed, to be highly commended. The addition of eighty-four new members is a splendid record.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the members for their admirable support of the officers and committees. Without cooperation and a willingness to work we cannot hope to have an organization of which we will be proud.

This year will call forth the best energies of every member. There is not a man who cannot do something to help. I would like to see every member pledge that he will do something to help the Association this year. There is nothing that helps more than boosting, and certainly every man can do that.

Organize Clinic Clubs and notify the Secretary of this Association that your club will give a clinic next October. These clubs are educational to those who are members and help to stimulate those who are not members of clubs to do better work.

Please bear in mind that from now until the end of the meeting of the State Legislature that the Medical College question is the most important item of our year's work. I am firmly convinced that the dental profession can, by diligent and intelligent work, save from ruin our "Class A" Dental School. I am also convinced that a small town location would mean death to our school. If this school is to be assured, every man in the profession must feel a personal responsibility and seek to educate the laity and inform the legislators. Therefore, we are printing herewith the argument used before the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, that you may have, in concise form, some of the facts pertaining to our case.

I pledge you my most earnest efforts to do what I can to serve you faithfully this year as your President. My only plea is that every member support me to the limit of his ability. It may be necessary in doing this to make some sacrifice of time or money, or both, as nothing worth while can be obtained without it.

M. B. RUDD,
President.

ECHOES OF THE RICHMOND MEETING.

It is gratifying to note that eighty-four new members were taken in at the October meeting. This makes a total membership of 397.

—o—

Dr. Thomas B. Hartzell, Minneapolis, Minn., and Dr. D. M. Cattell, Richmond, Va., were made honorary members of this Association.

—o—

The registration at the October meeting in Richmond was 408, of which 210 were members and the remaining, guests.

—o—

The dues of this Association are \$6.00, and are payable in advance, January 1st, of each year. Please remit promptly upon receipt of bill from the Treasurer for your 1922 dues. This will insure your good standing in the National Dental Association and you will continue to receive the National Journal uninterruptedly.

—o—

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE V.

Section 4. Any member whose dues remain unpaid for two years after proper notification by the Treasurer, shall, on close of last day's session, be dropped from membership without any further action by the Association, unless otherwise ordered by the Association.

Section 5. No member who has been dropped for non-payment of dues shall be eligible for re-election until he has paid the amount for which he was in arrears, when dropped. Application must be made same as for new membership.

The following resolution was adopted by the Association:
"The Treasurer shall read the names, in open session, of those who are in arrears for dues."

IMPORTANT!!

The following excerpts appear in the report of the Legislative Committee and were adopted at the meeting held in Richmond October 11th to 14th.:

"All matters pertaining to dental legislation shall be referred to the appointed Legislative Committee of this Association for approval, disapproval and action thereon."

"Members of this Association shall write to their Delegates and Senators of the Virginia Assembly, requesting them to confer with the Legislative Committee of this Association before considering or taking any action on any proposed dental legislation."

"Upon the advice of the Supreme Council, the officers and many of the members of our Association, your committee thinks best that we should not attempt any new legislation at this time and for this reason: The most important question affecting the status of the entire dental profession in the State and meaning the life or death of dental education in Virginia, has come up in the proposed merger of the Medical College of Virginia and the Medical Department of the University of Virginia. Our selfish interests should be put aside for the time being, at least, and until this question is decided, with the location of the merged institutions at Richmond, we should put forth our concerted and undivided energies toward this accomplishment. This will mean vindication and victory for Dentistry and only by this can our profession hope to continue to occupy that high place to which it is entitled and then go forward with progress to still greater accomplishment."

"Write your delegates and Senators to confer with the Legislative Committee of this Association before acting on matters of dental legislation."

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

J. MITCHELL LEWIS, <i>Chairman</i>	Richmond
B. L. BROOKS	Lynchburg
H. WOOD CAMPBELL	Suffolk
C. B. GIFFORD	Norfolk
R. H. PHIPPS	Marion
A. H. SPRINKEL	Staunton
J. B. WILLIAMS	Richmond

DENTISTS ON HOSPITAL STAFFS.

A committee of the National Dental Association, of which Dr. Arthur E. Smith, of Chicago, is chairman, has been actively engaged during the past several months in furthering the appointment of dentists on all hospital staffs.

