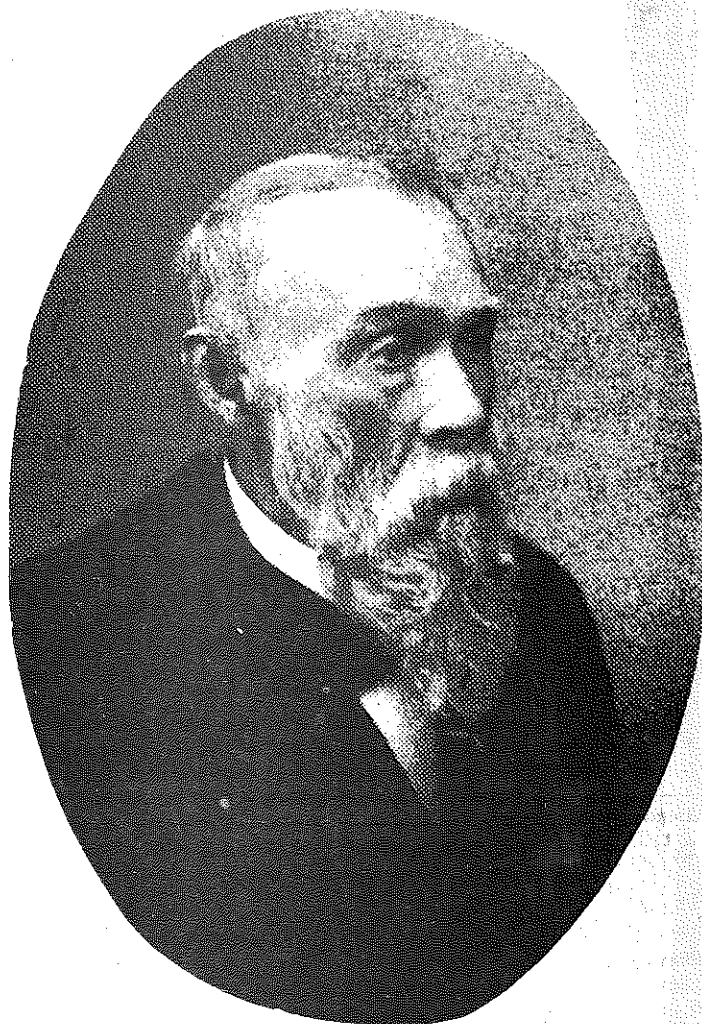


Corydon Palmer

The Unique Dental Society



by Toni A.M.

On March 10, 1913 the Youngstown Dental Society called a meeting of all the Dentists of Columbiana, Trumbull and Mahoning Counties to organize a component of the Ohio State Dental Society.

There was little question as to the choice of a name for the new society. The only question was, Would Dr. Palmer consent to the use of his name? Dr. Palmer had been known as a "foe of organized dentistry." However, when visited by a committee asking permission for the use of his name they "found this not to be the case. Dr. Palmer was, rather, a foe of some of the organizers of dentistry and this was vastly different." The Ohio Dental Journal 1964 stated further, "He had a high respect for his co-workers in the profession but had no use for the political fringe." Consent was granted!

To The Corydon Palmer Dental
Society Auxiliary

From Dr. David Liddle 8-27-79

The Corydon Palmer Dental Society formed March 10, 1913 was named in honor of one of the leading pioneers in dentistry, Dr. Corydon Spencer Palmer.

Corydon Palmer is unique in being the only dental society named for a highly inventive forerunner of dentistry.

After reading much of the history of the man, Dr. Palmer, I am sure it must give its members a fraternal feeling of pride and honor to carry this distinguished name.

Corydon Spencer Palmer was born in Vernon, Ohio on January 12, 1820. His boyhood was spent in Vernon, where he attended school. In 1836 at sixteen years of age, he became an apprentice to a silversmith in Warren, Ohio. During the four years he worked as a silversmith's apprentice, he also studied dentistry. Picking up as much knowledge as he could (the only way to learn in those days) from other dentists. One especially mentioned in this early training was Dr. E.E. Smith of Philadelphia.

In 1839 he opened his first office in Warren; the city he always loved and would inevitably return to.

From this preceptorship background, he became the foremost inventor of dental instruments, a member of the board of trustees and a teacher of operative dentistry in the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, which conferred upon him the honorary degree of D.D.S. (This is a little humorous to me, you might say he wrote the book). He was a member of the Ohio State Dental Society, the Mississippi Valley Association of Dental Surgeons, the American Dental Association and an honorary member of many other societies.

Dr. David W. Liddle (himself an interesting study) gave me a collection of information that he and Dr. Charles White assembled, along with a copy of the Ohio Dental Journal of June, 1964 which contained a history of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society and an article about Dr. Palmer entitled, "Dr. Corydon Palmer - 'Eccentric Genius'."

Dr. Liddle in a letter to the Society's secretary wrote, "We have one dentist in Warren who knew Dr. Palmer personally, Dr. Paul Fisher. When a young boy he delivered papers to Dr. Palmer and then got to know him in the later days of his life."

Dr. Palmer traveled to New York in 1843 intent upon becoming an engraver, but instead he decided to join Dr. John Burdell in the practice of dentistry. He later joined Dr. Samuel White as an advisory expert in the manufacture of steel instruments. He invented the first complete set of instruments for the manipulation of cohesive gold foil. Dr. Liddle mentioned that Dr. Palmer was known as an artist and he had once seen a beautiful set of carved silver instruments which filled a large case, made by him and owned by another doctor.

The following are interesting excerpts from a letter written by Dr. Liddle about Dr. Palmer:

"About January, 1925 when I first came to Warren, Dr. Charles White and I visited Dr. Corydon Palmer's home on Washington Avenue, Warren, Ohio. His office was in the large back yard. It was a nice looking three-room building with reception room, operatory and laboratory. We found everything almost as he had left it when he died in 1917. Dental chair was

maroon velvet and most all of the instruments were handmade. In his laboratory he had a forge like blacksmiths use. He made it himself, and it being so heavy, he had the foundation starting from the basement floor. The handmade bellows would pump up air pressure to intensify the heat. He designed and made the SS White Co. set of gold foil pluggers, which are still sold all over the world, also many operative and extracting instruments used in his day. If he did not have the proper instrument at hand, he would often leave the patient sit until he made one. Once after a period of waiting the patient heard a shot from the laboratory. Dr. Palmer announced he had just shot a rat in the back yard.

"I guess you have the story that he malleted a string of gold beads for a relative using pure gold foil." A jeweler examined these beads and said they were an expert work of art. Dr. Liddle continued, "Also, there is a story that he made the tombstone for his wife's grave out of solid rock and chiselled the inscription."

Dr. Palmer was strongly opposed to the unnecessary extracting of teeth. He was an advocate of filling teeth. He was also a pioneer in the use of tin foil for inexpensive fillings, using carbolic acid and Guller's cement in preparation for the filling. Once he stated, "... cohesive gold stands at the head of a filling material. Tin foil stands next in value."

Dr. Palmer was known as one of the most skilled dentists in the nation. After his return to Warren, patients came from as far as New York by rail for an appointment with him. The most prominent of these were the Vanderbilts who would travel to Warren, Ohio in their special car on the Erie railroad just to have their teeth cared for by Dr. Palmer. They sent a special car to carry Dr. Palmer and his equipment to New York when they were unable to make the trip.

