Dental Dispensaries
Philanthropies (1932-01-09) Two programs - Exercises and Dinner on the Occasion of the Dedication of a Tablet to Mr. George Eastman - by the Rochester Dental Society, January 9, 1932
Rochester

The movement started in Rochester, New York, Mr. Eastman's home town, and resulted in the building and endowment of a dental dispensary, the object of which was to give complete dental treatment to children of indigent parents up to the age of 16 years; the children not being asked to pay fees except 5c a treatment. For this amount the teeth are treated, extractions, plastic fillings inserted—the usual dental treatments for children. There is also an Orthodontia Department for the straightening of crooked teeth. The teeth of the children (indigent) are examined in the schools by dental hygienists, supervised by qualified dentists, and are carried to the Dispensary in busses by school nurses. About 50% of the patients bring themselves or are brought by parents.

One of the most important activities of the Rochester Dental Dispensary is the service rendered in the Tonsil-Adenoid Department. The operations are performed by highly skillful medical men. About 40 operations are performed each week, and since the organization of the Dispensary about 20,000 children have received the benefit of treatment in this Department. Very satisfactory results have been observed and an opportunity has also been presented for research and study from...
which most valuable information has been obtained with reference to the effect of diseased tonsils and adenoids in relation to child health.

The prophylactic or tooth cleaning is done in the schools of Rochester by squads of Dental Hygienists for which service the City of Rochester in contributing $30,000.00 a year. ($20,000 first 5 years; $25,000—10 years; now $30,000 next 5 years.) A school for the training of Dental Hygienists is conducted by the Rochester Dental Dispensary. This is a new vocation for young women. Wherever employed, either in dental offices, schools, hospitals or State Institutions, their services have been highly satisfactory and much appreciated.

Rochester is a city of about 330,000 inhabitants and the Dispensary is equipped with a capacity to care for a city of about 500,000, which is the practical limit for a single Dispensary. When Rochester gets beyond that population it is expected that another Dispensary will have to be built.

Mr. Eastman bought the real estate, paid for the building and equipment, ($500,000.00, approximately) and provided endowment amounting to about $2,500,000.00 in interest bearing securities. (Total $3,000,000.00)
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London

The Rochester Dental Dispensary, after about 14 years' operation, has been so successful that it led to the establishment of a similar institution in London. For this institution Mr. Eastman built and equipped a building, built on land furnished by the Royal Free Hospital on Gray's Inn Road, the operation of the institution being limited to four Boroughs as follows: St. Pancras, Islington, Holborn and Finsbury in the County of London, these boroughs containing the approximate limited number of indigent children. Lord Riddell and Sir Albert Levy each contributed $250,000.00 for the endowment.

It is hoped that the success of this institution will encourage the building of additional Dispensaries throughout London and other cities. This Dispensary was put in operation about December 1, 1930.
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Rome

In the meantime the City of Rome applied for a similar institution and Mr. Eastman agreed to furnish $1,000,000.00 toward building and equipping the building, the Federal Government agreeing to furnish the land and money to maintain the institution. This building is now nearly completed and is expected to be finished about the end of 1932.

Stockholm

A similar application has been received from the City of Stockholm, which has agreed to the same condition as Rome.

Paris and Brussels

Similar applications are under consideration from the Cities of Paris and Brussels and it is hoped to see similar institutions in the most prominent cities of Europe, as examples of what can be done to improve the health of the children by the Municipalities.
It should be noted that it is not the intention of Mr. Eastman by his part in these Dispensaries to do anything more than to furnish focal points in principal cities so far as he can devote funds for accomplishment of the work. It should be also noted that his work is limited to work on teeth of children whose parents are unable to pay for dental work and bring them to the age of 16 years with workable sets of teeth. It does not include the education of dentists except what they would incidentally get by this work after the completion of their dental education. In these clinics excellent opportunities are presented for post-graduate instruction and practice in children's dentistry.
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MR. GEORGE EASTMAN
BY
THE ROCHESTER DENTAL SOCIETY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1932
THE ROCHESTER DENTAL DISPENSARY
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK
SPEAKERS

BAINESS A. GOLDBLATT, D. D. S.
PRESEIDENT

ADDRESS AND DEDICATION
MARTIN DEWEY, M. D., D. D. S., F. A. C. D.
PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

GEORGE VANDERPOOL, D. D. S.
PRESIDENT OF THE DENTAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

CHESTER F. HUMMEL, D. D. S.
PRESIDENT OF THE SEVENTH DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

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IN THE VALUE OF PREVENTIVE
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