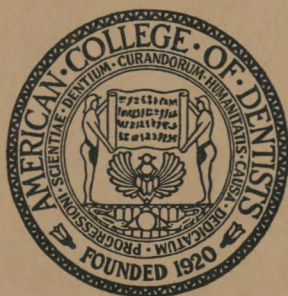


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Editor

T. F. McBride
College of Dentistry
Ohio State University
305 W. 12th Ave.
Columbus 10, Ohio

Business Manager

O. W. Brandhorst
4236 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis 8, Missouri

Contributing Editors

J. C. Almy Harding, San Diego, Calif.	Chester V. Tossy, Lansing, Mich.
Robert A. Colby, U. S. Navy	William P. Schoen, Jr., Chicago, Ill.
F. D. Ostrander, Ann Arbor, Mich.	Isaac Sissman, Pittsburgh, Pa.
John T. Bird, Jr., St. Louis, Mo.	Norman C. Colebrook, Cleveland, O.

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Editorial

THIS ISSUE

This last issue of 1960 presents much vital information for dentists in the United States, and offers stimulating reading for reflective thought, careful study, and subsequent action.

In one form or another, this issue contains the proceedings of the Los Angeles Convocation of the American College of Dentists. A reading of these papers, reports, and minutes will point up the noteworthy aims of the College more than any printed general statement of objectives. You will note here the College in action: the presentation of worthwhile ideas and data, the directing of attention to current and pressing trends in dental practice, and the call for leadership and initiative on the part of dentists and dental organizations.

Dr. Gullett's paper, "The Meaning of the Present"—his presidential address—should be read several times. We should take a good hard look at what he is telling us about government supported health treatment schemes in operation in other countries. When he quotes John Donne it seems he may be urging us to read along the lines of that quotation a little farther: ". . . never send to know for whom the bell tolls: It tolls for thee."

There is a demanding opportunity, here and now, to read Dr. Gullett's address and heed his challenge that the dental profession provide leadership. You will read where he says that we are on the threshold of alterations in the practice of dentistry, and that these changes can be drastic. And further, "Experience in many countries shows plainly that the leadership can pass into other hands."

It is with editorial pride that the JOURNAL publishes the studies and recommendations of the Commission on the Survey of Dentistry in the United States. There have been studies before this one—all worthy and of value: by Gies in 1926; Blauch in 1935; O'Rourke and Miner in 1941; and Horner in 1947, as well as others by the American Dental Association and the Public Health Service of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. This Survey of 1960 by the American Council on Education treats comprehensively the chief aspects of American dentistry *as of now*.