

THE NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

In Norway a considerable part of the profit of the football-pool is being used for support of research. Three Councils are responsible for the administration of these funds, viz. one Agricultural, one Technical, and one General Research Council.

The Councils were established in 1949, and the late Professor *Ivar Krohn*, Dean of the Norwegian State Dental School, was elected chairman of the Medical Group of the General Research Council. He suggested, with the support of the then President of the Norwegian Dental Association, Dr. *Birger Nygaard Östby*, that a dental research institute be established and in future supported by that Council. At the same time the Director General of the Norwegian Public Health Service, Dr. *Karl Evang*, independently proposed the establishment of a caries research institute. The two plans were co-ordinated and met with the approval of all concerned.

In 1950 the Institute came into being, and Dr. Nygaard Östby was appointed its director. He designed and equipped its laboratories, and in April 1951 the Norwegian Institute of Dental Research was ready to start its work.

While the Institute receives its funds from the General Research Council, its actual research activities are supervised by a Board of Trustees headed by Dr. Evang. The other four trustees are outstanding members of the Norwegian medical and dental professions.

In recent years the annual expenditure of the Dental Research Institute is between 250,000 and 300,000 Norwegian Crowns. As from 1959 the Institute is the recipient of a 5 year United States Public Health Service research grant (No. D—901) from the National Institute of Dental Research, Bethesda, Md.

Five full-time research associates or the equivalent in terms of part-time workers perform their investigations at the Institute

or elsewhere, e.g. on field duty. In the course of the first ten year period six members of the staff have completed their theses for higher academic degrees (doctor of philosophy, doctor of odontology) while working at the Institute, and four previous research associates are now full professors in dental faculties or colleges in Norway and Denmark.

In addition to demonstrating the wealth of work produced by the Institute the list of publications appearing on the following pages shows the specific fields of research cultivated by Dr. Nygaard Östby and his associates during the period 1951—1961. From the standpoint of public health it is noteworthy that so many of the 125 contributions are concerned, directly or indirectly, with dental caries and periodontal disease, their prevention and therapy.

Many publications from the Norwegian Institute of Dental Research have appeared in *ACTA ODONTOLOGICA SCANDINAVICA* over the years and the present issue is exclusively devoted to twelve original contributions from the Institute. The Acta Odontologica Scandinavica Foundation congratulates the Norwegian Institute of Dental Research on the occasion of its first 10th anniversary in the hope that its future may be as bright as its past.

THE EDITOR

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