At the recent Richmond meeting, the Virginia State Dental Association unanimously approved the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That in the standardization of hospitals the personnel of the staff should include a competent dentist, whose duties should include consultation with the attending physician and aid in diagnosis by locating the source of focal infection in the mouth; and be it

"Resolved, That such dental member of the hospital staff should insist on a thorough use of the X-ray for locating diseased teeth and pyorrhea pockets and that he should be trained in the correct interpretation of dental radiographs and that the interpretation of such radiographs be made preferably by the dental member of the staff; and that such dental member should supervise the instruction to nurses in the preparation of patients' mouths for operations and in the general oral hygiene for patients; and that a dental engine and other necessary instruments and apparatus for emergency operations of all kinds be provided.

"Be it Further Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that the suggestions made and the policy outlined in these preambles and resolutions be adopted as the future policy of the Association; and that it be earnestly requested that hospital staffs be so constituted that the fullest co-operation may be had between the physicians and dentists in the diagnosis and treatment of cases."

Local Societies in Virginia are urged to adopt the above resolutions and to transmit the report of their societies to the Secretary of the Virginia State Dental Association.

N. D. A. RELIEF FUND.

You have, no doubt, already received the Christmas seals from the office of the N. D. A. The income from the sale of these seals is for the Relief Fund. The aims and purposes of this fund are very commendable and it should be your pleasure and privilege to send in your (\$1.00) dollar.

Last year the dentists of Virginia contributed only \$132.50 to the Relief Fund. We now have 397 members and it is the earnest desire of the officers of this Association that we be represented this year by at least \$397.00. Send in your dollar promptly to the National Dental Association, 127 N. Dearborn St., Chicago.

FACTS ABOUT THE MEDICAL COLLEGE MERGER.

On June 29, 1921, a letter was sent to each of the chairmen of the Boards of Visitors of the Medical College of Virginia and the University of Virginia, requesting a hearing from the Virginia State Dental Association before the joint meeting of the above boards. In reply the representatives of both boards indicated that this hearing would be arranged for. On September 22, 1921, however, a letter was received from the Rector of the University of Virginia that his board would meet on October 3, 1921, the evening prior to the meeting of the joint boards. and we would be granted a hearing at this time.

A large delegation of members of this Association constituted the committee which appeared before the Board of the University of Virginia, October 3rd, and the brief which follows was read by the President, Dr. M. B. Rudd. At the conclusion of the reading of the brief, the committee, through its chairman, asked the board of the University if there were any questions or any matters which might be mutually discussed. We were assured there were none. A copy of the brief was left with the board and the committee retired. (See page 9.)

ASSOCIATION MEETING.

Discussion of the merger of the Medical College of Virginia and the Medical Department of the University of Virginia was a special order of business at the meeting of the Association, October 12th. By invitation from this Association, the position of the University of Virginia, with regard to dental education, was presented at this meeting by Theodore Hough, Ph. D., Dean of the Medical Department of the University of Virginia.

Following the above presentation, the subject was fully discussed, after which the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTIONS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY THE VIRGINIA STATE DENTAL ASSOCIATION,

OCTOBER 12, 1921.

Whereas, the Commission on Medical Education in Virginia and the Boards of Visitors of the Medical College of Virginia and the University of Virginia, respectively, have agreed that there should be but one state supported medical school under the absolute control of the University of Virginia, and that Dentistry should be a department thereof; and

Whereas, The Virginia State Dental Association is cognizant of its responsibility to the people of this State in the settlement of this question; and

Whereas, This Association is the recognized authority in matters relating to Dentistry in this State; and

Whereas, It appears that the authorities of the University of Virginia and members signing the minority report contemplate the establishment of a Dental School at Charlottesville, which is contrary to the opinions expressed by leading national and state dental educators and as opposed to the overwhelming sentiment of the dentists of this State; and

Whereas, The majority report of the Commission on Medical Education makes adequate provision for the continuance of Virginia's class "A" Dental School; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Virginia State Dental Association, in annual convention assembled, October 12, 1921, unanimously endorse the majority report of the Commission on Medical Education in Virginia, which provides for the maintenance of the departments of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy in Richmond as a part of the University of Virginia. And be it further

Resolved, That the officers and Legislative Committee of this Association be and are hereby directed to use their every effort to carry into effect the wishes of this Association as embodied in these resolutions.

BRIEF OF THE DENTAL SITUATION IN VIRGINIA.

To the Honorable Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia:

The Virginia State Dental Association respectfully begs leave to present to you this brief on behalf of dental instruction in Virginia, with special reference to the proper location in the State of the institution which is to furnish such education.