The following incident appeared in the June, 1964 Ohio Dental Journal:

"One of Warren's early distinguished doctors was once at a summer resort and a lady whom he had not met for 40 years came up and spoke to him. 'I know you are Dr... of Warren. I would recognize you anywhere by your beautiful teeth.' 'They are good teeth,' answered the physician, 'but strictly speaking, they are Dr. Palmer's and not mine—he made them.'"

His reason for returning to Warren from New York early in his practice was humorously given in the Journal—"A patient for whom he was inserting a large gold filling kept looking at his watch and appeared to be 'timing' the dentist. So incensed was Dr. Palmer by this that he decided to return to Warren, saying, 'No man can snap his watch on me. I shall go back to Ohio where I can take all the time I want on a patient and not be watched.'"

As for the time that should be spent with one patient—in a discussion with fellow dentists at an American Dental Association meeting he stated, "We need to understand what our patients can bear, and should be careful not to overtax their nervous force. I divide up my operations and scarcely ever work over two hours at a time on one patient. One thing we ought to understand, we must gain the confidence of our patients and be in mental harmony and sympathy with them, then it is that our work is made comparatively easy."

As with most geniuses, Dr. Palmer's patience was short with persons who wasted his time. Once a young man failed to keep an appointment set for a certain day at a certain time. Accompanied by his mother, the young man arrived at Dr. Palmer's the next Saturday. He was told to climb in the chair and open his mouth. Dr. Palmer then said, "You disappointed me last Saturday, now I should disappoint you. You can go home and wait till I send for you." The Ohio Dental Journal said the lad was probably pleased with the "parole" rather than disappointed.

Dr. Palmer was described by a colleague as "the best filler of teeth in the world."

His firsts in dentistry were many. He invented special clamps used in applying the rubber dam in difficult cases. He taught his own method of putting crowns upon roots and building up contours.

When asked about bridge work, he said, "You got me on something I wish I had never heard of" as he had seen "bridge work drag out teeth" too many times.

In his letters Dr. Liddle related a couple more stories about Dr. Palmer—

"On one of his trips to Cleveland he bought what he thought was a very nice room full of furniture. It did not please his wife, so he took it out in the back yard and burned it up." Dr. Liddle said, "It's smart to take the wife on shopping trips." He continued, "When the vulcanization of rubber was first patented back in the civil war days Dr. Palmer bought one of the first complete outfits—vulcanizer, press, flasks, clampsets. When he found out that he was paying a royalty for the process and rubber, he loaded the entire outfit into a wheelbarrow and dumped it in the Mahoning River. He did not believe in royalties for health services."

Dr. Liddle closed by mentioning another first of Dr. Palmer's, on January 1, 1974—"Dr. Ralph Phillips in his lecture last Thursday mentioned the use of carbolic acid on a pledget of cotton to soothe a sensitive cavity before filling. On page 96 our history of June, 1873 (100 years ago) mentions that Dr. Palmer used carbolic acid before putting in fillings."

The Corydon Palmer Dental Society in 1913, elected Dental inspectors to care for the schools. Later a committee was appointed to look after the charity work at the hospitals.

Also, in 1913 a resolution was passed for the care of "Indigent Patients" free of charge, distributing these as equally as possible among all members. Through the years the Corydon Palmer dentists were kept up to date on the newest scientific advances in dentistry. From two meetings a year the program was expanded to the present eight meetings a year in the interest of better dentistry.

Dr. Palmer was highly respected and admired by his colleagues for his dedication, inventiveness, artistic ability, genius and his extreme modesty. His love for fellow humans was amply returned. He was also known to be an ardent abolitionist.

In 1914 Dr. Palmer was compelled to give up the practice of dentistry and went to live with his son, Dr. Delos Palmer in New York. After 97 full productive years he died on February 17, 1917. He was returned to Warren where it had always been his wish to finally rest and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

The unique Dental Society continues to work to keep the standards and brings honor to the name it bears, Corydon Palmer.

History of

Corydon Palmer

Organized Dentistry in Youngstown

The year 1908 marked the beginning of a new era in the lives of the 39 dentists then practicing in Youngstown.

Population was about 65,000 but there was little demand for dental services beyond the relief of pain.

The lack of good anesthetics kept patients away from the dentist of 1908. Teeth were customarily extracted without an anesthetic of any kind, and of course, no anesthetics were used at all for cavity preparation. For extractions some dentists would surround the tooth with five or six injections of Cocaine. The toxicity of this drug and the frequent extensive sloughing kept this method from becoming popular either with the dentist or the patient. Novocain as a substitute for cocaine was first reported in this country in 1907, and was some time in gaining acceptance. It was not until 1910 the McKensson perfected the "intermittent flow" nitrous oxide and oxygen anesthesia apparatus. The dentist of 1908 was further handicapped of course, having no Irium, Anti-enzymes, G. L. 70 or Chlorophyll, or Crest Toothpaste. Airdent and Cavitron were not yet even a gleam in the manufacturer's eye.

The *Youngstown Vindicator* carried the advertising of the "American Painless Dentists," located across the street from Deibel's Meat Market. Five dollar gold crowns and bridgework reduced to \$2.50. Silver fillings, 50c. \$5, \$10 and \$15 plates reduced to \$4, \$6 and \$8. Office hours were 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If fees were low, so also were the dentist's expenses. Office space on Federal St. was quite reasonable in price. Seven dollars a month paid for space near Fifth Ave., while large rooms nearer the Public Square rented for as much as \$20 a month. McElroy's Furniture Store would sell the dentist a leather rocker for his waiting room for \$23.75 to place on his 9 by 12 Axminster rug purchased at Weil Hartzel Co. for \$18. When collections were good, Max Sagrin's Market offered these attractions: Spring chicken at 18c, butter, 26c, eggs 18c, and hams at 10c a pound.

Competing bravely for the little dentistry there was to do, it is little wonder that suspicion, distrust and cordial dislike were the paramount sentiments between fellow practitioners. I am told that if a patient

wandered into a rival office, he might be asked, after clinical examination, if he had filled his own teeth. We can be thankful that this was all long ago. Be that as it may, there was no dental society and no opportunity to get acquainted and learn that your fellow dentist was not such a bad fellow after all.

ing the back of Dr. Baird's head into violent contact with the floor above. His head lay on the right side of the bottom of the cage looking east and his feet on the other side.

"As the car continued upward the head and shoulders were drawn into the opening between the elevator floor and the wall.

Dental Society

By L. D. Osborne, D.D.S.

1964

Of the 39 dentists practicing in 1908 only two survive. C. H. Clark was at 124 E. Federal St. and T. J. Evans at 137 W. Federal St. W. H. Hayden, who had offices at 228 Lincoln, died in July, 1961. The Whiteside Dental Manufacturing Co. was the only local supply house.

On the morning of March 24, 1908, an event occurred so horrible and shocking that the dentists forgot their petty hatreds and for the first time got together to act in a concerted manner.

"Dr. Charles A. Baird Killed in Elevator.

"Met a Horrible Death Tuesday Morning While Going to His Office in the Wick Building. Body Badly Mutilated."

