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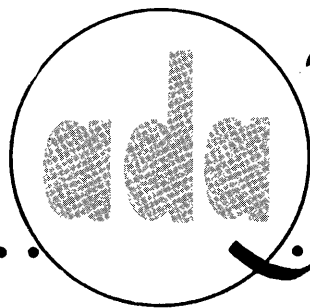


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News Letter

Vol. 6, No. 6 - March 17, 1953

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER SUBMITS PLAN TO GIVE FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY CABINET STATUS; ASSISTANT SECRETARY ON HEALTH AFFAIRS RECOMMENDED

A reorganization plan to elevate the Federal Security Agency to a full-fledged cabinet department of health, education and welfare, incorporating the position of special assistant to the secretary for health and medical affairs, was submitted to Congress last Thursday by President Eisenhower. Approval of the plan would make Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Federal Security Administrator, the 10th member of the cabinet. Under the proposal, all existing agencies of the Federal Security Agency, including the U.S. Public Health Service, the Social Security Administration, the Office of Education, the Food and Drug Administration, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and St. Elizabeth's Hospital, would be transferred to the new department. Speedy favorable action on the proposal was indicated on both sides of Capitol Hill. Under the law, such plans go into effect 60 days after they are submitted unless the House of Representatives or the Senate disapproves by a majority vote. However, in the House, Rep. Hoffman (R., Mich.) introduced a bill to put the plan in effect 10 days after approval by the House and Senate and in the Senate, hearings on the measure were promptly scheduled for Monday by Sen. McCarthy (R., Wis.), chairman of the Senate government operations committee.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO ADVISE SECRETARY ON HEALTH PROGRAMS

In addition to a secretary, the plan provides for three new policy-level positions, an undersecretary and two assistant secretaries. The special assistant on health and medical affairs would be appointed by the President with the approval of the Senate "from among persons who are recognized leaders in the medical field with wide non-governmental experience." He would "review the health and medical programs of the department" and advise the secretary on the improvement of such programs and on legislation. The position would carry a salary of \$15,000 a year, the same as the assistant secretaries. In a message accompanying the measure, President Eisenhower said that the surgeon-general of the U.S. Public Health Service, the commissioner of education and the commissioner of social security "will all have direct access to the secretary" as "the heads of the three major constituent agencies." However, neither the proposed plan nor the President's message defined the relation of the special assistant to the surgeon-general. The President's message also

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE A.D.A. RELIEF FUND have reached an all-time high in the 1952-53 campaign. With contributions still being received, the total for Feb. 28 stood at \$96,729.99 or nearly 97 per cent of the \$100,000 goal. For the first time in the history of the Relief Fund, it appeared that the campaign would reach the \$100,000 mark. The current figure exceeds last year's record total by more than \$2,500 and is only \$3,270 short of the campaign's goal. (Contributions by constituent societies are listed in the enclosed mimeographed supplement.)

advocated the creation within the new department of an advisory committee on education, made up of persons chosen by the secretary from outside the government.

A.M.A. HOUSE OF DELEGATES CALLS PLAN "STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION"

The House of Delegates of the American Medical Association, at a special meeting in Washington last weekend to consider the reorganization plan, called the proposal a "step in the right direction" after rejecting a motion to give "unqualified support" to the plan. The delegates also reaffirmed the A.M.A.'s stand for an independent department of health, a policy similar to that adopted by the A.D.A. House of Delegates in 1949. In a brief appearance before the A.M.A. delegates, President Eisenhower urged support of the plan as did Sen. Taft (R., Ohio) who said the proposed department would safeguard the medical profession permanently "against intrusion of socialized medicine or anything else compulsory."

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ISSUES CALL FOR 145 DENTISTS FOR APRIL INDUCTION

The Defense Department last week called on Selective Service for 145 dentists and 500 physicians for April induction. Of the total, 100 dental officers are for the Army and 45 for the Air Force. The Defense Department said the April call makes a total of 2,326 dentists requested from Selective Service since July, 1951. Meanwhile, pending action in Congress on a new dentist-physician draft law, Selective Service has issued an order that the induction of dentists and physicians who had active service with co-belligerents of the United States in World War II be postponed. The new draft act is expected to recognize active service with an allied force. Selective Service also ordered that dentist and physician aliens who have not declared their intention of becoming citizens be deferred for the time being.

