

American Dental Association

ADACommons

[ADA News Letter](#)

[ADA Publications](#)

3-15-1952

ADA News Letter - 03/15/1952

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 - 03/15/1952" (1952). *ADA News Letter*. 102.
<https://commons.ada.org/adanewsletter/102>

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.

The logo for the American Dental Association (ADA) is a circle containing the lowercase letters 'ada' in a bold, sans-serif font. To the right of the circle, the words 'News Letter' are written in a large, elegant, cursive script.

ada News Letter

Vol. 5, No. 7, - March 15, 1952

SEATTLE VOTES 86,230 TO 44,814 AGAINST FLUORIDATION IN REFERENDUM -- STORMY OPPOSITION LED MAINLY BY HEALTH FADDISTS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Fluoridation of domestic water supplies for the city of Seattle was defeated in a referendum last Tuesday (March 11). Residents of the west coast city voted 86,230 to 44,814 against the measure in the city's municipal elections. The referendum in the city of 460,000 persons climaxed a stormy campaign of opposition led mainly by health faddists and religious groups. The usual charge of "mass medication" was augmented by charges of "socialized medicine," "Nazi experimentation on humans," and threats to the American way of life. The city was blanketed with pamphlets that attributed to fluorides a multitude of ailments ranging from "cavities in head bones" to "irritability," "undue financial anxiety," "loss of memory," "satyriasis" and "nymphomania." Longtime Seattle residents said the campaign was one of the most heated political issues in the history of the city. The sudden opposition characterized by freely-circulated false charges was viewed by observers as the basic weakness in submitting to an electorate a scientific health measure whose benefits could scarcely be weighed by untrained lay persons -- persons whose very lack of knowledge would make them open to exploitation by self-seeking groups. Fluoridation was actively supported by the Washington State Dental Association, the Seattle District Dental Society, the county medical society, the Parent-Teacher Association and many other civic groups. The opposition was led by Christian Scientists, an organization known as the National Nutrition League, Inc., and a recently-formed Washington State Council Against Fluoridation. The Seattle referendum was a reverse performance of the referendum held last November in San Francisco when the city of 800,000 voted 114,125 to 88,377 in favor of the public health measure. (See A.D.A. News Letter, Nov. 15, 1951.)

CONGRESS COMMITTEE ENDS HEARINGS ON FLUORIDATION

A special congressional committee ended its public hearings on fluoridation March 6 with favorable testimony from representatives of the National Research Council and the American Public Health Association. The latter was represented by Dr. David B. Ast, New York state dental director, who has directed the controlled study at Newburgh, N.Y., since its inception in 1945. Dr. Ast reported that dental decay has been reduced 60 per cent among children who have been drinking the water since birth as compared with children in nearby Kingston. He rejected as a "dangerous half truth" a suggestion made by Rep. Miller (R., Neb.) that the committee recommend a policy of slowness for the procedure in the event that the measure might later show "deleterious effects." Rep. Miller has been the most outspoken opponent of fluoridation. Dr. Ast described the proposed warning as "a question of telling the whole truth or a half truth." He added that he would agree to such a warning only if it were qualified by a statement that "the likelihood is very, very remote." The National Research Council was represented by Dr. Francis F. Heyroth, of Cincinnati, a biologist, who testified that there is a "wide margin of safety" between fluorides' dental benefits and any harmful effects. The committee earlier received favorable testimony from the A.D.A., American Medical Association, Association of State and Territorial Health Officers and U.S. Public Health Service. (See A.D.A. News Letters, March 1 and 4, 1952). The committee,

headed by Rep. Delaney (D., N.Y.), was created 18 months ago to investigate possible harmful effects of the addition of chemicals to food and drink. It is expected to make a report to the speaker of the House by mid-April.

RUSK COMMITTEE URGES TERMINATION OF RECRUITING PROGRAM UNTIL ALL PRIORITY I AND II DENTISTS AND PHYSICIANS ARE IN SERVICE

