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## ADA News Letter - 03/15/1951

American Dental Association

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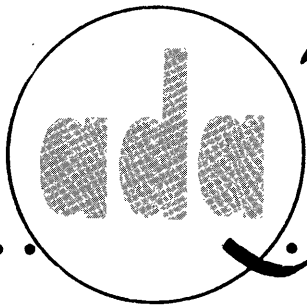
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# News Letter

Vol. 4, No. 6, - March 15, 1951

## **ARMY ISSUES CALL FOR 100 DENTAL OFFICERS TO REPORT IN APRIL -- SENATE PASSES 18-YEAR-OLD DRAFT; SETS 4 MILLION LIMIT FOR ARMED FORCES**

A formal call for 100 dental reserve officers to report for active duty beginning in April was issued last week by the Army. The call is the first to be made by the Army since last Dec. 26 when 850 dental officers were ordered to active service. All those covered in the new call will be taken from Priority One, that is, those dental reserve officers who received training at government expense or who were deferred for professional training during World War II and who have had less than 90 days of active service. Issuance of the new call was generally interpreted as an attempt to encourage Priority One dentists to volunteer for active duty. Those volunteering during the next few weeks will be counted as part of the new quota, Army officials said.

### **CEILING WOULD REQUIRE 8,000 DENTAL OFFICERS**

Meanwhile, the Senate approved a new draft bill calling for the induction of 18-year-olds and the establishment of a system of universal military service. The Senate also voted to establish a limit of 4 million on the total strength of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. This provision, if upheld in the House of Representatives, would mean that there would be a ceiling of approximately 8,000 on the total number of dental officers that would be required by the armed forces on the basis of the present working ratio of two dental officers for each 1,000 personnel. As sent to the House, the Senate bill would give the President authority to defer up to 75,000 specialized students annually for professional and scientific training. These students would be "temporarily withdrawn" from the armed forces after completing four months of basic training and would be obligated for military service after completing their educations. Attempts to eliminate the 75,000 figure in favor of a proposal to give the President blanket authority to defer as many students as he deemed necessary were defeated. The House version of the draft bill, now being considered by its Armed Services Committee, does not set any ceiling on the number of specialized students who could be deferred by Presidential decree. Just before voting approval of the draft bill, the senate rejected a proposal offered by Sen. Capehart (R., Ind.) to defer all college freshmen, all sophomores who had been in the upper half of the freshman class, all juniors who had been in the upper two-thirds of their sophomore class and all seniors who had been in the upper three-fourths of their junior class.

## **SENATE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES BILL AUTHORIZING PRESIDENT TO PROCLAIM CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH DAY FIRST MONDAY IN FEBRUARY OF EACH YEAR**

The Senate Monday unanimously passed a bill calling for the annual proclamation of National Children's Dental Health Day. The bill (S. 336), sponsored by the A.D.A., provides that the President shall designate the first Monday in February of each year for the observance. In a statement recommending favorable action, the Senate Judiciary Committee, headed by Sen. McCarran (D., Nev.), said: "Surveys made in recent years re-emphasize the extremely high incidence and prevalence of dental diseases...It is highly important that national attention be focused on the need for care of the dental diseases of children to catch these diseases in their incipency and prevent difficulty in adult life." Two similar measures (H.R. 524 and Joint Resolution 117) are pending in the House, both in the Judiciary Committee. Hearings were being held this week in the House on another bill of interest to organized dentistry. A measure

to increase postal rates by \$166,320,000 was introduced by Rep. Murray (D., Tenn.) at the request of President Truman "to correct the present unsound condition of postal revenues." The bill (H.R. 2982) would double the rate on second-class mail, which includes periodicals such as dental journals. The present rate of one and one-half cents a pound would be increased to two and one-fourth cents the first year, to two and five-eighths cents the second year and to three cents thereafter. The rates on third-class mail, mostly circulars and advertising matter, would also be doubled from the present rate of one to two cents per piece. In addition, postcard rates would be increased from one to two cents. Meanwhile, at the state capital in Connecticut, the A.D.A. testified before a joint hearing of the Senate and House Judiciary committees in favor of a bill to strengthen the state's dental practice act. Mr. Francis J. Garvey, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, told the legislators in Hartford: "Any person with the proper aptitude can over a period of time be trained in the strictly mechanical arts of manufacturing or processing artificial prostheses, but only the professionally trained dentist...is competent to make the initial determination of the exact type of prosthesis necessary to the particular case or to adjust and readjust such devices within the human mouth...To grant either directly or indirectly the right to perform basic health services to persons who are not qualified by background and training to render such services is not in the public interest."

