
College Chapter Histories

Secretaries of provincial chapters of the College of Family Physicians of Canada were invited to provide brief summaries of their chapters' histories and future aspirations. Here is a sample of their replies.

ALBERTA CHAPTER

The first ten years of the Alberta Chapter were described beautifully and completely by Dr. Max Dolgoy in this journal earlier this year and it would be superfluous to recapitulate his excellent presentation.

The last five years of the Alberta Chapter have seen some major changes in the recognition of family practice in this province.

The Alberta Chapter is very proud of the selection of Calgary General Hospital as one of the original group of hospitals providing a postgraduate program leading to certification in family practice. This program which began three years ago was a major undertaking for the chapter and especially for its director, Dr. John Corley, who ably lead it through this challenging initial period. There were many problems and the early casualty rate was high. These initial difficulties have now been overcome and the prospect for the future is very good. We were very fortunate to be able to obtain Dr. Charles Awde from Ontario to direct the next years of this endeavor following Dr. Corley's departure to return to family practice.

The University of Calgary will soon be opening its doors to medical students and a very capable faculty has been assembled under the direction of the Dean, Dr. W. A. Cochrane. The whole orientation of the university program will be toward the production of family physicians and Dr. Tom Saunders was appointed full time professor of family practice last year. Dr. Awde is associate professor in this department.

The last three years in Edmonton have been highlighted by the establishment of a model family practice in the University of Alberta with the appointment of three family physicians to the faculty. It is appropriate here to mention the enormous contribution to the affairs of the College both at the national and provincial levels by Dr. E. R. Haynes who as associate professor in the department of Community Medicine has lead this model Family Practice. (See CFP News page 114.) Patients of this practice requiring hospitalization are admitted to the University Hospital at Edmonton in which the family physicians have privileges.

The next few years in the University of Alberta will see a dramatic change in the curriculum which will result in considerably more clinical experience

being obtained by the students. The executive of the Alberta Chapter has been intimately involved in this change of curriculum with many of its members sitting on curriculum committees. There has been a free flow of communication between the faculty of the University of Alberta and the College at the provincial level and special mention should be made of the contributions of the president, Dr. Nigel Henderson, as well as Dr. Ernie Haynes, Dr. Murray Robertson, Dr. Henry Brand and Dr. Kenneth Paposki. There will be of necessity, changes in the postgraduate program of resident and intern training offered by all the hospitals in Edmonton as a direct result of this curriculum change and the College is playing a significant role in the establishment of these changes.

In summary, the position in Alberta of family physicians in the framework of medical care has improved and strengthened greatly during the years since the establishment of the College of Family Physicians. There is every prospect that this change will continue and accelerate in future years.

*A. G. Blunden, MD
Secretary.*

ONTARIO CHAPTER

The first meeting of the Ontario members of the College of General Practice of Canada was held in Osler Hall in Toronto, September 24, 1954. The meeting was called by provincial representatives, Dr. W. A. Wilford of Warton and Dr. M. E. Hobbs of Millbrook. Attending were approximately two dozen doctors who are still well-known in Ontario and indeed many of them are still active in the affairs of the College.

The original motion to form an Ontario Chapter was proposed by Dr. Carmi Warren and seconded by Dr. Harold Taylor and read as follows — "that the members present, request permission from the Board of Representatives of the College of General Practice to form a provincial chapter of the College in Ontario."

In the organizational business aspect of the College from its inception in 1954 until 1966, annual meetings were generally held in conjunction with the Ontario Medical Association. After the introduction in 1966

the annual chapter meeting was held in conjunction with the annual scientific assembly.

From 1954 until 1966 the chapter held several clinical days in various parts of the country and these were attended with a great deal of success. Many of the Regional Chapters also sponsored clinical days and in this way a large body of educational opportunity was made available to Ontario doctors.

With encouragement from the Chapter, the universities developed tension courses in various specialties lasting two days to a week which could be attended by general practitioners to further their education and to acquire the required hours of study for continuing College membership.

In 1964 and 1965 there are recurring discussions in the minutes pointing out the need for a separate meeting of the Chapter at which scientific, educational and organizational matters could be discussed and it was generally conceded that these should last three or four days. The tremendous success of the first assembly assured its continuance and similar meetings were held in 1964 and 1965. These meetings were one of the best educational experiences to be had anywhere in North America for family physicians. In 1969, we are again breaking our pattern and are holding a joint meeting in conjunction with the National Scientific Assembly in Toronto.

One of the highlights of our development has been the establishment of an Executive Secretariat in 1964 manned by Dr. Carmi Warren. This office was first discussed in 1963 but was not set up for one year because of rather limited budget. This office has greatly facilitated the work of the organization and given great assistance to committees and executive in carrying out their work. In 1969 the Ontario Chapter acquired permanent offices in the building at 1941 Leslie St. adjacent to the College of Family Physicians of Canada's offices.

