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News Letter

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Vol. 3, No. 8 - April 15, 1950

ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH CONSULTANT AND TWO RESEARCH WORKERS AS A.D.A. STAFF MEMBERS

Appointment of a fulltime consultant for community dental health planning and two additional research scientists as A.D.A. staff members was announced today by Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary. Dr. W. Philip Phair, of Seattle, Washington, chief of the dental hygiene section of the Washington State Department of Health, will take over the position on the staff of the Council on Dental Health on July 1. The two research workers, who will conduct a special study of tooth enamel for the A.D.A. at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, are Dr. A. Frank Forziati, of Washington, D.C., and Dr. Robert J. Nelsen, of Seattle. They were chosen for appointment as A.D.A. research fellows by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Research, headed by Dr. J. L. T. Appleton, of Philadelphia. Work on the study will be started early this summer.

WILL CONCENTRATE ON LOCAL PROGRAMS

In his new position, Dr. Phair will serve as an advisor to state and local dental societies in the development of community programs in keeping with recommendations approved unanimously

last fall by the House of Delegates. Dr. Phair is a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Dentistry and the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Forziati has been a member of the staff of the National Bureau of Standards for the past nine years. He received his doctorate in chemistry at Harvard in 1939. Dr. Nelsen is a graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry and at present is an assistant professor at the University of Washington School of Dentistry.

HOUSING BUREAU FOR 91ST ANNUAL A.D.A. SESSION AT ATLANTIC CITY NEXT FALL WILL BE OPENED MAY 1

Preparations for the mid-century meeting of the A.D.A. at Atlantic City, Oct. 30 to Nov. 2, will take a big step forward next month with the opening of the A.D.A. Housing Bureau on May 1. Application blanks for making hotel reservations, together with a map indicating the locations of 39 hotels that will house convention visitors, will be published in The Journal of the American Dental Association beginning with the May issue. The noted seashore resort offers some 27,000 hotel rooms. Nineteen hotels face the sea and overlook the famous boardwalk that stretches eight miles along the ocean beach. The other 20 hotels to choose from are all near the boardwalk. For the first time, hotel rooms for the annual session will be assigned as much as possible on the basis of preference rather than on the basis of priority classification used previously. For that reason, it is advised that applications for hotel reservations be mailed as promptly as possible in order that visitors to the convention be assigned to the hotel of their choice. Reservations may be obtained by filling out the application blank and mailing it to the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, 16 Central Pier, Atlantic City, N.J. Confirmation of the reservation will come directly from the hotel to the applicant. With the four-day session scheduled for opening Oct. 30, the Board of Trustees will meet in Atlantic City a week earlier, beginning Monday, Oct. 23. For meetings of associated dental groups, hotel assignments are as follows:

American Academy of Periodontology, Claridge; American Academy of Restorative Dentistry, Chalfonte-Haddon Hall; American Association of Dental Editors, Traymore; American Association of Public Health Dentists, Dennis; American Board of Oral Pathology, Claridge; American College

of Dentists, Claridge; American Dental Assistants Association, Chalfonte-Haddon Hall; American Denture Society, Seaside; American Society of Dentistry for Children, Ambassador; American Society of Oral Surgeons, Ritz-Carlton; Delta Sigma Delta, Marlborough-Blenheim; International College of Dentists, Chalfonte-Haddon Hall; National Association of Seventh Day Adventist Dentists, Dennis; Psi Omega, Ambassador, and Xi Psi Phi, Shelburne.

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE IS NAMED

Membership of the various sub-committees of the committee on local arrangements, headed by Dr. Edward R. White, of Jersey City, N.J., was completed last week. Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., 4th district trustee, and Dr. John S. Owens, of Camden, N.J., are honorary chairmen, and Dr. Benjamin Rosenwasser, of Union City, N.J., and Dr. Eugene R. Westcott, of Atlantic City, are vice-chairmen. Members, all of New Jersey, appointed as chairmen and vice-chairmen of special committees, are Dr. Eugene W. Newman of Red Bank and Dr. Alfred W. Nelson of West Englewood, clinics; Dr. J. Ward Weaver of Pleasantville and Dr. Allen J. Boyer of Cranford, entertainment; Dr. John S. McQuade and Dr. Benjamin A. Brown, both of Atlantic City, information; Dr. Walter A. Wilson and Dr. Pierce A. Quirk, both of Jersey City, publicity, and Dr. William A. Giblin of Montclair and Dr. Charles P. Crowe of East Orange, reception.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR BOSTON DINNER IN HONOR OF DR. ADAMS

Plans have been completed for the testimonial dinner to be held in honor of Dr. Philip E. Adams, A.D.A. president, by the Metropolitan District Dental Society of Boston next Saturday (April 22). The event will take place at the Hotel Somerset in Boston, and not in New York, as was erroneously reported in The A.D.A. Journal for April. Chairman for the occasion is Dr. Glenn W. Lawrence.