"Victim Attempted To Get Off At Second Floor Before Cage Stopped."

"Elevator Man Overcome by Shock."

"Dr. Charles A. Baird, 526 Elm Street, one of the best-known dentists in the city, was crushed to death at 9:10 Tuesday morning in the elevator in the Wick Bank Building while he was on his way to his office on the second floor. The cage failed to stop at the second floor as was its custom, due, it is alleged, to some hitch in the mechanism. Dr. Baird, expecting it to come to a halt as usual, was standing near the door. As the second floor was reached stepped forward as he had done for twenty years, with the intention of leaving the car. Instead of coming to a halt the elevator seemed to have continued upward, bring-

The right foot was caught in the other side of the cage.

"When laid out on the floor the condition of the body was such as to render it unrecognizable. The features had been entirely ground from the face. The chest, head and arms were crushed. The right leg also was broken. A search of the pockets revealed a receipt of a gas payment, made out to Dr. Baird, establishing his identity."

The following ad appeared in the classified section the same evening: "March 24, 1908—Notice: Dr. A. P. Dalbey wishes all dentists to meet at Room 203 Federal Building, Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock Standard. Important business to transact."

Funeral of Dr. Baird

March 25, 1908 (Wednesday)

"Victim of elevator accident will be buried Thursday afternoon from the residence.

"The funeral of Dr. Charles A. Baird will be held from the residence, 526 Elm St., Thursday afternoon at 1:30. Following the services at the house, the remains will be taken to Columbiana via the Youngstown & Southern, where they will be interred in the Baird family lot. The company will leave the local Youngstown & Southern depot in a special car at 2:30 Standard. The car will stop near the cemetery and the burial will be made from it."

Most of Youngstown's dentists attended the funeral in a group. This was Youngstown's first dental meeting.

The account of Dr. Baird's tragic death was taken from the files of the *Youngstown Vindicator* and used by special permission of Mr. William F. Maag, editor and publisher. The account was published as a means of demonstrating just what a compelling force was needed to bring these unfriendly Youngstown dentists into close acquaintance with each other. After meeting each other, many for the first time, at the funeral, a degree of friendliness or at least tolerance toward one another developed.

For some time, certain men had felt the need of a dental society and here was the opportunity. It became easy to begin holding small meetings, usually in one of the downtown dental offices. Soon dentists from nearby towns were attracted and permanent organization was assured.

In January, 1911, the Youngstown Dental Club adopted a formal Constitution and By-laws and elected Dr. T. F. Potter president, with Dr. J. W. Fairbanks, secretary. There were 40 members with an average attendance from 12 to 20. Monthly meetings were held, except during the summer months. Some of the topics discussed were: "The Tanning or Mummyifying Properties of Certain Drugs" and "Humanitarian Dentistry," by Dr. Renkenberger, "Ethics," by Dr. Hayden, "Gold Inlays," by Dr. Chessrown, and a debate—"Is Pyorrhea Curable?" with papers presented by both sides, and a decision in favor of the negative. Dues were \$2 annually. In 1919 the name was changed to the Youngstown Dental Society.

As disclosed by the Minute Book, the far-sightedness of these pioneers of the profession is amazing. The debt we owe them is so apparent that one is led to the belief that there has not been an original idea in our local society in the past 40 years. To better illustrate, the following is a list of some of our present advantages, with appropriate reference to the old Minute Book.

Corydon Palmer Dental Society

1911—A suggestion by Dr. G. L. Moore that the local society affiliate with the Ohio State Dental Society. This suggestion ultimately resulted in the formation of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society two years later, which was an affiliate. 3-10-1913

1912—Motion by Dr. Chessrown, seconded by Dr. Whiteside, "That it be the consensus . . . of the Society that a new Society be formed, embracing Trumbull, Mahoning and Columbiana counties, to affiliate with the State Society."

1915—\$60 was appropriated to entertain and banquet the Corydon Palmer Dental Society in June.

Public School Dentistry

1912—The names of Drs. Nixon, Chessrown, Potter and James were submitted to the Board of Education as Dental Inspectors.

1913—Drs. Hayden and Whiteside introduced the following resolution which was adopted and sent to the Board of Education:

"Resolved: That in the judgment of this Society a grave error has been committed by your Board in the establishment of the Medical Inspector without including therein Dentists for the purpose of making a proper dental inspection with the consequent dental recommendations. It can be demonstrated that a correction of the oral defects of the pupil will be for greater benefit in increasing the efficiency of the pupil than any system of medical inspection that can be devised. Since the pupil at a tender age is shedding his deciduous teeth and the process of mastication and digestion are already interfered with, the child should be given every opportunity for oral health. This Society also makes a protest against the character of advice that has been given by members of your Medical Examining Board, in many instances relative to dental conditions."

Drs. Brown, Ward, Jones, and Chessrown were elected as Dental Inspectors to care for the schools. Later came a part-time paid school dentist, then the present adequate set-up.

Hospital Internship

1916—Motion that a committee be appointed to look after the charity work at the hospital.

1917—January—Dr. Morgan reports on the hospital clinic and the fine new equipment they now have.

1917—May—Dr. Evans announces a full-time dental intern at the hospital dispensary, Dr. Harry Zeve.

Medical Dental Bureau

1911—A discussion on collection of old accounts. A committee was appointed to draft a fee schedule.

1912—A joint meeting with the Medical Society.

1913—Discussion as to the advisability of a protective association to aid members in distinguishing between good and bad prospects.

1914—Dr. H. E. Patrick appeared in person and invited the dentists to a joint meeting with the medical men.

Indigent Patients

1913—The following resolution was sent to the Board of Education: "It was agreed by its members that we will treat, free of charge, cases of indigent pupils of the Public Schools brought to our offices by the nurses of the Medical and Dental Inspection Department of the Public School system. It is understood that the cases be distributed pro rata among our members as equally as may be possible."

Thursday Closing

1911—Motion by Dr. T. J. Evans "That the dentists of the city be requested to close their offices on Thursday afternoon during May, June, July, August and September."

Paid Secretary

In this respect the society has not advanced. 1914—Motion passed to allow the Society's secretary \$1 per meeting, plus expenses, plus his dues for the year.

Income Tax

Here our fathers were innocent. 1914—

January—Dr. T. H. Whiteside was instructed to investigate the new tax law (income) and report at the next meeting.

1914—February—Dr. G. L. Moore read an article on the income tax which was very interesting.

Legal

1917—An investigation was started of dentists practicing without licenses. About 4 or 5 were suspect.

1915—A petition was sent to Governor Willis supporting Dr. W. H. Hayden for the State Board of Dental Examiners.

Scientific

1914—June—Dr. C. B. Bratt of Pittsburgh gave a talk on the new drug Novocain.

1917—January—Dr. F. W. Zimmerman gave a paper, "Radiograms, a Factor in Better Dental Surgery."

1917—Dr. Fred Zimmerman read a paper on the X-ray. Doctors Hayden, Zimmerman and McCreary owned the first dental X-ray machines in Youngstown, purchased at a cost of \$1900 each.