Since its inception, the Chapter has developed study awards and bursaries with generous support from the Ontario Government, the various drug companies and the hospitals and medical faculties in Ontario.

Very broadly our aspirations are to cooperate with the College of Family Physicians of Canada in furthering the development and education of the family physician so that he can provide optimum care to the whole man and the whole family through his unique competence and by the integration of the efforts of the community health team. We are looking forward to a continuation of our very successful scientific assembly on an annual basis and to further development of the spring seminars which we have held in the past three years and which have been enthusiastically received by our membership.

*J. A. McPhee, MD
Secretary.*

NEW BRUNSWICK CHAPTER

Although the N.B. Chapter was functioning earlier, the first recorded minutes available are those dated February, 1958. Since that time with only minor set-

backs, the history of the N.B. Chapter has been one of growth and development.

Present membership consists of 55-60 members in good standing. This is approximately ten percent of the total registry of N.B. physicians. In the N.B. Chapter the main item of growth has been the calibre and quantity of courses available to our members, even those practicing in the smaller areas.

In 1960, under the guidance of the College members, annual clinical days were held in the central areas of the province with local doctors presenting and guest speakers from medical schools or teaching hospitals participating in the programs.

The annual meeting of the College held in the Fall were also in conjunction with a clinical meeting. All members of the N.B. Medical Society have been invited to the clinical meetings.

Although there is no medical school in N.B., we have had an excellent liaison with Dalhousie Medical School in Halifax. Through their postgraduate division under Dr. Lea Steeves, we have been very successful in arranging postgraduate courses in small areas throughout our province. Now, each year, courses of six lectures each are held at five different centres. Speakers can and have been obtained for almost any medical subject desired by the local doctors. The geographical distribution of these courses assures the local physician the availability of up-to-date medical information without leaving his practice unattended.

In 1965, a new and worthwhile project began in our area, the Annual Conjoint Scientific Assembly. The family doctors of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have available to them a two day session of highly scientific interest and practical lectures. The size of the meeting has grown each year. An active planning committee from the three provinces and Dalhousie choose the format they feel will be of interest and help to the practicing MD. The strength of nearly all of these projects has been not only the careful choice of the best available speakers but also by having the local physicians prepare and present cases.

We are proud of the role that N.B. members have played in the national life of the College of Family Physicians, and especially happy this year to have Dr. Stephen Clark, one of our members, as national President.

*J. D. Carson, MD
Secretary*

MANITOBA CHAPTER

The College of General Practice of Canada was formed in Vancouver in June 1954. Manitoba's leading spirit was Dr. Jack McKenty. He was nominated as Manitoba Representative to the Board of the College.

Under his guidance a meeting was called at the Medical Arts Club for the purpose of organizing the Manitoba Chapter. This took place in October 1954. Over 40 GPs attended, and elected a first executive: President: Dr. A. T. Gowran; Secretary: Dr. D. M. Carleton; Treasurer: Dr. Joe Hollenberg.

A brisk membership campaign was carried out in the next three years. Committees were formed and meetings of executives were open to all members. In September 1956, under the chairmanship of Dr. Carleton, the first chapter convention was held at the Chalet at Wasagaming, Manitoba. It proved such a success that it became an annual event and has grown from a one-and-a-half day meeting to a four-day meeting, held each year in Winnipeg.

At present the executive is enlarged and very active. Membership reached a peak of 150 five or six years ago and has remained at that level since.

The Chapter has been very fortunate in its leadership during the past 15 years and has had two members who became presidents of the College of General Practice of Canada: Dr. Jack McKenty and Dr. Garth Diehl.

The future aspirations of the Manitoba Chapter are centered on the development of a Department of Family Medicine within the medical school of the University of Manitoba. The Chapter has previously tried to foster the idea among the medical educators of this province, but unfortunately, to date, no practical evidence has been forthcoming that our pleas have been heard. However, the present executive is currently re-opening negotiations with the medical school and others. We feel that perhaps this time we may be more successful in persuading the "establishment" that an active Department of Family Medicine is of paramount importance both in the training of the future doctors of Canada, whether they decide to become family physicians or specialists, and in the continuing education of all qualified physicians.

J. B. W. Maxwell, MD
Secretary.

DIVISION DU QUÉBEC

Quinze ans déjà se sont écoulés depuis la fondation de la division du Québec. Nous désirons rendre hommage à ces médecins convaincus qui ont compris la nécessité de se perfectionner, même après l'obtention du doctorat; et pour ne citer que quelques noms mentionnons Murray E. Stalker de Ormstown et Adrien Paulhus de Verdun, aujourd'hui disparus, mais certainement parmi les tout premiers.

De ce groupe des fondateurs et pour certains encore très actifs, nous voudrions rappeler les noms de Armand Rioux de Québec, Laurent Mailloux, René B. Leclair, Claude P. Gendron, Stanley H. Knox, Normand Da Sylva, J. O. Lafortune, F. S. Dorrance, John Hay, Georges L. Fortier, A. Schlesinger, tous de Montréal ou de la région, Marc-André Marchand de Trois-Rivières, Dollard Larouche de Chicoutimi, Jean-Paul Genest de Lévis, et combien d'autres qu'il serait trop long d'énumérer ici, mais dont le travail et la collaboration nous ont été très précieux.

