

NINETY YEARS AGO, JANUARY 1921

Francis P. Emerson, MD, in "Introductory Remarks on Focal Relation to Chronic Diseases," urged readers to note the "conditions of teeth and submerged tonsils." He explained: "There was, at one time, among the dentists, enthusiasm in regard to the relation of apical abscesses to rheumatism. This has somewhat subsided because they found that all cases of rheumatism were not cured by extraction of teeth and the healing of those necrosed areas." Still, he urged physicians to "see the films of these teeth yourself and know that they are looked after by a dentist who will cooperate with you in relieving foci of infection, even if the teeth have to be extracted."

The same author, Francis P. Emerson, MD, also contributed "The Major Role of the Conduction Apparatus in Slowly Progressive Deafness." He remarked: "In some cases of long-standing deafness, it would seem necessary to re-educate the vertical perception areas by exercises, after all sources of infection have been eliminated."

An Editorial, "The Modern Library Building," urged greater use of the building. "While the Medical Library building should be more of a scientific center, it should also be made a social center for the programs in Rhode Island"; for example, musical programs. Also, the Society should make the building available to the District Nursing Association for its programs.

FIFTY YEARS AGO, JANUARY 1961

Paul C. Adkins, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery, George Washington University School of Medicine, contributed "Management of Thoracic Trauma" at the John F. Kenney Memorial Clinic Day at Memorial Hospital. The Journal reprinted his talk.

J. John Yasar, MD, and Thomas Micolonghi, MD, in "Ten Year Review of Bronchogenic Carcinoma in a Community Hospital," traced 10 years of data from 103 ward and private patients diagnosed with lung cancer at Memorial Hospital. "The

majority...were characterized by insidious onset, paucity of symptoms and rapid growth with early metastases.... Twenty-one percent of cases were inoperable at the time of their initial complaint. Only 17 cases...were resectable."

Francis D. Moore, MD, Mosely Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, contributed a historical essay: "Masters in Medicine: Leonardo and Versalius. Surgery and Science."

An Editorial, "The Charles V. Chapin Hospital," congratulated the new superintendent, Dr. Edward J. West, and praised "a most valuable institution."

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, JANUARY 1985

Seebert Goldowsky, MD, editor, in "Deinstitutionalization in Rhode Island," noted the poor results in much of the country: "It is now realized that the concept of community mental health was oversold." Specifically, he cited the clustering of people into substandard housing, slums, and welfare hotels. In Rhode Island, however, he praised the efforts of Dr. Joseph Bevilacqua, director of the state initiative, and his successor Tom Romeo. "Rhode Island is shining example of a successful experience in deinstitutionalization."

Wendy J. Smith, managing editor, in "The Future of Medical Practice," commented on the report by the American Medical Association Council, "The Environment of Medicine," which noted the emergence of "Doc in the Boxes" at shopping malls.

Charles E. Kaufman, MD, and Elliot M. Perlman, MD, in "Optical Causes of Red Eye," discussed five patients, ages 7 to 79 years, who demonstrated the varied causes, including autoimmune disorder, infectious disease, vascular disorder, and a primary or metastatic orbital neoplasm.

In the Clinicopathological Conference, Case Report: Rhode Island Hospital, edited by Maurice M. Albala, MD, George F. Messner, MD, Tom J. Wachtel, MD, and Mark Fagan, MD, the topic was a 60-year old woman with a history of hypertension and alcohol abuse admitted for abdominal pain. Nine days after admission, she died. The anatomic diagnosis: "Aortoduodenal fistula with massive gastrointestinal hemorrhage status post-operative right renal artery reconstruction with bypass graft."

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