When first organized in 1913, the Corydon Palmer Dental Society met only twice a year, fall and spring, so there was real need for the continuance of the Youngstown Dental Society. By 1932 Corydon Palmer had stepped up the frequency of meetings until it was felt that the Youngstown Dental Society had fulfilled its destiny. It was disbanded and the treasurer's funds turned over to the Corydon Palmer Dental Society as a credit toward the dues of the members, who belonged to both organizations.

Organization of Corydon Palmer Dental Society

For several years, opinion in the Youngstown Dental Society had shown a trend toward state and national affiliation, so in 1913 action was taken.

First Meeting and Organization

A meeting was called of the dentists of Columbiana, Trumbull and Mahoning counties at Youngstown on March 10, 1913 at 4 p.m. for the purpose of organizing a dental society.

The meeting was called to order in the Elks Temple by E. C. Mills of Columbus who acted as temporary chairman. Dr. W. B. Challis of Lisbon was appointed temporary secretary. It was then moved by Dr. T. H. Whiteside that a dental society be organized to become a component of the Ohio State Dental Society. This motion passed unanimously. A constitution was read and adopted providing for two meetings each year, in October and April.

Officers elected were Drs. C. H. Birkett, East Liverpool, President; H. E. Dunn, Warren, Vice President; W. B. Challis, London, Recording Secretary; O. B. Pfouts, East Liverpool, Corresponding Secretary; and J. K. Nash, Youngstown, Treasurer.

Four honorary members were elected, Dr. Corydon Palmer of Warren, Dr. W. R. Clark of Youngstown, Dr. E. C. Mills, Columbus and Dr. W. H. Huntley, Warren. A vote of thanks was given to Drs. W. H. Whitslar, W. A. Price and E. C. Mills for their interest and aid in forming the new society.

Dr. Corydon Palmer's prominence in the profession, recounted in detail in an earlier part of this history, left little choice as to a name for the new society. It was doubted that he would consent to the use of his name in this connection as he had long been known as a foe of organized dentistry. A committee visiting Dr. Palmer, however, found this not to be the case. Dr. Palmer was, rather, a foe of some of the organizers of dentistry and this was vastly different. He had a high respect for his co-workers in the profession but had no use for the political fringe. Consent was granted, and the new society became the Corydon Palmer Dental Society and was issued a charter by the Ohio State Dental Society March 10, 1913, signed by President Weston H. Price and F. R. Chapman, Secretary.

Throughout the ensuing years until the early 1930's, two meetings a year were held in various towns throughout the district—Salem, East Liverpool, Lisbon, Warren and Youngstown.

With the advent of better transportation and an increase of interest in better dental meetings, this program has been expanded in the last 26 years to the present eight meetings each year.

Past Presidents —

Corydon Palmer

C. H. Birkett*, East Liverpool; H. E. Dunn*, Warren; T. H. Whiteside*, Youngstown; G. C. Nixon*, Youngstown; Hamlin Barnes*, Wellsville; W. H. Hayden*, Youngstown; J. F. Steele, Lisbon, Ohio; T. J. Evans, Youngstown; J. H. Chessrown*, Youngstown; G. L. Moore*, Girard; E. E. Dyball*, Salem; W. H. Williams*, Niles; F. E. Renkenberger*, Youngstown; G. W. McMillan, Wellsville; L. R. Owen*, Warren; C. F. Blair*, Youngstown; J. T. Williamson*, East Liverpool; C. M. White, Warren; F. W. Ward*, Youngstown; K. D. Dotson, East Liverpool; E. E. Chambers*, Warren; C. H. Clard, Youngstown; J. M. Cartwright, East Liverpool; H. L. Zeve*, Youngstown; R. H. McNickle*, Warren; C. F. Kinsey*, East Liverpool; S. N. Farkes, Youngstown; C. M. Wright, Warren; W. J. McCarthy*, Youngstown; H. C. Bailey, Youngstown; L. D. Osborne, Youngstown; K. K. Maltbie, Youngstown; F. H. Simmerly*, Youngstown; L. W. Robinson, Youngstown; H. E. Kerr, Youngstown; P. L. Connor*, Youngstown; E. A. Snelson, Warren; N. J. Sopkovich, Youngstown; M. W. Baker, Youngstown; P. B. Hodes; Youngstown; J. A. Sansone, Youngstown; E. C. Brown, Youngstown; R. W. Lundstrom, Youngstown; E. A. Machin, Youngstown; E. L. Boye, Youngstown; B. F. Goldstein, Youngstown; J. E. Young, Warren; R. C. Bitonte, Youngstown; R. V. C. Carr; Youngstown; M. E. Greenberg, Youngstown.

*Deceased

- * table clinics
- * registered clinicians
- * exhibits
- * president's banquet
- * luncheon meetings
- * ladies' program

All these attractions
for you
at the 1964 OSDA
Annual Session

Columbus Plaza

Oct. 11-14



Dr. Palmer

Dr. Corydon Palmer

—“Eccentric
Genius”

Dr. Corydon Spencer Palmer was born January 12, 1820, at Vernon, Ohio, and received his early education in the schools of that town. In 1836 he became apprenticed to a silversmith in Warren, Ohio, with whom he remained for four years. According to the custom of the period, his duties included at times work of the nature of dentistry. Moreover, leading his thoughts in the direction of that which was to be his life occupation, it was during this apprenticeship as a silversmith that he became acquainted with Dr. E. E. Smith of Philadelphia, and from him he gained his first knowledge of actual “dentistry.” Like many of the pioneers of the profession, Dr. Palmer “picked up” his knowledge of it from association and interchange of ideas with other practitioners. He opened an office in Warren in 1839.

In 1843 he went to New York with the intention of entering the engraving business, but, having become acquainted with Dr. John Burdell, decided instead to join him in the practice of dentistry. However, in 1844, he left New York for New Bedford and associated himself with Dr. E. G. Ward for one year; then he returned to New York and resumed his connection with Dr. Burdell for a short time; but, as already stated, Warren was destined to be the scene of his life work—save for the period to be mentioned.

Through Dr. Burdell, Dr. Palmer became acquainted with Samuel S. White, who was just at that time establishing a dental depot in New York, and as the result of this acquaintance Dr. Palmer later became associated with Dr. White, with whom he remained for some years in the capacity of advisory expert in the manufacture of steel instruments for use in dentistry.

Dr. Palmer was of an inventive turn of mind, and it is claimed that he invented the first complete set of instruments for the manipulation of cohesive gold foil, of which he was noted as one of the most expert manipulators of his day, and was said by Dr. Allport to be “the best filler of teeth in the world.”

For a number of years Dr. Palmer was a member of the board of trustees and at one time teacher of operative dentistry in the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, which conferred upon him the honorary degree of D.D.S. He was a member of the Ohio State Dental Society, the Mississippi Valley Association of Dental Surgeons, the American (now the National) Dental Association, and honorary member of several other dental societies.

In 1914 Dr. Palmer was compelled on account of his advanced age to give up the practice of dentistry and he went to live with his son in New York, remaining there until his death. He died February 17, 1917, at the home of his son, Dr. Delos Palmer, in his 98th year. His remains were interred at his old home, Warren, in Oakwood Cemetery, where it had always been his wish to finally rest.

Designer of many instruments

Dr. Palmer was known as an eccentric genius, extremely modest and adverse to publicity. Many forms of cohesive gold instruments in use today are patterned after his designs. It is said that if he wanted a special instrument for a case in hand he would leave his patient in the chair and go in the laboratory to make it.

