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The logo features the letters 'ada' in a bold, lowercase, 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. 19, - October 1, 1949

BUSY SCHEDULE PLANNED FOR DELEGATES AND VISITORS AT 90TH ANNUAL SESSION AT SAN FRANCISCO, OCT. 17 TO 20

Within the next two weeks, dentists from all parts of the nation will converge on San Francisco for the 90th annual session of the A.D.A. opening Monday, Oct. 17. Latest available estimates, based on advance hotel reservations, are that total attendance will range between 8,000 and 10,000 to set a new record for a West Coast convention of the Association. A busy schedule of activities awaits convention visitors. At the Fairmont Hotel, the House of Delegates will make decisions on a number of major policy matters which will govern the course of the A.D.A. during the next year. At the Civic Auditorium, a program of scientific section meetings, clinics, motion pictures and exhibits will be in session continuously for the four days of the meeting. Highlight of an elaborate entertainment and social program planned by the local arrangements committee, headed by Dr. Bernerd C. Kingsbury, will be the International Night program honoring A.D.A. President Clyde E. Minges at the Palm Court of the Palace Hotel at 7:30 o'clock, Wednesday evening, Oct. 19. The International Night program will feature a banquet and Hollywood floor show and will be preceded by a cocktail hour beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for International Night will be available at all registration booths at the Civic Auditorium and the Fairmont Hotel.

DR. MEILING, SEN. HUNT WILL ADDRESS SESSIONS

Dr. Richard L. Meiling, of Washington, new director of medical services of the Department of Defense, United States Senator Lester C. Hunt, of Wyoming,

and A.D.A. President Minges will be among the major speakers at the annual session. Dr. Meiling, who succeeded Dr. Raymond B. Allen as head of the medical services of the armed forces today (Oct. 1), will address the House of Delegates at its opening session in the Gold Room of the Fairmont Hotel at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 17. Senator Hunt will speak at the general session at 8 p.m. Tuesday, which also will be held in the Gold Room of the Fairmont. Dr. Hunt, a former president of the Wyoming State Dental Society, will speak on "National Legislation As It Affects the Practice of Dentistry." Dr. Minges will speak at both the opening session of the House of Delegates and at the general session, as will Dr. Kingsbury, general chairman of local arrangements. Also scheduled to address the opening session of the House of Delegates is Mayor Elmer E. Robinson of San Francisco. Four meetings have been scheduled for the House of Delegates -- Monday morning and afternoon, Wednesday afternoon and Thursday afternoon. Delegates will elect new officers and trustees Thursday morning by the use of voting machines. Registration will open Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock at the Fairmont for delegates, alternate delegates, state society officers and A.D.A. council and committee members, and at 10:00 o'clock at the Civic Auditorium for A.D.A. members, exhibitors and guests. A breakfast for section officers will be held at 8:30 a.m. Sunday at the Fairmont and the annual Conference of State Society Officers, headed by Dr. Walter T. McFall, of Asheville, N.C., will begin at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, also at the Fairmont Hotel. Dr. Percy T. Phillips, of New York, will preside as speaker of the House of Delegates.

DRS. CASTO AND DALGLEISH
NAMED HONORARY CHAIRMEN

Dr. Frank M. Casto, of San Francisco, who was president of the American Dental Association in 1934-35, and Dr. R. C. Dalglish, of Salt Lake City, Utah, trustee for the Thirteenth A.D.A. district which includes California, are honorary chairmen for the meeting. In addition to Dr. Kingsbury, members of the executive committee in charge of local arrangements include Dr. Clyde C. Sheppard, of Berkeley, president of the California State Dental Association; and Dr. Willard C. Fleming, dean of the University of California College of Dentistry; Dr. Ernest G. Sloman, dean, School of Dentistry, College of Physicians and Surgeons; Dr. Elwood Wait, president of the San Francisco Dental Association; Dr. Edward J. Lattig, Dr. Lloyd E. Linehan, Dr. Fred J. Seiferd, Dr. Loren B. Taber and Dr. Frederick T. West, all of San Francisco. Chairmen and vice chairmen for other local committees are: (The chairman is listed first in each instance) clinic committee -- Dr. Walter C. Harrison and Dr. J. Raymond Gill; entertainment -- Dr. Leon W. Moser and Dr. Lloyd H. Dahl; women's entertainment -- Mrs. Reuben L. Blake and Mrs. B. Stanley Kern; reception -- Dr. Lawrence R. Ludwigsen and Dr. Don Jose Aubertine; information -- Dr. Walter J. Healy and Dr. Francis J. Herz; publicity -- Dr. Reuben L. Blake, Dr. Raymond M. Curtner, Dr. Elwood R. Eriksen, Dr. Harry B. Hambly and Dr. Benjamin C. Reinke.

