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The logo features the letters 'ada' in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font, enclosed within a circle. To the right of the circle, the words 'News Letter' are written in a large, elegant, cursive script.

ada News Letter

Vol. 8, No. 3 -- Feb. 1, 1955

NATION-WIDE OBSERVANCE IS SET FOR CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH WEEK -- SPECIAL MESSAGE TO ALL PARENTS IS ISSUED BY A. D. A. PRESIDENT

Last-minute preparations were underway this week for the most extensive National Children's Dental Health observance in the seven-year history of the program. For the first time, the event will be marked nationally as National Children's Dental Health Week, from Feb. 7 through 13. Extension of the observance, from a day to a week, was voted by the A.D.A. House of Delegates at the request of several constituent and component dental societies. In a special message to all parents issued on the eve of the observance, Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., president of the A.D.A., cautioned that well-meaning parents still too frequently are sentencing their children to an adulthood as dental cripples. Pointing out that emphasis on a child's dental health is the only sound approach to the nation's dental disease problem, he said: "The cold truth is that ignorance about dental health is widespread. Not until sound preventive measures are translated effectively by parents into consistent and continuing use by our children, can children avoid the dental crippling of their elders."

NUMEROUS NETWORK RADIO, TV SHOWS SCHEDULED FOR EVENT

On a nation-wide scale, numerous television and radio programs will have a part in the observance. Throughout the week, the Metropolitan

Life Insurance Company will present announcements on 66 radio stations in 58 cities throughout the United States and on nine radio stations in six Canadian cities. Additionally, Borden Milk Company will present special dental health messages on radio stations of 21 cities. Daily messages will also be carried over the 560-station radio network of the Mutual Broadcasting System in the "Florida Calling" program, originating from Winter Haven, Fla. Television shows scheduled to carry dental health messages next week include the daily Howdy Doody show for children on the NBC network. Additionally, International News Service has prepared a special feature article on the observance for all its newspaper clients.

BILLS INTRODUCED TO EXTEND DRAFT LAW, MODIFY DENTAL CARE FOR DEPENDENTS

Two administration bills -- one, to extend the dentist-physician draft law for two years and the other, to provide a more comprehensive system of medical care to dependents of military personnel while sharply limiting dental care -- have been introduced into the House of Representatives. The bills were presented by Rep. Vinson (D., Ga.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. The draft bill makes no change in the present law, including the system of priorities, other than to change the termination date. However, there is no provision for extending the \$100-a-month special pay for dental or medical officers entering service after June 30. The A.D.A. has gone on record opposing continuation of the special draft law and has recommended extension of the special compensation for dental officers. Representatives of the Association will testify on the proposed measure at hearings before the Armed Services Committee within the next few weeks. Additionally, A.D.A. officials are to confer on the draft at a Pentagon conference tomorrow (Feb. 2) with Dr. Frank Berry, assistant secretary of defense for health and medical affairs, and other Defense Department officials. Heading the Association delegation will be Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., president. The bill on health care of military dependents follows the recommendations of the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Medical Care for Dependents of Military Personnel, appointed by the Defense Depart-

ment and headed by Dr. Harold G. Moulton. (See A.D.A. News Letter, July 1, 1953.) The recommendations were in keeping with proposals made by A.D.A. representatives before the commission that dental care by dental officers should be limited largely to military personnel. The new bill, while giving extensive medical care to dependents, limits dental care to emergency treatment, and to care regarded as a necessary adjunct to medical or surgical treatment. There is one exception, that of dental care for dependents outside the United States and in "remote areas" of the United States. The bill defines emergency dental treatment as "that care required to relieve pain and suffering and does not include any permanent restorative work or dental prosthesis." The bill adds that care for dependents "will depend upon the availability of space, facilities and capabilities of the dental staff."

NEW BUDGET BOOSTS DENTAL ACTIVITIES IN V. A. , PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Funds for dental activities were increased in President Eisenhower's proposed budget for the 1956 fiscal year. For the U.S. Public Health Service, a sum of \$2,136,000 was recommended for dental public health and research programs, an increase of \$146,000 over the current budget. While the total sum for the entire outpatient program of the Veterans Administration was decreased, the outpatient dental program was boosted to \$11,500,000, representing an increase of \$300,000 over the 1955 fiscal year.

AN ADDITIONAL \$144,000 EARMARKED FOR RESEARCH

Dental Research. An additional sum of \$144,000 was recommended for the direct research operations, making for a total of \$764,000 as compared with \$620,000 in the current budget. Research grants and research fellowships remained at \$421,000 and \$100,000, respectively. In the category of direct operations, technical assistance to states remained at \$660,000; coordination and development of resources stayed at \$110,000; review and approval of grants was increased \$1,000 to \$12,000 and administration was increased \$1,000 to \$69,000.

"HOMETOWN" DENTAL PROGRAM IS INCREASED BY \$300,000

compared with 189,500 in the current fiscal year. Approximately, one-quarter of the patients, or 31,000, are expected to be examined on a "hometown" basis as compared with 43,000 in the current budget. Total treatments are anticipated at 133,000 out of which 98,000 would be on a fee-for-service basis.