In the consideration of the location of a State-maintained medical school in Virginia, the dental profession has not heretofore had an adequate hearing. It did not have a representative on either the Commission on Medical Education or on the board of either of the schools concerned in the proposed amalgamation. The Commission, as evidenced by its majority and minority reports did not study the effect upon dental education in considering the location of a merged school, nor were the representatives of our profession consulted by the Commission before they reached their conclusions. Neither of the reports of the Commission shows any comprehensive analysis of the problems involved in dental education.

We therefore feel that it is due not only to our Association, but to the general cause of medical education in Virginia, that we should attempt to present to you in some logical form the arguments for the establishment, maintenance and development of the highest standard of dental education in this State.

Before proceeding with such argument, there are certain general principles which have been approved in both the majority and minority reports of the Commission, and which, as we understand the matter, have likewise been approved by your Honorable Body. They are contained on pages 13 and 61 of the minority report in the following language:

"Resolved, That the members of the Commission on Medical Education are agreed upon the following:

"1. At the present time the State of Virginia is subsidizing two medical schools; one, in Charlottesville, the other, the Medical College of Virginia, in Richmond. This situation should cease as soon as possible.

"2. Neither of these medical schools, between which the State support is divided, has at present the resources to conduct a modern medical school adequate to meet the needs of the State, even upon an economical and modest basis.

"3. Any medical school in Virginia, supported in whole or in part by the State, should be a part of the University of Virginia and under the control and direction of its Governing Board and President.

"4. Although a few divided medical schools still exist, medical opinion is practically unanimous in the conclusion that to offer the first two years of a medical curriculum in one place and the last two years in another is not only a waste of funds, but results in

the diminution of the effectiveness of the school as a whole. A medical school, half of which is in Charlottesville and the other half in Richmond, is no solution of the problem of medical education in Virginia.

"5. If, therefore, the State of Virginia is to support medical education at all, such support should be given to a single medical school, situated either in Charlottesville or in Richmond, and in either case, under the direction of the University of Virginia."

Page 61—Quotation:

"The members of the Commission signing this report make the following recommendations:

"4. That the departments of dentistry and pharmacy, of the Medical College of Virginia become the corresponding departments of the University of Virginia, under the direction and control of the Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia. We think that the best interests of dental and pharmacal instruction will be served by locating these departments at the University. Financial considerations may, however, render it advisable to continue these schools for the present without interruption in their present location. This matter should be left to the Board of Visitors of the University to determine."

We respectfully submit that the time has now come when those who at present have charge of the whole conduct of medical education in Virginia should recognize the imperative necessity of reaching for themselves a conclusion as to the scope of such education and where it is to be furnished. They are in a better position to form correct judgments than the members of the General Assembly, and it is extremely desirable that the issues involved should be settled as speedily as possible and not drag along through the next, and possibly succeeding sessions of the legislature. No local interests or affections should control either of the bodies having this matter under advisement in reaching a conclusion as to the proper location of a medical school, but we take it that the principles of action to which all parties are committed, as stated above, should control in the question of locating the school, whether those principles lead logically to Charlottesville or Richmond, and we have the confidence to believe that those who are now charged with the high duty of making a selection will, when the matter is clearly presented, adhere to these principles rather than allow themselves to be swayed by any other consideration.

With these preliminary remarks, we now desire to direct the attention of your honorable body to the following considerations, dealing primarily with the question of dental instruction, but by necessity incident to the questions of medical and pharmacal instruction also.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AND NEED FOR DENTAL INSTRUCTION.

Unfortunately, up to very recent years, the practice of dentistry was not dignified in the mind of the public or even in the medical profession, with the importance which it deserved. It was considered as more mechanical than scientific. This viewpoint has been entirely changed. Dentistry is now recognized as an important branch of medical science, and this is evidenced not only by the courses of medical education, which are demanded in the dental schools, but also by the unanimous testimony of the highest medical authorities. In the army of the United States, dentists are accorded the same relative rank as physicians. The dental profession in Virginia is now represented by one member on the State Board of Health.

Several years ago the State Legislature passed an act requiring dentists to take the M. D. degree, thus recognizing the essential relation of dentistry as a department of medicine. Owing alone to the fact that it required a longer period of time to educate a dentist than it did a physician, the act was repealed.

The dental student in the first two years is given a complete course in anatomy, histology, embryology, bacteriology, radiography, physiology, and the principles of surgery and physical diagnosis. The last two years of the course are devoted to the study of diseases of the mouth, constitutional disorders, associated with mouth diseases, laboratory and clinical work.

