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REPORT DR. BION R. EAST, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEAN, IS SLATED FOR APPOINTMENT AS DENTAL DIRECTOR OF VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Bion R. East, associate dean of the faculty of medicine at Columbia University and executive officer of the University's department of instruction of dental and oral surgery, New York, is slated to be named assistant medical director in charge of dental service of the Veterans Administration, according to reliable reports from Washington, D. C. The appointment is expected to be announced by Dr. Paul B. Magnuson, V. A. chief medical director, early next week. Pending the formal announcement, V. A. officials in Washington have declined comment. If the appointment is made as scheduled, Dr. East will assume the position which has been vacant since the death of Dr. Milburn P. Fowler nine months ago. Since Dr. Fowler's death, Dr. E. M. Kennedy has served as the acting assistant V. A. medical director for dental service. A.D.A. officials, who long have urged that the vacant position be filled, withheld comment on the reported appointment pending formal notification from the V. A. (See page 2 for biographical sketch of Dr. East and page 3 for the latest report on progress of A.D.A. negotiations for revisions of present V. A. dental program.)

ARMY FACES CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF DENTAL OFFICERS -- APPEALS TO AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION FOR EMERGENCY HELP

In response to an urgent appeal from Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Smith, chief of the Army Dental Corps, top officials of the A.D.A. will meet in Washington in the immediate future to discuss the critical shortage of dental personnel in the Army and the Army Air Force. In a communication to Dr. H. B. Washburn, A.D.A. president, Gen. Smith pointed out that both the Army and the Air Forces at present are operating far below their normal requirements for dental officers. Owing to the large number of separations of non-volunteers, the shortage is expected to amount to approximately 75 per cent in the very near future, it was reported. The situation is so serious that unless additional dental officers are recruited actual operation of the recently enacted Selective Service law may be impaired. The law, as approved by Congress, specifically provides that "no person shall be inducted for such training and service until adequate provisions shall have been made for... medical care and hospital accommodations for such persons." With dental treatment being an important part of the required medical care it is apparent that if the Dental Corps is unable to carry out its mission the drafting of soldiers would have to be halted or greatly reduced. Earlier, Dr. Washburn and Dr. Clyde E. Minges, A.D.A. president-elect, had been named special consultants for the Army Dental Corps. It is now planned to ask additional A.D.A. officials, including representatives of the Board of Trustees and committee chairmen, to serve as special consultants to consider the problem. No date has been set for the special conference but it is expected to be held around Aug. 1. Gen Smith also reported that work is progressing on a revision of Army regulations which will permit a greater degree of autonomy for the Dental Corps within the Army and the Army Air Force. A similar shortage of medical officers also exists and the American Medical Association has suggested an increase in the number of civilian medical consultants as a possible solution to the immediate problem. The present situation was brought to a head when Congress deleted from the Selective Service law a proposal requested by heads of the armed

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forces for permission to draft dentists, physicians and other professional personnel up to 45 years of age. In the final hours of its session last June, Congress refused to authorize a special draft of professional men. As finally enacted, the selective service law provides that no dentist may be drafted if he is 26 years of age or older. In an effort to meet the immediate situation, the Army has issued a nation-wide call to 5,164 reserve officers to return to extended active duty on a volunteer basis. Included in the group are 401 dentists, 822 physicians, 122 veterinarians, and 712 medical service officers.

DRAFT PLANS FOR EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Preliminary draft of a plan for the mobilization of dentists, physicians, nurses and other health personnel in the event of atomic warfare was completed last week at a meeting in Washington, D. C., of the advisory committee of the Office of Civil Defense Planning headed by Dr. Perrin H. Long of Johns Hopkins University. Dr. C. Willard Camalier, assistant A.D.A. secretary, represented the Association at the meeting. Additional studies of the problem will be continued by the committee during future months. Problems relating to health services for industrial workers in the event of a new national emergency were considered by another government-sponsored committee which also met in Washington last week. This group is headed by Col. William L. Wilson of the Army Medical Corps, who for more than a year has been engaged in an over-all study of health aspects of government services in the event of a war (A.D.A. NEWSLETTER, April 15, 1948). Dr. Camalier also attended this meeting as the official representative of the A.D.A.

2,000 ROOM RESERVATIONS FILED FOR 1948 MEETING

Nearly 2,000 advance requests for hotel reservations for the 89th annual session of the A.D.A. to be held in Chicago on Sept. 13-17, have been received by the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, Room 105 West Madison street, Chicago 2, Illinois. Early reservations represent approximately one-half of the 4,000 hotel rooms guaranteed for the meeting by the Greater Chicago Hotel Association. Blanks for application for hotel accommodations for the meeting are being published in all current issues of The Journal of the American Dental Association.

