

Zürich April 13 1942

University of Pittsburgh
School of Dentistry

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Alice M. Mc Cann. Librarian.

The print in which you are interested is perhaps my first publication on articulation, printed 1908 in Berlin. This can no more be had, it is exceedingly rare, but it was translated in english and published in the Dental Cosmos 1910. vol LII. No 1. 2. 3. 4.

But it's also possible, that the publication you are looking for is the one printed in Zürich 1910, which brings only the practical part on articulation without any theoretical explications, and describes a newer model of my articulators. Of this publication I possess a copy in french language which I am sending you by air mail, at the same time as this letter.

Hoping that you now will find what you are looking for
I remain yours sincerely

Alfred Gysi D. D. S.

from Pennsylvania
Dental College 1887.

Prof. Dr. A. Gysi

Tödistrasse 18

ZÜRICH 2

(Switzerland)

Prof. Dr. A. Gysi
Todistrasse 18
Zurich 2
(Switzerland)

September 7, 1942
Richard H. Terrana
(Typewritten)

Biography - Gysi

September 7th, 1942.

Prof. Dr. A. Gysi
Todistrasse 18
Zurich 2
(Switzerland)

Richard H. Terrana

Senior Student in Dental School, University of Pittsburgh, Pa. U.S.A.
3941 O'Hara Street.

Herewith I send you the desired

1. Some biographical notes. I was born 31 August 1865 in Aarau (Switzerland) a small town of 6000 inhabitants. My father was one of the two first makers of mathematical (geometrical) measuring instruments (circles) which he exported throughout Europe. Also my grandfather was a mechanic of circles, and my grand grandfather was a locksmith). As boy it was my pastime to observe the many workmen in the different departments of the factory. I soon learnt to work the metals on the lathe, drilling holes, making screws, forging and hardening steel, soldering etc. etc. This enabled me later as dentist to make my first articulators myself. I visited the regular schools of Aarau, which was the capital of the state Aargau. So I had a good opportunity to visit the high school. After this I went for two years to the University of Geneva, medical department, where I learnt during my medical studies also the French language. In the year 1885 I went to the Pennsylvania College of Dentistry, where I studied two years. My thesis had as title: "Dental caries under the microscope". This was considered as good and worthy to be published in the "Dental Cosmos" (April 1887), as the first thesis of a student published in this world-known journal. From 1888 to 1891 I was assistant with three well-known Dentists of Switzerland (Correvon, Wellauer, Kolliker). In Aarau there were already two dentists and during the years of my study, a third one began to practice, so that my parents declared, when I came back, that there is no more room for me. So I went to Zurich, the greatest town of Switzerland, and opened 1892 my own practice (27 years old). In the year 1895 the Dental School of Zurich was founded and I was elected to teach the normal and pathological histology of the teeth. During this time I perfected microphotography in a high degree. -1905 I was elected as Professor of prosthetical dentistry. 1912 I closed my private practice in order to devote myself entirely to scientific research. 1931, one year after I reached the time limit for teachers I lectured for the last time. Herewith I send you a list of my publications. The most important ones I marked with red pencil, as you desired.

II. Some other notes. 1912 I worked in York, Pa. three months in the tooth factory of the Dentists' Supply Co. of New York, carving the Trubyte molars, which proved to be a great success. 1913 I was in New York to give a course of my articulating method, taking the bite and registering the mandibular movements with the face bow. 1920 I lectured before nine dental societies in New York, Boston, Washington, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Chicago, Detroit and Toronto. 1921 I lectured on my system in all great cities in England and Scotland. 1923 I was also invited to lecture in all great cities in France. 1925 I was again in New York to introduce my crossbite-molars and my new adaptable Trubyte articulator and face bow. 1928 I was invited to lecture before dental societies of Vancouver, Seattle, Portland (Oregon) San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Dallas, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland and New York. 1936 I carved the new 20° shallow bite molars, put on the market by the Dentists' Supply Co.

III. In five dissertations, students made under my direction studies on dental caries.
In nine dissertations, students made under my direction studies on prosthetical subjects.

IV. In the year 1899 I began to make studies to preserve by mummification the pulps of molars and bicuspids which have been devitalized by cobalt, and which cannot be extirpated on account of narrow and twisted root channels.

The Triopaste which I invented for this purpose (made and sold in U.S.A. by Bird Moyer Co., 1210 Vine Street, Philadelphia, Pa.), is after 43 years still very largely used throughout Europe. Do you know another pharmaceutical preparation of such a long standing in dentistry ?

V. I have been honored besides the D.D.S. also by the University Zurich, medical faculty, by the title of Dr. med honoris causa (1921) and 1927 by University of Marburg (Germany) by the title of Dr. med. dent. honoris causa. Since 1930 I am Honorary Professor of the University of Zurich. From 1908 - 1939 I was elected by 26 Dental associations all over the world (except England) as honorary member, among which figures also your Psi Omega.

1926 I was honored in Switzerland by the Marcel Benoist prize (amounting to 30,000 Francs) for the best scientific work of this year for the welfare of humanity.

Of course, I had besides these purely dental investigations many hobbies, about which I will not write here.

Hoping that these few notes will serve your purpose.

Yours truly Prof. Dr. Alfred Gyzi

Sig. Alfred Gyzi