

American Dental Association

**ADACommons**

---

[ADA News Letter](#)

[ADA Publications](#)

---

12-15-1951

## ADA News Letter - 12/15/1951

American Dental Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.ada.org/adanewsletter>



Part of the [Dentistry Commons](#), [History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Commons](#), and the [Nonprofit Administration and Management Commons](#)

---

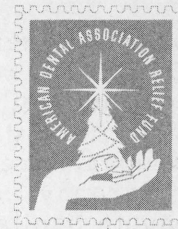
### Recommended Citation

American Dental Association, "ADA News Letter - 12/15/1951" (1951). *ADA News Letter*. 95.  
<https://commons.ada.org/adanewsletter/95>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the ADA Publications at ADACommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in ADA News Letter by an authorized administrator of ADACommons. For more information, please contact [commons@ada.org](mailto:commons@ada.org).



## The Relief Fund Needs Your Help NOW!



# ada News Letter

Vol. 4, No. 24 - Dec. 15, 1951

### GROWTH OF ILLEGAL DENTAL PRACTICES IS RESULT OF LAX ENFORCEMENT OF STATE DENTAL PRACTICE ACTS, DR. ENNIS REPORTS AT NEW YORK MEETING

Dr. LeRoy M. Ennis, of Philadelphia, A.D.A. president, last week blamed lax enforcement of state dental practice acts for an increasing amount of "bootleg dentistry" -- the illegal practice of dentistry by dental laboratories and dental laboratory technicians. In a speech before the annual Greater New York Dental Meeting on Dec. 3, Dr. Ennis said "the damage being done to the health of the public by these so-called dental bootleggers is growing to alarming proportions in many areas." In most of the nation's larger cities, he said, the record of enforcement "is such that at times it could be said to be almost non-existent." He declared that "proper steps to stamp out this illegal practice is a matter of the highest urgency." While pointing out that only a minority of laboratories and technicians were engaging in illegal practices of providing direct service to the public, Dr. Ennis warned that the situation constitutes a serious threat to public health. "Each day that illegal dentistry is allowed to flourish sees countless additions to the list of those individuals victimized by the

THE HELP OF ALL STATE AND LOCAL SOCIETY OFFICIALS IN stimulating contributions to the American Dental Association Relief Fund is urgently requested by Dr. Leo W. Kremer, of Chicago, chairman of the Council on Relief. Contributions so far this year (see accompanying mimeographed report) are running more than 10 per cent below those of last year. To date only three constituent societies -- Alaska, Alabama and North Dakota -- have reached their respective quotas. The Relief Fund depends solely upon voluntary contributions to carry on its important work of helping those who are unable to help themselves. The active support of every practicing dentist is needed now!

incompetents who illegally are trying to provide a vital health service," he said. Dr. Ennis added that responsibility "must be placed squarely on those public officials who are not enforcing the existing state laws." He pointed out that the Association did not agree that a solution to the problem could be found by enactment of new state laws to license or register dental laboratories and technicians. "The mere multiplication of laws is not a substitute for strict enforcement of existing ones," he said.

#### FALSE RELIANCE ON AD CLAIMS DEPLORED

frices and mouthwashes at the expense of early diagnosis and preventive care. Dr. Lyons,

In another address at the Greater New York meeting, Dr. Harry Lyons, of Richmond, Va., attacked the public's "false reliance" on denti-

who is a member of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics and dean of the School of Dentistry, Medical College of Virginia, blamed advertising campaigns of tooth preparations for much of the neglect. "Those advertisements scare people into buying many preparations that merely eliminate symptoms so that the real trouble often becomes serious before it is properly treated or prescribed for," Dr. Lyons said. Asserting that the value of ammoniated, chlorophyll and penicillin dentifrices has yet to be proved beyond the fact that they promote mouth sanitation, he added that proper toothbrushing is a major factor in the published test successes of medicated dentifrices. Dr. Lyons also was critical of advertising claims made for various shapes of toothbrushes. "Of course a convex one will fit inside of the tooth arch; a concave one, the outside, and a long-pointed tip will reach back teeth; but is anybody going to use three brushes every time?" he asked. Pointing out that teeth could be brushed within "split minutes" after every meal, he said: "Carrying toothbrushes around ought to be just as acceptable as carrying combs, lipsticks and powder because there is a lot more sense in it."