DR. EAST IS LIFE MEMBER OF MICHIGAN STATE DENTAL SOCIETY

Dr. Bion R. East, who is expected to be named dental director of the Veterans Administration next week, has been head of the dental department of Columbia University since July, 1945. In addition to his positions as associate dean of the medical faculty and head of dental instruction, Dr. East also serves as a professor of dentistry and is chairman of the University's committee on dental education. Dr. East was born in 1885 and was graduated from the School of Dentistry of the University of Michigan in 1908. After three years of practice in Colorado, he returned to Detroit where he engaged in private practice up to the outbreak of World War I. In 1917 he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Dental Reserves and organized an Army dental department base at Detroit Medical College. Dr. East served as director of the dental department and chief of maxillofacial surgery at Vipeel Hospital Center, A.E.F., in France during 1918 and 1919. Immediately following his return to the United States, he served as a member of the oral surgery staff of Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington, D. C. He was retired from Army service with the rank of lieutenant colonel and returned to Michigan where he reopened his private office. From 1919 to 1921, he served as a V.A. consultant in Michigan, and from 1922 to 1933 was consulting oral surgeon for the U. S. Public Health Service. Dr. East was president of the Detroit Dental Society in 1920-21 and is still a member of the Detroit Society. From 1933 to 1938, Dr. East served as technical consultant for the National Oil Products Co., Harrison, N. J. In 1938, he became research assistant at Delmar Institute of Public Health, Columbia University and, in 1940, an assistant professor. He was named associate dean on July 1, 1945. Dr. East is a life member of the Michigan State Dental Society, and is a member of A.D.A., International Association of Dental Research, Sigma Chi, Omicron Kappa Upsilon and Delta Sigma Delta. He is also a fellow of the American Association of Science and the American Public Health Association.

ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SCHOOLS URGES CONTINUANCE OF A.D.A. APTITUDE TESTING PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

At its recent meeting at Buffalo, N. Y., the American Association of Dental Schools unanimously approved a resolution urging continued A.D.A. support of the aptitude testing program for dental students which was begun under A.D.A. sponsorship two years ago. The original authorization voted by the A.D.A. House of Delegates provided for a five-year experimental program to determine a reliable means of selecting prospective dental students. Since the program was started under the direction of Dr. Shailer Peterson, A.D.A. director of educational measurements, more than 9,000 dental students have been given various tests covering such subjects as manual dexterity, reading ability, English, vocabulary, intelligence and object visualization. The students tested included all beginning freshmen in the years 1946 and 1947 and a selected group of upper classmen. Pointing out that member schools of the American Association believe that the additional three-year period of testing is needed in determining the validity of the tests, the resolution urged that the A.D.A. continue its support of the program. Copies of the resolution were ordered sent to the A.D.A. Board of Trustees, the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education, and to deans of the member schools of the American Association of Dental Schools.

CONSTRUCTION OF NATIONAL DENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUILDING WILL NOT BE STARTED UNTIL LATE NEXT YEAR

Actual construction of the new National Dental Research Institute building, authorized under Public Law 755 passed by the 80th Congress, will not get underway before late next year, according to Washington reports. The law, as written, creates the Institute but only authorized the appropriation of \$2,000,000 for a building and \$750,000 annually for operations and grants-in-aid for research projects at dental schools and other institutions. Actual appropriations will have to be voted at a future session of Congress. Sufficient funds are available, however, to begin preliminary drafting of plans for the new building, according to officials of the U. S. Public Health Service which will be in charge of Institute operations.

VA OFFICIAL PROMISES NO FURTHER EXPANSION OF DENTAL CLINICS

No further expansion of dental clinics is planned by the Veterans Administration, it was reported by Dr. E. M. Kennedy, acting assistant medical director for dental service, in a recent communication to Dr. H. B. Washburn, A.D.A. president. During recent weeks, Dr. Washburn has conferred repeatedly with Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Paul B. Magnuson, chief V.A. medical director, in an effort to achieve a satisfactory settlement of the large number of complaints of participating dentists against the present V.A. dental program. Dr. Kennedy reported that several of the smaller dental clinics throughout the country were now in the process of being closed. Dr. Kennedy said that Dr. Magnuson is of the opinion that existing clinics should be used to capacity. It has been decided, however, Dr. Kennedy continued, that veterans will not be required to report to clinics for either examinations or treatment if it will cause "undue hardship or too much inconvenience." Dr. Kennedy also said that it has been agreed that participating dentists would be permitted to re-examine cases and recommend treatment to the V.A. other than that authorized by the original V.A. examination. He added that an additional fee for examination could not be authorized. The acting dental director reported that Dr. Magnuson has "no idea of establishing socialized dentistry or socialized medicine," and pointed out that 90 per cent of all V.A. dental work was being done by fee-basis dentists. Dr. Kennedy said that complaints regarding delays in payment of participating dentists have diminished sharply and that efforts are being made to speed adjudication of claims of all veterans. Dr. Kennedy announced that Dr. Magnuson was planning to recommend that the American Dental Association be represented on the Inter-Agency Committee of Uniform Medical Records so that better dental service records could be developed. As a final note, Dr. Kennedy claimed that there has been an increasing number of cases alleging misrepresentation and false statements on the treatment record of patients and stated that Dr. Magnuson believes that "it is definitely the responsibility of the dental societies to take stern corrective action."