### **DR. HENRY L. BANZHAF, FORMER A.D.A. PRESIDENT, DIES**

Dr. Henry L. Banzhaf, of Milwaukee, A.D.A. president in 1926-27 and dean of the Marquette University School of Dentistry from 1902 to 1944, died March 5. Dr. Banzhaf, who was 85, was selected as Wisconsin's dentist of the half-century last year for his outstanding service to dental education and his leadership in organized dentistry. In 1910, he was instrumental in organizing the Dental Educational Council of America, forerunner of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education. He was president of the American Association of Dental Schools in 1924 and of the American College of Dentists in 1927-28. He began the practice of dentistry in 1886.

### **STUDY PLANS FOR PROPOSED NEW DENTAL SCHOOL IN NEW JERSEY**

A commission of New Jersey dentists, physicians, educators and legislators has been named to consider proposed construction of a \$25,000,000 medical and dental school at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J. The school would accommodate 300 dental and 500 medical students. At present, New Jersey does not have a dental school. Meanwhile, trustees of the University of Illinois have requested the Illinois legislature to authorize construction of a six-story, classroom and laboratory building to be shared by the Colleges of Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy in Chicago. The new building, which would cost about \$6,340,000, would permit an increase in the enrollment of dental students from 75 to 90 per class. Plans were also announced recently for the formal dedication on May 15 of the new dental clinic of the Ohio State University College of Dentistry at Columbus. The new clinic is equipped with 120 dental units.

### **TWO DENTAL SOCIETIES ADOPT POSTPAYMENT PLANS**

Two A.D.A. societies have recently adopted dental postpayment plans. The California State Dental Association is now installing a plan in cooperation with the Bank of America based on one used by the Detroit Dental Society. Under the California plan, the patient pays six per cent interest and payments may be extended from three to 24 months. In addition, five per cent is deducted from each account and deposited in a reserve fund from which uncollectable bills are paid. On a \$100 account, for example, the dentist will receive \$95 on approval of the contract, and the patient will pay \$106 to the Bank of America over the desired period. If the reserve fund reaches 25 per cent of outstanding payments, the five per cent deduction will be discontinued. The Los Angeles County Dental Society has had a similar plan in operation for the past two months. It is also based on the Detroit plan and operated with the Bank of America.

A.D.A. RELIEF FUND CONTRIBUTIONS REACH RECORD HIGH OF \$85,058  
 NINETEEN CONSTITUENT SOCIETIES EXCEED QUOTAS FOR 1950-51 DRIVE

Total contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund for 1950-51 reached \$85,058.03 in mid-March to establish a new, all-time high. Nineteen constituent societies have exceeded their respective quotas for the year. Those passing the 100 per cent mark since March 1 are Colorado, North Carolina and the Panama Canal Zone. Alabama dentists held a firm grip on first place in the nation with a record contribution of 206 per cent of their quota. Southern California held second place with contributions equalling 177 per cent of quota. Other societies with contributions exceeding their quotas are: Alaska, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington. The fund drive will be continued during the next three months in an effort to reach the national quota of \$100,000. Contributions by constituent societies to March 13 follow:

