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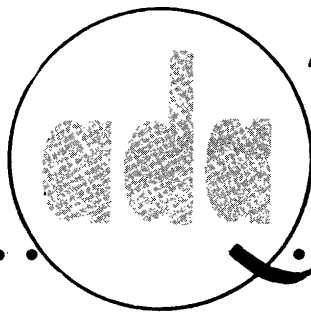


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News Letter

Vol. 3, No. 10 - May 15, 1950

MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATES VOTE 45 TO 27 TO GO ON RECORD DISAPPROVING DENTAL NURSE PROJECT AT FORSYTH INFIRMARY

At its annual meeting early this month, the House of Delegates of the Massachusetts Dental Society, by a vote of 45 to 27, voiced its opposition to the dental nurse training project now being conducted at Forsyth Dental Infirmary. The motion formally placed the House of Delegates "on record as disapproving the dental nurse project." The project was started last year under the sponsorship of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the U. S. Public Health Service. The entire cost is being assumed by the Federal government. As now being operated, the project is designed to provide two years of training for a group of women to prepare them to "fill cavities in children's teeth under the supervision of a registered dentist." An enabling law enacted by the Massachusetts legislature last July authorizes the project to be continued for five years as a "special program of dental research." The inauguration of the project last year (See A.D.A. News Letter, Dec. 1, 1949) attracted nation-wide attention. The training of dental nurses has been opposed by the A.D.A. House of Delegates and the American Association of Dental Schools. A bill to repeal the enabling act was introduced in the Massachusetts legislature on Jan. 4. The action of the House of Delegates automatically commits the state society to work for passage of the repealer. This measure, however, is now pending before a legislative committee and no information was immediately available regarding prospective committee action.

3,500 DENTISTS COOPERATE IN A.D.A. SURVEY

Slightly more than 3,500 completed questionnaires have been returned by dentists taking part in the Association's survey of dental practice, Mr. B. Duane Moen, assistant director of the A.D.A. Bureau of Economic Research and Statistics, reported today. This is about an 18 per cent return on the 20,000 questionnaires which were mailed in early April. So that the A.D.A. survey may have the greatest possible validity, dentists who have not yet returned forms are urged to do so immediately.

PARTY LEADERS STEP UP DRIVE FOR COMPULSORY HEALTH INSURANCE -- ENTHUSIASM DAMPENED BY PEPPER DEFEAT AND HUMPHREY DEFLECTION

The issue of compulsory health insurance was formally injected into the 1950 election arena by the Democratic high command today (May 15) when leading spokesman for the administration highlighted the three-day Jefferson Jubilee in Chicago with a panel on health legislation. Federal Security Administrator Oscar R. Ewing set the keynote when he declared: "The plain fact is that the scientific side of medicine has gone far beyond the financial side of medicine. You can only get the full benefit of modern medicine if you are very well off, or if you want to accept charity medicine....The majority of Americans cannot pay for serious or chronic illness....So the answer lies in (government) insurance." There to lend weight and enthusiasm to the speakers' arguments, a galaxy of Democratic chieftains sat at the speakers' table as the

arguments were laid down to the assembled party committeemen and Congressmen. At the same time, the National Committee opened a drive to rally support for the administration's health insurance program with distribution to party leaders throughout the country of a 32-page booklet, "Better Medical Care That You Can Afford," described as a "factual presentation of the program." The harmonious accord shown by the Democratic stalwarts was rudely challenged, however, when Dr. R. B. Robins, general practitioner from Camden, Ark., and a Democratic national committeeman, rose to assert that the national committee was attempting to rally support for a program that had "no basis in the platform." He termed it the "pet scheme of a few people" with the taxes of U. S. citizens used to promote it. "By what authority does the Democratic National Committee sponsor this type of program?" he demanded. Mrs. India Edwards, national women's division chairman, conceded that the platform did not include the national health scheme "specifically" but added, "in any event, President Truman approved."