A.D.A. REPRESENTATIVES CALL FOR RE-EXAMINATION OF V.A. POLICY

The failure of the Veterans Administration and Congress to recognize that the agency's outpatient dental care program could result in life-long subsidized dental care for the bulk of the increasing veteran population was underscored by A.D.A. representatives recently. At a conference called by the National Rehabilitation Commission of the American Legion in Washington, D.C., Dr. Rudolph Friedrich, of Plainfield, N J., chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services, said that while the Association does not oppose treatment for service-connected dental defects, the present V.A. policy of unending dental care for a veteran is "completely unreasonable" and "will require the continued expenditure of hundred of millions of dollars of federal funds." Accompanying Dr. Friedrich at the conference were Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, D.C., assistant secretary of the A.D.A., and Mr. Bernard Conway, of Chicago, secretary of the Council on Federal Dental Services. Also represented at the meeting were the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the V.A.'s Department of Medicine and Surgery and the dental corps of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

DR. ARNOLD SUCCEEDS DR. DEAN AT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

The retirement of Dr. H. Trendley Dean as director of the National Institute of Dental Research was announced last week. Dr. Francis A. Arnold Jr., associate director of the institute since its establishment in 1948, was named as his successor. The announcement was made by Dr. Leonard Scheele, surgeon general of the U.S. Public Health Service. Dr. Dean, noted for his years of research in the relation of fluorides to dental health, has been with the Public Health Service since 1921. His fluoride studies, begun in 1931 as the result of earlier research by Dr. Frederick McKay, of Colorado Springs, led to the significant discoveries that individuals with mild fluorosis had caries-resistant teeth and that the drinking of water containing one part fluorine to one million parts of water inhibited decay without causing fluorosis. Dr. Dean was graduated from the School of Dentistry, St. Louis University, in 1916 and served in World War I and II. He is a trustee of the International Association for Dental Research. Dr. Arnold, the new director of the institute, has been with the Public Health Service since receiving a degree from the School of Dentistry, Western Reserve University, in 1934. He has been associated with Dr. Dean in fluoridation studies since 1937.

ISSUE TWO A.D.A. BOOKLETS TO AID DENTISTS SEEKING PRACTICE LOCATIONS

Two pamphlets designed to aid dentists seeking practice locations were issued last week by the A.D.A. Bureau of Economic Research and Statistics. Both were mailed to all senior student members of the Association. Individual dentists will be sent copies free upon request. The first booklet, entitled "Facts about States for the Dentist Seeking a Location," contains such information as distribution of dentists in proportion to population, economic conditions, licensure requirements and names of individuals in states from whom information can be obtained. The second booklet, "Distribution of Dentists in the United States by State, Region, District and County," also contains statistics on population growth, per capita buying income and per capita retail sales. Mr. B. Duane Moen, director of the A.D.A. Bureau, pointed out that the publications would also be of particular use in answering inquiries from dental officers released from military service who are interested in new practice locations.

FLUORIDATION PROGRAM REACHES TOTAL OF 621 U.S. COMMUNITIES

Seventeen more communities were fluoridating their public water supplies this week, bringing to 621 the total number of U.S. communities which have adopted the procedure. Fulton, N.Y., with a population of 14,422, placed the measure in operation as did Ridgway, Penn. In Minnesota, six communities launched the procedure. They are Circle Pines, Cloquet, Madison, Morris, Okabina and Rush City. In Iowa, two communities, Harlan and Eagle Grove, began fluoridating their water. Seven additional Massachusetts communities, Williamstown, Salem, Beverly, Hudson, Sharon, Shrewsbury and Medway, had the program in operation.

COUNCIL ON DENTAL EDUCATION APPROVES TRAINING IN 32 MORE HOSPITALS

Dental internship and residency programs in 32 additional hospitals have been approved by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education. The action brought to a total of 121 the number of hospitals with dental education programs now approved by the Council. In the training of dental hygienists, the Council reported that 11 two-year school programs had been inspected out of a total of 26 and a list of accredited dental hygiene programs would be issued at the end of the current academic year. Presiding at the meeting was Dr. Bert L. Hooper, of Lincoln, Neb., chairman of the Council.

PLANS DRAWN FOR CONFERENCE ON UNIFORM STANDARDS IN CARIES STUDIES

A planning meeting for a forthcoming conference to set up uniform procedures and standards in clinical studies of dental caries was held last week in the Central Office. Representatives of the A.D.A. Councils on Research, Dental Therapeutics and Dental Health attended the meeting, with Dr. Thomas J. Hill, of Cleveland, chairman of the Council on Dental Therapeutics, serving as temporary chairman. The conference of investigators has been tentatively scheduled for next November. The conference was approved by the A.D.A. Board of Trustees which stressed the need for standardization of data in caries studies.

