

visiting dentists besides myself, making a total of five. This in a city where there are over sixty dentists!

But the most suggestive feature of these meetings was the fact that on neither occasion was there a single officer present, with the exception of the president. When a man accepts office in a dental society, he should consider himself under obligation to the society to do his share of the work. It is a betrayal of the confidence the society has placed in him to have him neglect in so flagrant a manner the duties which belong to his office. Some of my recent experiences with officers of societies in the Province, have convinced me that much of the lukewarmness exhibited by the mass of the profession in society work, is due to the fact that the men who hold office fail to appreciate the responsibility that devolves upon them. To say it in brief, they do not attend to business. They allow matters to drift along, and expect the society to run itself. It has been a matter of some wonderment to me whether or not these men conduct their own private affairs on the same principle.

If I might be allowed a word of suggestion to officers of societies, it would be something in this line: Study at all times the best interests of the society you represent. Think of it, not only when in attendance on the meetings, but between the meetings. While working at your chair, or sitting in your study, try to devise means of increasing the interest. Enthuse your fellow-practitioners on the subject of societies at every opportunity. If asked for information, by letter or otherwise, on any matter pertaining to the society, be sure to answer promptly and fully, and do not shirk correspondence because it is sometimes irksome, when the society's interests are in any way involved. Be prompt and constant in attendance at meetings, and stir the other members up to a like necessity. In short, do not be afraid of work; for no dental society was ever successfully conducted without work.

But truth to tell, it was another class of men altogether whose attitude induced the writing of this article. There are men in the Province who have been in the dentistry long enough to have a well-established practice, men who have prospered in their profession and who are in a position to do an immense amount of good; but who, through some little petty jealousy—probably of many years' standing—hold aloof from professional fellowship, and ignore the duties that every professional man owes to his calling.