DENTISTS ACTIVE IN FLORIDA CAMPAIGN

Dampening the enthusiasm of party workers was the recent defeat of Sen. Claude Pepper (D.-Fla.), an outspoken supporter of compulsory health insurance, by Rep. George Smathers in a bitterly-fought primary. Dentists and physicians throughout the state were credited with a major role in Pepper's defeat. Also in the background was the report from Washington last week that Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D.-Minn.) could no longer be counted on as a supporter of compulsory health insurance. Voicing his opposition to a compulsory scheme, Humphrey presided at two days of hearings on his bill calling instead for federal aid for cooperative, non-profit clinics and hospitals. Further evidence of the weight of sentiment against a compulsory program came from a recent poll. Writing in Look magazine, Dr. George Gallup reported that among the "informed group" three out of five are opposed to the Truman health plan. He reported three principal reasons given for opposition -- (1) the high cost, (2) the compulsory nature of the program which would require sizable deductions from wages or salaries and (3) a fear that physicians and dentists would not be able to give individual treatment of high quality.

50 SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITS, 50 MOTION PICTURES PLANNED FOR A.D.A. 1950 SESSION; APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

A lineup of approximately 50 scientific exhibits and 50 motion pictures is planned for the 91st annual session of the A.D.A. from Oct. 30 to Nov. 2 in Atlantic City, it was announced this week by Dr. Hermann Becks, of Berkeley, Cal., chairman of the section on scientific exhibits. A deadline of July 15 has been set for applications for space in the exhibit and for time in the program of films. Application forms may be obtained at the A.D.A. Central Office from Dr. Donald A. Washburn, director of scientific exhibits.

DENTISTS IN LOUISIANA MEET RELIEF FUND QUOTA

The Louisiana State Dental Society this week became the twelfth A.D.A. constituent to meet its quota in the 1949-50 Relief Fund campaign. During the first two weeks of May dentists from that state boosted their total contributions for the current fund drive to \$1,040. Total contributions to the fund now stand at \$82,345.01, representing 32,130 individual donations.

DENTAL SOCIETY ACTS TO STIMULATE ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH

A program to stimulate atomic energy research as it pertains to dentistry has been inaugurated by the First District Dental Society of the State of New York. To carry out this program, its board of directors recently appointed an Atomic Energy Program Committee, headed by Dr. Theodore Kaletsky, of Jamaica, N. Y. Dr. Kaletsky has announced that the society is offering a prize of \$100 for the best essay on "Atomic Energy and Its Relation to Dentistry" by a senior dental student.

**1950 A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP REACHED 70,046 ON APRIL 30--
A NET GAIN OF 632 OVER CORRESPONDING TOTAL FOR 1949**

The total 1950 membership of the Association reached 70,046 on April 30, a net gain of 632 members over the total for the same date last year. Increases were reported in both the number of dental members (62,400) and student members (7,646). A drop of 130 in the total number of active members was more than offset by an increase of 343 in the number of life members and the listing of 67 relief recipients in a separate category. Formerly, relief recipients were listed as active members in their respective state societies. Total paid memberships on April 30, 1950, and the same date last year, by constituent societies and special classifications, are as follows:

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>		<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
Air Force	--*	180	Nevada	63	51
Affiliate	203	218	New Hampshire	182	182
Alaska	--**	22	New Jersey	2,655	2,682
Alabama	461	433	New Mexico	108	123
Arizona	160	175	New York	9,259	9,035
Arkansas	299	312	North Carolina	634	728
Army	305	293	North Dakota	169	164
Associate	2	2	Ohio	2,880	2,929
California	2,088	2,180	Oklahoma	584	588
Colorado	540	536	Oregon	708	717
Connecticut	1,054	1,017	Panama Canal Zone	19	17
Delaware	95	102	Pennsylvania	4,450	4,263
District of Columbia	494	496	Public Health Service	179	129
Florida	709	707	Puerto Rico	149	145
Georgia	630	600	Rhode Island	329	331
Hawaii	228	234	South Carolina	192	177
Idaho	96	171	South Dakota	204	214
Illinois	4,700	4,712	Southern California	2,717	2,786
Indiana	1,299	1,272	Tennessee	704	833
Iowa	1,057	1,002	Texas	1,935	1,854
Kansas	640	585	Unorganized	6	5
Kentucky	683	654	Utah	273	270
Louisiana	599	597	Vermont	81	81
Maine	272	276	Veterans Administration	593	635
Maryland	657	660	Virginia	690	722
Massachusetts	2,245	2,243	Washington	1,007	989
Michigan	2,250	2,170	West Virginia	426	435
Minnesota	1,877	1,860	Wisconsin	1,838	1,740
Mississippi	306	273	Wyoming	78	90
Missouri	1,523	1,494	Total Active Members	59,989	59,859
Montana	219	217	Life Members	2,131	2,474
Navy	415	534	Relief Recipients	***	67
Nebraska	726	717	Student Members	6,994	7,646
			Grand Total	69,114	70,046

* Formerly included with Army.
** New Constituent.