	TO MARCH 13				TO MARCH 13		
	1950-51 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT		1950-51 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT
Affiliate		\$ 117.99		Navy	\$ 880.00	\$ 501.00	56.9
Air Force	\$ 480.00	304.90	63.5	Nebraska	1130.00	1221.70	108.1
Alabama	780.00	1606.50	206.0	Nevada	90.00	106.50	118.3
Alaska	40.00	43.00	107.5	New Hampshire	290.00	247.00	85.2
Arizona	280.00	205.50	73.4	New Jersey	4220.00	3898.25	92.4
Arkansas	480.00	492.65	102.6	New Mexico	200.00	237.00	118.5
Army	490.00	308.00	62.9	New York	15590.00	9592.15	61.5
California	3670.00	3094.75	84.3	North Carolina	1220.00	1235.00	101.2
Calif., So.	4420.00	7821.75	177.0	North Dakota	330.00	448.55	135.9
Colorado	890.00	903.00	101.5	Ohio	4890.00	3830.58	78.3
Connecticut	1920.00	1692.50	88.2	Oklahoma	910.00	1275.50	140.2
Delaware	160.00	102.00	63.8	Oregon	1170.00	1243.50	106.3
Dist. of Col.	810.00	830.48	102.5	Panama C. Z.	30.00	47.00	156.7
Florida	1200.00	1185.50	98.8	Pennsylvania	7140.00	5127.65	71.8
Georgia	990.00	1143.50	115.5	P. H. Service	250.00	127.00	50.8
Hawaii	370.00	389.00	105.1	Puerto Rico	270.00	105.00	38.9
Idaho	270.00	269.50	99.8	Rhode Island	530.00	274.00	51.7
Illinois	7570.00	6154.72	81.3	South Carolina	440.00	228.00	51.8
Indiana	2220.00	1859.00	83.7	South Dakota	350.00	257.50	73.6
Iowa	1800.00	1519.50	84.4	Tennessee	1150.00	1507.00	131.0
Kansas	1040.00	840.36	80.8	Texas	3100.00	2024.15	65.3
Kentucky	1070.00	837.50	78.3	Unorganized		10.00	
Louisiana	990.00	634.50	64.1	Utah	490.00	424.50	86.6
Maine	460.00	335.70	73.0	Vermont	190.00	108.50	57.1
Maryland	1040.00	927.00	89.1	Vet. Admin.	1040.00	364.00	35.0
Massachusetts	3720.00	2582.65	69.4	Virginia	1150.00	993.75	86.4
Michigan	3830.00	3095.50	80.8	Washington	1670.00	1761.00	105.4
Minnesota	2990.00	2426.80	81.2	West Virginia	740.00	680.00	91.9
Mississippi	530.00	379.10	71.5	Wisconsin	2890.00	1842.50	63.8
Missouri	2620.00	2248.50	85.8	Wyoming	170.00	143.00	84.1
Montana	350.00	373.65	106.8	Students		471.75	
				TOTALS	\$100,000.00	\$85,058.03	85.1

## NEW MANUAL ISSUED ON STATUS OF STATE DENTAL HEALTH UNITS

A blueprint for maintaining the administrative position of dentistry in state health departments is presented in a manual issued this week by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health. Pointing to a current trend to reduce the administrative status of the state dental unit on the grounds of economy, the 50-page handbook suggests remedial steps for constituent societies in keeping with the Association's policy that "the administration of the dental program should be in the hands of a qualified dental officer who is directly responsible to the state health officer." The manual reveals that 46 states have dental public health units of which 42 are under dental direction. In 20 states, dental units are directly responsible to the state health officer and in 26 states, they are responsible to an intermediate division. Dental hygienists conduct dental programs in two states. The manual, compiled by Dr. W. Philip Phair, assistant secretary of the Council on Dental Health, has been sent to state dental societies, dental directors of state health departments and district consultants of the U. S. Public Health Service. Entitled "Dental Administration in State Health Departments," the manual is available upon request in limited quantities without charge.

## ACRYLIC FILLINGS FOUND SAFE IN EFFECT ON PULP, COUNCILS REPORT

Histologic evidence to date indicates that self-curing resinous filling materials do not cause permanent injury to the pulp. That was the conclusion reached by the Council on Dental Therapeutics and Council on Dental Research following a recent conference in the Central Office. (See A.D.A. News Letter, March 1, 1951). It was emphasized, however, that evidence was based chiefly on animal experiments and that further studies were needed of both animal and human teeth. The report also asserted that the use of phosphate cement bases with resinous filling materials is not warranted since the cement is more irritating than the acrylic resin itself. "The rise in temperature of a filling made of the most rapidly polymerizing resin reaches a point only a few degrees above normal mouth temperature," the report said. "It may therefore be concluded that the heat of polymerization of an acrylic filling is not enough to be of any serious consequence to the welfare of the pulp." The report pointed out, however, that if a large volume of acrylic resin is used, as for a temporary jacket crown, the temperature may rise high enough in the pulp chamber to cause serious damage. The complete report will be published in the April issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association.

## PROPOSED DOWNGRADING OF V. A. DENTAL RATING SPECIALISTS PROTESTED

The A.D.A. has taken action in protest against a proposed downgrading of civil service dental rating specialists in the Office of Claims of the Veterans Administration. This week, the U. S. Civil Service Commission said it would consider evidence to be presented by the A.D.A. for maintaining the present status of the positions. Under the plan, dentists serving as rating specialists in the evaluation of disability claims would be placed in a grade lower than medical, occupational and legal specialists performing comparable duties. At present, dental rating specialists are classified in Grade GS-12 with a salary range of \$6,400 to \$7,400 annually. Under the proposed order, they would be classified in GS-11 with a salary range of \$5,400 to \$6,400. In a telegram to the U. S. Civil Service Commission, the Association voiced a formal protest and offered to present evidence in favor of retaining the present status of rating specialists. In response, Mr. Harry B. Mitchell, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, said in a letter to Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary, that "a certificate placing our recommendations into effect will not be issued until the question of standards has been finally decided, nor will the Veterans Administration take any adverse action in these cases prior to that time...Any evidence you wish to present regarding these positions will be considered in any revision which we make in the dental officer standards."

