

FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE (F. D. I.)

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I WRITE with a view to making known to the members of the National Dental Association and the profession generally, the origin, objects and aims of the International Dental Federation.

From its beginning, there has not been a clear understanding on the part of the profession as to its functions, and I doubt that a large percentage of the members of the National Dental Association have recognized that our Association is a member of the International Dental Federation. The National Dental Association of the United States of America, including thirty thousand members, is an integral part of the International Dental Federation. When once understood, our members will be keenly interested in the activities of the F. D. I.

The American Dental Association assisted in organizing the first International Dental Congress, having sent delegates to the meeting in Paris in August, 1889. The American Dental Association therefore became an integral part of the world's International Dental Congresses. It also sent delegates to the second International Dental Congress held in Chicago in 1893 on the occasion of the World's Columbian Exposition. In 1896 the American Dental Association united with the Southern Dental Association and organized the National Dental Association, terminating the existence of the two former associations.

With the beginning of the existence of the National Dental Association, the delegates have been regularly sent to the

International Dental Congresses, which have been held as follows: first congress, Paris, August, 1889; second congress, Chicago, August, 1893 (delegates to these congresses were sent by the American Dental Association); third congress, Paris, August, 1900; fourth congress, St. Louis, August, 1904; fifth congress, Berlin, August, 1909; sixth congress, London, August, 1914 (interrupted by the Great European War); delegates to the last four congresses were sent by the National Dental Association.

The United States of America in its support of all of the dental congresses from the beginning has been recognized as an important factor in advancing throughout the world the art and science of dentistry in all of its branches.

During the International Dental Congress held in Paris in 1900, Charles Godon brought to the attention of the delegates from the various nations a plan to organize an international association which would unite all national associations and thereby prevent confusion in creating international dental congresses, and bring into closer relation the dental educators of the world. On the last day of the congress the question was fully discussed and resulted in the organization of the Federation Dentaire Internationale (abbreviated F. D. I.). Officers were elected, their terms to continue from the close of the congress to the day of the opening of the next International Dental Congress.

I have presented the objects and aims

of the International Dental Federation in the following extracts from the Constitution and By-Laws, and feel that it is not necessary to elaborate them. I desire especially to impress upon the members of the National Dental Association that the International Dental Federation is a world-organization of which our National Association is a component part. It is not necessary to state that it is the duty of our members to look upon this world's organization, not as something far away and beyond them, but to look upon it as their own organization.

The F. D. I. does not assume to make inflexible rules or laws governing educational or association work. It is a means of bringing together the world's most progressive men for the purpose of advancing the art and science of dentistry.

The achievements of the International Dental Association from the beginning of its existence to the year 1914, when its activities were interrupted by reason of the great world-war, were of inestimable value.

The work of the commission on hygiene, the first chairman of which was the great hygienist, Ernst Jessen of Strassburg, who organized and conducted the first school clinic, was the nucleus of the great international movement in dental hygiene, which swept around the globe. Professor Jessen's clinic stands out as a conspicuous feature of the stimulus in philanthropic work in this special field thruout the world.

The immediate successor of Professor Ernst Jessen was our own N. S. Jenkins, a man of international fame. I might relate many acts of the International Dental Federation from its origin down to the period when the war suspended its activities, but it is not necessary in this connection to go into further detail.

The commission on the army and navy is entitled to the very highest consideration. It was at Cambridge, England, in 1901, that the Secretary of the F. D. I. was authorized to communicate with the secretaries of states of the various na-

tions and to ascertain whether commissioned dental surgeons had been appointed in their armies and navies. As a consequence, replies were received from each, stating that they had not, but the matter would be taken up for consideration by the government authorities, and it is my recollection that Spain was the first nation to organize commissioned dental surgeons in its army and navy. Today, dental surgeons are holding commissions in nearly every army and navy of the world.

The first president of the International Dental Federation was Charles Godon. The second president was our late lamented fellow-countryman, Willoughby D. Miller of Berlin, later of Ann Arbor, who passed away before the conclusion of his term of office. His successor was Vice-President Emile Sauvez, of Paris. The fourth president was W. B. Patterson of London. The fifth president is Truman W. Brophy, of Chicago.

On the second day of the International Dental Congress held in London in 1914 the sessions came to an abrupt end by reason of the war. While we deeply regretted the termination of our sessions (and our disappointment was great), the greatest disappointment fell upon our English confreres, who had exerted themselves so hard and had elaborately prepared for our reception at the great international meeting. Our sympathy went out to them in their depressing disappointment, and took form in adjourning the congress to re-convene in 1916, thus showing to our British brethren that we would unanimously support them in finishing the congress that was so unexpectedly terminated.