The following is taken from the minute book of the Northern Ohio Dental Association:

"June 10, 1873. Dr. Palmer considered tin foil next to gold, never was an advocate of amalgam. He thought amalgam had been much improved in the last few years by using finer materials in its composition and would use tin foil where amalgam could be used. He would use Guller's Cement in preference to any other material for a cheap filling. It would become harder than any of the other preparations of zinc. He would use carbolic before putting in the cement.

"Dr. Palmer, in filling with tin, does not use the mallet and thought it did not require the same amount of preparation that gold did.

"May 8-9, 1877. The 18th Annual Meeting was held in Cleveland, Ohio. At this meeting Dr. Palmer entered into a discussion of filling teeth along with Drs.

Whitslar, Field, Ambler, Buffet, Steadman and Jennings.

"May 13-14, 1879. Dr. Palmer was appointed as a delegate to the American Dental Association. At the afternoon session Dr. Palmer spoke strongly in opposition to the practice of extracting teeth for the purpose of inserting artificial ones. He hoped all would study to avoid this practice. The extraction of teeth changes the features and often makes men assume the appearance of age. It also injures the articulation.

"At the morning session on May 14, Dr. Palmer stated, 'I have not much to say as to the causes of decay in the teeth; but will say something as to its prevention. I have no confidence in the new departure or in its advocates. With me, cohesive gold stands at the head of a filling material. Tin foil stands next in value. Lately there has been much improvement in amalgams, but I seldom use any of them. Fletcher's preparation of zinc I prefer to any other plastic filling.'

"At the afternoon session on May 14, Dr. Palmer said he was glad this subject was up for discussion. 'We need to understand what our patients can bear, and should be careful not to overtax their nervous force. I divide up my operations and scarcely ever work over two hours at a time on one patient. One thing we ought to understand; we must gain the confidence of our patients and be in mental harmony and sympathy with them, then it is that our work is made comparatively easy.'

From the minute book of the Northern Ohio Dental Association:

"May 11-12, 1880. At the 21st annual meeting held in Akron, Ohio, during the afternoon session 'Clinics' were discussed by Drs. Palmer and Butler. During the evening session Dr. Palmer said, 'In incipient stages of periodontitis, manipulating the gum with the finger is a good practice and may effect an entire cure.'

"On Wednesday morning, May 12, clinics were held in the office of Dr. J. W. Lyden, and Dr. Palmer showed the members of the profession how to apply the rubber dam in difficult cases. He also exhibited clamps of his own making, explaining their advantage over others.

"At the afternoon session Dr. Palmer gave a very interesting talk as to the manner of putting crowns upon roots, and of building up contours.

Dr. Palmer's opinions on tin

"May 10-11, 1887. At the 28th Annual meeting held in Youngstown, Dr. Palmer was asked to give some points upon filling with tin. This is a synopsis of what he said:

"It was away back in 1839 when I began to experiment using gold and tin together. I remember a dentist who came to Warren about the time I began to experiment, and he had his stock of instruments in his pocket along with his tobacco. He said he would 'detain' a few days. That fellow would take a rope of tin foil, wrap it with gold foil and insert it so that when finished it would have the appearance of a gold filling. The fee for filling in those days was for gold, \$1 a filling, and for tin, \$.50. It was the custom to fill the six anterior teeth with gold and the back ones with tin. For the poor folks, tin was often used, and gold made to show. There are teeth filled that way that exist today, I believe.

"A number of years ago, there was a meeting of the Mississippi Valley Dental Society at which time some of the college professors got up and stated that there was a galvanic action aroused when two such metals were used in combination, and I answered, 'What is the difference if they do?' It was thought at that time to be bad practice. Now they use tin and gold in combination. If you make a tin filling make it of tin. If you make a filling of the combination, use tin under and the gold on top, then all is well.

"I don't know how to tell you how to make a tin filling, as it is difficult to explain intelligently. You must condense thoroughly and be careful. I used ropes of tin until I found the cylinders to be better. Have them bound together when inserted and pack in every direction. To make cylinders, cut a strip off the sheet, fold upon itself and roll. In rolling, draw out and make pointed. This makes a convenient article, but you will use more

cylinders with square corners. For tin fillings in posterior and crown cavities of molars, place one end of the cylinder deep in the cavity and let the other end protrude to the posterior part. Fill in each corner and finally use one cylinder in the center, and having interlocked the cylinders, force them down and condense. Then repeat till the cavity is completely filled."

At the evening session, Dr. Palmer said, "I would like to say a word about the importance of having clamps that adapt themselves and make tight the rubber so as to exclude moisture. We often must have a special clamp. I make clamps to suit the case, or alter one that would answer. To alter sufficiently you must use a flat bowed clamp, because as a rule they are the most applicable. Take the temper out by warming, adapt the curve properly and then retemper. To do this, I warm it nicely and cool it in water; it will then be hard. Smear olive oil over it and hold it in a spirit lamp and burn the oil off. There is a disadvantage in having a stiff clamp and no necessity for having it stiff, because it gives more pain and therefore it is not right to use such a one. It does not need a high temper, either. Adjust clamp and put on rubber dam and fill the tooth, with gold if it is strong enough to stand it, or use a plastic filling for the time being. Gold gives one more confidence; we have to use our own judgment about filling. Gold does not seem to do well in soft teeth; a good quality of gutta percha should be tried for a while. In making clamps, I use French rolled steel, and buy it from the supply dealers of watchmakers' materials. I have used steel from corsets. Steel that has been rolled a great deal is hard to get the temper out of."

On bridge work

At the morning session on Wednesday, May 11, Dr. Corydon Palmer, when asked to give his opinion of bridge work, said, "you have got me on something I wish I had never heard of. Our journals say nothing else but bridge work. I have seen Knapp's work and conclude it is a bad practice. I have seen bridge work drag out teeth; I am opposed to it. To grind

down teeth for fitting a band on a stump I am opposed to. For the most part the practice seems to be cut off teeth and leave the pulp exposed which is destroyed by driving up a hickory peg and then leaving the hickory peg for a filling, drill out part of this and put in pins. I knew a gentleman in New York who went to Germany in the interest of a bridge work company, but not making a success there he returned to New York. That man cut off sound teeth of his wife's and made bridges. He took me up to see the work and said he was going to cut off more and supply their places with bridges. From all my observation I conclude that which depends upon the natural teeth for support must fail. It is only a matter of time. This practice is doing more harm than any other that was ever advanced in our profession; it is a filthy, miserable, dirty practice. A lady patient of mine went to Cleveland and had a piece of work done. It was a complete failure."

"Dr. Palmer's method"

In 1936, Dunning and Davenport published a *Dictionary of Dental Science and Art*. The following is copied from page 390 of this book under the word "Notation":

"An obvious method is to number the teeth from 1 to 32, but this is less graphic than the Palmer system (devised by Dr. Corydon Palmer in 1891). By his plan the denture is divided into upper and lower, and left and right, making four segments, each containing eight numbered teeth in the adult set; five in the deciduous set. The central incisor is number 1 in each group and the segment is shown by an angle compining the occlusal plane and the median line."

