

vances modernized by the name of "bridges," which proved two things: first, that there was as much mechanical ingenuity among that class of men, and more common sense (not to speak of honesty), than exists among the cranks who run the crown-and-bridge fads to such extremes to-day; second, that they were personally skilled and were able to do their own mechanical work from start to finish. The fact is, mechanical dentistry has degenerated. In days of yore the student had a much more thorough practical training in all its branches, lasting during an indentureship from five to six years. Every dentist manufactured his own plate, solders, and even many of his instruments. We remember the joyful time in the laboratory, grinding and preparing the "body" and "gum" for continuous gum work, and the hours spent at the furnace in which the latter was heated. There is no modern porcelain to-day to rival the continuous gum work made in our Canadian cities thirty years ago. The dentist, as a rule, was an expert in working the metals, and was much more of a chemist and metallurgist in his own laboratory than the average practitioner to-day. There are hundreds of modern dentists who could no more make a set of teeth on gold from start to finish than they could explain the microscopical character of the osteoclasts. The fashion to-day is to hire mechanics and take personal credit for their work. The instinct of trade and commerce is the guiding star in many an office.

It is not particularly pleasant to make these statements, but they are true. We see no use for journals which fear to speak the truth even at their own expense.

Ontario Dental Society.

The officers and Executive Committee are making a great effort for a good meeting of the Ontario Dental Society, to be held in Toronto on the 16th, 17th and 18th of July.

They hope to be able to present to those attending a programme of useful and instructive papers and clinics, which cannot otherwise but be of benefit; and everyone may go home loaded with information, knowledge, and new ideas, as well as old ones revived.

It is by attending regularly the dental meetings that enables the dentist to keep up with the times. Papers are read and thoroughly discussed; new ideas are brought out; clinics are given where many a little manipulation can be seen which would be difficult to describe in words in a journal; and last, but not least, one has an opportunity to meet and become acquainted with his colleagues, thus forming a friendship which is renewed every year, if they should not have the pleasure of meeting during the interval.