PLAN LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF DR. HARRY B. PINNEY, FORMER A.D.A. SECRETARY, IN CHICAGO ON SEPT. 14

Dr. Harry B. Pinney, who served as general secretary of the American Dental Association from 1927 to 1946, will be honored at a special luncheon to be held in the Louis XVI room of the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, on Tuesday, September 14, the second day of the 89th annual A.D.A. session. Attendance will be limited to 350, it is announced by Dr. Glenn E. Cartwright, of Chicago, chairman of the special committee in charge. Reservations may be secured by writing Dr. Cartwright, 400 W. North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

SEVERAL AMERICAN DENTISTS TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN EUROPE

Several A.D.A. members including one member of the Board of Trustees are scheduled to attend the annual meeting of the American Dental Society in Europe at London on July 27-30, and the annual session of the Federation Dentaire Internationale at Dublin, Eire, Aug. 3-8. Among those who plan to make the journey are Drs. Daniel F. Lynch of Washington, D. C., Fourth district trustee; Andrew Jackson and James Aiguier of Philadelphia, Pa.; A. F. Schopper of Kansas City, Mo.; K. Paul Ramsay of Beverly Hills, Calif.; Ralph C. Cooley of Houston, Tex.; Walter C. McBride of Detroit, Mich.; Malcolm W. Carr, Gordon Ganun and Lester Cahn of New York, N. Y.; Phelps J. Murphey of Dallas, Tex.; Kenneth Bignell of Chicago; F. J. McClure of Bethesda, Md.; and Larry Shea of Waterbury, Conn. Fellowships in dental surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons are to be conferred on three members of the American delegation--Drs. Lynch, Jackson and Carr--in ceremonies at London on July 28. The three men were elected to fellowships by the Royal College council on June 10 and are believed to be the first American dentists ever to receive this honor. While in London, several members of the dental delegation also plan to attend the opening of the Olympics scheduled for July 27. Principal items of business scheduled for the F.D.I. meeting in Dublin include the establishment of a new financial system for support of the international organization and planning for the Eleventh International Dental Congress to be held in London in 1952.

FULL-SCALE BUDGET ASKINGS REQUESTED FOR 1949

New budget askings for the calendar year of 1949 based on a full program of activities for that year have been requested from all agencies and departments of the Association. Previously, all agencies of the Association had submitted 1949 budgets limited to 75 per cent of actual appropriations voted for the 1947-48 fiscal year. The new budget figures have been requested so that the Board of Trustees may have full information when it begins consideration of financial matters at its meeting prior to the 89th annual session of Association in Chicago next Sept. 13-17. The new budget forms are to be returned to Mr. John J. Hollister, business manager, by August 2.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Hugo M. Kulstad of Pomona, Calif., chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health, has been named dental director of the California Department of Public Health....Dr. J. M. Wisan, director of the A.D.A. division of dental health education, will address sessions of a health education workshop sponsored by George Williams college at Lake Geneva, Wis., July 26 and 27....Remaining copies of the booklet, "Facts About Teeth and Their Care," published by the National Dental Hygiene Association, will be distributed through the A.D.A. Prices will be quoted on request. The Association, established by a grant from the Martha E. Hall Foundation, recently passed out of existence....New officers recently elected by the American Dental Trade Association are: Perry Blackshear, president; Howell G. Evans, first vice-chairman; W. O. Patterson, second vice-chairman; F. E. Steen, treasurer. Robert M. Kerr, Jr., was named chairman of the manufacturers' section and Milt Goolsby, chairman of the dealers' section....The new 1949 dental appointment book, published by the A.D.A., has been received from the printer and distribution started to the 12,000 dentists who had standing orders on file. The 1949 book, although identical in size to the 1948 edition, utilizes a new format which should provide for more efficient maintenance of appointment records. Copies may be secured from the A.D.A. order department at \$1.50 each plus postage....A localized news release on fluorides has been distributed by the Bureau of Public Information to all state and component societies for use in local newspapers.