De nos réunions a germé l'idée de grouper tous les omnipraticiens du Québec, et comme nous désirions rester éloignés des problèmes touchant la politique et le signe de "piastre", certains de nos collaborateurs ont

organisé un syndicat qui, avouons-le, a attiré un très grand nombre des nôtres.

Nos objectifs ont peu changé, et toujours nous proclamerons que le prestige s'acquiert grâce à la compétence. Les départements de médecine générale que nous désirions dans tous les hôpitaux s'accroissent en nombre, et nous avons cette année notre premier membre certifié, dans la personne de notre confrère le Docteur Pierre Houle de Trois-Rivières, à qui nous voulons offrir nos sincères félicitations et démontrer toute notre fierté.

Il n'y a pas de doute que le Collège est devenu une réalité qui a sa place dans la promotion du médecin de famille. Nous sommes assurés que plusieurs confrères d'expression française considéreront les avantages que nous avons à leur offrir, et deviendront membres à part entière de cet organisme vraiment canadien. Soulignons que le prochain président-élu national est un médecin du Québec soit notre ami David Brunet de Grand-Mère, qui entrera en fonction au congrès de septembre prochain.

Le comité exécutif actuel est confiant de l'avenir, et croit fermement que les dix prochaines années vont mûrir notre Collège et lui conférer ses lettres de noblesse. Dès lors, le recrutement ne sera plus un problème; ceux qui voudront se joindre à nous devront faire leurs preuves.

J. Mailloux, MD

NOVA SCOTIA CHAPTER

On September 8, 1954, 13 general practitioners meeting in Sydney, N.S. formed the Nova Scotia Chapter of the College of General Practice with Dr. F. M. Fraser as chairman. In two years the membership had risen to 75.

In January 1955, eight Pictou county doctors formed our first branch chapter under the chairmanship of Dr. H. B. Whitman.

In December 1955, 14 members inaugurated the Halifax-Dartmouth branch under the chairmanship of Dr. J. R. MacLean.

Dr. C. L. Gass of Tatamagouche, N.S. became the national President in 1956-57. Over the following years, Dr. F. M. Fraser went on to become the national President of the College in 1960-61 and has remained an active member of the provincial chapter.

Our current provincial membership compares very favorably with the national average and although the branch chapters have become inactive, more emphasis has been put on the annual and semi-annual meetings. This year will be the Fifth Conjoint Maritime Assembly to be held in Charlottetown, P.E.I. with N.S. the host chapter this year. These meetings have been successful and have stimulated much interest in the College throughout the Maritimes. The clinical sessions have been planned jointly with the division of continuing medical education of Dalhousie University which has also organized short courses in university hospitals, regional courses consisting of sessions, meetings with lecturers from Dalhousie Uni-

versity and refresher courses with the support of the College.

In 1958, under Dr. S. G. B. Fullerton, the preceptorship program was initiated on a voluntary basis during the summer months for medical students. This was so successful that in 1962 the University incorporated it into the academic year and as classes have increased in size, more family physicians are becoming involved each year.

With the setting-up of general practice teaching units, within the university complex, we hope to use the preceptorship program to maintain primary con-

tact with the patient under the guidance of a family physician and gradually to mold these two methods of teaching.

Our immediate aspiration is to host an early national assembly meeting in Halifax (and if the recent Canada Games can be used as a yardstick, the rest of Canada does not have to worry about the quality of hospitality they'll find in the Maritimes).

We are looking forward to good work from our preceptorship program.

*J. A. Smith, MD
Secretary*

Head Office Staff

"What started as a mild flirtation has developed into a solid marriage" says Mrs. Molly Webb of her close association with the College administration since June 1954, when it was housed in a basement.

Starting as secretary to the first executive director, Dr. W. Victor Johnston, Mrs. Webb continued to be a pillar of the College when Dr. D. I. Rice took over as executive director in 1964. During her 15 years at the College's five locations during that time, she has seen many changes: from second-hand equipment and a skeleton staff the head office has grown to a modern nucleus for College activity now employing a staff of eight.

Well-known to College executives and officers she has become a close friend of many over the years and has travelled to Mexico, the Caribbean and throughout the United States and Canada to accumulate her vast store of knowledge on CFPC matters.

Mrs. Webb received a Centennial

Medal in 1967 for her contributions to the College.

Also closely connected with College administration — particularly in the area of membership—during

the past 11 years is Mrs. Laura Muntean. Mrs. Muntean has taken a personal and dedicated interest in the College's considerable growth during her long service.



Mrs. Molly Webb (left), Mrs. Laura Muntean (right). With them is Mrs. Florence Allen former Secretary to the College of Family Physicians (Ontario Chapter).