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(president of the Odontological Society in this State) and Dr. Richard Godson (president of the Dental Graduates' Society); New South Wales, Dr. G. H. McElhone, Dr. Sims Lever, and Mr. P. Fiaschi, O.B.E.; Victoria, Mr. W. J. Tuckfield, M.A.C.D., Dr. W. Stanley Wilkinson, and Dr. E. Freeman Greenwood; Queensland, Dr. John Menzies, Dr. Butler Wood, and Mr. W. R. Parker, L.D.S.; Western Australia, Dr. A. J. Campbell Wilson and Messrs. A. J. Herman and C. O. Tebbutt. The chairmen appointed for various sections are:—(a) Science—Dr. W. Ramsay Smith, of Adelaide (anatomy, physiology, histology, and education); Mr. C. O. Tebbutt, of Perth (etiology, pathology, and bacteriology); and Dr. Butler Wood, of Brisbane (oral hygiene, materia medica, and therapeutics). Applied science—Dr. E. J. Millhouse, of Adelaide (oral surgery); Dr. G. H. McElhone, of Sydney (operative dentistry); Dr. Stanley Wilkinson, of Melbourne (orthodontics); and Dr. Ray McLinton, of Tasmania (anaesthetics). Other sections will be constituted in relation to prosthetic dentistry, clinical demonstrations, and museum.

On Monday, at noon, the delegates will be accorded a civic reception at the Town Hall by the Lord Mayor (Mr. Frank Moulden), and at 3 p.m., at the School of Mines, His Excellency the Governor will formally open the congress. In the evening there will be a display of manufacturers' exhibits, and the session following will be devoted to papers, illustrated by lantern slides.

On Tuesday the general session will begin at 9 a.m., and at noon there will be a reception by the chancellor and council of the University. In the evening the chairman of the South Australian Dental Board (Mr. Wallace Bruce) will tender a dinner to the members of the various State Dental Boards. Wednesday's programme includes for the afternoon a motor drive to National Park, where members and their wives will be entertained at afternoon tea by Sir Joseph Verco (dean of the faculty of dentistry) and Lady Verco, and on Thursday afternoon there will be a reception by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Weigall at Government House. A programme of entertainment has been arranged by a ladies' committee, of whom Mrs. E. J. Counter is president. Mr. Alexander Swann is hon. secretary of the congress, and other members of the local executive are, in addition to the president (Dr. Counter):—Hon. assistant secretary, Dr. A. G. Trott; hon. treasurer, Mr. E. A. Wagner; social secretaries, Messrs. F. A. Clarke and R. L. Sims; committee, Drs. W. T. Shanasy, E. J. Millhouse, L. W. Trott, A. Chapman, H. C. D. Taunton, and R. Godson, Messrs. F. M. Swan, A. Gask, and F. J. Miles, and Miss Beatrice Bennett.

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**THE DENTAL CONGRESS.**

The majority of the inter-State delegates to the fourth Australian Dental Congress, which will open this morning, reached Adelaide on Sunday. They were accompanied in a number of instances by their wives. There are now over 80 visiting delegates in Adelaide, and also 41 ladies. The arrivals on Sunday were met by the president (Dr. E. J. Counter), the secretary (Mr. A. Swann), and members of the executive and ladies' committee. The delegation, which includes Professor W. K. Gregory, of New York, is the largest that has attended an inter-State dental congress. Shortly after 2 o'clock two armloads of the visitors left the G.P.O. for Morialta, where afternoon tea was taken, and an inspection made of the falls. A number of the party attended St. Peter's Cathedral in the evening. Today, at noon, the visitors will be tendered a civic reception by the Lord Mayor (Mr. F. B. Moulden) at the Town Hall. The conference will be opened at the School of Mines, North-terrace, this afternoon, at 3 o'clock, by His Excellency the Governor, and it will meet thereafter thrice daily until Friday (inclusive). Saturday will be spent in a marine excursion to Outer Harbour. The full details of the programme in regard to the discussions and the scientific aspect appeared in "The Advertiser" on Saturday.

**THE DENTAL CONGRESS.**

Dentistry is by the majority of mortals regarded as more thoroughly entailed to be called the "dismal science," than political economy, to which, in his essay on "The Higher Question," Carlyle applies the epithet. But the mere fact that so many find the horrors of the dentist's chair "unavoidable" makes it the more desirable that the operator should bring to his task the maximum of skill and knowledge, and recent legislation, by raising the status of the practitioner, has conferred an inestimable boon on humanity, to whom sound teeth are proverbially indispensable to good health. When the dentists of Australia hold their triennial congresses, the fourth of which will be opened in Adelaide to-day, it is not their profession only that is benefited. In so far as their knowledge is extended by a comparison of notes on their personal experiences and by discussions on the latest phases of their art, the gain is reaped by the public. Even as it is, anyone who is old enough to compare a visit to the dentist to-day with what it was thirty or forty years ago must admit the enormous advance that has taken place. That was a time when there were still barbers who varied the monotony of cutting hair by pulling teeth, and when, preventive surgery not having made its enormous strides, things were suffered even at the hands of skilled operators which are now unknown. The dentist is no longer the butcher-like personage whose one idea is to "have it out." Even now a visit to the dentist is not a thing to be contemplated exactly with pleasure; but it is a relief to have the forceps so much less in requisition than they once were.