All international associations, including our own, and all European national associations suspended their meetings with the beginning of the great world-war. While the war ended in 1918, it has not been possible to renew the sessions of any of these international associations. Law, medicine, pharmacy and the various other international scientific

organizations have not yet resumed their activities.

In London it was decided to hold the next International Congress in Madrid, in 1919, but the unsettled condition of Europe made it impossible. In 1920 the officers of the Federation discussed the question of calling a meeting. In the early spring of 1921 Dr. Aguilar visited me in Chicago and the matter was fully discussed in every detail. Dr. Burkhart, chairman of the American committee, was visited in Rochester by Dr. Aguilar, on his return to Europe, when we later agreed that it was advisable to hold a meeting of the F. D. I. at the earliest possible time. April, 1921, was named for a meeting of the F. D. I., but subsequent developments led to the postponement of this meeting. The question of holding a meeting in Madrid in September, 1921, was before the officers for a considerable time. Later it was decided to postpone this meeting. The results of the war, with all that they entailed, were too fresh upon the minds of the opposing elements to be harmonized. The feeling in America was unanimous in favor of holding a meeting. The people of the northern countries, Scandinavia and Holland, desired a meeting. By action of representative men of Holland at their national meeting held at Utrecht, it was decided to make an appeal for a conference to the officers of the F. D. I. I received a cable from Dr. Kirk, who was in Europe, asking if I would direct the Secretary to call an informal meeting of the Federation to meet in The Hague the latter part of September. Dr. Kirk of Philadelphia, Dr. Van Hasselt and Dr. De Boer of Holland were the leaders in the preparation of a call to be sent out to the officers of the Federation.

After a conference with the members of the American Committee of the F. D. I., I cabled the Secretary-General to call a meeting to be held at The Hague in Holland on September 23 and 24. A circular was also issued by the Hollanders.

On convening at The Hague, we found

the following nations were represented: France, Belgium, Italy, Holland, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Russia and the United States. It was decided that the International Dental Federation should continue its activities as an international body and that the formal meeting would be held in Madrid, Spain, in August or September of 1922. It was decided that we could not fix the exact date of the meeting until later.

On returning to America and looking into the situation at home as well as abroad, it was decided that the meeting should convene August 28, 1922, in the city of Madrid, Spain. After proposing several new commissions to conform with the expansion of the college curriculum, and recommending the acceptance of the invitation from the Mayor of Philadelphia, the National Dental Association of United States, Pennsylvania Dental Society, Pennsylvania Association of Dental Surgeons, Odontographic Society of West Philadelphia, North Philadelphia Dental Society, and Assistant Chairman of the Bureau of Organization of the Sesquicentennial Exposition to be held in Philadelphia in 1926, the informal meeting of the F. D. I. adjourned.

Thus, one of the most important conferences in the history of the dental profession concluded most happily in reviving the activities of the great international body. In these days when dentistry is claiming more attention on the part of scientific men in all the walks of life than ever before, the revival of the work of the F. D. I. is a matter which all who are interested in the well-being of mankind will appreciate.

It was believed by many of the foremost men at The Hague that to further delay the convening of the F. D. I. would be to permanently destroy its influence. Already a great number of college men and others active in the advancement of the profession in the United States have decided to go to Madrid to attend the meeting of the F. D. I. August 28, 1922.

The ever-increasing interest in the

work of the F. D. I. is naturally attracting the dental educators of the world. The meeting in Madrid no doubt, will be more largely attended than any meeting in the history of the Federation, save only those that are held on the occasion of the International Dental Congresses. It is hoped that every dental college in the United States will have a representative at the Madrid meeting.

I have endeavored in this communication to make known to the members of the profession a little something of the vast field covered by the F. D. I., and I appeal to every member of the National Dental Association to take an interest in it and to do all within his power to aid it in accomplishing the great work in which it is engaged thruout the world.

FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE (F. D. I.)

THE STATUTES, RULES, REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS STATUTES

A. The International Dental Federation is an association of universal union of national dental societies and those affiliated therewith.

B. The official title adopted is "Federation Dentaire Internationale" (abridged F. D. I.).

C. The International Dental Federation is a permanent international body existing in the interim between International Dental Congresses.

D. It is governed by an Executive Council, composed of the national committee of the different countries represented; the members of these committees receiving appointment from the preceding Congress upon the recommendation of their representative national dental associations. In the absence of such recommendations, the appointment may be made subject to the approval of the National Dental Association. This Council organizes various commissions that it deems will be beneficial to the advancement of dental science in any of its phases; it is at the same time an advisory committee on international affairs.