## A.D.A. TRUSTEES TO CONVENE MARCH 19 FOR FIRST 1951 MEETING

The first 1951 meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held March 19-20 at the Central Office with Dr. Harold W. Oppice, of Chicago, A.D.A. president, presiding.

## STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REACHES TOTAL OF 7,795, UP 16 PER CENT

Student membership in the A.D.A. reached a total of 7,795 on Feb. 28, an increase of 1,066 or 16 per cent over the same period last year. The present total, representing nearly 67 per cent of the nation's dental students, is a continuation of the rapid growth which started in 1948 when total student membership was only 3,379. Present membership is only slightly less than the all-time high of 8,450 registered at the end of last year. The student classification includes internes and residents who are eligible providing they maintain continuous membership after graduation. Eleven of the nation's 42 dental schools already have reported 100 per cent memberships for 1951. They are: College of Physicians and Surgeons (San Francisco), University of Southern California, Loyola University (Chicago), University of Detroit, University of Kansas City, Creighton University, University of Nebraska, University of North Carolina, University of Oregon, Temple University and the University of Texas.

## 11 DENTAL SCHOOLS RECEIVE \$54,571 IN CANCER GRANTS

A total of \$54,571 in cancer teaching grants was made last week to 11 dental schools by the U. S. Public Health Service. The schools received \$5,000 each except for the University of Oregon Dental School (\$4,981) and the Washington University School of Dentistry, St. Louis, (\$4,590). Other schools awarded grants are the University of Southern California College of Dentistry, Chicago College of Dental Surgery of Loyola University, University of Illinois College of Dentistry, Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry, University of Texas School of Dentistry, University of Washington School of Dentistry (Seattle), Marquette University Dental School, Howard University College of Dentistry and Georgetown University School of Dentistry.

## TELLS DENTIST'S ROLE IN FIGHT AGAINST CHRONIC DISEASE

Every dentist's and physician's office should be mobilized in the fight against chronic disease, Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Service, said in Chicago Monday (March 12). Speaking at a three-day conference sponsored by the Commission on Chronic Illness, Dr. Scheele stressed the importance of a healthy America in combatting communism. Delegates of 46 health groups were told that America cannot remain strong unless "every private physician's office, every dentist's office, every clinic, hospital and health agency is a listening post for chronic disease." Dr. Allen O. Gruebbel, of Chicago, secretary of the Council on Dental Health, represented the A.D.A. which is an associate member of the sponsoring group.

## BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

The Federation Dentaire Internationale, international body of organized dentistry, will hold its 1951 meeting June 9-16 at Brussels. Association members interested in attending the meeting are asked to communicate with Dr. Stanley D. Tylman, chairman of the A.D.A. Council on International Relations, whose address is 55 E. Washington St., Chicago 2, Ill....Mr. Leo E. Brown, of Chicago, has been named general manager in charge of A.M.A. public relations, succeeding Mr. Lawrence Rember who becomes public relations field representative....The American Board of Orthodontics will meet April 18-22 and the American Association of Orthodontists will meet April 23-26, both in Louisville....Dr. LeRoy M. Ennis, of Philadelphia, A.D.A. president-elect, will be among the essayists at the 38th annual session of the Thomas P. Hinman Clinic to be held in Atlanta, Ga., March 25-28....A dental health assembly will be held April 9-12 at Tuskegee Institute and the Veterans Hospital at Tuskegee, Ala., under the auspices of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society and the dental service of the hospital....The March issue of the magazine Seventeen carries a dental health article, "Your Smile is Showing," by Beth Harber....An article on dental research and tooth brushing, entitled "You've Still Got to Brush Your Teeth," is published in the April issue of Pageant Magazine. The author is Paul D. Greene....The annual meeting of the New York State Society of Dentistry for Children has been scheduled for May 9 at the Hotel Statler in Buffalo, concurrently with the annual meeting of the Dental Society of the State of New York....Dr. Knut Gard, of Oslo, secretary-general of the Norwegian Dental Society, will visit the Central Office in April during a study tour of the United States.