

Other items added to the list by the physicians are (1) Recognition of oral and throat pathology and reference of such to the physicians for treatment, (2) Better knowledge of nerve and muscular disorders resulting from infections of abscessed teeth, (3) Knowledge of post-operative conditions which may arise, and (4) Surgery of the bones, especially for conditions due to accidents.

In addition to the questions indicated, the physicians were asked to state (1) What difficulties, if any, they experience in their efforts to secure cooperation from dentists; and (2) In what ways, if any, they find the recent graduate in dentistry deficient in meeting the dental health needs of the public. Many of these comments are interesting but time forbids mention of them here.

The efforts to canvass the opinions and secure facts from the three groups—laymen, public health officials, and physicians—represent one line of approach to the functional analysis which the survey is attempting. The three groups are outside groups, so far as dentistry is concerned; nevertheless, they are groups with which the dental practitioner has numerous relations. Upon his contacts with them depends to a very large degree the success of the service which he is trained to render. The opinions of these groups deserve careful consideration. However, the facts and opinions obtained from these sources by no means reveal a complete picture of dental health needs. They suggest the broad outlines, the general pattern, but they do not supply the details.

7. DENTAL HEALTH NEEDS FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE DENTISTS

To fill in the details of the picture it was found advisable to study carefully the dental health conditions with which the dentist is confronted. To carry out this step an inquiry form entitled "Conditions with Which the Dentist is Called Upon to Deal" is being used. It requests dentists to supply two lists: (1) Important diseases, disorders, and deficiencies in patients with which, as dentists, they are called upon to deal, independent of physicians, and (2) Important diseases, disorders, and deficiencies in patients with which, as dentists, they are called upon to deal, in cooperation with physicians.