The Congress finds South Australia in an interesting stage of its odontological development. The profession has for some years enjoyed the advantages of registration and of a dental board to safeguard its interests—advantages of which the profession in the old country is not yet possessed, or there would be no occasion for the Bill which last month was passing through the British Parliament. We are now following the example of other States in the Commonwealth in equipping ourselves with the means whereby dentists may fully qualify for their calling without leaving South Australia. A scheme has been adopted for the foundation in connection with the University and the Adelaide Hospital of a dental school, where students can receive the full measure of instruction needed for practice and secure the diploma of a body which is recognised throughout the world. For this purpose the old military dental department on the Frome-road will be used as a temporary establishment, pending the completion of a dental hospital which, in equipment, will be second to none in the Commonwealth, and which has been rendered possible by the allocation for the purpose of £15,000 from the magnificent gift to Australia of £150,000 by the British Red Cross Society, and by a liberal State grant with which the £15,000 has been supplemented. Those who desire to take up dentistry as a profession will thus get near to their homes a course of instruction which hitherto they have had to incur the cost of going far afield to obtain. If the profession is to be congratulated on the boon, so are the public, to whom every addition made to opportunities for learning a science that ministers to civilised life as does dentistry is a matter of vital concern. The interest shown by the Government in the movement is only one of a number of indications of the recognition by the State of the necessity of good teeth for the maintenance of health. Already the teeth of State school children are made a subject of compulsory examination, and the time may come when treatment will be made compulsory too, if necessary, at the public expense. It is coming to be perceived that children cannot do the work expected of them at school or grow into healthy men and women with neglected teeth. So much depends on the digestion, both in mental and physical activity, that it would seem as if the State in its own interest should insist on every child having its teeth in good order. When years of discretion

have been reached the citizen must bear his own burdens; but it is now recognised to be the business of the State to concern itself with the all-round development of the child, and the possession of sound teeth is at least as necessary as a knowledge of grammar and spelling. A point emphasized by Dr. Gertrude Halley in her last report as medical inspector of schools as "interesting" is the contrast between the teeth of children in different parts of the State. In the north 73 per cent. of the children have good teeth, against 9 per cent. in the metropolitan area, a difference which is not altogether to be explained by the greater consumption of sweets and pastry by the city child, but is explicable generally by the more wholesome diet of country life, in which home-made bread plays a conspicuous part, as does the use of drinking water containing a larger percentage of salts than is to be found in the reservoirs of the metropolis.