REQUEST STUDY OF PROPOSED REVISION OF CODE OF ETHICS

Dr. Ernest G. Sloman, of San Francisco, chairman of the A.D.A. Judicial Council, has asked all state secretaries and A.D.A. delegates to give special attention to a Judicial Council report which will be published in the May issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association. The report contains the complete text of the A.D.A. Code of Ethics, including revisions suggested at the last annual session. Dr. Sloman requests that delegates study these changes and submit their criticisms or suggestions for further changes to the Judicial Council for referral to a special reference committee of the House of Delegates.

DENTAL INSPECTIONS OFFERED TO ALL CITIZENS OF ATLANTA, GA.

A dental inspection is now being made available as a public service to citizens of the city of Atlanta and of Fulton and DeKalb counties, Georgia. It is part of a multiphasic screening program launched on April 4 by the U.S. Public Health Service in the greater Atlanta area for the detection of diseases hitherto unknown to the patient. According to official estimates it is the most extensive health survey of its type ever attempted. About 300,000 requests for examinations have already been received. The dental phase of the program has been endorsed by the Northern District Dental Society of Georgia. A number of survey stations have been established in the area where persons may obtain inspections voluntarily. They will be manned by 18 dentists from the state health department who give routine examinations and one oral pathologist to check on infectious, malignant and nutritional lesions. No treatments will be given under the program, since its primary object is to urge people to seek private health services within their own resources. The inspecting dentists will give patients referral cards as a means of encouraging them to seek treatment from their personal dentists. Dr. Steve A. Garrett, of Atlanta, Ga., president of the Georgia State Dental Association, has asked all dentists in the area to cooperate with the project. It is expected to last about three months.

A.A.D.S. OPPOSES GOV. BOWLES' PLAN FOR CONNECTICUT, DISAPPROVES MASSACHUSETTS PROJECT FOR DENTAL NURSES.

Disapproval of a proposed plan to set up a state dental technician commission in Connecticut was recommended by the American Association of Dental Schools at its 27th annual meeting held March 27 to 29 at French Lick, Ind. The commission would prescribe standards for technicians and oversee advertising. A resolution asserted that it would "place in the hands of inadequately trained persons the responsibility for certain prosthetic services for the patient." It points out that the plan, suggested by Gov. Chester A. Bowles to replace his veto of other oral health bills, was used in the early development of the dental profession but had "long been discarded because it was not in the patients' best interest." The conference also went on record as disapproving of the Massachusetts project which provides for the training of dental hygienists to prepare and fill cavities in children's teeth under the supervision of a dentist. It said that "present day satisfactory oral health service training cannot be rendered on a sub-level basis." At the same time, delegates opposed an opinion by the attorney general of New York which would prevent dentists from performing cleft palate surgery on the grounds that it is "beyond the scope of the practice of dentistry." "It is evident that dentists by education and practice are more familiar with tissues and structures of the oral cavity than any other groups," the conference declared, and called for officers and members to "denounce and oppose any effort on the part of any person or group outside the dental profession that would lay claim to or attempt to appropriate cleft palate surgery." Dr. Charles W. Freeman, of Northwestern University, was installed as president of the association and Dr. Ernest G. Sloman, of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, was named president-elect. The position of vice-president went to Dr. Wendell D. Postle, of Ohio State University, and that of secretary-treasurer to Dr. Marion W. McCrea, of the University of Maryland. Dr. John E. Buhler, of Emory University, was named to the executive committee. Dr. Otto W. Brandhorst, of Washington University, was renominated to the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education and Dr. William H. Crawford, of the University of Minnesota, was renominated to the Council on the National Board of Dental Examiners. Both names will be submitted to the A.D.A. House of Delegates for election.

65 PER CENT OF PERSONS IN U.S. CITIES FAVOR PRESENT SYSTEM OF HEALTH SERVICE, POLL DISCLOSES

A sizeable majority of persons in 25 cities throughout the nation reject the idea of compulsory health insurance, according to a recent survey made by the Psychological Corporation of New York. Established by Dr. Henry C. Link in 1932, the corporation's Psychological Barometer lays claim to being the oldest periodic poll of public opinion and buying habits in existence. Persons interviewed were asked this question: "Which do you favor: (a) to have the government give free doctor and medical service which would be paid for by a 3 per cent payroll tax on all wages under \$3,600, or (b) the present system of medical service?" Results disclosed that 65 per cent favor the present system of health service, 26 per cent favor government medicine and nine per cent were uncertain. The poll disclosed that there was little change in opinion from a similar survey made three years before which showed that 63 per cent of city people favored the present system of medical services. The current survey was made by 81 interviewers working under the direction of 22 psychologists.