*** Formerly included with states.

NEW A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP PAMPHLET AVAILABLE

A new membership pamphlet, summarizing activities of the A.D.A., was issued this week by the Bureau of Public Information in cooperation with the Council on Membership. The pamphlet is being distributed to members of dental school graduating classes, to deans of schools of dentistry and to secretaries of constituent dental societies. A.D.A. members may receive copies on request to the Association's Central Office.

DR. HERBERT E. KING, DEAN OF CREIGHTON DENTAL SCHOOL, DIES

Dr. Herbert E. King, dean of the School of Dentistry, Creighton University, Omaha, Neb., died early Thursday (May 11) of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 68 years old. Dr. King was co-chairman of the local arrangements committee for the 1944 A.D.A. annual session in Chicago and was first vice president of the A.D.A. from 1944 to 1946. He had been a faculty member at Creighton for 36 years and had been dean of the dental school since 1945. Dr. King was born in Omaha and was graduated from Omaha Dental College in 1905. He was a past president of the Nebraska State Dental Association and an A.D.A. delegate for many years.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR SEEK DENTISTS FOR WISCONSIN, ILLINOIS, OKLAHOMA

Dentists were sought this week to fill U.S. government positions in Illinois and Wisconsin and in Oklahoma. The U.S. Civil Service Commission announced that applications were now being taken for the position of dental officer in the Veterans Administration and other federal agencies in the two mid-western states. Basic entrance salaries range from \$4,600 to \$6,400, depending upon experience. Those appointed would treat patients in federal hospitals and dispensaries or would adjudicate disabilities based on dental disease. Application forms may be obtained from the Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners, Veterans Administration Regional Office, 366 W. Adams Street, Chicago 6, and should be returned to the executive officer of the board by June 15. At the same time, the names of persons were sought who might be interested in filling the Department of Interior's newly-established position of dentist for Indian boarding schools in eastern Oklahoma. Persons interested are asked to communicate with Mr. A. B. Caldwell, educationist, Five Civilized Tribes Agency, Muskogee, Okla.

NEW "INDEX TO DENTAL LITERATURE" PUBLISHED

A new system in presenting the A.D.A.'s "Index to Dental Literature" was begun this week with publication of a three-months paper-bound index covering the period from January through March, 1950, it was reported today by Dr. Donald A. Washburn, director of the A.D.A. library and indexing service. The publication is to be issued quarterly, on a cumulative basis, and the fourth issue for the year will be cloth-bound. It replaces the monthly cards and the three-year volumes that were issued formerly. The index lists articles in 144 dental journals in the English language. The publication may be obtained on a subscription basis for \$30 a year through the A.D.A. Order Department.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

All of the nation's 41 A.D.A.-accredited schools of dentistry are now included in the aptitude testing program established by the Council on Dental Education for applicants for the schools....Motion pictures, clinics and scientific exhibits will be displayed at an open house to be held by the Navy Dental School at Bethesda, Md., Saturday (May 20), in observance of Armed Forces Day....State approval has been given for a fluorine experiment in Newark, N.J., and installation of equipment is now underway. Daily checks and long-term charting will be included in the program to determine the effect of fluoridated water on young children.... A new postgraduate course in orthodontics, to extend for 15 months, has been announced for the College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, Columbus. The course will open in October....Dr. William F. Harrigan, associate oral surgeon at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, has been named chairman of the department of oral surgery at New York University College of Dentistry....The American Industrial Hygiene Association recently elected its first woman president, Miss Anna M. Baetcher, of Baltimore....The American Dental Hygienists Association has moved its national offices to 1735 Eye Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.