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The Relief Fund Needs Your Help NOW!



ada News Letter

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Vol. 6, No. 1 - Jan. 1, 1953

FLUORIDATION OF COMMUNAL WATER, INCREASED DENTAL RESEARCH AND EXPANDED CARE FOR CHILDREN URGED BY MAGNUSON COMMISSION

A four-point program including the training of more dentists, fluoridation of community water supplies, increased financial support of dental research and increased dental care for children was recommended in the final report of the President's Commission on the Health Needs of the Nation which was submitted to President Truman on Dec. 18. The Commission, headed by Dr. Paul B. Magnuson, Chicago orthopedic surgeon and former V. A. medical director, urged that complete health services be made available to all as a "basic human right" through an expansion of voluntary prepayment plans plus increased federal grants to the states. The Commission reported that there is a vast amount of unmet health needs in the nation and urged additional federal appropriations of \$ 1,016,000,000 for civilian health purposes. Largest appropriation recommended was for \$ 750 million in grants-in-aid to states to provide personal health services. Others would provide funds for medical, dental and nursing schools, for hospital construction, for increased research and for expansion of state and local health units. The report avoided any recommendations for a national system of compulsory health insurance which had been repeatedly advocated by President Truman.

INCREASED FINANCIAL AID URGED FOR DENTAL SCHOOLS

of increasing the supply of dentists, the report recommended: "(1) expanding the schools which have adequate faculties and facilities to maximum enrollments; (2) developing new schools, preferably on a regional, inter-state basis; (3) removing economic and geographic barriers which stand in the way of the enrollment of many qualified candidates; (4) increased use of dental hygienists and other auxiliary dental workers." The report said that the condition of the dental education system in the nation was "even more critical than the precarious financial structure of our medical school system." The report pointed out that unlike the medical schools few schools of dentistry can count on significant sums of money from gifts or endowment. It also noted that "the general public has little idea of the cost of a dental education," and said that scholarships are greatly needed in this field. The Commission described federal financial aid to dental schools as the most feasible method for increasing the nation's supply of dentists.

URGES "HIGH PRIORITY" FOR DENTAL TREATMENT

dental care deserves among the health needs of the American people." The report noted that despite the almost universal need for dental care, less than 40 per cent of the American people receive any dental care during the course of a year. It emphasized the need for increased preventive care and recommended that:

1. Dental care be considered an essential component of comprehensive health service to be made available for children immediately and for the entire population as rapidly as possible.

The report said that the present total of 2,900 new dental graduates a year was inadequate to meet current needs for dentists. As a means

In a special section on dental disease, the report declared that the "array of shocking evidence establishes the high priority which dental care deserves among the health needs of the American people." The report noted that despite the almost universal need for dental care, less than 40 per cent of the American people receive any dental care during the course of a year. It emphasized the need for increased preventive care and recommended that:

2. All communities bring the fluoride content of their communal water supplies up to an optimum level for the prevention of dental caries and that individual preventive dental procedures be likewise promoted.
3. More efficient methods of dental practice, including the more general use of dental assistants and dental hygienists, be undertaken.
4. Increased research into dental disease be supported.

The late Dr. Ernest G. Sloman, dean of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco, served as a member of the Commission until his death on April 30. He was succeeded by Dr. Lester W. Burket, dean of the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry, Philadelphia.

V. A. DENTAL CHIEF GIVEN STRONGER ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS

Under a new Veterans Administration reorganization now being placed in effect, the V.A. chief of dental service will be one of four assistant chief medical directors, Administrator Carl R. Gray, Jr., has announced. The new plan places the assistant chief medical director for dental service on an administrative par with directors of planning, operations and research and education. Functions of the dental chief will remain substantially the same, but according to V. A. officials, the new plan gives him a stronger administrative status. The reorganization runs contrary to recommendations contained in the newly-completed management survey report by the firm of Booz, Allen and Hamilton. The report, which covered the entire V. A., recommended that dental services be demoted to an administrative level with pharmacy, radiology and nursing. The report also suggested a review of the basic policy governing treatment of service-connected conditions pointing out that "lifetime care of the service-connected tooth... through custom, may extend...to a full set of service-connected dentures."

DENTAL SUPERVISORS ASSIGNED TO SIX AREA MEDICAL OFFICES

In another reorganization move, the V. A. has assigned dental supervisors to each of the six area medical offices, effective today (Jan. 1).

Major V. A. field offices have not had dental supervisors since the agency's 13 branch offices were abolished and the six area medical offices were created in 1949. New dental supervisors are: Dr. M. Dee Medlin, Boston; Dr. Harry R. Voekler, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Stanton N. Bordner, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Edward Neenan, St. Louis; Dr. Willis E. Krueger, St. Paul, Minn., and Dr. Walter Lee, San Francisco.

