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ada News Letter

Vol. 3, No. 9, - May 1, 1950

MID-CENTURY ISSUE OF A.D.A. JOURNAL NEXT MONTH WILL EVALUATE FIFTY YEARS OF DENTAL PROGRESS

Fifty years of dental progress will be evaluated in a special mid-century issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association to be published June 1. Forty of the nation's leading authorities on dentistry have contributed to the 224-page anniversary number that will trace the story of dentistry from the days of foot engines and overhead cabled handpieces to the present era. For the special issue, leading scientists have contributed articles on subjects covering all phases of modern dental science. Guest editor of the science section is Dr. Hamilton B. G. Robinson, of Columbus, Ohio. Advances in dental literature are described in another section, with Mr. Gardner P. H. Foley, of Baltimore, as guest editor. The third section is devoted to progress in dental education and licensure, with Dr. Harlan H. Horner, of Albany, N. Y., as special editor. Advances in social responsibility is the subject of a fourth section. Dr. Harold J. Noyes, of Portland, Ore., is its guest editor. As a special feature, the issue will list the name of the "dentist of the half century," nominated by his colleagues in each of the states. The publication will also contain a number of photographs contrasting dental treatment and education through the years. Dr. Lon W. Morrey, editor of The Journal, pointed out that the contents of the special issue make it a milestone in dental journalism and that the publication will be a reference work of unusual value.

CONGRESS AGREES ON NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION; COMMITTEE TO WEIGH V.A. DENTAL SPECIALIST BILL

Legislation of interest to dentistry took on new life this week in Washington. A compromise bill creating a National Science Foundation awaited President Truman's signature after its approval by the Senate and House. Dental and medical schools, teaching hospitals and research centers would be affected by the act to promote and coordinate government activities in the field of basic research. The bill sets up a foundation, headed by a 24-member board and a \$15,000 a year director, to let research contracts and make fellowship grants for scientific studies. An appropriation of \$500,000 is authorized for the first year and \$15,000,000 a year afterwards.

PATHOLOGY INSTITUTE BUILDING APPROVED

Another proposed law awaiting the President's signature calls for construction of a building for the Army Institute of Pathology, the largest institution of its kind in the world. The A.D.A.'s

House of Delegates voted to support a new building in a resolution proposed by the Association's Council on Dental Museum and Registry last October. The bill transferred construction from the initially-chosen site on the grounds of the army hospital at Forest Glen, Md., to Walter Reed hospital in Washington, D.C. Seventy-five per cent of the institute's facilities are devoted to conducting studies and servicing the armed forces and the Veterans Administration in consultation, diagnosis, basic research and advanced training. The remaining 25 per cent represents services available to members of the dental, medical and veterinary professions and to other federal agencies.

VOTE EXCISE CUTS FOR CAMERAS, FILMS

Of special interest to dentists was an action of the House Ways and Means Committee considering excise taxes. It voted to reduce to 10 per cent the 15 per cent manufacturer's tax on films and plates and to eliminate entirely the 25 per cent tax on cameras and apparatus. In still another action on the legislative front, an A.D.A.-sponsored bill to set up a rank for dental specialists in the department of medicine and surgery of the Veterans Administration will be the subject of an executive session of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee May 9. The bill (H.R. 3209), introduced by Rep. John E. Rankin (D.-Miss.), chairman of the committee, provides for doctors of dental surgery or dental medicine to be named as dental specialists by the V.A. The specialist would need to be certified by a specialty board of his profession and, if none existed, he could be qualified by an examination given by a V.A. board. Dental specialists would be granted an increase in pay of 25 per cent, with a salary limit of \$11,000 annually.

