

DENTAL SURGERY

Work of Adelaide Hospital

TRAINING OF STUDENTS

When a degree course in dental surgery was established at Adelaide University in 1920, it was necessary to provide a department of hospital dental practice where students could obtain training and work.

In January, 1921, the Adelaide Hospital board took over what had been the military dental department located in the large building in the old Exhibition grounds. This was the beginning of the dental department of the Adelaide Hospital, the previous establishment being of a temporary nature and lacking most of the essentials of a well-equipped institution.

The genesis of the new dental hospital is due mainly to the foresight and enthusiasm of Sir Joseph Verco, M.D. In the allocation of certain surplus British Red Cross funds to the various States of the Commonwealth, Sir Joseph's persuasive logic led to the granting to South Australia of £15,000 for the purpose of founding a dental hospital. The Government at that time in its wisdom agreed to add £10,000 to this sum.

Thus the present handsome building on Frome road and its equipment, costing about £25,000 greatly enhances the beauty of the drive.

The hospital was opened to the public on July 10, 1923. It is a red brick building of two stories with a tiled roof and

their time in the fourth year is taken up with practical work at the hospital.

Free Treatment Given

Admission for treatment in the dental department is on the same lines as that in Adelaide Hospital. The main object of the department is to provide treatment for people who cannot afford the rates outside. They pay what they can, but there are many cases in which no fee whatever is charged.

The crowd waiting in the halls led to the enquiry as to how many patients were treated every day. The monthly average for 1926 was 70, exclusive of those who went merely for examination. All ages and conditions were there, and it was learned that a child of 18 months and a man 90 years of age were among the recent patients.

The institution is proving a boon to those whose purses are not elastic, and so many are they who are booked for treatment that no fresh cases—even for an initial examination—can be taken until the middle of March.

Increase in Five Years

A comparison between conditions as they were in 1921 and 1926 reveals a marvellous increase in the number of patients treated.

In 1921 the number of patients examined was 461, in 1926, 3,543; number of sittings for treatment 1,684 in 1921 as against 10,783 in 1926. Artificial dentures inserted in 1921 were 175, and in 1926 1,009 while extractions in 1921 amounted to 1,905, and in 1926 to 10,324.

Similarly the fees for work performed have increased. In 1921 the sum of £50 17/3 was received from patients, and in 1926 the amount was increased to £2,201 15/6.

Every department of the hospital is most up to date in its appointments, and

DR. W. S. MILNE

Notable Anglican Clergyman

LEAVING FOR MELBOURNE

Dr. W. S. Milne (precentor of St. Peter's Cathedral), who is 78 years of age, is almost as prominent a figure in the Anglican community as the cathedral is a landmark in Adelaide.

All classes are united in regret for the impending resignation of the veteran canon, which will take effect in April. Before he leaves Adelaide for Melbourne he will have celebrated the thirty-seventh anniversary of his association with the cathedral. He has served under three Bishops—Drs. G. W. Kennion, J. R. Harmer, and A. Nutter Thomas—and seven archdeacons. He has seen the cathedral grow from a small, inconspicuous building to the present impressive edifice, the spires of which dominate the city.

When Dr. Milne first came to Adelaide in 1889 the cathedral was less than half its present size, and had only one tower and a temporary porch. When building operations began again the walls were raised 15 ft. or so, then lack of funds delayed the completion of the work for so many years that they became covered with moss, and were known as "the ruins of the cathedral." It was through these "ruins" that Dr. Milne and his wife entered the old cathedral on their wedding day.

Cheered Hundreds

During his career he has cheered hundreds and perhaps a thousand or more sick and suffering souls. For 15 years he was chaplain at Adelaide Hospital, where he made regular pilgrimages to the wards where members of his flock required spiritual comfort. Familiarity has accustomed him to human suffering, but it has not hardened him, as those who have received his ever-ready sympathy have found.

One of his principal efforts in the cause of humanity was the House of Mercy, for which he was treasurer for 24 years. It was largely due to his untiring labor that the institution rose from a tiny cottage to its present size. For more than 20 years he was associated with Adelaide Diocesan Missionary Association, in the capacities of secretary and treasurer. This body raised funds for the furtherance of missions in New Guinea, Melanesia, and Torres Straits Islands. This entailed heavy work, and often necessitated his rising at 4 o'clock in the morning. As it is 6 o'clock is his regular hour for rising.

Much of his work in Adelaide was done for St. Barnabas' College, North Adelaide, of which he was theological tutor for 18 years.

