

The Constitution of the United States would seem to put the possibility of a national standard for the profession in that country almost beyond hope. Further, the arbitrary establishment and maintenance of the National Association of Dental Faculties and of the National Association of Dental Examiners, their continued warfare against each other, their appeals to the legislative bodies to strengthen their hands in that warfare, for years seemed to put all hope of a wholesome settlement of the vexed question of standards further from us.

During the twelve months immediately behind us, however, the situation has very greatly changed, and changed for the better. In the October number of the *Dental Cosmos* will be found the report of the Committees on Legislation and State Boards to the National Association of Dental Examiners, in which the objects of the said National Association of Dental Examiners, in so far as they relate to the subject of this paper, are set forth, *i.e.*, "The objects of this Association shall be to secure, through the operation of the various State Examining Boards, a high and uniform standard of qualification for dental practitioners, and, as far as practicable, uniformity of methods in the working of these Boards and of the legislation in creating them." The report of the Committee concludes with a draft of such legislation as in the opinion of the Committee it is desirable that the Examining Boards of the several States shall urge upon the legislatures of their State to enact.

The legislation proposed provides for the appointment of a Board of Supervisors and a Board of Dental Examiners in each State, and also a standard of qualification for practitioners of dentistry of which I here quote the third item: "Graduation in dentistry based on an entrance requirement in general education equal to the second year high school course and a professional course of study of not less than three years, which course shall include three regular terms of lectures of not less than six months each, ending in separate years, in the following subjects."

As you all doubtless are aware, the efforts of the Board of Examiners of the State of Wisconsin to arbitrarily carry out the meaning of the clause just quoted led to a result of doubtful benefit to the profession. The Court decided against the Board of Examiners; the Board appealed against such verdict, but while litigation was still in progress a joint meeting of the National Association of Dental Examiners and National Association of Dental Faculties was held, whereat an agreement was reached between the two Associations, which the National Association of Dental Examiners undertook to be satisfied with, a lesser