It does not require expert testimony to teach us that the mouth and teeth are lurking places for germs and disease, and the importance of their relationship to the various bodily functions in the process of mastication, assimilation, etc. It is now common knowledge that diseased conditions of the mouth and teeth are a fruitful source of various and serious systemic disorders.

In the past, while it was considered essential that the dental student should receive instruction in some of the fundamentals of the medical branch, it was not thought necessary that the medical student should receive any distinctive dental instruction. Under present standards, however, it is becoming more and more important that medical students shall have sufficient instruction in the school of dentistry to at least qualify them to make diagnoses with reference to the large number of diseases which are traceable to the disordered condition of the mouth and teeth.

The testimony of the highest medical authorities as quoted below is to the effect that dentistry is a branch, and a very essential branch, of medicine.

Dr. Abraham Flexner, Secretary of the General Education Board, says: "We have come to see in the last few years that dentistry is a branch of medicine of the same dignity and im-

portance as pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, or any other specialty."

"It seems to me that there can be no question but that scientific dentistry is as much a part of medical treatment in many instances as any other line of specific therapy."—E. P. Carter, M. D., Lecturer in Medicine, Johns Hopkins University.

"The study and treatment of the pathology of the mouth is an essential part of a successful practice of medicine. Anything that can be done to cut down the incidence of oral and dental infection will be an important step toward preventive medicine.—L. H. Newburgh, M. D., Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Michigan.

"I should emphasize very strongly the value of dentistry in general practice."—Thomas McCrae, M. D., Professor of Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, Jefferson Medical College.

"A careful examination of the dental condition is essential in practically every patient presenting himself for the diagnosis and treatment of internal diseases."—Walter L. Niles, M. D., Dean and Professor of Clinical Medicine, Cornell University.

"An intimate knowledge of many of the problems of dentistry should be as familiar to the medical student as to the dentist."—Greer Baughman, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics, Medical College of Virginia.

"There is no question that the mouth and the tonsils are ports of entry for infection, and every effort should be made to eliminate this source of disease."—W. K. Draper, M. D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, Columbia University.

"As a prophylactic measure, oral hygiene, I think, is of great importance in internal medicine."—W. T. Longcope, M. D., Professor of Practice of Medicine, Columbia University.

"An enormous amount of serious chronic diseases can be prevented by the education of the people in the care of the teeth and oral asepsis at every stage of life. Incidentally the art of diagnosis of obscure visceral diseases will be rendered much less difficult."—J. C. Wilson, M. D., Professor of Practice of Medicine and Clinical Medicine, Jefferson Medical College.

"It is my opinion that a hospital is by no means doing its duty to its patients that does not provide for dental care."—E. J. G. Beardsley, M. D., Assistant Professor of Medicine, Jefferson Medical College.

"I would state that I regard dentistry as a specialty of medicine."—Wm. S. Gordon, M. D., Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Medical College of Virginia.

"I would say that I consider dentistry as of considerable importance in relation to general medicine and use dentistry a great deal in my practice."—J. McCaw Tompkins, M. D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Medical College of Virginia.

If dentistry as a specialty occupies this essential relation to the science of medicine, it becomes important to ascertain to what extent there is a need for dental instruction.

Of course in the abstract it can be truthfully said that the need of dental instruction is commensurate with the importance of the subject and its relation to the whole scheme of medical education, but we do not have to resort to this abstract proposition, because the practical conditions in Virginia and throughout the country are emphasizing with ever increasing imperativeness the necessity for an increased number of thoroughly trained dentists.

There are at the present time 671 practicing dentists in Virginia, 200 of whom are located in four cities. This number is insufficient to meet the demands of the people, particularly in the rural sections. There are fourteen counties in the State which have no dentists; twenty-one counties with only one dentist each and thirteen counties with only two dentists each. Within the last year requests for at least one hundred dentists have come to this Association from small towns and rural sections. In addition to this, the school teachers of the State are now required to inspect the mouths of all children and report their findings. At the present time twenty per cent. only of the people of the State receive dental attention, but with the progress of dental science and the emphasis now being given to dental hygiene, there will be an increasing demand from year to year for adequately trained dentists.

It should be carefully observed that this need for dentists is a present and imperative one, and the supplying of it cannot be postponed without jeopardy to the health of our citizens and a distinct loss to Virginia's educational prestige.

THE OBJECT OF DENTAL INSTRUCTION.

