

76th Congress of the European Orthodontic Society, Crete



Ioannis and Elissavet Adamidis

There was a noticeable change in temperature as we landed in Crete for the Congress that was held at Hersonissos, in the Creta Maris Congress Centre. The Centre, which had only just been completed, was built on the side of a hill with views of the sea, coast, and, in the distance, mountains. Professor Ioannis Adamidis and his wife, Elissavet, had organized a wonderful conference with an excellent social programme and keynote speakers. The beautiful weather did not deter the participants; the lecture hall was always full.

Prior to the main Conference, Professor V. Kokich gave a course on 'Aesthetics and the orthodontic patient' and Professor A.-M. Kuijpers-Jagtman and Dr I. Kjær gave the first EOS postgraduate course on 'Normal and pathological prenatal craniofacial development' and 'Cleft lip and palate: postnatal growth and clinical implications'.

The opening ceremony was held in the Amphitheatre on Friday evening as the sun was setting. After listening to the Oath of

Hippocrates, we were introduced to Cretan folk dancing by a local group of dancers. After a speech of welcome by the President and one from Professor F. Miotti, representing the WFO, we were treated to a video of the History of the EOS from its beginnings in 1907 to the present time. There were cheers as people recognized the more recent Presidents of the Society. We adjourned to the President's welcoming party and renewed friendships from previous years.

The programme the next day began at 08.30 with a keynote lecture from Professor M. Spyropoulos on Class II division 2 malocclusions. This was followed by various other lectures on the same topic. At the end of the session the two Houston Research lectures were given and Dr T. Gedrange won the award for the best paper on 'Differential expression of myosin heavy chain mRNA during functional advancement of the mandible'. After coffee and the opening of the trade exhibition, Professor Beni Solow* gave the Sheldon Friel Memorial Lecture on 'Cranio-cervical posture: a factor in the development and function of the dentofacial structures'. This was a superb and stimulating lecture which traced Professor Solow's thinking and research over many years. Following this the President read out the names of those who had been successful in the European Board of Orthodontists examination. In the afternoon there was a session on free topics and Professor V. Kokich gave a keynote lecture on 'Managing orthodontic treatment for patients with periodontal problems'. There followed several other excellent papers given by various authors.

Professor Adamidis and his wife were at the top of the stairs to welcome us to the President's

* I regret to inform you that Beni Solow died on 12 August. He was a friendly, helpful individual with a critical and analytical mind, full of wisdom and insight. He was a valued member of our Council and our Society and he will be sorely missed.

reception. The food and the wine flowed throughout the evening. However, once the dancers had demonstrated their folk dances, the participants crowded the dance area and urged the band to continue playing until early morning.

On Sunday morning the session on 'Orthodontics and TMJ' commenced with a keynote lecture by Professor D. Subtelny from the University of Rochester, New York, on 'The temporomandibular joints, mandibular asymmetries, malocclusions and orthodontic concerns'. This was followed by a series of lectures on this main topic covering a wide spectrum of aspects of the problem.

The first part of the afternoon was devoted to the posters and table clinics. This year there were over 281 posters on a wide variety of topics and five table clinics. The poster selected for the Houston prize was by Dr E. Rose on 'Mechanical and structural parameters of bone maturation'. This year the Society also awarded prizes to the three best posters in the exhibition, consisting of a rosette and a cheque for £500. As one of the winners said 'This will pay for me to come next year!' This should encourage participants to put in posters for the next Congress in Ghent, Belgium in June 2001. The new deadline for submission of abstracts is **15 December 2000**. Following the poster session, Professor A. Doukoudakis of the University of Athens gave his keynote lecture on 'The centric relation splint: a diagnostic and therapeutic appliance for temporomandibular problems'.

In the evening there was a party for the postgraduates sponsored by the European Journal of Orthodontics and Oxford University Press, which was greatly appreciated by all who attended.

On Monday morning the session was on 'Cleft lip and palate' and Professor A. Burdi from the University of Michigan spoke on 'Patterns and patterning in craniofacial biology'. This was followed later by a keynote lecture from Professor I. Rudzki-Janson of the University of Munich on 'Early treatment of the cleft patient. Variations and consequences'. In the afternoon Professor R. Tindlund from the University of Bergen was the last to give a keynote lecture on 'Comprehensive orthodontic treatment of cleft palate patients 9–15 years'. The participants learned

from all the speakers and returned home as more knowledgeable orthodontists.

At the Business Meeting of the Society the President informed the meeting that there had been over 1300 participants at the Congress. The Honorary Officers gave their reports. The major item on the agenda was the revision of the Constitution which was necessary because of the Charities Act and also because the EBO needed to be officially recognized as being part of the Society. The new Constitution was passed and each member will receive a printed copy in the near future. At the meeting two awards were announced for the Houston Scholarship, they were Dr S. Cox and Dr C. Verna. They were congratulated by the President and given their certificates. The awards of £30 000 each are spread over 3 years and the results of their research will ultimately be published in the *EJO*. The new President, Professor Luc Dermout, was then handed the badge of office by Professor Adamidis who was given his Past President's medal. A vote of thanks was then proposed to Professor Adamidis for all his hard work on behalf of the Society.

Whilst the Business Meeting was proceeding, the lecture hall was being transformed for the Gala dinner and dance at which an excellent meal was served and then the President and his Lady took the floor for the first dance of the evening.

The next day we departed for Knossos and Heraklion City. At Knossos we saw the famous palace that was built by King Minos over 4000 years ago and the remains of the frescoes and the storage jars that had been preserved. We then took a tour around the city of Heraklion before going to the beach for the Silver Mill Competition, the first part of which consisted of finding a way through a maze blindfold by feeling a plastic rope. The winners then went onto the next part which was to eat a segment of water melon in the shortest time. The final part was held in the restaurant when we had eaten our meal and consisted of musical chairs. The Netherlands won the competition and were presented with their Silver Mill Certificates by the President.

We returned home a little sun burned but with happy memories of a wonderful Congress.