## **FLUORIDATION APPROVED FOR CITY OF BALTIMORE; SEATTLE TO VOTE ON MEASURE MARCH 11 -- A.M.A. HOUSE OF DELEGATES ENDORSES PUBLIC HEALTH PROCEDURE**

Fluoridation of public water supplies is expected to be in operation in the city of Baltimore early in February. The city council for the city of nearly 1 million persons approved a 1951 budget containing a \$90,000 appropriation for the public health measure almost simultaneously with a favorable report on the procedure by a special committee of the National Research Council. (See A.D.A. News Letter, Dec. 1, 1951.) Although the appropriation had been earmarked for fluoridation sometime previously, at the suggestion of the city's health commissioner, plans for adoption of the process had been held in abeyance pending the report of the research council's committee, three of whose members were also members of the faculty of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Across the nation, the people of Seattle will be called upon to vote on the issue of fluoridation for the city of 460,000 population in a "public initiative" measure March 11. Seattle's city council is thus following the pattern of the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco, whose decision to submit the measure to the voters in a referendum resulted in an overwhelming vote in favor of the procedure Nov. 6. While the Seattle District Dental Society worked actively for the measure, another west coast community, that of Gearhart, Ore., took credit for having the first fluoridation procedure in operation on the Pacific coast. Fluoridation was installed in the community on June 12, 1951. The mayor of the town is Dr. T. Rex Baldwin, president of the Clatsop County Dental Society. Baltimore's decision to fluoridate its water supply came as approval of the measure was voted by Philadelphia's city council. Philadelphia, the nation's third largest city, appropriated \$150,000 to provide fluoridated water for the city of more than 2 million people.

### **A.M.A. RESOLUTION CITES SAFETY OF FLUORIDATION**

The House of Delegates of the American Medical Association endorsed the principle of fluoridation of community water supplies at the annual clinical session of the A.M.A. last week in Los Angeles. The action came in the wake of a joint favorable report on the measure by two A.M.A. councils, the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry and the Council on Foods and Nutrition. The A.M.A. resolution declared that carefully controlled studies have demonstrated that fluoridation has been "definitely beneficial" in the reduction of dental caries in the younger age group. The resolution said that "fluoride is non-toxic in community water supplies up to one part per million."

## **DENTIST VOLUNTEERS FILL MILITARY QUOTAS, DRAFT CALLS SUSPENDED**

Draft calls for both dentists and physicians are being suspended "for the present" because volunteers for military duty are filling all needs in the armed forces, the Department of Defense announced last week. Since passage of the dentist-physician draft law in September, 1950, a total of 2,474 draft-eligible dentists and 5,367 physicians have volunteered for commissions, the Defense Department said. Meanwhile, the Armed Forces Medical Policy Council reported a total of approximately 6,000 dentists now on duty with the military forces.

NEW APPEAL ISSUED TO ALL DENTISTS AS RELIEF FUND DONATIONS  
DROP BELOW LAST YEAR -- ALABAMA, NORTH DAKOTA EXCEED QUOTAS

A new appeal to all dentists to support the 1951-52 drive for contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund was issued today by Dr. Leo W. Kremer, chairman of the Council on Relief, as contributions through Nov. 30 reached \$48,506.81, less than one-half of the \$100,000 quota. The total receipts were more than 10 per cent below those received in the corresponding period a year ago. During the last two weeks, two additional constituent societies exceeded their quotas for the 1951-52 campaign. North Dakota dentists contributed 125 per cent of their quota and Alabama dentists reached the 102 per cent mark. Alaska, the only other constituent to exceed its quota, led the entire nation with contributions totalling 145 per cent of their quota. To date, only 16,000, or less than one-fourth of the Association's members have contributed. The average donation was \$2.89. A breakdown of contributions by constituent societies to Nov. 30 follows:

