

## **Minutes of the 18. annual general meeting of the European Federation of Orthodontic Specialists' Associations**

Saturday, 24 November 1990 at 54 Blvd. Latour Maubourg, Paris 75007.

### **Attendance**

1. Prof. C. Bolender (France), presiding,
2. Dr. P. Picchioni (Italy),
3. Dr. C. Gysel (Belgium),
4. Dr. R. Bijlstra (Netherlands),
5. Dr. N. Flood (Ireland).

A new delegate, Dr. Wolfgang Schmiedel (Germany), replacing the previous German delegate. Dr. S. Unterer, was cordially welcomed. We were also pleased to see in attendance Dr. R. Gonzalez-Giralda, President of the Spanish Orthodontic Society, Dr. Michiel Bierman, President of the Dutch Orthodontic Society, and Dr. B Faure (France).

Apologies were received from Drs. J. Bailey (Britain) and A. Ferrini (Italy).

The minutes of the 1989 meeting were read by the Secretary, Dr. Flood. With some minor corrections to the Dutch report, the minutes were approved by all members.

### **1. DIRECTORY**

The new EFOSA directory (1990) has just been published. Copies will be circulated to all members within the next few weeks.

### **2. REPORTS FROM DELEGATES; STATUS OF HYGIENISTS AND AUXILIARIES.**

#### **NETHERLANDS**

Hygienists are legal and widely used, as they help fill the gap caused by the shortage of orthodontists. Their work includes scaling and polishing. Hygienists sit a State examination after a two year course in dental health, periodontal care, etc.

#### **IRELAND**

Hygienists legal from the 1st January, 1991. They will clean and polish teeth, do scaling, apply fissure sealants. They will not be allowed to do fillings, give local anaesthetics, or fit bands. Current hygienists available have been trained in Britain, but future hygienists will be trained in the Dental Hospitals of Dublin and Cork, when courses start in a few years time.

## **GERMANY**

The reunion of East with West Germany will add about 500 more orthodontists, bringing the overall total to about 2000. Previously, all East German orthodontists worked in public clinics, but most now wish to start private practice. Standards vary throughout East Germany, and there will be a transition period during which the exchange of orthodontists between East and West Germany will be restricted. Hygienists are permitted in Germany and undertake a three year training period. As well as scalings, hygienists may take impressions if the orthodontist is present in the room. Those who own an additional course may also take x-rays.

## **ITALY**

Dr. Picchioni supplied written reports on both orthodontics and auxiliaries which were most helpful. One school in Bari trains hygienists who do scalings. Auxiliaries are restricted to receptionist work, cleaning and sterilisation of instruments.

## **BELGIUM**

Hygienists are not recognised in Belgium. Talks on specialisation of orthodontics continues, but no changes yet.

## **FRANCE**

Hygienists are not legalised, but courses exist for dental surgery assistants to learn administration, reception work, and four handed dentistry. The duration of the course is two years part-time.

## **BRITAIN**

Hygienists are legal now. Talks on the establishment of a specialist register continue, but progress very slow.

## **SPAIN**

There are 468 members of the Spanish Orthodontic Society, of which 150 are in exclusive practice. From 1948, Spain graduated Stomatologists, but in 1985 dentistry was reintroduced as a separate profession. The first dentists will be qualifying during 1991, and it is hoped that some of these will start training as orthodontists from 1992.

Reciprocity exists between Spain and some Latin American countries, and about thirty per cent of dentist working in Spain are of Latin American origin. The situation is to be revised during 1992.

No hygienists exist yet, but there are some proposals to train them.

### **3. SPECIALISTS REGISTER**

Under this heading there began a discussion concerning the rights of orthodontists to work in other E.C. countries and the restrictions placed on them. It was decided to make this the theme of the next EFOSA meeting. Delegates are requested to prepare information regarding the requirements imposed by their respective countries on prospective immigrants, and the standing of foreign orthodontists as compared to their own. These are the details that young orthodontists wishing to work abroad will be seeking in the future from us, as their representatives. Written reports will be most welcome.

### **4. ELECTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

Re-elected were:

1. Prof. C. Bolender (President),
2. Dr. J. Bailey (Vice-President),
3. Dr. N. Flood (Secretary).
4. Dr. W. Schmiedel accepted the post of Treasurer vacated by Dr. Unterer.

### **5. 1991 MEETING**

It was proposed to hold next years meeting in Paris in September. When the actual date has been fixed all delegates will be informed.

Norman Flood. Hon. Secretary.