



**Dr. Robert H. M. Strang**  
**1881-1982**

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Dr. Robert H. W. Strang died on July 17, 1982 after a brief illness. He was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut and had been a resident there for 96 years before moving to Ann Arbor, Michigan where he lived with his daughter for the last of his 101 years.

He is survived by a son, Clinton H. Strang of Basking Ridge, New Jersey, daughters Dr. Ruth H. Strang of Ann Arbor, Michigan and Mrs. Marjorie H. Souder of Bridgeton, New Jersey, and three grandchildren.

After graduating from Wilbraham Academy in Massachusetts in 1899, Dr. Strang attended the Dental and Medical Schools of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He earned his dental degree there in 1902, followed by a medical degree in 1904.

He returned to Bridgeport immediately after his medical internship at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburg. His original plan was to practice dentistry and oral surgery in Bridgeport, and he was soon appointed oral surgeon at Bridgeport Hospital, but in 1906 he enrolled in the Edward H. Angle School of Orthodontia in St. Louis.

Once again he returned to Bridgeport, this time as the first specialist in Orthodontia in the state of Connecticut. He felt a deep sense of obligation to Dr. Angle for his many contributions to Orthodontia, and in his sixty-four years of practice Dr. Strang applied all of Angle's Orthodontic appliances, from the E arch to the Edgewise Arch mechanism.

In 1914 he began his teaching career on the faculty of the Alfred C. Fones School of Dental Hygiene, teaching dental and general anatomy. In 1947 he organized the Fones School of Oral Hygiene at Bridgeport University, and served as its Director for the next twenty years.

Dr. Strang devoted much time to teaching, and one has the feeling that this was one of his most satisfying contributions. His orthodontic teaching began with a few students in his home and office. In 1946 the course was presented at Temple University in Philadelphia, and it was continued there annually through 1960. His two-week continuing education courses spanned 24 years, beginning in 1936.

As an author, he contributed approximately one hundred articles and discussions to the clinical and scientific literature. These covered many subjects related to Dentistry, including Oral Hygiene, Anatomy, and most of all Orthodontia. Four editions of his *Text-Book of Orthodontia* were published between 1933 and 1958.

Among the organizations which counted him as a member were Delta Sigma Delta fraternity, American Dental Association, American Medical Association, American Association of Orthodontists, Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontia, Charles H. Tweed Research Foundation and the Horace Wells Society of Hartford, Connecticut. The Eastern Component of the Angle Society met for several years in the school room in Dr. Strang's home in Bridgeport.

He was one of the early Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics, and in 1959 was honored with the Albert H. Ketcham Memorial Award of the Board. He was awarded honorary degrees from Temple University in 1963 and Bridgeport University in 1966. In 1964 he received the Merit award of the Orthodontic Education and Research Foundation of St. Louis University, and his many foreign lectures led to honorary memberships in the Orthodontic associations of Australia, Brazil and Norway.

The Edward H. Angle Society has lost one of its original founders, one who devoted much time and effort to assure its development into the viable organization that it is today. One of the major projects of the Society since its formation in 1930 has been the publication of *The Angle Orthodontist*, and Dr. Strang was a member of the original Editorial Board. He continued in that position for fifty years, functioning as the Editor during much of the critical early period.

Those of us who have been privileged to be students and associates of this exceptional clinician and teacher will always cherish fond memories of him—his passing leaves a large void for us as individuals and for the specialty he loved.

W. M. Thompson, Jr.