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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

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## Editorial

### A NEEDED NEW AUXILIARY AID

Jaffe's paper in this issue spotlights attention on the need for recognizing, establishing, and training a new category of dental auxiliary personnel. This would be a group of dental administrators who would assist, knowingly and competently, in the promotion and management of the rapidly increasing measures currently being taken to extend dental service to more people.

These programs include the prepayment plans of Blue Cross, Blue Shield, and commercial insurance companies; labor-management provisions; employer-employee systems; dental care and service corporations; and the growing adaptations of group practice, to mention a few of the several methods. All of these approaches to providing and financing dental service, organized and comprehensive as they are today, require properly qualified dental consultants and administrators. Here follows pertinent and contemporary background on this situation.

Late in 1961, New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller and Chancellor Edgar W. Couper of the New York Board of Regents, acting on a recommendation of the Committee on Higher Education in New York State, appointed a special State Committee on Medical Education. Thomas Parran, M.D., William R. Willard, M.D., and Malcolm Muir, chairman, comprised the Committee. Raymond J. Nagle, dean, School of Dentistry, New York University, represented dentistry at the conference on goals for the education of health personnel in relation to future health needs.

In June of this year, the Committee's 114 page report was published under the title *Education for the Health Professions*, with the sub-title "A comprehensive plan for comprehensive care to meet New York's needs in an age of change." (Copies of this Report are available from the Board of Regents, New York State Education Department, Albany, N. Y.)

The broad charge to this Committee stated that: "The current shortage of physicians and nurses and other trained personnel in medicine and allied fields is a major barrier to providing the medical services which the people need. With an increasing population and a changing age limit within the population, particularly in the older age group, coupled with the continuing progress in medical sciences,