

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

(H. L. Ferguson, M.A., M.D., &c., Dean.)

I have to report that during the past year the new curriculum has come into operation for the first-year classes, and promises to work satisfactorily. In March sundry improvements in clinical teaching were introduced, and extra facilities in this direction were afforded by the erection of side rooms for clinics in the hospital.

The value of the system of Dominion scholarships has come to be so much appreciated by the students that a number of them asked that the system should be continued on an unpaid footing rather than have the opportunity it afforded lost to them. The use of the empty house known as "Meenan's" was granted by the Council, and the Hospital Board agreed to cater for the residents in Meenan's at the rate of £1 7s. a week per head. The students in residence took advantage of the opportunities afforded them for clinical work, and it is a matter for regret that the Hospital Board have not seen their way to continue the catering facilities during the coming year. At present an attempt is being made to arrange for the catering elsewhere. It is very desirable from every point of view that, as we cannot get intern positions for our senior students, this semi-intern system should be continued if possible.

The external examiner for pathology and bacteriology this year was Professor Cleland, of Adelaide University, who came for the May examinations in these subjects, and later sent in to the Senate a favourable report on the work of the school in the departments involved.

During the year we succeeded in gaining an extension of the facilities for obtaining experience in midwifery by our students, without which we should have been quite unable to comply with the regulations as to the number of cases attended. We have been endeavouring to make use as far as possible of opportunities for obtaining experience in this direction by those of our students who spend their holidays in other centres. Some provision will have to be made in the near future for intern experience in a maternity hospital for all students, in order to comply with the General Medical Council's requirements.

In August the new regulations of the General Medical Council were received, and it is satisfactory to find that with certain minor alterations the six-year curriculum which we had adopted complies with the higher standard demanded by the Home authorities.

The total number of students attending classes during the year was 373, as against 364 the previous year. The number of graduates during 1922 was sixty-three, but this large number is due to the fact that the final examination was held in November–December instead of February, 1923, so that the total includes the graduates from two classes.

It is of interest to note that the first examination for the Ch.M. was held, and the one candidate who entered passed the examination with marked credit.

Unfortunately, the financial condition of the Dominion during the past year has been such that we have not been able to obtain the Government's consent to the erection of the new departments of anatomy and physiology which are so essential for the development of our teaching. The new regulations of the General Medical Council demand that the teaching of anatomy and physiology should be carried on hand-in-hand with the clinical subjects through the years of clinical study, and if we are to meet these requirements it is absolutely essential that the new buildings should be in occupation in the beginning of 1925. Seeing that the building operations will probably take eighteen months, and that there will be some delay in getting the site cleared, it is of the utmost importance that immediate steps should be taken in this matter.

FACULTY OF DENTISTRY.

(H. P. Pickerill, M.D., M.D.S., &c., Dean.)

During the year 1922 the activities of the Dental School have increased considerably. More students than in any previous year have been in attendance, and the amount of clinical work done for patients is very much greater than anything done previously. Forty-two dental chairs have been in use every morning for the treatment of patients. Five thousand more operations were done in 1922 than in 1921, and the sum of £2,329 was earned from this source.

Students.—Ninety students have been in attendance, forty-three being degree and forty-seven certificate students. Out of the total number twelve were women students.

Lectures.—Students are required to attend 80 per cent. of lectures and to pass terms examination in order to qualify for the certificates required by the New Zealand University prior to sitting for the professional examinations. During the year eight students obtained the B.D.S. degree and four the certificate of proficiency. Before the final examinations, and since, I received numerous inquiries from dentists all over New Zealand for recent graduates as assistants.

Clinical and Practical Work.—This work, which, after all, is the most important of all in the training of a dentist, has been very much hampered for want of sufficient accommodation and equipment, the latter, of course, being dependent upon the former. Our needs have now utterly outgrown the possibilities of the present building, which is by its site, aspect, and construction totally unsuited for the purpose of a dental school; so that it is now no longer possible to give students an efficient training either in mechanical or surgical dentistry. This in itself is serious from a national point of view. In New Zealand, where every man, woman, and child is afflicted with some form of dental disease, and it is becoming more and more recognized that this is the primary cause of many other diseases, it is very necessary that the training of dentists should be efficient. It is also very necessary that the standard and quality of our degree should be maintained: this in the present building is quite impossible.

To make room for more dental operating-chairs our museum has been swept away, and our specimens and teaching models are no longer available for teaching purposes. Dentists from all over New Zealand are continually sending in valuable specimens, but I have nowhere to put them. There is no storage accommodation for all the common articles of everyday use. Apart from the enormous inconvenience of this, much money might be saved by buying goods in larger quantities if we had room for storage. The laboratory where I am supposed to teach dental histology and pathology will