DEFERMENT OF PRIORITY I AND II DENTISTS TO BE REVIEWED

A lowering of physical requirements which will permit a number of priority I and II dentists, physicians and veterinarians previously deferred because of physical unfitness to be called up for active duty was announced last week by the Department of Defense. As a result, Selective Service has ordered a re-examination of certain physically-disqualified men. Selective Service has also ordered a review for all priority I and II registrants and reserve officers who have been deferred on grounds that they are essential to their communities. The review has been ordered "to determine the present status of their essentiality to the national health, safety or interest or, conversely, their availability for military service." According to the latest available reports from Selective Service, approximately 1,400 dentists in priorities I and II have been deferred.

NEW INFORMATION BULLETIN ON THE DRAFTING OF DENTISTS WILL BE MAILED TO ALL A.D.A. MEMBERS IN EARLY JANUARY

A new issue of the A.D.A. Information Bulletin devoted to a discussion of the current draft situation and a review of the present and future needs of the armed services for dental officers will be mailed in early January to all members of the Association. Extra copies of this Bulletin may be obtained free of charge from the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information, 222 East Superior Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

MOTHER OF DR. L. M. CRUTTENDEN, A.D.A. ASSISTANT SECRETARY, DIES

Funeral services were held Tuesday (Dec. 30) at St. Paul for Mrs. Nellie Cruttenden, 92, mother of Dr. Louis M. Cruttenden, assistant secretary of the A.D.A. Mrs. Cruttenden died last Friday. A second son, Charles, of St. Paul, also survives.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO 1952-53 RELIEF FUND CAMPAIGN REACH \$62,038 --
ALABAMA, ALASKA, MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA, OKLAHOMA EXCEED QUOTAS**

Three additional states -- Alabama, Montana and Oklahoma -- exceeded their quotas in the Relief fund campaign during the first half of December, as total contributions reached \$62,038.36. In all, five states have passed the 100 per cent mark. Alaska dentists continued to lead in per capita contributions, having more than doubled their quota, and North Dakota dentists were second. Missouri was closest to fulfilling its quota among the larger societies, having passed the three-quarter mark. The total in the current campaign represents a gain of nearly \$3,300 over the corresponding figure in last year's drive. Contributions during the first two months of the 1952-53 campaign averaged \$3.10. A breakdown of contributions to Dec. 15 follows:

	<u>1952-53</u> <u>QUOTAS</u>	<u>CONTRI-</u> <u>BUTIONS</u>	<u>PCT.</u>		<u>1952-53</u> <u>QUOTAS</u>	<u>CONTRI-</u> <u>BUTIONS</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Air Force	\$ 560.00	\$ 205.00	36.6	Nebraska	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 1,015.50	94.0
Alabama	770.00	849.89	110.4	Nevada	100.00	87.00	87.0
Alaska	50.00	107.00	214.0	New Hampshire	290.00	219.00	75.5
Arizona	270.00	83.00	30.7	New Jersey	4,140.00	2,852.00	68.9
Arkansas	530.00	396.15	74.7	New Mexico	220.00	168.50	76.6
Army	540.00	289.00	53.5	New York	15,220.00	7,222.00	47.5
California	3,620.00	2,495.50	68.9	North Carolina	1,240.00	573.25	46.2
California, So.	4,460.00	2,616.40	58.7	North Dakota	350.00	433.55	123.9
Colorado	960.00	257.50	26.8	Ohio	4,970.00	3,284.80	66.1
Connecticut	1,950.00	1,337.00	68.6	Oklahoma	900.00	916.00	101.8
Delaware	150.00	104.00	69.3	Oregon	1,180.00	906.50	76.8
District of Col.	860.00	635.00	73.8	Panama C.Z.	30.00	5.00	16.7
Florida	1,220.00	1,062.00	87.0	Pennsylvania	6,970.00	3,926.44	56.3
Georgia	1,070.00	614.50	57.4	P. H. Service	270.00	103.00	38.1
Hawaii	370.00	164.00	44.3	Puerto Rico	190.00	98.00	51.6
Idaho	260.00	143.00	55.0	Rhode Island	570.00	255.00	44.7
Illinois	7,570.00	5,281.00	69.8	South Carolina	400.00	208.00	52.0
Indiana	2,240.00	1,700.00	75.9	South Dakota	340.00	169.00	49.7
Iowa	1,880.00	1,070.00	56.9	Tennessee	1,150.00	428.50	37.3
Kansas	990.00	702.46	71.0	Texas	3,050.00	1,409.00	46.2
Kentucky	1,080.00	435.50	40.3	Utah	480.00	282.00	58.8
Louisiana	990.00	495.50	50.1	Vermont	190.00	110.00	57.9
Maine	450.00	253.00	56.2	Vet. Admin.	960.00	251.00	26.1
Maryland	1,080.00	730.00	67.6	Virginia	1,140.00	713.50	62.6
Massachusetts	3,810.00	2,410.67	63.3	Washington	1,780.00	1,300.50	73.1
Michigan	3,990.00	2,677.65	67.1	West Virginia	720.00	532.50	74.0
Minnesota	2,970.00	1,808.50	60.9	Wisconsin	2,930.00	1,791.50	61.1
Mississippi	520.00	347.10	66.8	Wyoming	160.00	150.50	94.1
Missouri	2,590.00	1,979.00	76.4	Seniors		675.50	
Montana	380.00	398.50	104.9	Miscellaneous		14.00	
Navy	790.00	289.50	36.6				
					\$100,000.00	\$ 62,038.36	62.0