CHLOROPHYLL FAILS IN DEODORANT TESTS MADE BY BRITISH CHEMISTS

Further evidence questioning the claims for so-called chlorophyll products was reported last week in the British Medical Journal. The report was based on a series of laboratory experiments conducted by a team of chemists at Glasgow University. They concluded that chlorophyll has no deodorant properties whatsoever. In an editorial on the findings, the British publication said: "It is evident that the wave of credulity (about claims for chlorophyll) which has swept the United States has not overwhelmed everyone and it is to be hoped that it will not overwhelm too many in Britain."

STUDENT A.D.A. GROUP IS ORGANIZED AT STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Formation of a new association for A.D.A. student members at the State University of Iowa has been reported by Dr. P.W. Herrick, A.D.A. membership representative. According to records of the A.D.A. Council on Membership, the Iowa school is the 15th to have a formal organization for A.D.A. student members. Others where dental student associations are in operation are: Baylor, Southern California, Detroit, Emory, Georgetown, Indiana, Loyola (New Orleans), Marquette, Nebraska, New York, Northwestern, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh and Temple.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DENTAL RESEARCH TO HOLD 31st MEETING

The International Association for Dental Research will hold its 31st general meeting March 20-22 at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia. Approximately 135 reports will be presented at the three-day meeting. Included are 20 reports for the dental materials group whose chairman is Mr. W.T. Sweeney, of the National Bureau of Standards. The president of the I.A.D.R. is Dr. Maynard K. Hine, of Indianapolis, dean of the College of Dentistry, Indiana University.

ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SCHOOLS TO OPEN ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 23

Dr. Wendell D. Postle, of Columbus, dean of the College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, will call to order the 30th annual meeting of the American Association of Dental Schools on March 23 at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia. The meeting will continue through March 25. There will be conference sessions on clinic administration, prosthesis, dental hygienist education, graduate study, operative dentistry, oral diagnosis and oral surgery.

LOS ANGELES POSTPAYMENT PLAN USED BY 1,369 DENTISTS

A total of 1,369 members of the Los Angeles County Dental Society are participating in the Society's Postpayment Patient Finance Plan, according to a recent report by Dr. S. Mayo Silverman, president of the society and creator and chairman of the plan. In the period Oct. 3, 1950 - Dec. 31, 1952, a total amount of \$4,618,728.39 in notes was purchased. The ratio of loss in this period has been only two per cent. The average loan since the plan was started is \$237.77, and contracts have been purchased by 134 bank branches in Los Angeles County.

GEN. SNYDER APPOINTED DENTAL DIRECTOR AT BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

Brig. Gen. Oscar P. Snyder, former vice-president of the A.D.A., has been appointed director of dental activities at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Gen. Snyder, who has been serving as director of dental activities at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., will be succeeded in Washington by Brig. Gen. Egbert W. Cowan, assistant chief of the Army Dental Corps.

LINEN SUPPLY TRUCKS TO BEAR DENTAL HEALTH POSTERS DURING APRIL

Dental health posters will be displayed during April by thousands of delivery trucks of linen and towel suppliers belonging to the Linen Supply Association of America. The posters carry the message, "Play Safe -- See Your Dentist Twice a Year," and show April and October calendar pages for 1953.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. Otto W. Brandhorst, of St. Louis, A.D.A. president, will preside at a group session on "Meeting the Needs for Health Personnel" at the 33rd annual meeting of the National Health Council to be held March 18-20 at the Hotel Roosevelt in New York City....Dr. J. Ben Robinson, former president of the A.D.A. who is retiring as dean of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery in April, was honored at a testimonial dinner as a climax to the school's annual alumni meeting....Dates for the conference on world health of the National Citizens' Committee for the World Health Organization have been changed to April 6-8 at the Hotel Shoreham in Washington, D.C. (See A.D.A. News Letter, Feb. 15, 1953.) Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary, is a member of the steering committee....Under the auspices of the A.D.A. Bureau of Library and Indexing Service, two summer conferences have been scheduled. One on nomenclature will be held June 10-11 and the other on library practices June 12-13....The West Virginia State Dental Society has approved the employment of an executive secretary....The Mansfield Dental Society of the Central Ohio District Dental Society staged an outstanding program in observance of National Children's Dental Health Week. There were special classes in the city's schools, an art contest and pedodontics program open to the public. Dr. R.B. Moyer, now of Ada, Ohio, was one of the original organizers of the observance....Dr. Allen O. Gruebbel, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health, will be a speaker at the 1953 Dental Seminar, sponsored by the Georgia Department of Health and the Georgia Dental Association, to be held the week of May 4 in three cities.