E. The F. D. I. will hold a general meeting preceding the opening of each International Dental Congress.

F. The Executive Council and the various commissions will hold annual meetings, the time and place to be selected at the close of each meeting.

G. Authority creating the F. D. I.: Resolutions passed by the Third International Dental Congress, Paris, August 14, 1900, viz.:

Resolution 11: There shall be organized an International Dental Federation.

Resolution 12: The National Committee appointed to this will continue in office and will constitute the International Dental Federation.

ARTICLE I

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The International Dental Federation was organized by the National Committees present at the Third International Dental Congress at Paris in 1900, was created in conformity with Resolutions 11 and 12, passed by the general meeting on the closing day of that Congress, August, 14, 1900.

ARTICLE II

The objects of the Federation are as follows:

A. Consideration and selection for acceptance of invitations made by various countries to hold a regular International Dental Congress, and to fix the date and place where such Congress shall be held.

B. The maintenance and strengthening of the ties that bind the national societies to each other.

C. The organization of such international commissions as it may deem necessary to create.

D. The provision of advice in the organization of bodies that will contribute to the advancement of odontological science thruout the world.

E. The adjudication and award of the International Miller Memorial Prize.

THE INTERNATIONAL MILLER MEMORIAL PRIZE

1. The administration and custody of the prize fund shall be intrusted to a permanent Board of Trustees, composed of five members elected from the Executive Council of the F. D. I., who will also fill up any vacancies occurring in the Board, now constituted as follows: Messrs. C. Godon, France; F. Aguilar, Spain; R. Weiser, Austria; T. W. Brophy, U. S. A.; J. Howard Mummery, England, and the President of the F. D. I., ex-officio.

2. The fund shall be invested in reliable state securities to be chosen by the Board of Trustees.

3. The income arising from this fund shall be awarded as a prize known as the "International Miller Memorial Prize," and adjudicated every two years to the person or persons, who, in the opinion of the jury, have rendered the most eminent services to dentistry.

4. The jury to award the prize shall be the Executive Council of the International Dental Federation.

5. The jury may, at discretion, solicit the co-operation of any persons it may see fit, and is also empowered to postpone the adjudication of the prize in any session when, in its judgment, there is no work of sufficient merit for the award.

6. The recipient of the prize shall also receive a medal and a diploma.

ARTICLE III

F. D. I. CONSTITUTION

The International Dental Federation consists of:

A. The Executive Council which consists of all the national committees gathered in Paris in 1900, or their successors.

B. Associations or societies giving their adhesion to International Dental Congresses, and accepting these rules and regulations or sending their concurrence in them.

C. Societies or groups of societies which may officially signify their acquiescence in these rules and regulations, and which are acceptable to the Executive Council.

D. Persons enumerated under Article IV.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. A national committee is composed of the representatives of the Executive Council of the F. D. I. appointed by the permanently organized and duly recognized National Dental Association of any country affiliated to the F. D. I.

2. Casual vacancies on a national committee shall be filled by its national dental association.

3. The National committee of any country shall be elected by the national dental association of such country, and the election ratified at the annual meeting of the F. D. I.

4. Appointments to the commissions of the F. D. I. of members from any country must be submitted to and asserted by the national committee of such country.

5. Power to take action in any country on the resolution of the F. D. I. shall reside solely with the national dental association of that country, which may, however, delegate such power to its National committee.

6. The F. D. I. Executive Council shall determine the number of representatives to represent the national dental association and constitute the national committee.

7. In countries where there is no single national dental association, the national committee shall be composed of the representatives of one or more permanently organized associations affiliated to the F. D. I. and duly authorized by the F. D. I. to elect representatives.

ARTICLE IV

The Executive Council may admit as members of the Federation: (a) members regularly appointed by societies, (b) honorary members, (c) persons in good professional standing who have been members of International Dental Congresses, and who will subscribe to these rules and regulations.

ARTICLE V

National dental associations or societies, or, in the absence of such, persons desiring to become identified with the F. D. I. should send

their acceptance of the present rules and regulations. Such applications will be acted upon by the Executive Council, who will accept them as members of the Federation.

ARTICLE VI

F. D. I. MEETINGS

A general meeting of the F. D. I. will take place before the opening of each International Dental Congress. It will consist of the Executive Council, the various commissions, and all who have been regularly admitted as members of the International Dental Federation. Persons enrolled as members of the International Dental Congress immediately following the general meeting of the F. D. I. may attend this meeting as guests. Extraordinary meetings may be called for special reasons by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VII

The program for F. D. I. meetings will be prepared by the executive officers. It will deal with matters emanating from national or other societies, or with questions proposed by the Executive Council. Notices will be sent at least one month before those meetings to all affiliated societies, national or local.

