

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, Dreiling, Renkenberger, 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 a certain 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 they equipped a complete dental office with full laboratory bench space for all members.

Prominent clinicians covering every phase of dentistry were brought in through 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 to being the oldest dental study club in United States.