TO NOV. 30				TO NOV. 30			
	1951-52 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT		1951-52 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT
Air Force	\$ 460.00	\$ 124.00	27.0	Navy	\$ 850.00	\$ 226.00	26.6
Alabama	740.00	761.00	102.8	Nebraska	1100.00	211.00	19.2
Alaska	40.00	58.00	145.0	Nevada	90.00	54.50	60.6
Arizona	260.00	97.00	37.3	New Hampshire	300.00	195.00	65.0
Arkansas	480.00	333.50	69.5	New Jersey	4110.00	2413.00	58.7
Army	480.00	166.50	34.7	New Mexico	200.00	129.50	64.8
California	3540.00	2012.50	56.9	New York	15620.00	5599.50	35.8
California, So.	4340.00	2179.00	50.2	North Carolina	1250.00	389.00	31.1
Colorado	940.00	293.50	31.2	North Dakota	330.00	415.00	125.8
Connecticut	1910.00	1093.50	57.3	Ohio	4940.00	2347.50	47.5
Delaware	150.00	78.00	52.0	Oklahoma	880.00	326.00	37.0
Dist. of Col.	840.00	460.50	54.8	Oregon	1170.00	777.50	66.5
Florida	1180.00	661.50	56.1	Panama C. Z.	20.00	2.00	10.0
Georgia	1020.00	461.00	45.2	Pennsylvania	7190.00	3242.08	45.1
Hawaii	350.00	121.00	34.6	P. H. Service	240.00	76.00	31.7
Idaho	260.00	203.00	78.1	Puerto Rico	280.00	58.00	20.7
Illinois	7750.00	4391.00	56.7	Rhode Island	550.00	360.00	65.5
Indiana	2280.00	1621.00	71.1	South Carolina	430.00	163.00	37.9
Iowa	1900.00	1081.65	56.9	South Dakota	340.00	175.50	51.6
Kansas	1060.00	595.15	56.1	Tennessee	1110.00	433.00	39.0
Kentucky	1060.00	218.50	20.6	Texas	3010.00	1239.60	41.2
Louisiana	1010.00	446.00	44.2	Utah	480.00	102.00	21.3
Maine	450.00	226.50	50.3	Vermont	190.00	70.00	36.8
Maryland	1010.00	629.00	62.3	Vet. Admin.	990.00	195.50	19.7
Massachusetts	3780.00	1909.00	50.5	Virginia	1120.00	548.00	48.9
Michigan	3900.00	2025.00	51.9	Washington	1690.00	1244.50	73.6
Minnesota	2970.00	1550.83	52.2	West Virginia	770.00	352.00	45.7
Mississippi	530.00	249.50	47.1	Wisconsin	2990.00	1348.00	45.1
Missouri	2550.00	1402.00	55.0	Wyoming	160.00	89.00	55.6
Montana	360.00	259.50	72.1	Miscellaneous		18.00	
Totals				\$100,000.00	\$48,506.81	48.5	

## **COUNCIL TO ISSUE NEW REPORT ON PENICILLIN DENTIFRICES**

A proposal to issue a new report on penicillin dentifrices was adopted at a meeting of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics last week at the Central Office. In taking the action, the Council said recent evidence indicates "cause for some concern" regarding the possible development of resistant strains of micro-organisms in the mouths of individuals using penicillin dentifrices. The Council is headed by Dr. Thomas J. Hill, of Cleveland. In a preliminary report on the use of penicillin dentifrices in May, 1950, the Council recommended that the product be restricted to prescription use because of the possible hazards associated with its indiscriminate use. At last week's conference, the Council concluded that "recent evidence suggests the possibility of development of resistant strains." The Council added that routine consideration for reclassification of the product will be given when further evidence is available. The preparation is now in Group C (consisting of products for which the evidence is so limited that they cannot be accurately evaluated). At the meeting, in addition to members of the newly-expanded nine-man Council, were Dr. Erwin E. Nelson, of Washington, D.C., director of the medical division of the Food and Drug Administration; Dr. Walter Wolman, of Chicago, director of the chemical laboratory of the American Medical Association, and Dr. Isaac Schour, of Chicago, associate dean of the University of Illinois College of Dentistry.

## **OFFICIAL A.D.A. DELEGATION AT INTERNATIONAL DENTAL CONGRESS NAMED**

The A.D.A. will be represented by at least five official delegates during the 11th International Dental Congress to be held next summer in London. The men will serve as members of the executive council of the Federation Dentaire International, sponsor of the Congress. An F.D.I. meeting will be held at the same time as the Congress, from July 19 through 26. The A.D.A. delegation will include Dr. LeRoy M. Ennis, of Philadelphia, Association president; Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., and Dr. Obed H. Moen, of Watertown, Wis., trustees; Dr. Oren A. Oliver, of Nashville, Tenn., member of the Council on International Relations, and Dr. Harold Hillenbrand of Chicago, A.D.A. secretary. Additional honorary delegates will be appointed prior to the meeting, Dr. Ennis said. The chief order of business at the F.D.I. meeting is expected to include extensive revision of the organization's statutes and election of new officers. Members of the dental profession in the United States who are interested in attending the International Dental Congress are asked to communicate with Dr. Hillenbrand at the Central Office.

## **NEW A.D.A. CIVIL DEFENSE UNIT TO MEET WITH NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE**

Dr. LeRoy M. Ennis, of Philadelphia, Association president, will preside at a meeting of the Special Committee on National Emergency Dental Service next Wednesday and Thursday (Dec. 19-20) at the Central Office. Taking part in the two-day conference will be members of the committee's newly-established special subcommittee on civil defense. The members are Dr. John R. Abel, of Beverly Hills, Cal.; Dr. David E. Hunn, of Troy, N.Y., and Dr. Lloyd Rogers, of Detroit. The civil defense subcommittee will serve as a liaison between the Association and the Federal Civil Defense Administration in coordinating activities of the dental profession in civil defense and encouraging state dental societies in civil defense participation. Dr. Russell W. Bunting, of Ann Arbor, Mich., is dental consultant to the Federal Civil Defense Administration.