DR. M. H. GARVIN, EDITOR OF CANADIAN DENTAL JOURNAL, RETIRES

Dr. M. H. Garvin, of Winnipeg, has retired from the Journal of the Canadian Dental Association which he had served as editor since its founding in 1934. The retirement took place on Dr. Garvin's 50th anniversary in the practice of dentistry. Dr. Garvin is also a former president of the Canadian Dental Association. In recognition of his service to dentistry, the Western Canada Dental Society in 1945 established the M. H. Garvin Scholarship Fund at the University of Alberta.

DR. GERARD J. CASEY AND MR. BERNARD J. CONWAY ARE PROMOTED TO POSTS AS COUNCIL SECRETARIES

Two A.D.A. staff members, Dr. Gerard J. Casey and Mr. Bernard J. Conway, have been named by Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary, to serve as secretaries of A.D.A. Councils effective January 1. Dr. Casey, who has been assistant secretary of the Council on Dental Education, will become secretary of both the Council on Hospital Dental Service and the Council of the National Board of Dental Examiners. Mr. Conway, assistant secretary of the Council on Legislation, will become secretary of the Council on Federal Dental Services and the Council on Dental Trade and Laboratory Relations. None of these four Councils previously had a staff secretary. Dr. Casey formerly was a member of the faculty of the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, dental school of Loyola (Chicago) University. He joined the staff of the A.D.A. in October, 1950. Mr. Conway, a graduate of the Loyola University Law School, joined the A.D.A. staff in December, 1949.

DR. HARLAN HORNER IS AUTHOR OF NEW BOOK ON LINCOLN AND GREELEY

Dr. Harlan H. Horner, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education from 1940 to 1948, is the author of a new book, Lincoln and Greeley, which has been chosen as the January book club selection of the American History Publication Society. The book is his second on Lincoln. The first, The Growth of Lincoln's Faith, appeared in 1939. While secretary of the A.D.A. Council, Dr. Horner wrote Dental Education Today which was published in 1947 by the University of Chicago Press. More recently, he has served as a consultant to a special A.D.A. committee to consider a survey of dentistry.

STATE HEALTH OFFICERS REAFFIRM APPROVAL OF FLUORIDATION

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officers has emphatically reaffirmed its approval of the fluoridation of public water supplies. Nearly 600 communities throughout the United States now have the public health measure in operation. This includes 100 communities in the three counties surrounding Baltimore (A.D.A. News Letter, Dec. 15). In a resolution adopted at its annual meeting Dec. 8-11 in Washington, D. C., the health officers said that "in view of the overwhelming evidence in favor of water fluoridation," the program should be brought to all communities as "rapidly as possible." In an address to the conference, Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, surgeon general of the U. S. advised that "public health statesmanship" be used to defeat "uninformed opposition."

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Two dentists are members of the new Arizona state legislature convening this month at Phoenix. They are Dr. John W. McInnes, of Tucson, and Dr. John W. Stilley, of Flagstaff. Both are members of the A.D.A....Dr. Harold W. Oppice, of Chicago, past president of the Association, has retired from the faculty of the Loyola University School of Dentistry after 32 years of teaching...."Trends in Dental Public Health and Dental Care in Industry" will be the theme of the first public health workshop to be held by the First District Dental Society of the State of New York on Jan. 30 at the Hotel Statler in New York City. The chairman is Dr. Alfred J. Asgis, 7 E. 42nd St....The A.D.A. Council on Insurance, headed by Dr. Paul W. Zillmann, of Buffalo, will convene Jan. 22 at the Central Office for a two-day meeting....The American Association of Orthodontists has announced an essay contest open to members, teachers, researchers and students. An award of \$500 will be presented. Information can be obtained from Dr. Robert E. Moyers, 230 College St., Toronto....An essay content has also been announced by the American Denture Society, which will award \$100 to a senior dental student. The society's secretary is Dr. Arthur L. Roberts, Aurora National Bank Bldg., Aurora, Ill....Mr. T. T. McLean, of Nashville, executive secretary of the Tennessee State Dental Association, will become executive director of the Tennessee unit of the American Cancer Society on Jan. 15....The Army Medical Service has reported it is saving \$500,000 annually by substitution of a chrome-cobalt alloy for gold in the manufacture of partial dentures and dental replacements. The announcement said improvements have eliminated difficulty in handling and a tendency toward brittleness.