PLAN PROGRAM OF 200 CLINICS FOR 91st A.D.A. ANNUAL SESSION; HOUSING BUREAU TAKES APPLICATIONS FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Preparations for an extensive program of clinics to be presented at the 91st annual session of the A.D.A. from Oct. 30 - Nov. 2 in Atlantic City moved ahead this week with a total of 200 clinics planned. Dr. Walter Buchmann, of Chicago, clinic section chairman, has requested that A.D.A. members with knowledge of persons having material that may be desirable for a clinic submit their names to Dr. L. M. Cruttenden, A.D.A. assistant secretary, at the Central Office. These suggestions will be reviewed by the section on clinics in making up the final program. In another activity for the convention, the A.D.A. Housing Bureau officially opened today (May 1) at 16 Central Pier, Atlantic City. It will begin taking applications immediately for hotel reservations for the convention. Application forms are printed in the May issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association, together with a chart showing the location of 39 hotels. Because requests for reservations this year will be serviced as much as possible on the basis of preference, all members wishing to stay in a hotel of their choice are urged to send in their applications immediately. No applications will be honored which are not made on the printed blank. Meanwhile, with an eye to the 1953 annual session, A.D.A. officials are checking convention facilities at Miami, Fla. An invitation to hold the A.D.A. convention there was received last month. Constituent and component societies in other areas of the country that would like to have the 1953 convention in their cities are urged to take definite action this summer so that the invitations may be considered by the A.D.A. House of Delegates in Atlantic City. Convention cities are chosen three years in advance of the meeting. To qualify for consideration, all invitations from cities must have dental society approval.

DENTISTS URGED TO RETURN SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES

Thousands of filled out questionnaires were pouring into the A.D.A. Central Office this week as dentists across the nation took part in the most comprehensive survey of dental practice ever made by the Association. Those dentists who have not yet returned their questionnaires are urged to mail them as soon as possible in order that the A.D.A.'s Bureau of Economic Research and Statistics may compile the data at an early date.

CANADIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING MAY 15-17 IN TORONTO

The 75th anniversary of the beginnings of dental education in Canada will be marked at the annual meeting of the Canadian Dental Association to be held from May 15 through 17 at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. The program the final day will be presented as a postgraduate course by the University of Toronto Dental School. Dr. Philip E. Adams, A.D.A. president, has appointed Dr. Charles I. Taggart, of Burlington, Vt., First District trustee, as official A.D.A. representative at the three-day session. A historic highlight of the convention will take place at the annual business meeting the opening day when Newfoundland, brought into the Dominion of Canada last year, will be admitted to corporate membership.

U. S. TREASURY RULES RELIEF CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX EXEMPT

The U. S. Treasury Department has formally ruled that contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund can be taken as exemptions in the payment of federal income taxes. The ruling came in response to a query by the Association's legal counsel. It classified these contributions as gifts to a recognized, non-profit charity. Under the present law such gifts can be deducted up to 15 per cent of the individual's gross income. The ruling also confirmed the tax-exempt status of the Relief Fund itself and makes it possible to make bequests to the fund that are exempt from federal estate taxes.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND A.D.A. Relief contributions for the 1949-50 campaign reached **REACH TOTAL OF \$82,053** \$82,053.59 this week, slightly more than 82 per cent of the quota set when the campaign began last November. This year's total is an all-time high and is \$20,730.10 more than the total donations to the Fund during the previous peak year, 1948-49. Additional donations during April amounted to \$1,879.37, representing 558 individual contributions. The total number of contributors now stands at 32,087 or slightly under 50 per cent of the total number of active and life members of the A.D.A. The average contribution was \$2.56. Eleven constituent societies have exceeded their quotas and nine others are above 90 per cent of quota. The leaders, with per cent of quota contributed, are as follows:

Alabama	215	Montana	112	Washington	103	Louisiana	95
Panama C. Z.	137	N. Carolina	108	Utah	99	Tennessee	94
N. Dakota	135	New Mexico	108	W. Virginia	98	Mississippi	94
S. California	131	Hawaii	104	Arizona	96	Florida	92
Georgia	113	Oregon	103	Idaho	95	Nebraska	91

FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE WILL MEET IN PARIS JULY 23-30; U. S. MEMBERSHIP TOTALS 856

U. S. dentists are invited to the annual meeting of the Federation Dentaire Internationale, world-wide association of professional dental groups, which will be held in Paris, July 23-30, it was announced this week by Dr. M. F. Watry, of Brussels, Belgium, general secretary. The program will stress dental education and the social service phases of dentistry. Among A.D.A. representatives who will attend the meeting is Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary. Other Association delegates are expected to be appointed shortly. The F.D.I. has made arrangements with the American Express Company to enable U. S. dentists to arrange in advance for all functions of the meeting as well as hotel accommodations. The federation now has 856 American dentists on its membership rolls, according to Dr. Oren A. Oliver, of Nashville, Tenn., treasurer for F.D.I. enrollment in the United States. Another activity of the federation took shape this week with the announcement that the International Dental Journal will make its first appearance in September. The new scientific English language quarterly will include papers presented at international dental congresses in addition to reporting F.D.I. news. The editor is Mr. H. H. Stones, of Liverpool, England, director of dental education at the University of Liverpool. Correspondents are now being appointed in countries throughout the world. Annual subscriptions may be obtained for \$6.30 post free, from Messrs. Cassell and Co., Ltd., 37/38 St. Andrew's Hill, London, E. C. 4, England.

NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY EMPLOYS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Dental Society of the State of New York last week announced the appointment of Mr. J. M. Haley, of New York, as executive secretary, a new position on the society's staff. Mr. Haley is a graduate of Holy Cross College and for 17 years has been associated with the Northeastern Retail Lumberman's Association at Rochester, N. Y. With the appointment of Mr. Haley, the New York society became the ninth constituent society of the A.D.A. to employ a full-time executive secretary. The others are California, Southern California, District of Columbia, Michigan, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Wisconsin. A number of other state societies have full-time dental secretaries.

NEW LAW STRENGTHENS LABORATORY PRESCRIPTION ACT

The New York state legislature has passed three laws of special interest to dentistry. Strengthening the enforcement of the dental laboratory prescription act, one law provides for inspectors from the attorney general's office to investigate complaints. They are to have the right to enter all places, either dentist's offices or laboratories, where copies of prescriptions for prosthetic appliances are required to be kept under the ruling that appliances may be made only by a dentist or on the written prescription of a dentist. Violators are subject to a fine of \$100 to \$500 and up to a year's imprisonment. In another action, the legislature voted that cities and towns are to assume responsibility in any malpractice suits brought against municipally-employed dentists and physicians. The legislature also acted to grant four-year \$3,000 scholarships to veterans of World War I and II for dental schools in New York. Applicants are required to be residents of the state. They must also have been inducted in New York.

PLAN MIDDLE STATES BRANCH OF PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Organization of a middle states branch of the American Public Health Association is a goal of a Middle States Public Health Conference to be held Thursday and Friday (May 4 and 5) in Des Moines, Ia., according to Dr. Leonard C. Murray of Des Moines, secretary of the conference. Persons from North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio are invited. Among numerous sectional meetings will be one at 2 P.M. Thursday on "Materials and Methods in Dental Health Education."

DENTAL SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS ARE UP 13 PER CENT

Total undergraduate enrollment in the nation's accredited dental schools was 13 per cent higher during the start of the current school year than the total for the previous year, according to information in the Dental Student's Register - 1949 which was published this week by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education. The present enrollment included 3,079 freshmen, 2,931 sophomores, 2,759 juniors and 2,567 seniors. In addition, there was a total of 1,536 post-graduate, graduate and specialist dental students enrolled in accredited institutions this year. An increase (14 per cent) was also recorded in the number of dental hygiene students enrolled for 1949-50. The total number of dental hygiene students this year was recorded at 1,091. Copies of the Register may be obtained without charge upon request to the Council on Dental Education.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Allen O. Gruebbel, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health, arrived in this country April 27, having completed a two-months study of the dental nurse program in New Zealand. He will report his findings directly to the A.D.A. Board of Trustees....A \$10,000 scholarship fund has been given anonymously to the Emory University School of Dentistry. It has been dedicated in honor of Dr. Malvern D. Huff, who retired in 1948 after 47 years on the dental faculty of that school....Great Britain's Ministry of Education has announced that it will soon begin an experimental project with 3,000 children to determine the effectiveness of topical applications of sodium fluoride....A plan for fluoridating the municipal water supply of Newark, Del., has been approved by the State Board of Health....Both the House and the Senate of the Massachusetts legislature have passed resolutions opposing federal compulsory health insurance....Domus Medica, an organization which promotes international relations between physicians of all countries, recently expanded its services to include information on dentistry. Headquarters of the organization are at 111 E. Oak St., Chicago, Ill....The United Medical Administration Bill (H.R. 5182) has been opposed by the A.M.A. on the grounds that it "reveals no evidence of how economies are to be accomplished."....Copies of the proceedings of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Congresses on Dental Education and Licensure, held in February 1947, 1948 and 1949, may be obtained without charge upon request to the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education....Two new series of slide films are now being distributed by the A.D.A. Division of Dental Health Education. They are "Atlas of Oral and Facial Lesions" and "X-rays and Your Teeth"....Beginning today (May 1), dentists at the Hanford, Wash., plant of the Atomic Energy Commission will be permitted to take up the private practice of their profession, A.E.C. officials announced last week. Formerly, they were employed on a salary basis.