What is the object of dental instruction? This seems to be a very simple question and one easy to be answered, and yet it can be answered in a number of ways, depending upon the viewpoint of the one questioned. Upon a proper answer to this question depends to a large extent the whole solution of the problem which is now before your honorable body. If the principles which you have adopted as your guiding star are to control the conclusions, and if the importance of and needs for dental education are such as we have attempted to demonstrate, then we can safely say in a negative way that the object of dental instruction

ion is not to make money, nor to give employment to instructors, nor to increase the size or prestige of any institution, nor to foster the prominence or growth of any city, but in view of the principles and necessities involved in the case, it seems to us this question can have but one answer. To meet the imperative demands of the people at large by graduating an adequate number of thoroughly qualified dentists. Any other consideration, in view of the obvious necessities of the case, is out of the question. Viewing this matter as we do, from a scientific standpoint, and with due regard to the interests of our profession, and therefore necessarily of the public, whom we serve, we are prepared to say that if this desired result of graduating an adequate number of thoroughly qualified dentists can be more surely and best insured by dental education at Charlottesville, then the school for that purpose should be located there; and, on the other hand, if those results can be best attained by locating the school at Richmond, it should be located at Richmond. We have attempted to consider this matter along the broadest lines, and solely with a view of affording to our profession and to the people of the State and other sections of the country the best possible facilities for the education and training of those who are to serve the public in this important department of medical science.

THE ESSENTIALS OF DENTAL INSTRUCTION.

The first essential under this head is to secure an adequate number of students of the desired character and scholastic attainment. In order to do this the proposed school must offer facilities of the highest standard, as only mediocre men will be satisfied with less. The present tendency of all education which has to deal with the vital question of human health is to raise the standard of admission and the standard for graduation. Any institution which cannot furnish all the facilities necessary to thoroughly train the dental student will fail to meet the requirements of the situation.

The second essential is an adequate teaching staff. Students and teachers act and react upon each other. Second class students will be satisfied with second class teachers; while first class students demand first class teachers. On the other hand, second class teachers will tend to produce a body of second class students, while first class teachers will tend to produce the opposite result.

The third essential is adequate class rooms, laboratories and infirmaries.

The fourth is clinical material. In dental instruction the practical application of principles, by means of clinics, is indispensable. This demands clinical material, and an abundance of clinical material. There is no substitute for it. In medicine

and all of its branches it is a fundamental law that "The proper study of mankind is Man."

The fifth essential is environment. No element in dental training claims more importance than association with a school of medicine. There are forty-seven dental schools in the United States; nineteen of which are Class A schools. Eighteen of the nineteen Class A schools are associated with medical schools. The exception is located in Portland, Oregon. Those not so connected are Class B and Class C schools.

In this connection it should be mentioned that there are only two Class A Dental Schools in the South, one connected with the Medical College of Virginia and the other located at Vanderbilt University. Baltimore has two Class B schools; Atlanta has one Class B school; there are two Class B schools in Tennessee, and one Class B school at Louisville, Ky.

The physicians, dentists and pharmacists are daily in contact with the same patients through the channel of medical science. It is important that they be taught together in the atmosphere prevalent in a large medical center. The departments of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy are more intimately interwoven and bear a closer relationship to each other than do any one of these departments to other University courses, or to the University as a whole. The principles, upon which this argument is predicated and which have received your sanction, demand that these three departments of medical science be not divorced from each other in the State of Virginia.

The last essential of dental instruction is one of economic. In view of the present burdens of taxation, economy is certainly of great consequence. The furnishing of adequate dental instruction should be done at a minimum cost to the State and to the student.

THE LOCATION OF A DENTAL SCHOOL IN VIRGINIA.

Only two places have been, or need be, considered: Richmond and Charlottesville. The whole scheme of dental instruction not only for the State of Virginia, but for a large part of this southern country, demands that wise and speedy selection of one or the other of these points should be made. As between them, the one which can more fully meet the demands of the people and the essentials of dental instruction as we have attempted to outline them previously, should be selected without regard to any other consideration.

On the basis of her selection, as the place for dental instruction in Virginia, Richmond offers:

1. *The First Essential.*

(a) The present student body of 102, which is being instructed and trained as Class A dentists. This body of men will attract increasing numbers of dental students, provided the standard of instruction is maintained. It is a well known fact that dental students will not attend an institution in a small city if they can select a large one, because they appreciate the value of clinical material, and the inability to secure such material in anything except a city of considerable size. We feel sure, from our knowledge of the subject and our investigation in other States, that if the present dental school at Richmond were removed to a city the size of Charlottesville, the large number of students who are now being drawn from contiguous States as well as many of those who are being drawn from the State of Virginia itself, would go to Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York in order that they might have there the facilities which they would be unable to secure in a smaller place.

