

# THE JOURNAL

of the CANADIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

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## THE JOURNAL — SALUTATION

AS THE smallest child, John was taught by his staunch Presbyterian parents that what was to be, would be, and that no amount of effort on his part could change the predestined course of events.

One day John fell down the cellar stairs and bruised himself severely. The mother arrived just in time to see him pulling himself together, brushing off the dust, and to hear him say, "Thank the Lord that is over."

We do not advance any arguments for the doctrine of predestination, but we do express thanks that the years of effort that have been put forth in order to secure an official journal of our Canadian Dental Association have been rewarded at last.

For some years voices have been raised in a demand for a national journal, owned and directed by the Canadian Dental Association. These voices have continued to increase in volume and

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M. H. GARVIN, *Editor*

have become increasingly insistent, and now their desires have been in part satisfied.

With this issue, The Journal of the Canadian Dental Association; Le Journal de l'Association Dentaire Canadienne goes into Volume One, Number One, thus marking another milestone in the history of dentistry in Canada.

The publication of a journal is intimately linked up with the growth and develop-

ment of our national Association.

When one visualizes the great need for such an Association, and mentally calculates the amount of work undertaken by our standing and special committees; when one considers the tasks still to be undertaken along the lines of research, dental health education, library bureau, bureau of chemistry and dental therapeutics, dental educational council, relief work, bureau of dental economics; and when one ponders on the national and international relationships, also the

talked-of changes in our scheme of things from a State dentistry point of view,—one is fired with the vital need of strengthening as rapidly as possible our Canadian Dental Association.

Our Journal stands at the door, ready to assist in this task, ready to broadcast throughout the Canadian profession an accomplishment in any one section of the profession, ready to bridge the gap between professional achievement and the public needs. It aspires, through our dental leaders, to mould the thought of the profession, to guide its hopes and clarify its problems, supporting all things which elevate and inspire. It will glean from every section of the Empire, every phase of dental life, from every realm of scientific research, in order to spur us on to greater endeavour. The Journal hopes to speak for our Association and to be its official organ, serving as a mirror of dental life in Canada and at the same time being a journal of constructive opinion, fighting in season and out of season for the highest and noblest principles, thus representing the best traditions of Canadian Dentistry.

The editorial policy of the Journal will be, as far as possible, under the direct control of the Association. It will be the constant aim of the officers and staff to make the Journal stand highest in honor, rank greatest in dignity, shine brightest in excellence, depict the widest range of triumph in the scientific achievements of our profession and interpret in the fullest possible manner the handwriting on the wall as that handwriting refers to dentistry. It should help to emancipate some of the older practitioners from bondage if they will but read; should encourage and inspire the younger practitioners;

and should enrich all, controlling thus both history and destiny and establishing more firmly a truly professional status throughout this Dominion of ours.

This Journal is also unique in that it is a bi-lingual journal, a certain portion of the text being in French. We welcome this innovation. We prize the cultural value it will prove to the English dentist if he will acquire a reading knowledge, at least, of the French language. We English dentists value also this closer fellowship with our brothers in the French section of our great two-languaged Dominion. Dr. Philippe Hamel of Quebec City, who has given unstintingly of his time and strength in the interests of Canadian dentistry, has consented to edit the French section of our Journal. His interest, his enthusiasm, his loyalty, and his ability will prove to be a large factor in climbing the heights we expect to reach.

Dr. A. E. Webster, who has for thirty-five years edited Dominion Dental Journal and who has had showered upon him practically all the gifts that are in the hands of the profession to bestow, is to be our honorary editor, a relationship which is deeply appreciated by all concerned.

Dr. Stephen A. Moore of London, Ontario, past president of the Ontario Dental Association, will be our business manager. Dr. Moore has done endless work of a skilful and painstaking nature to bring the publishing of our national journal to a successful consummation.

The editor is fearfully aware of the many difficulties in editing a journal. Men are different, and what will suit one will not suit another. Some insist on the practical, while others are interested



largely in the various phases of research. Mistakes will be made and by some these will be magnified; but we believe that the large majority will appreciate the problem and be charitable. Whatever may come, the editor will sincerely try to have imaginative sympathy and to represent the interests of the dentists of Canada. The man without such sympathy is a stumbling-block in the world today. The editor wonders if he has that imaginative sympathy. Does he know the problems and difficulties and heartaches that many in our profession have to face, problems of diagnosis, of treatment, of office management, of practice building, problems of misunderstanding in the home, of sickness and of finance, the problems of the man who has danced to the tune of prosperity and now has drifted high and dry on the shores of defeat?

He sincerely trusts that if this sympathy is now lacking in any way, it will soon be acquired, that the Journal may prove to be of increasing value and inspiration to all, that it may be a most effective factor in developing a homogeneous good fellowship not only among the men who direct dental affairs throughout Canada, but also among the rank and file of our profession. To keep one's feet on the ground and yet live among the stars, is not an easy task.

The prophet Daniel was placed head of one hundred and twenty-two leaders in the kingdom of Darius the Median, and he had one hundred and twenty-two of them against him. He had the friendship of the King and he had the laws of

the Medes and Persians against him; consequently he was thrown into the den of lions. However, through all of these trials, he remained faithful to his convictions and his God. The editor of this Journal trusts that as long as he and those who are associated with him, hold this honor and this privilege of carrying on the constructive work of building up a strong national dental organization, they will remain not only faithful to the living God but may be faithful to the trust that has been placed in their hands, that whatever the influence of a personal nature that is brought to bear, whatever the political or group influence that is interjected into the dental council chambers, they will be true to the Vision that is theirs, that they will be true to the spirit of nationalism which insists that the welfare of the dentists of Canada from coast to coast shall take precedence over the desires and interests of any particular section of our country.

It is the ambition of all those connected with this publication that they should have insight into the dental problems of the day, that something may be said that will bring a measure of instruction, of inspiration, and of contentment to those who read; for "Happy is the man who has that in his soul which acts upon others as April airs on violet roots. Gifts from the hand are silver and gold, but the heart gives that which neither silver nor gold can buy. To be full of goodness, full of cheerfulness, full of sympathy, full of hope, causes a man to move on human life as stars move on dark seas to bewildered mariners."

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