The termination of active recruiting programs for dental and medical officers until all Priority I dentists and physicians under the special draft act are either on active duty or deferred for acceptable reasons was advocated recently by Dr. Howard A. Rusk, chairman of the Health Resources Advisory Committee. In a letter dated March 3 to Dr. Melvin A. Casberg, acting chairman of the Armed Forces Medical Policy Council, Dr. Rusk said his committee believes that "nothing should interfere" with the processing of all Priority I reservists and registrants. He urged that recruitment programs be delayed until all Priority I registrants have been processed. "Every recruitment means one more chance for the recalcitrant to avoid service while his more willing or more patriotic contemporary applies for a commission," Dr. Rusk said. In reply Dr. Casberg said: "When all Priority I type reserves have been called to active duty, or deferred for acceptable reasons, the Selective Service System will be requested to bring the remaining Priority I registrants into service before any Priority II type reserves are called up. It is anticipated that this will occur within the next six months. Hence, the recalcitrant ones are only delaying their service until all the Priority I registrants who have accepted commissions are called up." Already, orders have been issued for the induction of 510 Priority I dentists. Of these, 335 are to report in April and 175 during May (see A.D.A. News Letter, March 1, 1952). In the meantime, the armed forces will continue to accept applications of volunteers requesting immediate active duty.

FEDERAL AID TO DENTAL SCHOOLS IS SUPPORTED BY A.D.A. SPOKESMAN

The A.D.A. supports in principle legislation for federal aid to dental schools, an Association spokesman told the President's Commission on the Health Needs of the Nation last Tuesday. Mr. Francis J. Garvey, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, emphasized, however, that adequate safeguards against federal control were urged by the Association for any grants-in-aid legislation. The A.D.A. was asked to present its views at the commission's first meeting on the need for training more professional health personnel. Mr. Garvey discussed a long-pending Senate bill (S. 337), designed to bolster enrollments in dental, medical and other allied professional schools. Under the measure, schools of dentistry would receive \$400 for every student enrolled in addition to \$400 for each student who exceeded the past average enrollment at the school. The bill would also provide total grants of \$10 million a year for the nation's dental schools, on a matching basis, for expansion of existing facilities and construction of new schools. Mr. Garvey criticized the bill as "unrealistic" on two counts: (1) the bill does not authorized large enough total grants for construction to take care of all schools that could qualify and favors the wealthier schools that could best afford the matching appropriations and (2) dental schools are now operating at capacity and it is not too likely that very many additional students could be accommodated. Mr. Garvey pointed out that seven new dental schools are now in the planning stage. Testimony was also presented by Dr. J. Ben Robinson, of Baltimore, chairman of the committee on legislation of the American Association of Dental Schools. Dr. Robinson, who is dean of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland, traced the increased ratio of dentists to general population which he said compared favorably with the proportion of physicians to population. He also pointed out that the dental schools had gone on record in favor of federal aid to professional health education. Meanwhile, the House of Representatives was considering a new bill that would use tidelands oil royalties to help finance training of dentists, physicians, nurses and auxiliaries and to aid professional schools. A total of \$40 million in royalties is now being held in escrow, pending settlement of tidelands ownership. The measure was presented by a bipartisan group of representatives and senators.

A.D.A. RELIEF FUND CONTRIBUTIONS REACH TOTAL OF \$89,120

Total contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund for 1951-52 reached \$89,120.08 by March 11, an increase of more than \$4,000 over last year's drive at this time. Approximately \$11,000 is needed to reach the \$100,000 goal. Last year at this time, contributions totalled \$85,058.03. Eighteen constituent societies to date have exceeded their respective quotas. Dentists in the Air Force have also passed the 100 per cent mark with a contribution of 107.1 per cent of their quota. Alabama dentists continued to hold a firm grip on first place in the nation with a record contribution of 218.1 per cent of their quota. Two other societies that have more than doubled their quotas are Southern California with 203.8 per cent of quota and Alaska with 200 per cent. Other societies with contributions exceeding their quotas are: Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Washington and Wyoming. Contributions by constituent societies to March 11 follow:

	TO MARCH 11				TO MARCH 11		
	1951-52 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT		1951-52 QUOTAS	CONTRI- BUTIONS	PCT
Air Force	\$ 460.00	\$ 492.75	107.1	Navy	\$ 850.00	\$ 426.50	50.2
Alabama	740.00	1614.00	218.1	Nebraska	1100.00	1121.68	102.0
Alaska	40.00	80.00	200.0	Nevada	90.00	79.50	88.3
Arizona	260.00	128.00	49.2	New Hampshire	300.00	299.00	99.7
Arkansas	480.00	474.50	98.9	New Jersey	4110.00	3862.00	94.0
Army	480.00	356.50	74.3	New Mexico	200.00	206.50	103.3
California	3540.00	3173.00	89.6	New York	15620.00	10072.50	64.5
California, So.	4340.00	8847.00	203.8	No. Carolina	1250.00	1084.00	86.7
Colorado	940.00	772.50	82.2	North Dakota	330.00	499.00	151.2
Connecticut	1910.00	1714.50	89.8	Ohio	4940.00	4093.90	82.9
Delaware	150.00	150.00	100.0	Oklahoma	880.00	1154.00	131.1
Dist. of Col.	840.00	1300.50	154.8	Oregon	1170.00	1271.50	108.7
Florida	1180.00	1155.50	97.9	Panama C. Z.	20.00	7.00	35.0
Georgia	1020.00	1037.09	101.7	Pennsylvania	7190.00	5152.08	71.7
Hawaii	350.00	380.00	108.6	P. H. Service	240.00	133.50	55.6
Idaho	260.00	259.00	99.6	Puerto Rico	280.00	85.00	30.4
Illinois	7750.00	6872.00	88.7	Rhode Island	550.00	475.00	86.4
Indiana	2280.00	2353.50	103.2	So. Carolina	430.00	253.50	59.0
Iowa	1900.00	1575.56	82.9	South Dakota	340.00	223.00	65.6
Kansas	1060.00	832.30	78.5	Tennessee	1110.00	1362.25	122.7
Kentucky	1060.00	955.00	90.1	Texas	3010.00	2015.60	67.0
Louisiana	1010.00	754.25	74.7	Utah	480.00	205.00	42.7
Maine	450.00	347.50	77.2	Vermont	190.00	124.00	65.3
Maryland	1010.00	1062.00	105.1	Vet. Admin.	990.00	388.00	39.2
Massachusetts	3780.00	3198.00	84.6	Virginia	1120.00	898.50	80.2
Michigan	3900.00	3214.65	82.4	Washington	1690.00	1918.50	113.5
Minnesota	2970.00	2635.33	88.7	West Virginia	770.00	691.00	89.7
Mississippi	530.00	513.34	96.9	Wisconsin	2990.00	2077.80	69.5
Missouri	2550.00	2090.85	82.0	Wyoming	160.00	175.00	109.4
Montana	360.00	399.15	110.9	Miscellaneous		27.00	
				Total	\$100,000.00	\$89,120.08	89.1

NEW A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP REACHES 52,841, GAIN OF 5,500 OVER LAST YEAR

Total membership in the A.D.A. reached 52,841 at the end of February, an all-time high for the first two months of the year. The Feb. 29 total was 5,500 higher than the corresponding figure for the end of February last year. Journal subscriptions and other membership benefits will be terminated on April 1 for those who have not paid their 1952 dues. All society secretaries who have received 1952 dues from their members are urged to transmit the dues to the A.D.A. as promptly as possible to avoid cancellation of Journal subscriptions. The number of fully privileged members (active and life) at the end of February was 44,271, an increase of 4,973 over the corresponding date of 1951. Membership in other categories totalled: student, 8,423 (up 628); affiliate, 133 (down 38); associate, 6 (up 3) and honorary, 8 (up 2).

BLUEPRINTS DRAWN FOR WEST VIRGINIA DENTAL, MEDICAL SCHOOL

Plans for a dental school for West Virginia have reached the blueprint stage with architects retained to design the first buildings of a four-year dental, medical and nursing education program at West Virginia University. The schools will be situated on a 145-acre site a mile from the present campus at Morgantown. University President Irvin Stewart said the health center program will be initiated with construction of a hospital wing of 200 beds. Plans call next for a \$4 million basic science building that will contain classrooms and laboratories for instruction in dentistry, medicine and nursing. President Stewart said the rate at which construction proceeds depends upon the availability of building materials and accrual of funds. The hospital will be financed by the state's soft drink tax voted by the 1951 legislature.

PLAN BIG-SCREEN TELEVISION FOR 11TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Television of table clinics and operative techniques on a 16 by 18 foot screen will be one of the unusual highlights of the 11th International Dental Congress which will be held in London July 19-26. Television programs will be presented daily in a specially constructed 400-seat theater which was used during the Festival of Britain. The main portion of the scientific program will be held in the Royal Festival Hall which has a seating capacity of 3,500. U.S. dental scientists and educators who will present reports at the meeting include Dr. Shailer Peterson, Dr. Isaac Schour, Dr. Stanley D. Tylman, Dr. Robert G. Kesel and Dr. Balint Orban, all of Chicago; Dr. Malcolm Carr, of New York, and Dr. L. I. Grossman, of Philadelphia.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR FILM, SCIENCE EXHIBITS AT ANNUAL SESSION

A.D.A. members are invited to participate in the motion picture and scientific exhibit to be presented at the 93rd annual session of the Association to be held Sept. 8-11 in St. Louis. The films and exhibits should be concerned with some phase of diagnosis, treatment or research related to improvement of health and dental practice. Scientific exhibitors are divided among three categories: (1) individuals, (2) federal agencies and (3) institutions, associations and state and local governments. Applications for participation should be submitted by June 13 and may be obtained from Dr. Donald A. Washburn, director, scientific exhibits, at the Central Office, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago, 11.