VIRGINIA IS 46TH STATE TO PERMIT HYGIENISTS TO PRACTICE

The state of Virginia last week became the 46th state to license dental hygienists when the legislature passed a law authorizing them to practice. Texas and New Mexico are the only states which have made no statutory provision for hygienists. A survey made last month by the U.S. Public Health Service showed that 35 of these states and the District of Columbia now permit hygienists to give the fluoride treatment. Six states still definitely prohibit hygienists from making topical applications of fluoride solutions, and five others have laws which are indefinite. The survey also revealed that 34 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories are cooperating with the U.S. Public Health Service in the use of fluoride demonstration teams.

GEN. LOVE NAMED TO SUCCEED GEN. SMITH AS ARMY DENTAL CORPS CHIEF, ADM. CLAYTOR TO COMMAND NAVY SERVICE

The name of 57-year-old Maj. Gen. Walter D. Love awaited confirmation by the Senate this week as chief of the U.S. Army Dental Corps and assistant to the Surgeon General. The U.S. Navy Dental Corps was also slated to have a new chief. Confirming earlier reports (See A.D.A. News Letter, March 15, 1950), 60-year-old Rear Adm. Spry O. Claytor was named successor to Rear Adm. Clemens V. Rault as Head of the Dental Division of the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. Gen. Love's name was submitted to the Senate by President Truman last week to succeed Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Smith, 58, dental chief since March 17, 1946. Gen. Love, who has served as deputy chief the past four years, was born in Pennsylvania, attended Grove City College at Grove City, Penn., and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dentistry in 1915. Two years later, he began his army career. Gen. Smith, who reportedly plans to continue in the Surgeon General's central office for the present, entered the army a year ahead of Gen. Love after receiving a degree from the Atlanta-Southern Dental College. He is the possessor of the Legion of Merit, awarded for his outstanding service as theater dental surgeon of the European theater of operations. The new chief of the Navy Dental Corps will take command July 1 when Adm. Rault becomes dean of the Georgetown University School of Dentistry.

REPORTS DENTISTS HAVE HIGHEST INCOME IN JANUARY

In 1949 dentists received their highest income during the month of January, according to a study recently made by the Accounting Corporation of America. The study showed that the next highest months were February, March and June in that order and that the month of lowest income was July. Average figures were based on returns submitted by 53 dentists who showed average annual incomes of \$18,000 gross and \$8,544 net. They contrasted sharply with the results of a similar study made of physician's incomes. The month of highest income for physicians was April and their next highest months were September, October and November in that order. The lowest income month for physicians was reported as February. This study was based on returns from 65 physicians whose average annual incomes were \$30,000 gross and \$17,952 net. Dentists in the study group had average annual expenses of 52.55 per cent of gross income compared to only 40.15 per cent for physicians.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Horace Wells, pioneer in the development of surgical anesthesia, has been nominated for election to The Hall of Fame of Great Americans, located on the campus of New York University. The nomination will be considered by a committee of 100 later this year....The National Board of Dental Examiners will transfer its headquarters from Hiawatha, Kans., to the A.D.A. Central Office about July 1....Reports on February sales by 117 confectionary manufacturers show a general decline from sales reported for February 1949, according to the Census Bureau. Candy bars declined 12 per cent, packaged candies 15 per cent, and bulk confections 11 per cent....The late Dr. Percy R. Howe was president of the A.D.A. in 1928-29 and not in 1929-30, as reported in the A.D.A. News Letter for March 1....Senator Lester C. Hunt is scheduled to testify April 18 on his own health bill (S. 2940) before a congressional committee....A conference on periodontal disease, sponsored by the National Institute of Dental Research and the medical services of the Armed Forces and the Veterans Administration, has been scheduled for May 19 at the Institute of Pathology of Western Reserve University, Cleveland....The Division of International Health of the U.S. Public Health Service is recruiting professional men to staff technical health missions for President Truman's Point Four program. The division has announced that it expects soon to have openings for dentists....Gov. Thomas E. Dewey has signed a bill amending the New York Dental Practice Act which increases to 10 the number of members of the Board of Dental Examiners and gives representation to the Tenth District Dental Society of the State of New York....A House committee has reported favorably a bill which would make cancer and all malignant neoplastic diseases reportable to the health officer of the District of Columbia. Today 27 states have similar laws.