The Minute Book of the Northern Ohio Dental Association shows the regard his fellow practitioners had for Dr. Palmer:

May 12, 1891. President Whitslar, at a meeting held in Oberlin, Ohio, appointed a committee to prepare a history of the Ohio Dental Association, Drs. Corydon Palmer, Butler, Horton, Buffet and Siddall.

May 10, 1892. At the 33rd annual meeting held in Cleveland, Ohio, it was moved by Dr. J. E. Robinson that a letter of con-

dolence be sent to Dr. Corydon Palmer. Motion carried.

June 19, 1894. Meeting at Put-In-Bay, Ohio, Dr. Corydon Palmer was appointed on the Necrology and History Committees.

June 9, 1904. The Necrology committee for this year consisted of Drs. Corydon Palmer, Butler and Whitslar.

Regrets Sent to Dr. Palmer

June 2, 1909. Meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Ira Brown moved that messages of regret be sent to Dr. F. S. Whitslar and Dr. Corydon Palmer.

June 5, 1913. A motion was passed at the meeting in Cleveland ordering the secretary to write a letter to Dr. Corydon Palmer of Warren, giving greetings and regrets for his inability to be present. In 1914 the Necrology Committee recommended that a telegram be sent to the beloved and venerable member, Dr. Corydon Palmer, and signed by the president.

June 7, 1917. At the 60th annual meeting of the Northern Ohio Dental Association held in Cleveland, the following report was made by the Necrology Committee:

"Dr. Corydon Palmer was one of the most remarkable men dentistry ever produced. He was born in Vernon, Ohio in 1829, practiced most of his life in Warren, Ohio and died in 1917 at the age of 88. Nobody ever tried more earnestly to elevate dentistry."

"Dr. Palmer became known as one of the most skilled dentists in the state and nation; there are stories to the effect that he was so well known and so highly esteemed for his work that at any time he could hang out a sign in a distant city, New York, for instance, or even in Paris as an 'American dentist' and at once have plenty of practice.

"Because of eccentricities a great many stories are told of him. Some of these may be tradition without too much basis of fact as to details. Others are vouched for by persons from whom they have been obtained.

"While a young man in Vernon, he was with other boys in the neighborhood

sometimes got together of an evening for a friendly game of cards. One evening something happened which caused some of the others to criticize young Palmer's playing or to 'raze' him. He left the room and came back presently with his coat buttoned tightly across his chest. He resumed his hand in the game and all went smoothly. At the end of the evening when the game was over he opened his coat and took out a stick of cord wood, saying that it was just as well that nothing more had been said about him, and indicating that the wood would have been used as a weapon if the razing had not stopped.

"An ardent abolitionist, Dr. Palmer is said to have insisted that a colored 'hired man,' as they were called in those days, eat at the same table with his family and, although some members of the family refused to sit at the table with a Negro, the doctor insisted upon his course as a matter of principle.

"I'll go back to Ohio"

"Another story connected with his early years is to the effect that while practicing in New York, a patient for whom he was inserting a large gold filling kept looking at his watch and appeared to be 'timing' the dentist. So incensed was Dr. Palmer by this that he decided to return to Warren, saying, 'No man can snap his watch on me. I shall go back to Ohio where I can take all the time I want on a patient and not be watched.'

"One of Warren's early distinguished doctors was once at a summer resort and a lady whom he had not met for 40 years came up and spoke to him. 'I know you are Dr. of Warren, I would recognize you anywhere by your beautiful teeth.' 'They are good teeth,' answered the physician, 'but strictly speaking, they are Dr. Palmer's and not mine—he made them.' This story illustrates how exactly Dr. Palmer was able to reproduce teeth. He is said to have worked six weeks on a set if necessary, in order to satisfy himself that they were as neatly like those made by nature as it was possible to make them.

"Though his patients remember Dr. Palmer as a stern man, there are those who have memories of gentleness also associated

with him. He showed affection in other ways than by being gentle at his work. There are several instances of his making beautiful gifts for some of his patients when they became brides. One such gift was a silver napkin ring and another, a string of beautiful gold beads, and, they say, made from gold foil, the same as he used for fillings. A reliable jeweler in Cincinnati said it was a work of art, the finest production he had ever seen.

"One of his patients had a severe toothache one night when she wished to attend a wedding and went to Dr. Palmer to ask him if he could put something into the tooth to ease the pain. He told her he could, saying, 'Please be seated in the chair,' gave her a candle and directed her to hold it tightly in both hands, intimating that he required the light from the candle to see by in treating the tooth. So by a clever bit of strategy he succeeded in extracting a tooth which he had been wanting to pull for some time.

"He would brook no interference or criticism and it is said that once when a patient exclaimed, 'Oh, Doctor, you are killing me,' he desisted at once and said, 'Very well, I'm through.' When the lady asked when she might come again he answered, 'Never. I'm through with you.'

"On one occasion while in the act of putting gold filling in a tooth he left the patient helplessly in the chair and rushed out. The patient presently heard a shot and wondered whether the doctor had suddenly gone mad and killed himself. He returned directly, however, calmly announcing that he had shot a rat that had been annoying him in his workshop.

At Dr. Palmer's convenience

"If he decided he wished to work for a patient he would notify him or her to appear on a certain day and if it suited his convenience he would keep his patient in the chair all day, insisting upon submissive patience, and would brook no interference or objection whatsoever.

"There is another well-authenticated instance where both a small lad who had an appointment on a certain day and his

mother forgot all about it. When the boy presented himself on the next Saturday, he was told to climb into the chair and open his mouth. He did so. Then Dr. Palmer said, 'You disappointed me last Saturday, now I shall disappoint you. You can go home and wait till I send for you.' It may be said that the lad was pleased with the parole rather than disappointed.

"When Dr. Palmer's daughter died, he appeared at the office of one of the newspapers in Warren and issued stern orders that nothing about his daughter's death was to be put in the paper. He was told very firmly that the only way he could prevent mention of the passing away of his very estimable daughter was by buying the newspaper which happened not to be for sale. He stormed about and even threatened personal harm to the publisher.

Before press time various neighbors of Dr. Palmer called the office of the newspaper and warned the publisher that it would be really dangerous to print an obituary of Miss Annie Palmer, that the doctor was making all sorts of dire threats and was quite capable of carrying them out.

"Of course the obituary appeared and

with a larger head and in a more prominent position than it would have been given had the irascible old gentleman not acted as he had.

"The publisher was not shot. Two weeks later Dr. Palmer went to the office and bought 100 copies of the paper to send to his friends. The rival daily had not given as much space to his daughter's death as the paper he had threatened. Whether that was the reason he 'came around' and bought the papers or whether his saner reaction asserted itself for some other reason, nobody knows.

"In spite of his eccentricities, and there are many more stories similar to the ones here narrated, his name is held in reverence and admiration by those who knew him and especially by the members of his own profession. The excellence of his work overshadowed all his personal idiosyncracies. The years added lustre to his name and increasing appreciation of the fundamental soundness upon which he built his reputation. Among the immortals who have come out from Trumbull County, the name of Dr. Corydon Palmer is imperishably inscribed.