NAME NEW MEMBERS OF
REFERENCE COMMITTEES

Dr. L. E. Van Kirk, of Pittsburgh, has been named a member of the Reference Committee on Legislation of the House of Delegates to replace Dr. W. Earle

Craig, also of Pittsburgh, who was unable to accept the appointment made by Dr. Minges. In another change from the original list of reference committee members (A.D. NEWS LETTER, Sept. 15) is the appointment of Dr. Walter A. Crum, of Richmond, Ind., to succeed Dr. Frederick C. Baker, of Hammond, Ind., who is unable to attend the annual session.

ALASKA PETITIONS FOR
CONSTITUENT CHARTER

Dentists practicing in Alaska have filed a petition asking that they be issued a charter as a constituent society of the A.D.A. The petition will be acted on

by the House of Delegates. If approved, the A.D.A. will have a total of 54 constituent societies including 50 in the continental United States and four among U.S. territories and possessions.

LIST MEETINGS OF
ASSOCIATED GROUPS

More than a score of associated and fraternal organizations will meet immediately prior to or simultaneously with the annual session of the A.D.A.

A complete list of time and place of these meetings follows:

- Oct. 13-15: American Academy of Periodontology, Palace Hotel
- Oct. 13-15: American Society of Oral Surgeons, Sir Francis Drake Hotel
- Oct. 14: Committee to Investigate Elastic Impression Materials, St. Francis Hotel
- Oct. 14-15: American Denture Society, Mark Hopkins Hotel
- Oct. 14-15: National Association of Seventh Day Adventist Dentists, Hotel Bellevue
- Oct. 14-17: Delta Sigma Delta Fraternity, Palace Hotel
- Oct. 15: American Association of Dental Editors, College of Physicians and Surgeons, and University of California
- Oct. 15-16: American Academy of Restorative Dentistry, St. Francis Hotel
- Oct. 15-16: American Association of Dental Examiners, Mark Hopkins Hotel
- Oct. 15-16: American Society of Dentistry for Children, Drake-Wilshire Hotel and College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Oct. 16: American Association of Public Health Dentists, College of Physicians and Surgeons School of Dentistry.
- Oct. 16: American College of Dentists, Fairmont Hotel
- Oct. 16-18: American Dental Golf Association, Clift Hotel and Olympia Club
- Oct. 17: Alpha Omega Fraternity, Mark Hopkins Hotel
- Oct. 17: Association of American Women Dentists, Sir Francis Drake Hotel

Oct. 17: Psi Omega Fraternity, St. Francis Hotel
Oct. 17: Xi Psi Phi Fraternity, Palace Hotel
Oct. 17-20: American Dental Assistants Association, Hotel Whitcomb
Oct. 17-20: American Dental Hygienists Association, St. Francis Hotel
Oct. 18: Loyola University (Chicago) Alumni Association, St. Francis Hotel
Oct. 18: Upsilon Alpha Sorority, Sir Francis Drake Hotel

**TOTAL NUMBER OF DENTISTS IN U.S. ESTIMATED AT 87,458 --
POPULATION RATIO PER EACH DENTIST IS LISTED AT 1,727**

The total number of dentists in the United States and its territories and possessions has been estimated at 87,458 in a new report issued by the A.D.A. Bureau of Economic Research and Statistics. The report written by Mr. B. Duane Moen, assistant director of the Bureau, estimated that there are 86,904 resident dentists in the 48 states and the District of Columbia, including 2,767 who are employed by the federal government in the armed services, the Veterans Administration and the United States Public Health Service. An additional 554 dentists reside in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Panama Canal Zone. The new report shows a total gain of 1,135 in the number of dentists compared to a similar report issued a year ago. Both this year's and last year's reports were based on listing in the American Dental Directory and its monthly supplements. On the basis of the Bureau of Census estimate of the civilian population as of July 1, 1948, the ratio of dentists (excluding those employed by the federal government) to population is 1:1,727. A year ago this ratio was estimated at 1:1,715. The report shows that New York continues to have the largest number of dentists of any state, a total of 13,797, and dentist-population ratio of 1:1,029. The District of Columbia, with a total of 736 dentists, had the next most favorable ratio of dentists to population, 1:1,137. South Carolina and Mississippi had the largest population per dentist with ratios of 1:4,472 and 1:4,329 respectively. Population per dentist by regional areas was reported as follows: Middle East, 1,332; New England, 1,441; Far West, 1,441; Central, 1,568; Northwest, 1,726; Southwest, 3,099; and Southeast, 3,283.

SITE CHOSEN FOR DENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUILDING

Plans have been approved and the site chosen for the construction of a new building to house the National Research Institute at Bethesda, Md., it has been announced by Dr. Bruce Forsyth, assistant surgeon general, U.S. Public Health Service. If final construction is approved, the building will be situated on the north side of the grounds of the National Institutes of Health at Bethesda. The \$2,000,000 asked by the A.D.A. for the construction of the building was reduced to \$100,000 for blueprints.