2. *The Second Essential.*

(b) An efficient teaching staff, consisting of full time, vocational professors and part time members of the profession, drawn from the large number of specialists and general practitioners in the city, who, by reason of their daily practice, are best qualified to give clinical instruction, and whose services can be secured at a minimum cost to the State.

3. *The Third Essential.*

(c) Is a physical equipment, laboratories and infirmaries with an established location, which draws clinical material to this point.

4. *The Fourth Essential.*

(d) The environment includes association with a school of medicine in a friendly intimacy.

5. *The Fifth Essential.*

(e) An abundance of clinical material. A population of 171,000 in the city and a large suburban population from which to draw clinical material.

6. *The Sixth Essential.*

(f) Opportunities of employment for those students who wish to work their way through College. Professional education is expensive, but should not be denied those ambitious young men who require financial assistance. A city the size of Richmond offers greater opportunities for outside employment.

Richmond can supply these essentials at the least possible cost to the State and to the students, and she can supply them in the imperative now.

On the other hand, Charlottesville lacks the population which is essential to the supplying of most of these requisites, with a reasonable prospect of such an increase of population as would meet the demands of the situation. Letters from twenty-one Deans of dental schools and from the President and President-elect and four other officers of the National Dental Association, representing 30,000 American dentists, indicate that a Class A school cannot be successfully maintained at Charlottesville, for the reasons outlined above. The letters referred to are in our possession and are open to your inspection, and just at this point we will read a number of them. We have received but one letter indicating a contrary opinion, and that was from Dr. Marcus L. Ward, Dean of the College of Dental Surgery in the University of Michigan, which is located at Ann Arbor. With regard to this one exception, Dr. Ward admits that it costs the State of Michigan \$180,000 annually to finance its dental school.

Dr. E. A. Alderman, President of the University of Virginia, has stated that a dental school at Charlottesville can be established "in time." This not only fails to meet the present needs but it would be a distinct reproach to the University of Virginia to attempt to longer maintain a medical school without a Class A school of dentistry in connection therewith. And if Dr. Alderman's qualification of "in time" refers to that period when Charlottesville will have a sufficient population to furnish the clinical material necessary for the maintenance of an adequate Class A dental school, then the consummation of his hopes would be postponed to such an indefinite future time as to make it impracticable for practical men to deal with such a contingency.

In this connection, we have a letter from Dr. I. N. Broome, Dean of the Temple University Dental School of Philadelphia, in which he says:

"While I have had no personal experience along this line, i. e. in the line of being associated with dental schools in small towns, I can readily appreciate the fact that such a school would be seriously handicapped because of the impossibility of securing a sufficient number of patients for practical work. Even in large cities like Philadelphia and New York, we are occasionally obliged to use some unusual effort to secure a sufficient number of patients for clinical work."

THE ALTERNATIVES TO THE SELECTION OF RICHMOND.

(a) The abandonment of adequate medical instruction in Virginia. The importance and need of such instruction absolutely forbid this alternative.

(b) The establishment of a dental school in Richmond not connected with a medical school. This would inevitably lower the standard of dental instruction in this State at a time when the best thought on the subject is demanding a raising of the standard, and would be a makeshift in view of the importance and needs of the hour.

(c) The operation of the dental school at Richmond, connected with the medical school at Charlottesville. This would involve the maintenance of buildings and equipment at both places, with increased cost of teaching as well, and would practically disconnect the medical and dental departments, and at the same time largely increase the expense and inconvenience of the dental students. As we have seen, this alternative has been disapproved by the practically unanimous vote of the Commission on Medical Education in Virginia and by your Honorable Body.

The conclusion of our Association that dental instruction in Virginia should be conducted at Richmond in connection with the location of the medical department of the University of Virginia at that place is concurred in by 548 out of 568 dentists who have expressed their opinion on the subject, and by the practically unanimous opinion of all experts outside of Virginia who have been questioned on the subject.

Respectfully submitted,

M. B. RUDD, *President, Virginia State Dental Association*
HARRY BEAR, *Secretary, Virginia State Dental Association*
H. WOOD CAMPBELL, *President, Virginia State Board of
Dental Examiners*