Dr. Worthy Howard Hayden

Born in 1869, Dr. Worthy Howard Hayden of Youngstown had more than 91 years to add weight to his theory when he said, "I am sincerely of the belief that the outside activities in which I have indulged have helped to prolong my life and keep me fit to carry on in my work."

For all but six months of his 91 years (he was born in Minonk, Illinois) Dr. Hayden centered those activities in Ohio. His earliest years were spent in East Cleveland where his father was studying for a medical degree at the Medical College of Cleveland. Following receipt of his degree at the age of 39, Dr. Hayden's father, Dr. Alfred Sutton Hayden, moved

his family and established his practice in Columbiana.

Further back in the family history, Amos Sutton Hayden, Dr. Hayden's grandfather, was one of the founders and the first president of Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio, now in its 160th year. Mr. and Mrs. Hayden were close friends of James A. Garfield's mother, and the president-to-be was sent to spend two years in their home.

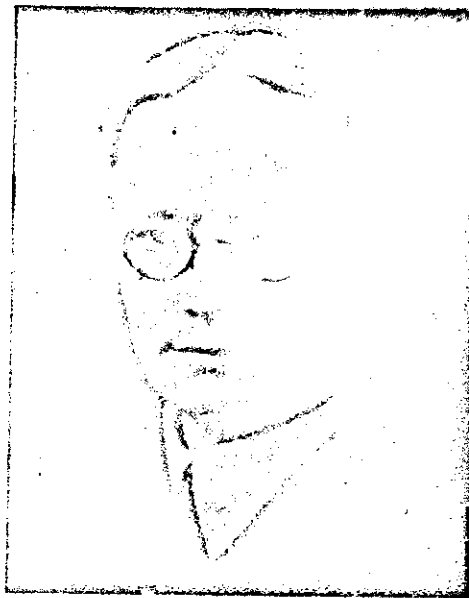
Dr. Hayden graduated from high school in Columbiana at the age of 16 and then attended Wooster College for one year. In the fall of 1887 he entered the office of Dr. E. W. Dole, remaining with him until the following fall, when he began

his studies at the Ohio College of Dental Surgery. In the spring of 1889 he purchased Dr. Dole's office and started practice. In 1890 he was awarded his D.D.S. degree and in 1893 he moved to Youngstown where he practiced until his retirement.

Dr. Hayden attended his first dental convention in April of 1891 in Wichita, meeting at that time a number of the noted dentists of the day. And, on that same trip, he stopped in Jacksonville, Illinois, for an hour's visit with Dr. Green Vardiman Black; a visit of which Dr. Hayden said, "That interview, and the kindly advice I received, has served as an inspiration to me throughout my entire life."

Dr. Hayden's dental activities included presidency in 1918 of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society, presidency of the Ohio State Dental Association in 1918-19, vice-presidency of the American Dental Association in 1919, service as a member of the House of Delegates of the A.D.A. and appointment as a life member of the House of Delegates of the Ohio State Dental Association. In September, 1941, he was named to the Ohio State Dental Board and in 1943 he was re-appointed for a full five year term. He was a member of Delta Sigma Delta, Pierre Fauchard Academy and Federation Dentaire Internationale.

In addition to his professional activities, Dr. Hayden was a participant in a number of civic and fraternal groups. He was president of the Youngstown Rotary Club, of which he was a charter member, president of the Ohio State Dental Board, president of the Medical Dental Bureau,



Dr. Worthy Howard Hayden

permanent member of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society Council, and was a Life Member of the Corydon Palmer Dental Society. He was a charter member of the Nixon Dental Study Club.

During World War I Dr. Hayden was the dental member of a medical advisory board serving eight counties, and also, for 18 months, the president of the Preparedness League of American Dentists.

Truly dentistry and the Corydon Palmer Dental Society lost much when Dr. Hayden died July 5, 1961. He was a distinguished and cultured gentleman whose contributions to organized dentistry outshaded those of any other in the history of Corydon Palmer Dental Society.

Dentistry in Warren, Ohio

by Charles M. White, D. D. S.

In these few brief paragraphs telling of dentistry's early history in Warren, we shall mention only two names of early dentists. Of course, first on our roster of noted and revered dentists would be the name of Dr. Corydon Palmer. He could rightly be mentioned with the top dentists of his time, and if the attainment of an

exclusive practice could in any way be an index to his character, reputation and ability, we would have to say Dr. Corydon Palmer was deserving of all the praise we could give any dentist. In many ways, by modern standards of appraisal and characteristics of the artist type, we might say that he was an eccentric person. Older

citizens remember that in his life his dentistry came first. His objectives in life seemed slanted toward being a better dentist than being a better social mixer. He seemed to get his rewards from the fact of his conscientious service to his patients.

It is not new that professional men have always gained satisfaction from having as patients important people in the political, business and social world. We can, therefore, imagine that when the Vanderbilts were arriving on the Erie Railroad in their special car from New York, all for the purpose of having an appointment with Dr. Palmer, it would cause quite a stir among the Warren residents.

One other outstanding and skillful dentist who practiced in Warren in the late 90's and early 1900's was Dr. Hiram Edgar Dunn. He was dentist to the Packard brothers of automobile fame and was one of the outstanding dentists in Warren. One evidence of Dr. Dunn's interest in his patients' welfare was that during a long appointment he would have his assistant or sometimes his wife read articles or books to the patient and himself as the dental work progressed. This was, no doubt, to distract the patients mind from what was happening in the way of dental operations. Today, the same result would probably be obtained by playing recorded music, by local or general anesthetics, or even by hypnosis.

Warren dentists did not have any formal dental organization as such until the early 20's. In those years the group, possibly 20 or 25 dentists, would get together for

social or other occasional events. The matter at hand would many times be hunting, fishing or golf. Later, as the group enlarged in membership, a regular monthly dinner would be followed by a clinic or discussion.

The Warren Dental Society has never aspired to be a component of the Ohio State Dental Association. Most of the members have been and still are members of the Corydon Palmer Society and, therefore, are members of the state and American dental associations. The Corydon Palmer Society meets regularly in Youngstown.

In summing up the history of dentistry in Warren in the last 75 or 100 years, it would seem we were on a par dentally with other comparable towns in size in the U. S. as far as preserving health and appearance is concerned through better dentistry.

Not all men have been as notable as Dr. Corydon Palmer, but nevertheless we have had our unsung heroes and we have had our share of conscientious men who have served and are now serving their patients faithfully and well.

At present, the Warren Dental Society and dentists from Newton Falls, Niles and surrounding communities meet the second Tuesday night of each month except in summer.

There are approximately 60 dentists in the Warren area. Eight or 10 men have located in the city in the last two or three years. A majority of Warren dentists are on the courtesy staffs of Trumbull Memorial Hospital or St. Josephs Riverside Hospital.

Dr. Fred Zimmerman

In 1961, after 50 years in dentistry, Dr. Fred W. Zimmerman closed his office to spend full time enjoying his beautiful country home, his hobbies and his 8 grandchildren.

Dr. Zimmerman was born December 25, 1891, a son of J. S. Zimmerman, M. D., and Lillian Osborn Zimmerman. He has a younger brother, Louis. He graduated from Hillman St. School and Rayen High School where he starred on the foot-

ball team. Then he entered Western Reserve University College of Dentistry in 1910, receiving his D. D. S. degree in 1913.

