

Oral Medicine

Diagnosis and Treatment

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A — (B. 11)

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO A PIONEER IN
FURTHERING BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN
PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS

MILTON CHARLES WINTERNITZ
FRIEND, TEACHER AND SCIENTIST

Introduction

The strongest motives that lead most patients to seek the services of a dentist are probably relief or avoidance of pain and the improvement or the maintenance of facial appearance. Before and during World War II, however, and from now on probably more than ever, increasing numbers of the laity have wider horizons. They know better what health means in terms of personal satisfaction and achievement, and they will be more insistent on getting what they want; and the more far-seeing dentist will be prepared, and will keep prepared, to meet these growing demands.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body . . ." in these words Paul expressed the relationship between the individual and the Church. They are no less appropriate when applied in the fields of national and international affairs, of politics or of economics. The idea owes its forcefulness and appositeness to what everyone can see and no one can deny. The physical body of man is composed of parts, but it functions as a whole. Its parts are interrelated, one with another, and with the body as a whole.

The oral cavity, first segment of the digestive tract by virtue of its position, is also in close relation to the respiratory system. Inheritable and constitutional factors influence its development and reactivity. Blood vessels, lymphatics and nerves ensure rapid communication between it and the rest of the body. It is affected by nutrition, metabolism and endocrine balance or imbalance. It benefits by the general basic defense mechanisms of the body. In many ways it reflects, as a mirror, the state of systemic health, and, unfortunately, it is one of the areas in the body most vulnerable to endogenous and exogenous insults and irritants.

To practice rationally, the dentist takes the history of the patient, examines him, makes a diagnosis, prepares a plan of treatment or management, and carries out that plan. If the history and the examination are limited only to the local oral condition, the diagnosis often will represent only a part truth, and part truths are sometimes most misleading. The dentist in his periodic checkup of the patient has a unique opportunity to recognize the earliest signs of a disease when it is still curable or controllable and when neglect would bring tragedy. Case planning without due regard for extra-oral conditions may do, and has done, much more harm than good.

The viewpoints and the objectives expressed above are not new, but relatively few dentists carry them out to their logical conclusions in daily practice. Dentistry has not yet reached the position and the recognition among the health services which the importance of its field and its potentialities deserve: nor will it do so until the general practitioner has prepared himself to take advantage of his opportunities—opportunities which are also obligations.

I have had the privilege of reading Doctor Burket's book in manuscript and am delighted with this addition to our literature: it is comprehensive, well-organized, authoritative and thoroughly practical.

The practitioner of medicine, physician and internist, would do well to read at least the table of contents. If he does that, I believe he will delve deeper. It should convince him that the mouth contains much more than that doubly unruly member, the tongue. There are many situations and ways in which he can help the neighboring dentist, and the dentist in turn can help him, to speed recovery. Both physician and dentist will benefit, but the patient will benefit most.

Between the covers of this book the dentist will find much which he should know in order to do his clinical job, the job that is his for the asking. Here is a "must" for those who are eager to accept a larger share of responsibility for their patients' health

and to meet that responsibility competently and with inner satisfaction.

J. L. T. APPLETON

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Preface to the Third Edition

It is encouraging to note that dentists are becoming increasingly aware of the "total patient concept" in diagnosis, in treatment planning and in therapy. Dentistry has justified its position as a profession devoted to good health. There is increased recognition of the dentist by the physician as a "case finder" of great potentiality and mutual assistance.

The general format of the third edition is unchanged. The increase in knowledge about many diseases affecting the oral cavity and newer forms of therapy has necessitated the complete rewriting of many chapters and the extensive revision of others. Outdated text material has been deleted, while the space

devoted to diseases of increased clinical importance has been expanded. An attempt has been made to maintain the previous size of the text.

The bibliography has been completely revised by deleting obsolete references and adding new key references of current research and therapeutic developments.

