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The logo features the lowercase letters 'ada' in a bold, sans-serif font, enclosed within a circle. To the right of the circle, the words 'News Letter' are written in a large, elegant, cursive script. A horizontal dotted line runs across the page, passing behind the 'ada' circle and the 'News Letter' text.

ada News Letter

Vol. 2, No. 17, - September 1, 1949

U. S. SENATOR LESTER C. HUNT WILL ADDRESS GENERAL SESSION AT 90th ANNUAL A.D.A. MEETING AT SAN FRANCISCO, OCT. 18

United States Senator Lester C. Hunt (D., Wyo.) will be one of the principal speakers at the general meeting of the 90th annual session of the A.D.A. to be held in San Francisco, Oct. 17 to 20, it is announced by Dr. Clyde E. Minges, A.D.A. president. The general meeting, open to all dentists and their guests, will be held at the Fairmont Hotel at 8 p. m. Tuesday, Oct. 18. Sen. Hunt, who was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1948, will present an up-to-the-minute report from the nation's capitol on pending legislation dealing with health matters. It is expected that Sen. Hunt will discuss in detail the issues involved in the current attempts to establish a national system of compulsory health insurance in the United States. With the convention only a little over six weeks away, A.D.A. officials are rapidly completing final plans for the meeting which is expected to be attended by from 8,000 to 10,000 dentists. Advance reservations being handled by the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, 200 Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, indicate that this year's meeting will be the largest ever held by the Association on the West Coast. The four-day session will feature reports by 75 leading essayists covering all major fields of dental science and practice, some 200 clinical demonstrations, a continuous motion picture program, the largest number of commercial, educational and scientific exhibits in the A.D.A.'s history, and the annual business session of the House of Delegates. All the scientific sessions and the exhibits will be at the Civic Auditorium. The House of Delegates will meet at the Fairmont Hotel, official convention headquarters. An elaborate entertainment program has been worked out by the local arrangements committee headed by Dr. Bernerd C. Kingsbury.

STATE OFFICERS CONFERENCE AT FAIRMONT HOTEL, OCT. 16

The annual Conference of State Society Officers will be held Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Fairmont Hotel. The program will open at 9 a. m. and continue through the afternoon. Dr. Walter T. McFall, of Asheville, N. C., president of the North Carolina Dental Association and Conference president, will preside. A luncheon meeting has been planned at noon. All constituent society officers and editors are invited to attend the conference sessions. Speakers at the morning session will include Dr. Charles A. Wilkie, of Brooklyn, secretary of the Dental Society of the State of New York, who will discuss "The Problems of the Dental Technician and Dentistry;" Mr. James Robinson, of Los Angeles, executive secretary of the Southern California State Dental Association, who will speak on "State Dental Program Planning;" and Dr. E. J. Justis, of Memphis, secretary of the Tennessee State Dental Association, who will discuss "Duties and Functions of a Paid Executive Secretary for a State Dental Society." Afternoon speakers will include Mr. Francis J. Garvey, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, who will discuss "The Impact of Current Legislation Upon American Dentistry;" and Dr. Philip E. Adams, of Boston, A.D.A. president-elect, who will speak on "Where Do We Go From Here." Arrangements have been made for audience participation in a discussion of each subject covered in the program. The annual business session of the Conference, including the election of officers for the next year, will be held at the start of the morning session.

**INTERNATIONAL NIGHT SET
FOR WEDNESDAY, OCT. 19**

Advance reservations are now being accepted for the International Night celebration to be held at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, on Wednesday evening, Oct. 19, in honor of Dr. Clyde E. Minges, A.D.A. president. An elaborate dinner and a floor show featuring Hollywood stars have been arranged for the affair by the local entertainment committee headed by Dr. Leon Moser. Requests for reservations should be sent to Dr. Moser at 450 Sutter St., San Francisco 8, California. The International Night affair will be preceded by a reception and cocktail party in the Palm Court of the Palace Hotel. Another of the special events planned for the meeting is the testimonial luncheon which will be held at noon Monday, Oct. 17, in the Red Room of the Fairmont Hotel in honor of Dr. Roscoe H. Volland, of Iowa City, who retired a year ago after serving as A.D.A. treasurer for 20 years. Dr. Volland is also a past president of the Association. A fashion show and luncheon for women visitors will be held at noon Tuesday, Oct. 18, in Peacock Court of the Mark Hopkins Hotel.

**PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATES TO
TRAVEL BY SPECIAL TRAIN**

The Pennsylvania State Dental Society has completed arrangements for a special train to transport Pennsylvania dentists and members of their families to the San Francisco meeting. The Connecticut State Dental Association has chartered a special car for its delegates which will be attached to the Commodore Vanderbilt of the New York Central railroad and the Grand Canyon Limited of the Santa Fe Railroad. These states are the sixth and seventh to make arrangements for special railroad trips. Others sponsoring special trains include New Jersey, Ohio, Texas, Illinois and Oklahoma. (See A.D.A. News Letter, Aug. 1, 1949.) The Pennsylvania train will leave Pittsburgh Oct. 9 and will arrive in San Francisco Oct. 14. Stop overs will be made at Colorado Springs and Salt Lake City. The return train will leave San Francisco Oct. 21 and will make stops in Los Angeles and the Grand Canyon of Arizona. It will return to Pittsburgh Oct. 27. Reservations may be made by writing to Mr. Ray Cobaugh, executive secretary, Pennsylvania State Dental Society, 217 State Street, Harrisburg, Pa.

