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News Letter

Vol. 6, No. 10 - May 18, 1953

HOUSE PASSES TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF DENTIST-PHYSICIAN DRAFT ACT-- VETERANS TO BE GIVEN MORE LIBERAL CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS ACTIVE DUTY

The U. S. House of Representatives by voice vote Tuesday (May 12) passed a two-year extension of the dentist-physician draft bill to replace Public Law 779 which expires June 30. The House bill, which now goes to the Senate, follows the general lines of Public Law 779 in establishing four priorities under which professional men up to age 51 may be summoned for 24 months of active duty with the armed forces. As approved by the House, the draft extension bill excludes from recall all veterans who have had 21 months or more of active duty since Sept. 16, 1940, and provides that all previous active military service with the exception of that spent in ASTP or V-12 training be counted in determining each man's previous duty. The House-approved bill also provides that men who have served 12 months of active duty since 1940 could be drafted for a maximum of 17 more months of military service. The obligation of all Priorities I and II men for immediate induction is reiterated in the House bill. Since virtually all available men in the first two priorities have already been called to active duty, Priority III men, that is those who have not had any military service since 1940, are the ones

ALL NEW DENTAL GRADUATES except those who hold reserve commissions in the armed forces are required by Public Law 779 to register with their local draft board within five days after receiving a dental degree. New dental graduates must register even though they have previously registered under the general draft law.

who will be most directly affected by the two-year extension of the draft act. According to Department of Defense estimates, approximately 4,500 new dental officers will be needed by the armed forces during the two-year period, beginning July 1. Practically all of these will be taken from Priority III. New graduates who are non-veterans automatically are placed in Priority III. The total of eligible new graduates, however, is not expected to account for more than 25 or 30 per cent, at most, of the need for replacement dental officers. This means, if the House version of the draft act is accepted by the Senate, that somewhere between 2,500 and 3,000 practicing dentists without previous military service can expect to be called up for active duty in the next two years.

NEW BILL MAY SPEED RELEASE OF SOME MEN NOW IN SERVICE

Under Public Law 779, only those who had 12 months of active duty between Dec. 7, 1941, and Sept. 2, 1945, were eligible for release at the end of 17 months of service. Under the new bill, all service since Sept. 16, 1940, with the exception of time spent in ASTP, V-12 or similar training programs, would count toward release. To qualify under this new provision, men would have to have accumulated 12 months of service prior to their current recall to active duty. The new bill also proposes that Priority I and II men who have had more than 17 months of prior service at any time must be released in 90 days. The House took no action on a proposal that older men in Priority III be called first. This leaves unchanged present regulations that younger men be called first.

The more liberal provisions of the House-approved draft extension may enable some men on duty to be released earlier than now scheduled.

NEW BILL BROADENS ROLE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

power of the advisory committees to Selective Service had been requested by Dr. J. Claude Earnest of Monroe, La., a member of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, in testimony presented to the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives.

SENATE COMMITTEE TO START DRAFT HEARINGS ON MAY 18

The Senate Armed Services Committee will begin public hearings on the dentist-physician draft extension on Monday, May 18. Dr.

Rudolph H. Friedrich, of Plainfield, N. J., chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services, will appear on Wednesday, May 20, presenting a statement similar to that given the House Armed Services Committee by Dr. Earnest. Dr. Friedrich is expected to press for retention of the \$100-a-month extra salary allowance now provided for dentists and physicians volunteering for active duty with the armed forces. Last week, Sen. Hunt (D., Wyo.) introduced an amendment to the new draft bill which would extend for two more years the \$100-a-month equalization pay for dental and medical officers.

DENTISTS UP TO AGE 43 MAY BE CALLED IN JUNE

National Selective Service has instructed local draft boards to call dentists up to the age of 43 years to fill June calls. Previously, the age

limit on dentists was 41 years. No calls for July have as yet been transmitted by the Department of Defense to Selective Service because of the expiration of Public Law 779 on June 30. Such calls will probably be made immediately after the draft extension is approved by Congress and President Eisenhower. This, however, is not expected for two or three weeks at the earliest.

A.D.A. OFFICIALS HOLD CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

Dr. Otto W. Brandhorst, of St. Louis, A.D.A. president, headed a delegation of A.D.A. officials who met with President Eisenhower at the White House on April 30 to discuss general problems relating to dental programs of the federal government. Other members of the A.D.A. group were Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, secretary; Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, 4th District trustee; Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, assistant secretary, and Mr. John J. Hollister, of Chicago, business manager. Views of the A.D.A. regarding appropriations for the Veterans Administration "home-town" treatment program will be presented before a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee today (May 18) by Mr. Francis J. Garvey, secretary, Council on Legislation. The A.D.A. also has been asked to testify in the near future on the V.A. program by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

CONSULTANTS CHECK ON NAVY DENTAL PROGRAM

Four A.D.A. officials -- Dr. Otto W. Brandhorst, of St. Louis, president; Dr. Leslie M. FitzGerald, of Dubuque, Ia., president-elect, and Dr. LeRoy M. Ennis, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Harold W. Oppice, of Chicago, former A.D.A. presidents -- met last week with top officers of the Navy Medical Department in Washington, D.C. All four men are honorary civilian consultants to the Navy Medical Department.