CHICAGOAN IS NAMED A.D.A. REPRESENTATIVE TO UNESCO

Dr. Stanley D. Tylman of Chicago, chairman of the Council on International Relations, has been appointed for a three-year term as the official representative of the Association on the United States National Commission for UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization). The U. S. Commission is headed by Milton S. Eisenhower.

HOUSE COMMITTEE OPENS HEARING ON SCHOOL HEALTH BILL

The 16 members of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee who returned from Europe last week have begun hearings on several important health bills which already have been passed by the Senate and quite possibly can become law in 1949. Included in this group is the school health services bill (S. 1411), local public health unit assistance (S. 522), and the National Science Foundation bill (S. 247). It is also expected that the committee will act on S. 1453, which provides for federal aid to medical, dental and allied education. This bill has been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and early action has been promised by the Democratic leadership in the senate. So far the House committee has reported favorably only one major health bill to the House. It is S. 614, which increases the present federal appropriation for grants-in-aid to hospital construction.

PRIVATE DENTISTS PROVIDE 84% OF V. A. DENTAL TREATMENT

Private dentists working under the Veterans Administration "home town" dental program handled 84 per cent of all treatment cases completed during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949, according to Dr. Bion East, director of the V. A. Dental Service. Dr. East reported that \$38,813,560 was paid to private dentists, and that additional treatments, valued at \$8,345,958, were given by V. A. staff dentists. In the previous fiscal year \$50,231,174 was paid to private dentists, and treatments valued at \$5,534,657 were given by V. A. staff dentists. Thus the total payment to private dentists this year was \$11,417,614 less than in the year previous, a drop of nearly 23 per cent, and the percentage of treatment handled by private dentists fell from 90 to 84 per cent. The backlog of undisposed cases at the end of 1949 fiscal year was 163,418, or almost exactly one-half the 324,048 undisposed cases on June 30, 1948. Another report showed that there are now 56,937 dentists participating in the program. In February 1947 there were 58,600.

V. A. PAY BOOST BILL PASSED BY CONGRESS

The Allen Bill (H.R. 6022), which would provide pay increases for Veterans Administration dentists and other employees of the V. A. Department of Medicine and Surgery, was passed by the Senate Sept. 27 and is now awaiting President Truman's signature. During Senate hearings the A.D.A. Council on Legislation urged enactment of the Allen bill in a letter to Senator Claude Pepper (D., Fla.), chairman of the Veterans' Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. The Council also asked favorable action on two A.D.A.-sponsored bills, S. 2248 and S. 2249, which would improve the status of dentists employed by the V. A. The Allen bill would raise the salaries of V. A. dentists between two and one-half and 12 per cent. (See A.D.A. News Letter, Sept. 1, 1949.) Presidential approval of the Allen bill is virtually assured. Last week another bill (H.R. 5007) which provides for salary increases for members of the armed forces and U. S. Public Health Services was also sent to the White House. A third pay bill, which would increase the remuneration of civil service dentists and other health personnel also appears to be slated for passage this year.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

There were 7.8 applications for each admission this year in American colleges of dentistry, according to an admissions survey recently conducted by Ohio State University. Thirty-six colleges were surveyed. Last year's ratio (for a sampling of 32 colleges) was 9 to 1, and the year before it was 8 to 1. The same survey showed the ratio of applications to admissions in the nation's medical schools was 15 to 1, about the same as the year before....The San Mateo County Dental Society has initiated a series of four weekly dental health education radio broadcasts over its local station. The first was broadcast Sept. 26 and will be followed by programs on Oct. 3, Oct. 10, and Oct. 17....Dr. George B. Denton, of Chicago, has joined the A.D.A. Central Office staff Oct. 1 on a temporary basis to conduct studies in the field of nomenclature. Dr. Benton recently retired after 37 years of service on the faculty of the Northwestern University Dental School. For the last 32 years he was professor of dental history and literature....Compulsory health insurance bills were introduced in four state legislatures -- in California, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Wisconsin -- during the 1949 sessions. Cash sickness benefit programs became law

A.D.A. News Letters for Oct. 15 and Nov. 1 will be combined in a special issue covering the A.D.A. session, Oct. 17 through 20.

in the states of New York and Washington, and two bills providing for similar programs were introduced in the Minnesota legislature....Three members of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, interviewed last week when they returned from inspecting government health programs in Britain and Scandinavia, said they were convinced socialized medicine was not working well in Europe. They were Reps. Wilson D. Gillette (R., Pa.), Lindley Beckworth (D., Tex.) and John B. Bennett (R., Mich.)....Dr. Gilbert Glasson, of Washington, D. C., A.D.A. research associate at the National Bureau of Standards, has submitted his resignation, effective Dec. 1.