## **CLARIFIES TIME-LIMIT RULE ON VA OUT-PATIENT DENTAL TREATMENT**

The 60-day time limit for completion of Veterans Administration out-patient dental treatment may be extended "when unusual or unforeseen delays are encountered," Vice Admiral Joel T. Boone, chief medical director of the VA, declared recently. The A.D.A. House of Delegates at its Washington meeting passed a resolution, introduced by the Indiana delegation, asking that the time limit be extended to 90 days. In a memorandum to managers of all VA regional offices, Vice Admiral Boone stated that it was permissible to authorize "a longer period if the requirements of the individual case indicate that more time would be required to complete the indicated treatment." Time limits were established, he said, to ensure control of funds and to enable the dentist to obtain cooperation from the patient.

## **DR. SLOMAN IS MEMBER OF COMMISSION ON FINANCING HOSPITAL CARE**

Dr. Ernest G. Sloman, of San Francisco, speaker of the A.D.A. House of Delegates and dean of the School of Dentistry, College of Physicians and Surgeons, is one of 35 members of the newly-formed Commission on Financing Hospital Care. Composed of representatives of health, labor, agricultural, management and government groups, the commission will conduct a two-year study of the cost of hospital care including dental treatments in hospitals. Purpose of the study is to provide "high quality hospital care at the lowest possible cost to the public." Mr. Gordon Gray, of Chapel Hill, N.C., president of the University of North Carolina, is chairman, and Mr. Graham L. Davis, of Battle Creek, Mich., past president of the American Hospital Association, is the executive director. Mr. David M. Kinzer, of Chicago, former member of the staff of the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information, has been appointed director of public relations for the commission.

## **MORE THAN ONE BILLION DOLLARS SPENT FOR DENTAL CARE IN 1950**

More than one billion dollars was spent for dental care in the United States in 1950, according to the office of business economics of the U.S. Department of Commerce. A total of \$991 million was spent by individual dental patients while governmental and philanthropic expenditures brought the figure well over a billion dollars, the report showed. Individual expenditures were found to be 6.4 per cent higher than in 1949, and nearly double the amount spent in 1935. Per capita expenditure for dental care in 1950 was reported as \$6.60 as compared with \$6.31 the year before.

## **DR. HENRY O. LINEBERGER, OF RALEIGH, N.C., DIES**

Dr. Henry O. Lineberger, of Raleigh, N.C., immediate past president of the American College of Dentists and a member of the A.D.A. Judicial Council, died Dec. 7. He was 60 years old. Dr. Lineberger formerly was a member of the Prosthetic Dental Service Committee and the A.D.A. War Service Committee. He was a veteran of World War I.

## **DR. EDWARD J. JENNINGS, OF TRENTON, IS DEAD**

Dr. Edward J. Jennings, of Trenton, N. J., a former member of the A.D.A. Board of Trustees, died Wednesday, Dec. 12. He was 59 years of age. Dr. Jennings served as trustee for the 4th district from 1941 to 1947. He formerly was president and editor of the New Jersey State Dental Society. For several years, Dr. Jennings had been postmaster at Trenton.

## **BRIEFS IN THE NEWS**

The Midwinter Meeting of the Chicago Dental Society will be held Feb. 4-7 at the Conrad Hilton hotel (formerly the Stevens). Registration and exhibits will open on Feb. 3....The Army Medical Corps has approved for shipment to Korea light new mobile x-ray units that can be set up in less than 15 minutes and can develop finished films in 60 seconds....The Board of Trustees, at its recent meeting, voted that applications for life membership must be received in the Central Office at least 60 days in advance of the annual session. July 8, 1952, is the latest date applications will be accepted for presentation at the 1952 meeting....Treatment of periodontal disease in general practice will be the subject of an all-day course to be offered Feb. 7 by the University of Illinois College of Dentistry, Chicago....Word has been received of the death of Col. E. B. Dowsett, of London, president of the British Dental Association....Dr. Joseph W. Mountin, associate chief of the Bureau of State Services of the U.S. Public Health Service since 1947, has taken office as chief of the Bureau, succeeding Dr. Charles L. Williams....Papers on roentgenology and hypnosis will be presented before the International Academy of Anesthesiology on Feb. 6 at the Statler Hotel in New York City....The American Board of Prosthodontics, headed by Dr. C. J. Stansbery, of Seattle, will meet Jan. 28 through Feb. 2 at the Marquette University School of Dentistry in Milwaukee.