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**THE DENTAL CONGRESS.**

The sessions of the Australian Dental Congress will be begun at Brookman Hall, School of Mines, Adelaide, to-day. This is the third of such gatherings—Sydney 1907, Melbourne 1909, and Brisbane 1912. Preparations were made for the holding of the congress in Adelaide in 1915, but the meeting had to be postponed on account of the war. Many of the visiting delegates arrived in Adelaide on Sunday morning by train. These included Professor W. K. Gregory, an eminent American scientist. From Victoria there will be 45 representatives, and 25 from New South Wales. Representatives from Queensland, Tasmania, Western Australia, and New Zealand, will also be present. Progress in dental science will ensure the congress being both interesting and memorable. Papers, which will be read, have been sent by authorities in England and the United States. The President of the Congress is Dr. E. J. Counter, of Adelaide. The Vice-Presidents are:—South Australia, Mr. Alexander Swann (President of the Odontological Society in this State) and Dr. Richard Godson (President of the Dental Graduates' Society); New South Wales, Dr. G. H. McElhone, Dr. Sims Lever, and Mr. P. Fiaschi, O.B.E.; Dr. W. Stanley Wilkinson, and Dr. E. Freeman Greenwood; Queensland, Dr. John Menzies, Dr. Butler Wood, and Mr. W. R. Parker, L.D.S.; Western Australia, Dr. A. J. Campbell and Messrs. A. J. Herman and C. O. Tebbutt. The Chairmen appointed for various sections are:—(a) Science, Dr. W. Ramsay Smith, of Adelaide (anatomy, physiology, histology, and education); Mr. C. O. Tebbutt, of Perth (etiology, pathology, and bacteriology); and Dr. Butler Wood, of Brisbane (oral hygiene, materia medica, and therapeutics). Applied science—Dr. E. J. Millhouse, of Adelaide (oral surgery); Dr. G. H. McElhone, of Sydney (operative dentistry); Dr. Stanley Wilkinson, of Melbourne (orthodontics); and Dr. Ray McLinton, of Tasmania (anaesthetics). Other sections will be constituted in relation to prosthetic dentistry, clinical demonstrations, and museum. Mr. Alexander Swann is Hon. Secretary of the Congress. In addition to the President (Dr. Counter), the members of the local executive are:—Hon. Assistant Secretary, Dr. A. G. Trott; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. A. Wagner; Social Secretaries, Messrs. F. A. Clarke and R. L. Sims; Committee, Drs. W. T. Shanasy, E. J. Millhouse, L. W. Trott, A. Chapman, H. C. D. Taunton, and R. Godson, Messrs. F. M. Swan, A. Gask, and Miss Beatrice Bennett. The delegates will be accorded a civic reception by the Lord Mayor at the Adelaide Town Hall, at noon to-day. At 3 p.m. His Excellency the Governor will formally open the Congress at the School of Mines. There will be a display of manufacturers' exhibits in the evening. The general sessions will begin to-morrow at 9 a.m. At noon there will be a reception by the Chancellor and Council of the University. In the evening a dinner will be given, to the members of the various State Boards by the Chairman of the South Australian Dental Board (Mr. Wallace Bruce). On Wednesday afternoon delegates will be treated to a motor drive to National Park. The members and their wives will be entertained at afternoon tea at the Park by Sir Joseph and Lady Verco. On Thursday there will be a reception by His Excellency the Governor and Lady Weigall at Government House. A ladies' committee, of which Mrs. E. J. Counter is president, has arranged a programme of entertainment. The interstate delegates, who arrived by the Melbourne express on Sunday morning, were met by the President (Dr. E. J. Counter), and members of the reception committee. Many of them were accompanied by their wives. In the afternoon two reserved trams conveyed the dentists to Morialta, where afternoon tea was served and an inspection made of the falls. The interstate delegation consists of more than 80, and there are also 41 ladies. This is the largest representation recorded at a federal gathering of dentists.

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**THE DENTAL CONGRESS.**

"There never was yet philosopher that could endure the toothache patiently," Shakspeare makes Leon say in "Much Ado About Nothing." In the lives of most people there are occasions when the skillful dentist, by the sudden and almost unspeakable relief he has afforded from continuous and profanity-provoking pain, has seemed for a while like an angel of mercy—the best friend they had in the world. South Australians, therefore, have noted with interest that the fourth Australian Dental Congress will be held in Adelaide this week, and they desire for the large contingents of visitors, and the local members of the Congress, including its able executive, that the various deliberative sessions, and the programme of outings and entertainments, shall be thoroughly profitable and pleasant. The gathering will certainly be the most important of the kind ever held in the Commonwealth. As the occurrence of the war suspended the preparations for a congress in 1915, nine years have passed since the last united meeting, and during that time valuable advances have been made in dental science. Sectional committees for the congress cover—(1) anatomy, physiology, histology, and education; (2) etiology, pathology, and bacteriology; (3) oral hygiene, materia medica, and therapeutics; and in the domain of applied science—(4) oral surgery, (5) operative dentistry, (6) orthodontics, (7) anaesthetics, (8) prosthetic dentistry, and (9) radiography. Most of the subjects will be treated in papers by expert authorities, and the facts and considerations elucidated, with the discussions which will follow, ought to be very helpful to crusades in behalf of improved public health and efficiency; as also beneficial to the dental profession. The clinical demonstrations and the exhibition of recently devised and approved dental goods will be particularly attractive to student practitioners.

Unfortunately for British peoples, their interest in dentistry has, generally speaking, been due wholly to toothache and more or less regard for the appearance of the mouth. The readiness with which decayed or diseased teeth may be extracted and replaced by artificial ones, has induced culpable indifference to the widespread breakdown of Nature's provision for the mastication of food, and to the character of dental legislation. During the war quite an alarming proportion of young men were pronounced to be unfit for active service, because of ailments and weaknesses attributable to defective teeth. No other country produces a better variety of sterling foods than South Australia, and yet—as examinations at different times by Dr. Gertrude Halley and others have demonstrated—the school children of the State commonly suffer from bad teeth, and in probably thousands of cases their health is thereby permanently impaired. There is a crying need for a "dental conscience" in the community. Mothers and fathers do not give sufficient heed to the obligation of ensuring to their children good, well-preserved sets of teeth. In the training and care of infants after the first year, the practice of feeding only with pappy, sugary, and starchy substances is evidently responsible for a