ARTICLE VIII

The right of voting pertains to members of the Executive Council and of the various commissions, as well as all who have been regularly admitted as members of the F. D. I. and paid their dues.

ARTICLE IX

The meetings of the Executive Council and of the various commissions, are governed by the preceding rules and regulations.

ARTICLE X

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council of the F. D. I. is composed as already described in Statute D, in Article III.

A. All proportional representation of members in the various countries was fixed by the Congress of 1909, that is to say, for each country then comprised in the F. D. I. a minimum of one member, with a maximum of five members.

B. In case of vacancy, by resignation, death, or inability of any member to attend, the national dental association of the country to be represented may nominate a substitute member to fill the vacancy so caused.

ARTICLE XI

The Council is governed by officers elected by the F. D. I. as follows: (a) a president, (b) three or more vice-presidents, (c) a secretary-general, (d) three or more secretaryadjuncts, (e) a treasurer (the treasurer of the F. D. I. shall hold office until his successor

is appointed), (f) and certain honorary officers who have passed the presidential chair.

The officers of the Council are ex-officio members of all commissions and shall direct them until they are properly organized.

ARTICLE XII

The duty of the Executive Council is: (a) to supervise the execution of the rules of the Federation; (b) to fix the place and date of annual meetings and of International Congresses; (c) to organize various international commissions; (d) to supervise the carrying out of decisions made by the F. D. I.; (e) to examine propositions and resolutions offered by national committees, associations or other societies. The Executive Council will keep all affiliated bodies informed of its work thru the Bulletin or Transactions of the Executive Council which will be published, if possible, in at least four languages, viz., English, French, German and Spanish.

ARTICLE XIII

F. D. I. INCOME

The sources of income of the F. D. I. are as follows: (a) by dues of members, namely—members of the Executive Council (two pounds or \$10.00 per annum), members of commissions (one pound or \$5.00 per annum), all others (one pound or \$5.00 per annum); (b) appropriations by Congresses; (c) subscriptions, gifts from governments, from municipalities, from federations, from national associations and from individuals.

ARTICLE XIV

In case of deficit, the expense of the F. D. I. shall be provided for by equal assessment on all societies having membership. Any excess above the receipts will be turned over to the next International Dental Congress to be held in trust until the F. D. I. officers are elected. The Council will give statement of receipts and expenditures to every Congress.

ARTICLE XV

INTERNATIONAL DENTAL CONGRESSES

A. International Dental Congresses shall be organized by a committee composed of dentists who shall be chosen as follows: One-half of its membership shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the F. D. I.; the other half shall be appointed by the inviting dental bodies. The committee so composed shall constitute the committee of organization, all members of which shall have the same powers; but the chairman of the committee shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

B. At the first meeting of the committee of organization, it shall organize and select the following officers of the committee of organization: a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer.

C. The committee of organization shall proceed to nominate the following officers of the International Dental Congresses: a president, vice-president, a secretary-general, treasurer or treasurers, and other officers. These nominations shall be submitted at the earliest possible moment to the Executive Council of the F. D. I. for approval.

D. The Executive Council of the F. D. I. has full power to decide all questions in dispute arising in the committee of organization.

ARTICLE XVI

These rules are operative during the periods between regular Congresses. They are subject to revision by the succeeding Congress.

STANDING ORDERS

1. The wishes of the national committees in matters pertaining to their own countries shall be paramount in all things, and no agitation or work of any kind shall be undertaken by the F. D. I. or any of its commissions in any country against the wishes of the national committee of that country.

2. All appointments in any country, as members of the commissions or on committees of any nature, shall be made under sanction of the national committee of that country.

3. All national committees shall seek to obtain the recognition and support of the representative dental organizations of their respective countries, that thereby they may act as real representatives of the dental profession of their countries.

4. Applicants for membership of the F. D. I. must have either the legal qualifications of the country in which they have received their preliminary education or of that in which they practice.

5. The reports of the various commissions shall be presented to the Executive Council of the F. D. I. No report shall become official until it has been adopted by the Executive Council of the F. D. I.

6. The Executive Council of the F. D. I. shall be empowered to accept the adhesion of any country during the interval between Congresses and to accept the nomination to the Executive Council of the single representative of such country.

7. The committee on dental hygiene shall be enlarged in its commissions, so that in addition to dentists, there may be admitted to membership, medical practitioners, education authorities, and others interested in the subject. The commission shall be made permanent, provided that its conclusions shall be submitted to the Executive Council, whose decision shall be final.

8. The archives of the Federation shall be deposited with the National Institute of Bibliography at Brussels under the supervision of the Belgium National Dental Association.