**VETERANS ADMINISTRATION PAY BILL PASSES HOUSE --
WOULD ESTABLISH NEW CHIEF GRADE IN DENTAL SERVICE**

A bill which authorizes salary increases for dentists, physicians and nurses in the Veterans Administration and establishes a new chief grade in the dental services was passed by the House of Representatives Thursday, Aug. 25. It is H. R. 6022, a revised version of H. R. 5324 which was introduced independently by Rep. A. Leonard Allen (D., La.) in June. The bill got quick committee and House action after the addition of certain changes asked by the Veterans Administration. It would bring the pay scale of salaried professionals in the Veterans Administration in line with suggested changes in similar bills affecting the civil service (S. 1762) and the armed forces (H. R. 5007). The latter has been approved by the House and has been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Passage of the V. A. bill is expected to be contingent upon the approval of the other two pay bills affecting professional personnel in government services. The Allen bill would raise the scale of remuneration in the Veterans Administration dental service between two and one-half and 12 per cent, depending upon the grade. The largest raise, 12 per cent, would go to lower salaried dentists. The bill provides that the V. A. dental chief be paid a salary of from \$13,000 to \$14,000 annually. The salary scale for other grades would be: chief grade, \$10,000 to \$11,000; senior grade, \$8,800 to \$9,800; intermediate grade, \$7,600 to \$8,600; full grade, \$6,400 to \$7,400; associate grade, \$5,400 to \$6,400 and junior grade, \$5,000 to \$5,750.

SECOND NEW ORLEANS DENTAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NOV. 13-16

The second annual New Orleans Dental Conference, sponsored by the New Orleans Dental Association, will be held at the Roosevelt Hotel on Nov. 13 to 16. Invitations to attend have been extended to dentists of the United States and those of nations in Latin and South America. Morning sessions will be general assemblies and afternoon sessions will be devoted to limited attendance clinics, table clinics and motion picture programs. Clinicians and essayists will include: Dr. Clarence O. Simpson, of St. Louis; Dr. Cecil H. Bliss, of Sioux City, Iowa; Dr. W. Harry Archer, of Pittsburgh; Dr. R. H. Kingery, of Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Drs. Allan C. Brodie and George W. Teuscher, both of Chicago.

PENNSYLVANIA DENTAL SOCIETY COMPLETES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE LIMITED HOSPITAL DENTAL SERVICES TO BLUE SHIELD SUBSCRIBERS

The Pennsylvania State Dental Society has completed an agreement with the Medical Service Association (Blue Shield) of Pennsylvania whereby plan subscribers may receive limited health services from dentists who are members of hospital staffs. The dental treatment may be provided only in hospitals and is limited to: "cutting procedures for the treatment of diseases and injuries and the treatment of fractures and dislocations, but not including extraction of teeth except impacted teeth..." The agreement was made possible by the passage of legislation sponsored by the dental society in the state legislature. The dental services are available under both surgical and surgical-medical plans operated by the Medical Service Association. Fee scales under the plan are related to the subscriber's income and additional charges may be made for individuals in higher income groups. In all cases, dentists and physicians co-operating in the plan have the right to make the final determination of the accuracy of the reported income of the subscribers. Officials of the Pennsylvania State Dental Society report that the plan is being "well accepted" by dentists throughout the states. Membership costs in the surgical plan are 60 cents a month for the individual, \$1.25 a month for husband and wife with no obstetrical delivery and \$2.00 a month for a family, including obstetrical delivery. The medical-surgical plan costs have been set at \$1.10 a month for the individual, \$2.20 for husband and wife and \$3.25 for a family.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MAKES FINAL APPEAL FOR RETURN OF INCOME SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES

The National Income Division of the Department of Commerce has issued a final appeal for the prompt return of questionnaires sent out to 28,000 dentists last spring in conjunction with a new national survey of dental incomes. To date, only about 3,000 questionnaires have been returned, or about 10 per cent of the total distributed. In the last previous survey, made in 1942, a total of 17 per cent of the questionnaires were returned. The current survey, which has been endorsed by the A.D.A. Board of Trustees, covers the years 1943 to 1948. The questionnaires are completely anonymous and require neither a signature nor other identification of the reporting dentist. Information obtained in the survey will be made available to A.D.A. officials and others interested in trends in the dental profession. It will provide data on average gross incomes, costs of practice and incomes of independent and salaried dentists. Such information is of particular value in that it will permit comparisons of income trends in the dental profession with those of the medical, legal and other professions in the United States. The almost complete lack of such information by the dental profession in Great Britain placed the profession in an inferior bargaining position with the government concerning dental fees under the British National Health Service. British dentists found themselves in a position where they could do little else other than accept arbitrary fee scales determined by the government.

HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES DENTAL HEALTH DAY RESOLUTION

A resolution (H. J. Res. 184) establishing a national children's dental health day for 1950 was approved Aug. 23 by the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives. Playing leading roles in the committee action were Rep. Michael A. Feighan (D., Ohio) and Rep. Joseph R. Bryson (D., S. C.). House action on this resolution has been deferred until after Sept. 21 when Representatives will resume business sessions. Representative Feighan told A.D.A. officials last week that he hoped to have the wording of the resolution changed in the Senate to make the day an annual event. The present House resolution applies only to 1950.

ARMED FORCES WILL NOT SEEK DRAFT OF DENTISTS THIS YEAR

The armed forces have abandoned plans for a draft of dentists this year according to statements of military chiefs who met in an informal conference with Dr. Clyde E. Minges, A.D.A. president, and other A.D.A. officials in Washington last week. The recent wholesale discharge of civilian employees and the retirement of several thousand reserve officers, ordered by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, is expected to ease somewhat the reported shortages of dental and medical personnel in the armed forces.

A.D.A. OFFICIALS MEET WITH NEW MILITARY MEDICAL CHIEF

The A.D.A. has received assurances from Dr. Raymond B. Allen, director of medical services of the National Military Establishment, that chief dental officers of the government dental corps will be consulted fully in the development of any new policies affecting their services. Dr. Allen and his deputy director, Dr. Richard L. Meiling, met with A.D.A. officials in Washington, Aug. 23, to discuss the part to be played by dentistry in present reorganization plans. Dr. Allen said that while he was opposed to granting full administrative autonomy to dental corps, he would welcome the advice and assistance of members of the dental profession in solving any problems affecting dental services in the armed forces.

NEW YORK TO CONDUCT WORKSHOP ON LABORATORY PROBLEMS SEPT. 11

A workshop on "Crucial Problems of Dentistry -Laboratory Relations in 1949-50" will be conducted under the sponsorship of the Dental Society of the State of New York in the Hotel Statler, New York City, Sept. 11. Representatives from state dental societies in New England and Middle East states have been invited to take part in the discussions which will be keynoted by Dr. E. Harold Gale, president of the Dental Society of the State of New York. Dr. Alfred J. Asgis is chairman of the workshop committee. The program will have four major themes: 1 - Accreditation of laboratories and the improvement of dentistry-laboratory relations; 2 - Strengthening the dental practice act to curb the illegal practice of dentistry; 3 - Problems of laboratory registration and licensure; and 4 - Goals of dentistry and the laboratory industry.

MISSOURI WILL HOLD DENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE SEPT. 25-27

A three-day conference sponsored by the Council on Dental Health of the Missouri State Dental Association will be held in the Hotel President, Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 25-27. Presiding will be Dr. D. W. Brock, of St. Louis, the council chairman, and Dr. R. J. Hampton, of Kansas City, president of the Kansas City Dental Society. Fifteen speakers will appear on the program. Areas of investigation and study for the conference have been designated as follows: 1 - Essentials to good dental health; 2 - Public dental health education; 3 - Evaluation of caries control measures; 4 - Needs and facilities for services; 5 - Economic considerations as health factors; and 6 - Local and state planning. Study groups will report on the final day of the meeting.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

The newly established Dental Corps, U. S. Air Forces, is now entitled to one delegate in the A.D.A. House of Delegates. He will represent a present strength of 425 dental officers out of an authorized complement of 825....The 1949 Reports of Officers and Committees will be mailed in mid-September to all delegates and alternate delegates for the 90th annual A.D.A. session to be held at San Francisco, Oct. 17 to 20....The Health Insurance Council reported last week that at the end of 1948 a total of 60,995,000 people had enrolled in voluntary insurance plans covering hospital expenses, 34,060,000 for surgical expenses and 12,895,000 for medical expenses. This represents increases, respectively, of 16, 30 and 45 per cent over the total enrollments of these voluntary plans at the end of 1947....A blueprint for reform of the military medical reserve system has already been completed by an Army-Navy-Air Force committee, according to the Washington Report on the Medical Sciences. It will now go to a civilian council which will conduct further hearings and report to the Secretary of Defense. This project is being conducted under the supervision of the new Division of Medical Services of the National Military Establishment....Spokesmen for the A.M.A. said this week that their organization plans to spend a million dollars this year promoting enrollment in voluntary hospitalization and health insurance plans and an equal sum to fight compulsory health insurance legislation.... Since Federal Security Administrator Oscar Ewing told the nation's druggists that compulsory health insurance will give them millions of new customers, there has been an increase in the number of druggists favoring the plan. A recent poll showed that 17 per cent said they favored this kind of insurance compared to the 9.4 per cent who said they wanted it the year before.