A.D.A. TO TESTIFY ON DENTAL CARE OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS

Dr. Rudolph Friedrich, of Plainfield, N.J., chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services, will represent the Association in testimony May 25 before the newly-organized Citizens Advisory Commission on Medical Care of Dependents of Military Personnel. The commission was appointed last month by Secretary of Defense Wilson to study the problem of dental and medical care for dependents of military personnel. It is headed by Dr. Harold G. Moulton, president emeritus of Brookings Institution.

DR. FREEMAN RESIGNS AS DEAN OF NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY DENTAL SCHOOL

Dr. Charles W. Freeman, dean of the Northwestern University Dental School since 1938, announced his resignation as dean on May 11. Dr. Freeman will remain as professor of oral surgery. He joined the faculty of the dental school in 1912, the same year in which he received the D.D.S. degree, and has been professor of oral surgery since 1933.

NEARLY 14 MILLION DRINKING FLUORIDATED WATER IN 735 COMMUNITIES

Nearly 14 million people are now drinking fluoridated water in 735 U.S. communities, according to a new compilation made last week by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health. Nashville, Tenn., with a population of 174,307 recently started fluoridation of its water supply, as did Creston, Iowa; Fort Belknap (Indian Reservation), Mont.; Highland, Larchmont and Penn Yan, N.Y.; Crossville and Lawrenceburg, Tenn., and Cottage Grove, Mosinee and Wonewoc, Wis. Rockford, Ill., where the city council has approved fluoridation, is expected shortly to begin the process.

FOUR MORE STATES URGE FLUORIDATION PROGRAMS

Meanwhile, at least four more state dental societies -- Illinois, Kansas, Maryland and Missouri -- reaffirmed their original endorsement of the fluoridation program at their recent annual meetings. The resolutions urged that the program be adopted in all communities of the respective states as rapidly as local conditions will permit. A similar resolution was also adopted by the Minneapolis District Dental Society.

WATERWORKS MAGAZINE CITES FAVORABLE COURT DECISIONS

Legal arguments against the fluoridation of public water supplies have been rejected in trial courts throughout the country, according to an article in the April issue of the Journal of the American Water Works Association. In an examination of court decisions on fluoridation, Mr. Walter W. Land and Mr. Edward K. Mosenthal, New York attorneys, said that "the main issue presented was probably the contention that the fluoridation of municipal water supplies violated the 14th amendment to the Constitution which indirectly protects persons from invasion of their religious freedom." The article said the argument of religious freedom was rejected in every case and added that "fluoridation is a valid exercise of police power." The authors pointed out that in three cases -- in San Diego, Cal., Chehalis, Wash., and Fargo, N.D. -- it was implied that the plaintiffs were in no position to raise the question of constitutionality because they could show no injury or invasion of their rights.

FLUORIDATION ARTICLES IN REDBOOK AND NEW YORK NEWS

The June issue of Redbook magazine contains a comprehensive article in support of fluoridation. The article is entitled, "Can We Give Our Children Better Teeth?" and was written by Dorothy Johnson. The issue will be available May 29. The magazine section of the New York Sunday News on May 3 carried an extensive illustrated article in support of fluoridation.

A.D.A. CONFERENCE ON NOMENCLATURE TO BE HELD JUNE 10-11 IN CHICAGO

A conference on nomenclature sponsored by the A.D.A. Bureau of Library and Indexing Service will be held June 10-11 in the Central Office in Chicago. Dr. George B. Denton, research consultant of the A.D.A., will direct the conference. Papers and discussions on the program will include principles of lexicography and their application, by Dr. Mitford M. Matthews, of the University of Chicago Press; principles of scientific nomenclature, by Dr. Denton; and events and trends in dental terminology in Europe, by Dr. Donald Washburn, director of the A.D.A. Bureau of Library and Indexing Service. Dr. Dan Burrill, of the University of Louisville Dental School, will review terms introduced as a result of discoveries, inventions and new concepts since 1936. Miss Geraldine Udell, manuscript editor of The Journal of the American Dental Association, will discuss non-standard and questionable usages in dental literature.

DENTAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JUNE 12-13

A conference on the dental library will be held in the Central Office on June 12-13, immediately following the nomenclature conference. Speakers will include Miss Helen Hlavac, librarian, New York University College of Dentistry; Miss Adele Fisher, reference librarian, Northwestern University Dental School; Mrs. Edith Dernehl, librarian, Marquette University Dental School; Miss Martha Mann, A.D.A. indexer; Miss Margaret G. Palmer, librarian, University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry; Dr. Shailer A. Peterson, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education; Miss Mildred Crowe, librarian, University of Alabama School of Dentistry; Mrs. Margaret Gomori, Billings Medical Library, University of Chicago, and Dr. J. Roy Blayney, director, Walter G. Zoller Memorial Dental Clinic, University of Chicago.

DENTAL JOURNALISM CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD JUNE 5-6 IN CHICAGO

The second conference on dental journalism, sponsored by the American Association of Dental Editors and the A.D.A. Council on Journalism, will be held in the A.D.A. Central Office in Chicago, June 5-6. Dr. Lon W. Morrey, editor of the American Dental Association, is in charge of arrangements. Speakers include Dr. William L. Barnum, Portland, Ore., chairman, A.D.A. Council on Journalism; Dr. Charles A. Wilkie, Brooklyn, N.Y., Council on Journalism; Dr. J. A. Salzmann, New York, editor, New York Journal of Dentistry; Dr. George B. Denton, chief manuscript editor, A.D.A.; Mr. H. Leon Snow, Lansing, Mich., executive secretary, Michigan State Dental Society; Dr. Loren B. Taber, San Francisco, president, American Association of Dental Editors; Mr. Arthur J. Snider, science editor, Chicago Daily News, and president, National Association of Science Writers; Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary; Mr. John J. Hollister, A.D.A. business manager; Mr. Kenneth B. Butler, president and general manager, Wayside Press, Inc., Mendota, Ill., and Dr. J. C. A. Harding, San Diego, Cal., A.D.A. Council on Journalism. The Council on Journalism will meet on June 4 immediately prior to the journalism conference.

A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP REACHES NEW HIGH FOR APRIL 30

Total membership in the A.D.A. on April 30 reached 74,877, the largest number of paid-up members on this date in A.D.A. history. This represented an increase of 3,781 over the total for April 30, 1952. Fully-privileged members (active and life) totalled 65,704, an increase of 4,140 over this date a year ago. There were 62,606 active members (up 3,985) and 3,098 life members (up 155). Membership in other categories was: affiliate, 168 (down 27); associate, eight (up two); honorary, nine (up one); and student, 8,988 (down 335). Applications for life membership in the A.D.A. to be awarded at the 94th annual session in Cleveland, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, must be received by the A.D.A. Central Office by July 30. To qualify, a dentist must have reached the age of 65 and have been a member of the A.D.A. for 35 years. Application blanks for life membership may be obtained from the A.D.A. Central Office, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11, Ill.

EARLY RESERVATIONS URGED FOR 94th ANNUAL SESSION IN CLEVELAND

Those planning to attend the 94th annual session of the A.D.A. in Cleveland, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, are urged to send applications as soon as possible to the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, 511 Terminal Tower, Cleveland 13, Ohio, in order to obtain the accommodations of their choice. All requests for reservations must be made on the official application form on page A67 of the May Journal of the American Dental Association. Additional application forms may be secured on request to the A.D.A. Central Office.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

The Tennessee legislature recently appropriated \$300,000 for the next two years for the dental division of the state health department, according to Dr. James J. Vaughn Sr., A.D.A. legislative adviser in Tennessee. Formerly the state dental program depended on funds from the Children's Bureau and the U.S. Public Health Service....The newly-published 1953 catalog of Dental Health Education Material, which lists all available educational materials now published by the Association, is being mailed to all A.D.A. members....Dr. Robert R. Omata, A.D.A. research fellow, has published the first of a proposed series of papers on fusobacteria, the micro-organisms associated with necrotic gingivitis, in a recent issue of the Journal of Bacteriology. Dr. Omata is continuing these studies under sponsorship of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Research at the National Institute of Dental Research....Officials of the World Health Organization said recently that dental decay may be prevented more effectively by reducing the frequency of consumption of sugar than by merely reducing the quantity consumed....The first monthly Bulletin of the History of Dentistry has been issued by the American Academy of the History of Dentistry. The editor is Dr. George B. Denton, of Chicago, A.D.A. research associate....Since last July 1, the U.S. Public Health Service has made 33 grants totalling \$204,587 for dental research....The Second International Dental Congress in Mexico City, sponsored by the Mexican Dental Association, will be held Nov. 15-21, 1953....Dr. Elias Elvove, senior chemist at the National Institute of Dental Research who aided in developing an accurate method for the determination of the fluoride content of water supplies, has retired after 46 years with the U.S. Public Health Service.