Dr. Zimmerman opened his office at 1401½ Oak Hill Ave. in a suite occupied by his physician father. There followed a year of disillusionment. Always busy with more patients than he needed, Dr. Zimmerman recalls that dentures were \$15. (two for \$25) and if the patient hesi-

tated, the extractions were included. A large gold inlay was \$7 and extractions were 50¢ with anesthetics available of cocaine, novocain and nitrous oxide. Working seven days a week at these fees resulted in a physical breakdown and for a time Dr. Zimmerman feared that he would have to leave dentistry. Upon the advice of professional friends, and considering his liking for children's dentistry, Dr. Zimmerman attended and graduated from the Dewey School of Orthodontia in 1915.

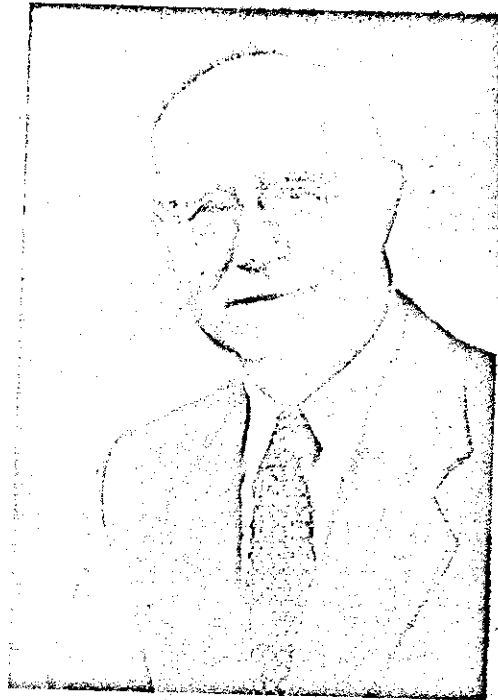
He has been located on Phelps St., City Bank Building and for the past years in the Mahoning Bank Building. His career as an orthodontist has been outstanding. His capability and dependability is sorely missed by the dental profession.

Dr. Zimmerman is married to the former Olive Jones and they have two children, Mrs. Lillian Hoppin of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and a son, Dr. J. F. Zimmerman, who followed in his father's footsteps and is also an orthodontist in Youngstown.

In conjunction with the practice of orthodontia, Dr. Zimmerman was a pioneer in the field of X-ray. Drs. Hayden, McCreary and Zimmerman owned the first dental X-ray machines in the district, purchased at a price of \$1900 each. The Corydon Palmer minute book shows Dr. Zimmerman giving many talks and clinics on the value of X-ray for better dentistry. This was an early indication of the unselfishness that has characterized his career.

Dr. Zimmerman is a life member of the Corydon-Palmer Dental Society, a member of the American Society of Orthodontists, Youngstown Rotary Club since 1918 and Epworth Methodist Church.

In retirement, Dr. Zimmerman does not lack for things to do. Always a hobbyist, he was formerly a breeder of some of the best dogs in America. Airedales were first and when the popularity of this breed diminished he turned to Welsh and Scotch terriers. He has shown and won at all the leading shows in the country. In 1924 Dr. Zimmerman started to build radio sets and has followed through until presently he can build excellent television. His most engrossing hobby is his family and his home on Lettingwell Road. He never tires of discussing lawns, shrubbery, tractors, fertilizer formulæ and grandchildren.



Dr. Fred Zimmerman

Dr. Zimmerman enjoys the best of health at age 72 and his appearance is that of a man 10 years younger. He should enjoy his well-earned rest for many years to come.

Wesso Club of Youngstown

By E. C. Brown, D. D. S.

The Wesso Club was founded in 1934 at the suggestion of Mr. John J. Gale, Manager of the Youngstown branch of the Ransom & Randolph Company. The name "Wesso" was adopted because its members were practicing dentistry on the West and South sides of Youngstown.

The first meeting was held at Dr. D. K. Hogg's office, on Market street. There were 14 original members of the Club, Drs. E. M. Bins, E. C. Brown, M. W. Baker, M. Hanni, E. A. Machin, D. K. Hogg, W. T. James, L. Knapp, E. E. Ling, R. E. Ruth, F. S. Middleton, R. Mounts,

F. H. Simmerly, C. C. Sullivan and P. Montgomery. Dr. Hogg was elected the first president.

The purpose of the club was to better acquaint dentists of the West and South side and to promote good fellowship. Social gatherings were held, such as corn roasts and clam bakes.

One of the outstanding features of the organization was the mutual exchange of credit ratings of patients by all the members.

A guest speaker at one of the early meetings of the club was an American who gave up his citizenship to become a Russian. He was in Youngstown translating specifications for a mill being built for Russia at the United Engineering Co. He predicted the rise to wealth of Russia in 25 years.

In the past few years, the Ladies Auxiliary of the club has been quite active, holding many social events.

Nixon Dental Study Club

Dr. C. W. Adams, representing the Dentists' Supply Company, came to Youngstown in the fall of 1930 and conducted classes in full denture construction. He had an excellent presentation, and with his encouragement some of the men taking his course came to a new appreciation of team work and the value of the free exchange of ideas and techniques for the mutual benefit of all.

A decision was made to form a study group to hold regular meetings and to carry on the good work started by Dr. Adams. Meeting quarters and equipment had to be obtained.

On December 16, 1930, a paper was passed around the dinner table for the signatures of those men wishing to become a part of such a study club, worded as follows:

"We the undersigned promise to pay on or before January 1, 1931, the sum of \$25 to the treasurer of the Youngstown Study Club to be used for rental, equipment, etc." Of the 65 men taking Dr. Adams course, 13 signed for study club membership. The signatures appear in this order: Nixon, Evans, Dressing, Remkenberger, Fairbanks, Hogg, Gale, Ward, Allison, Chessrown, Black, Middleton and Moore. Several men were later admitted to the group and the membership was finally limited to 25.

Dr. Forest Ward was the first president, and early in 1931 the name of the club was changed to the Nixon Study Club. Some years later, with the advent of accretion young man on the national political scene, the name was again changed to the Nixon Dental Study Club.

The club was named in honor of Dr. Greenbury Croford Nixon (1853-1939). This was a fitting tribute to a man whose attainments, skill and untiring interest in everything pertaining to dentistry made him the recognized Dean of the profession in the Mahoning Valley. He was an exceptional example of personal and professional honesty, competence and kindness.

The club rented the penthouse of the Mahoning National Bank which was equipped a complete dental office with full laboratory bench space for all members.

Prominent clinicians covering each phase of dentistry were brought in throughout the years with courses varying in length from one day to one full week.

John J. Gale, then local manager of the Ransom & Randolph Company, acted as the club secretary throughout 30 years of activity. His untiring devotion to the club is one of the brightest spots in local dental history.

In years of continuous activity, Nixon Dental Study Club lays claim being the oldest dental study club in United States.



Dr. Corydon Palmer's three room dental office located at 40 Washington Avenue, Warren, Ohio, until being moved to 976 Belvedere SE, Warren, Ohio. Now a residence, Dr. Palmer's office was built in 1850 before the Civil War. Dr. Palmer used the office until 1914, when he retired and moved to New York to live with his son, Delos Palmer, D.D.S., until his death in 1917, age 97.