Born in Dundee

Dr. Milne was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1848, and was educated at Edinburgh and Dundee High School. For 13 years he was engaged in business. He was choirmaster at St. Paul's Church, Dundee, and on the advice of Rev. H. MacNamara he matriculated at Oxford in 1878. In 1883 he took his degree at the school of theology. Two years later he was awarded the Senior Deane and Johnson theological scholarship. In 1886 he obtained his Master of Arts degree, and three years later his Bachelor of Divinity. He gained the doctorship in 1905.

He has pleasant memories of Oxford, and particularly of the union, the nursery of many men who afterward became famous in the political arena. An outstanding figure in his day was the late Lord Curzon, then Mr. Curzon. The office he held in the union subjected him to much "heckling" from other members of the miniature Parliament, but he could always keep his head.

Unbounded Energy

Dr. Milne was first appointed curate at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Oxford, and then was made tutor and lecturer in theology and Hebrew in the Student's Delegacy at Oxford from 1885 to 1889. Then he came to South Australia, where his labors in the vineyard have borne good fruit. Although his ministry has brought him into close contact with the sunny side of life, and he has not been spared the usual disappointments and crosses of his calling, he has not lost his faith in human nature.

His energy is unbounded, and he does not consider age any excuse for lessening his labors. He has no definite plans in connection with his forthcoming departure for Melbourne, but there is no doubt that work will form a large part of the programme of this inspired and inspiring churchman.



STUDENTS FROM ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY AT WORK IN DENTAL DEPARTMENT OF ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

an effective loggia entrance. The waiting halls have polished Queensland maple seats and fittings and parquet floors.

Students at Work

On the ground floor are the administrative offices, operating surgeries for both general and local anaesthetics and rooms for the preparation and recovery of patients. On this floor also is the whole of the prosthetic section comprising a demonstrators' room, impression and fitting room, and so on.

The first floor is devoted to conservative treatment, the surgery being 72 by 34 ft. and most excellently lighted. It is possible, if necessary, to bring 48 chairs into operation. On this floor also are an X-ray room, library, lecture theatre, and rooms for students and nurses.

A visit to the hospital revealed 17 students—16 men and one woman—at work. In the surgery third and fourth year students were attending to patients, filling and extracting teeth.

First year students learn the rudiments of mechanical work and all about the shape of human teeth. In their second year they advance in technical work and receive instruction in operative work, though not on patients. They practise the filling of teeth mounted in plaster of paris.

In their third year they have a grounding in medical subjects and attend the laboratory for the study of pathology and bacteriology. They begin work on patients, doing fillings and extractions under supervision and a great amount of

the general anaesthetic room is considered to be better equipped than any other in South Australia.

The hospital is really an outpatients' department of Adelaide Hospital, and its activities include dental treatment to in-patients of the hospital the Old Folks' Home at Magill, State Children's Department Mental Hospital at Parkside, Receiving Home at Enfield, Adelaide Gaol and Yatala Labor Prison.

It also relieves the Education Department, which, although it has its dental clinic, cannot deal with all the children who attend the public schools in the State.

There is an honorary staff of 14 dental surgeons, each of whom attends at the hospital every fortnight for half a day, so that there is one on the premises all the time to demonstrate to and instruct the students. Two honorary anaesthetists are also in attendance.

The working staff of the department, which is under the supervision of Dr. B. H. Morris (Inspector-General of Hospitals and chairman of Adelaide Hospital Board) comprises:—

Dr. T. D. Campbell (superintendent), Mr. J. E. Clarke (senior dental surgeon and demonstrator), Mr. A. D. Cocks (dental surgeon), Mr. G. O. Lawrence (dental surgeon, fulltime), Mr. L. A. M. Brougham (senior mechanic), Messrs. C. Whitford and T. Turner (mechanics), Sister W. Priest, Sister L. Rinder, and Nurse M. Uren (nursing staff), Mr. S. B. Harry (chief clerk), Miss Champion (clerk), Miss Trotter (typist), and a porter and maid.



MR. H. HOUGHTON SWIFT, B.E.

son of Dr. and Mrs. H. Swift, of Brougham place, North Adelaide, who has been appointed by the English Electric Company to be engineer in charge of the electrification of the railway between Cape Town and Simon's Town, South Africa.



DR. W. S. MILNE

Precentor of St. Peter's Cathedral, who is 78 years of age. He intends to resign in April.