THOMAS P. HINMAN MID-WINTER CLINIC TO BE HELD MARCH 23-26

Sixteen lecture clinics, seven scientific exhibits, films and essays will be presented at the 40th annual meeting of the Thomas P. Hinman Mid-Winter Clinic to be held March 23-26 at the Municipal Auditorium in Atlanta. The four-day meeting is sponsored by the Fifth District Dental Society of Georgia. Dr. R. D. Robinson, of Atlanta, is general chairman. A dinner in honor of clinicians and members will be held March 24 at the Atlanta Athletic Club.

A.D.A. MEMBERS INVITED TO DENTAL MEETINGS THROUGHOUT WORLD

A.D.A. members have been invited to dental meetings throughout the world. In Europe, members interested in presenting a paper and clinic before the Irish Dental Association in Dublin the week of July 15 are asked to communicate at once with Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, Association secretary. U.S. dentists who find it possible to attend the British Dental Association's meeting at Cardiff, Wales, the week of Sept. 1 are also asked to communicate with Dr. Hillenbrand. The Dental Association of South Africa also has invited U.S. dentists to attend its Scientific Congress in Johannesburg in May of 1953. Any individual who would like to go to the meeting is also requested to get in touch with Dr. Hillenbrand. The South African Association has offered to pay expenses incurred within the boundaries of the country by an A.D.A. representative. In South America, the first Dental Congress of Pan American Universities will take place May 4-10 at Buenos Aires. Information about the Congress may be obtained from Dr. Stanley D. Tylman, 55 E. Washington St., Chicago.

INFORMATION KITS ON OLD AGE INSURANCE SENT TO DENTAL SOCIETIES

Several hundred documented information kits on the Old Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) program of the federal Social Security Act were mailed this week to dental society officials. The portfolio of material was prepared by the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information in keeping with a House of Delegates resolution urging that all constituent and component dental societies "be encouraged to organize discussion groups throughout the membership for the purpose of obtaining full and clear understanding of the issues involved." The packet is intended to assist dental society officials and group leaders in conducting discussions on the subject. The portfolio includes pamphlets and reprints of authoritative articles covering the issues involved in OASI and an up-to-date bibliography. Additional portfolios will be mailed only upon request of society secretaries or other authorized officials of state and local dental societies.

CANADIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION TO HOLD GOLDEN JUBILEE MEETING

Dr. Bernerd C. Kingsbury, of San Francisco, 13th district A.D.A. trustee, has been named official representative of the Association for the golden jubilee meeting of the Canadian Dental Association to be held June 15-18 in Vancouver, British Columbia. The four-day meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual session of the British Columbia Dental Association. Dr. H. M. Cline, of Vancouver, is president of the Canadian association.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Frederick W. Herbine, of Reading, Pa., chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Trade and Laboratory Relations, has been appointed the Association's representative in the division of civilian health requirements of the U.S. Public Health Service....The U.S. Department of Labor's new Occupational Outlook Handbook reports that the demand for dental services is rapidly increasing and "the outlook over the long run is exceptionally bright for young persons...able to enter (dental) training."...Activities of the College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, are being presented in a series of Tuesday evening television shows about the university's new \$15 million Health Center. The series is called "Picture of Health."...Dr. David Witter, formerly state dental director in South Dakota, has been named director of the section on dental health of the Oregon State Board of Health at Portland....Dentists from Indonesia, Nationalist China and the Philippines met recently in Manila for the first Far East Dental Conference. Representing the A.D.A. was Capt. Arthur B. Harris of the U.S. Air Force....Dr. Edward C. Thompson, former president of the Champaign-Danville (Ill.) District Dental Society, has been elected chief of staff at the Carle Memorial Hospital in Urbana, Ill. He formerly served as chief of oral surgery at the 115-bed general hospital....Dr. Russell E. Morgan, of Norwalk, Conn., past president of the Western Fairfield County Dental Association, was honored recently at a testimonial dinner in recognition of his 50 years of dental practice....The American Dental Trade Association will hold its 71st annual meeting June 15-20 at Chalfonte-Haddon Hall in Atlantic City.