

Twenty-Four Years In Retrospect

As a member of the original editorial board of this journal, first published in January 1931, the writer has been requested to contribute an editorial signaling the twenty-fifth year of publication. The request was accepted under protest because he was the junior member of this board which consisted of Mrs. Edward H. Angle, Dr. Frederick B. Noyes and the writer. This same board continued its administrative activities for the first three volumes. During this period Mrs. Angle and Dr. Noyes should be given full credit for the selection of articles appearing in these early issues and for the exceedingly favorable impression which the journal made upon its first subscribers. The writer became editor-in-chief of the fourth volume and continued in that capacity until Volume VI, No. 2, was completed, when Dr. Harold J. Noyes assumed this responsibility.

Dr. Frank A. Gough of Brooklyn, a member of the first class conducted by Dr. Angle, was chosen as business manager. The writer was a very close friend of Frank and can vouch for the great amount of time and labor that was unselfishly given to this project. As a result of his careful supervision of finances, the income derived from subscriptions and from assessments of members of the society was sufficient to meet expenses. This unique method of financing continues to the present day.

The Angle Orthodontist came into being, primarily, for the purpose of bringing into print the papers that were contributed at the biennial meetings of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists and also those read at sessions of its various regional components. However, its pages were, and

are, open to contributions from others.

Most appropriately the *Foreword* to Volume I, No. 1, was written by Mrs. H. S. Davidson, who was the sister of Dr. Edmund Noyes, the first honorary member of the society. Mrs. Davidson, on the death of Dr. Edmund Noyes, was elected to replace him on the roster of honorary membership.

With similar sentiment, the lead article published in Volume I, Number I was the address given by Dr. Angle at the first meeting of the Edward H. Angle Society.

In the second number of Volume I is found the initial paper on cephalometrics by B. Holly Broadbent. This was entitled "A New X-ray Technic and Its Application to Orthodontia."

Publication of the early volumes coincided with the years in which the edge-wise arch mechanism was gaining popularity in the treatment of malocclusion. Consequently articles devoted to the technical manipulation of this appliance are much in evidence.

In Volume V and VI appear consecutive parts of the research report by Dr. Albin Oppenheim, then of Vienna, Austria, entitled "Biologic Orthodontic Therapy and Reality." It was the privilege of the writer to edit this paper and to transpose the "German-English" of the original composition into "American-English". He has often wondered whether the transposition accurately conveyed the facts that the author desired to bring to light. Most generously, Dr. Oppenheim refrained from corrective criticism.

In Volume VI, Nos. 3 and 4, is found the first paper read by Dr. Charles H. Tweed. In this he presents his method of treatment of Class II cases and advocates extraction of teeth

in so-called protrusion cases.

In Volume VII, No. 1, appears a paper by Dr. Allan G. Brodie, written in cooperation with Drs. Bercea, Gromme and Neff, strongly condemning the principles of treatment advocated by Dr. Tweed in this above mentioned paper.

Dr. T. Wingate Todd's paper in Volume VII, No. 3, together with those of his associates at Western Reserve University, added greatly to the prestige of this journal which was rapidly gaining a position of high educational value among the practitioners of our specialty as shown by the rapid increase in the number of subscribers. The addition of a department devoted to the review of orthodontic publications also added greatly to its worth.

In Volume VIII, No. 4, appears the first report of a "Cephalometric Appraisal of Orthodontic Results". This was in the form of a symposium conducted under the direction of Dr. Allan G. Brodie. The other collaborators in this symposium were Drs. Downs, Goldstein and Myer.

Studies in growth of the structures of special interest to the orthodontist were introduced in Volume X, No. 2, by Dr. Allan G. Brodie and from that time on the journal has continued to carry articles of great interest and value on this important subject.

Editorial space does not permit the writer to continue an analytic review of the succeeding fourteen volumes. However, he would summarize their contents by stating that an increasingly scientific trend is consistently in evidence. In the first few years of publication, many positive statements were advanced by various individuals concern-

ing such subjects as the etiology of malocclusion, the process of facial growth and development, and the possibility of stimulating basal bone growth by appliance therapy and functional activity, all made without scientific proof. As time passed on and volumes of the Journal succeeded one another, the reader finds, with ever-increasing frequency, reports which provide sound scientific facts concerning the important items above mentioned. The contributors of such articles can be credited for placing before the specialty a great amount of factual material, based on research and clinical proof; they have made this journal worthy to bear the name of Edward H. Angle. It is the writer's firm belief that this heritage will always be a stimulating factor whereby this standard of excellence will continue throughout the years to come.

Certainly there is a need for such a journal in our specialty. But to maintain it in circulation is a responsibility that must be assumed by every member of the society. This responsibility is not discharged by simply paying one's portion of the financial assessment. It can only be met by personally contributing to its pages or being a medium for gathering articles worthy of publication. Our membership is constantly increasing but let us not forget that it is most important that all new members be selected on the basis of ability to contribute, either scientifically or clinically, to our various meetings. If this is done, the editors will have abundant material from which to select appropriate articles for publication. Cooperation is essential for the future welfare of this Journal.

ROBERT H. W. STRANG