Again I wish to thank my teaching colleagues, practitioners and students for their many helpful suggestions. Thanks are due also to Mrs. William Palanky for typing the manuscript and to Mr. Frank A. Travers and my wife for their assistance in editing and proofreading.

L. W. B.

Preface to the Second Edition

The interest that the dental and the medical professions have shown in *Oral Medicine* is encouraging evidence that the members of both professions are becoming more conscious of the interrelationship of oral and systemic disease.

The many advances in the field of oral medicine since the first edition of this book was published have necessitated the complete rewriting of many chapters and an extensive revision of the others. An important addition in this revision is the new section entitled "Oral Cancer," by Dr. S. Gordon Castigliano. While the general practitioner will not treat this disease, it is he who must accept the responsibility for the early recognition of oral cancer.

The material dealing with gingivitis and gingival enlargement, herpes, lichen planus, leukoplakia and diseases of the tongue has

been greatly expanded. The various sections have been rearranged to make the second edition more useful as a textbook. The publisher has generously remade all the color plates. A number of new illustrations have been added and many have been replaced. The bibliography has been revised extensively by deleting obsolete references and adding those of current laboratory and clinical reports pertaining to this field.

I wish to express my appreciation to my teaching colleagues, practitioners and students for their many helpful suggestions, which should make this second edition much more useful. I wish to thank my wife especially for her assistance in the preparation of the bibliography and the tedious job of proofreading.

L. W. B.

Preface to the First Edition

Oral Medicine discusses the many important relationships between oral and systemic disease, and it suggests opportunities for a more universal and intimate co-operation between the medical and dental practitioners in giving the best possible health service to our common patient.

When an author plans a book, his first problems are the selection of the subjects with which he will deal, their relative importance for the purpose in mind, and their arrangement. A further obligation is that what he writes truly represents the best current knowledge available; and, finally, he should realize how much his reader will appreciate clarity and brevity.

The attention given to the various diseases in this book is believed to be commensurate with their importance to the dentist and to the physician or intern interested in the dental aspects of various systemic diseases. The author well realizes that he has emphasized certain diseases which as pure medical problems are relatively of minor importance, while on the other hand he has devoted little space to certain diseases; e.g., hypertension, whose wide distribution makes them important medically but for which no close oral relationship has yet been established.

In a special Color Atlas, the author has presented a selected group of sixty subjects illustrating oral lesions most commonly encountered by the dentist and physician in daily practice. Arranged in ten plates to be used in conjunction with the Diagnostic Index which immediately follows it, this color section is the distillation of a large collection of color studies gathered by the author over many years of clinical investigation.

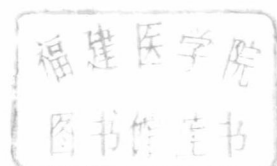
Because they are judged the best and most representative from this collection, it is felt that the student and practitioner will find in these color illustrations a much needed synopsis and guide to diagnosis and treatment. The Diagnostic Index is similarly arranged, with the principal diseases classified and grouped in logical order for study and reference as this book is used both in the classroom and in practice. Likewise, the many illustrations in black and white throughout the text are shown life-size, to be of greatest value.

No attempt is made to cover the entire scope of Medicine, but rather to give to the dental practitioner a sufficient knowledge of Medicine that he may adequately fulfill his professional responsibilities to his patient and co-operate intelligently with the physician. By demonstrating the close link that actually exists in the patient between his dental and general health, it is hoped that this book will itself serve as an agent in furthering this co-operation.

Since the ambulatory patient rather than the acutely ill individual is the chief concern of the dentist, he is primarily interested in a knowledge of symptomatic diagnosis on the basis of a dental-medical history, an examination of the oral cavity and exposed body parts, aided by some of the simpler laboratory tests; in brief, "dental-chair medicine."

The author wishes to thank all of his colleagues, friends and family for their many helpful suggestions and valuable criticism. Their interest and sympathetic understanding have been most encouraging and appreciated.

L. W. B.



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