PRESIDENT'S ORDER MAY EFFECT V.A. OPERATION

peace-time benefits will be available to veterans, beginning today (Feb. 1). The order will cause a substantial reduction in the extent of dental services provided under the program. The Eisenhower directive provides that only the veterans discharged before Feb. 1 who served in World War II or during the Korean conflict would be entitled to treatment of service-connected dental defects. Additionally, persons now in active military service would be entitled to the benefits after discharge if there were proof of service-connected dental ailments incurred before Feb. 1. Otherwise veterans would receive dental benefits only if there were proof that the dental condition was disabling as well as service-connected. Observers have pointed out that only a small percentage of veterans are now receiving care for dental diseases defined as disabling.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER REVIVES REQUEST FOR FEDERAL HEALTH RE-INSURANCE

President Eisenhower again proposed a federal health re-insurance program this week. In a health message to Congress, the President recommended that the government establish a "re-insurance service to encourage private health insurance organizations in offering broader benefits to insured individuals and families, and coverage to more people." In his proposed budget, submitted earlier, the President recommended that \$25 million be authorized as initial capital for the program. A similar proposal was rejected by the last Congress. In his health

For the Public Health Service, most of the proposed increase is earmarked for direct research operations in the National Institute of

The Veterans Administration proposed budget of \$11,500,000 anticipates a drop-off of dental patients in the outpatient program to 126,000 as

A new note was injected into operation of the V.A. outpatient dental program by President Eisenhower's order which directed that only

message, the President also urged creation of a special federal fund for matching state and local expenditures for health care of some 5 million public assistance recipients, including the aged, the permanently and totally disabled, the blind and children deprived of parental care. (See below.) Additionally, the President recommended a system of government-insured mortgage loans for construction of health facilities and called for strengthening of the U.S. Public Health Service and greater contributions to the World Health Organization.

A.D.A. REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH MRS. HOBBY, DR. SCHEELE

Representatives of the A.D.A. met with Department of Health, Education and Welfare officials last week to confer on proposed legislation in the dental health field with special emphasis on care for the indigent. Meeting with Secretary Hobby and Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, surgeon general of the U.S. Public Health Service, were Dr. David W. Brock, of St. Louis, chairman of the Council on Dental Health; Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, D.C., assistant secretary, and Dr. Rudolph H. Friedrich, of Chicago, secretary of the Council on Dental Health.

A.D.A. PRESIDENT URGES DENTISTS TO JOIN IN "CRUSADE FOR FREEDOM "

Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., A.D.A. president, today urged all dentists to support the 1955 Crusade for Freedom on behalf of Radio Free Europe. As part of the drive, which will be held during February, March and April, all dentists are asked to sign a "Freedom Scroll" and to circulate it among their patients. The scrolls and other material for the campaign may be obtained by writing the American Heritage Foundation, 345 E. 46th St., New York 17.

STATE SOCIETIES QUERIED ON NEW TRUSTEE DISTRICTS AND SIZE OF HOUSE

A questionnaire has been sent to all constituent societies to determine their opinions on possible reorganization of trustee districts and reduction in the size of the House of Delegates, it was announced last week by Dr. Harold W. Oppice, of Chicago, chairman of the A.D.A. special committee on reorganization of trustee districts. Individual members are also invited to send their opinions and suggestions to Dr. Oppice whose address is 1002 Wilson Ave. Members of the committee are Dr. Clyde R. Flood, of Seattle; Dr. C. M. Taylor, of Houston, Texas; Dr. John B. Wilson, of San Marino, Calif.; Dr. W. N. Hodgkin, of Warrenton, Va.; Dr. John P. Looby, of Philadelphia, and Dr. Henry M. Willits, of Dubuque, Iowa.

DR. M. M. MAXWELL NAMED DEAN OF NEWLY FOUNDED SETON HALL DENTAL SCHOOL

Dr. Merritte M. Maxwell has been named dean of the newly founded College of Dentistry at Seton Hall University in Jersey City. Dr. Maxwell, who has been a captain in the U.S. Navy, is a specialist in oral surgery. He is a fellow of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. He was graduated from the College of Dentistry, University of California, in 1925.

DR. ANDERSON IS ACTING DEAN AT UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Dr. Berton E. Anderson has been appointed acting dean of the School of Dentistry, University of Washington (Seattle). Dr. Anderson, who has been a faculty member since 1948 and assistant dean since October, takes the place of Dr. Ernest M. Jones, who resigned as dean in December.

TENTATIVE PLANS REVEALED FOR \$250,000 DENTAL HEALTH CENTER

Plans for construction of a \$250,000 Southern California Institute of Dental Health in the Los Angeles area are being studied by the Council on Dental Health of the Southern California State Dental Association, it has been announced by Dr. A. E. Saunders, of Long Beach, chairman of a special committee of the council. The structure is being considered as a project of the dental association. Tentative plans call for construction of a two-story modernistic building to house facilities for teaching dental health to teachers, parents and children throughout southern California.

SECOND APPEAL MAILED IN RELIEF FUND DRIVE AS TOTAL REACHES \$86,081

A second request for contributions to the 1954-55 Relief Fund campaign was mailed last week to all members of the Association in an effort to quicken the pace of contributions and bring the drive to its \$100,000 goal. The appeal was sent to all members including those who have already contributed since this method was found to be more economical than a selective mailing. Total contributions reached \$86,081 on Jan. 31, some \$2,500 behind the total for the corresponding date a year ago. An up-to-date breakdown of contributions by individual societies will be published in the Feb. 15 A.D.A. News Letter.

BROCHURE ON EDUCATIONAL TV PREPARED FOR DENTISTS' WAITING ROOMS

An attractive brochure on educational television has been prepared for use in dentists' waiting rooms by the National Citizens Committee for Educational Television. A test distribution of the brochure and a pamphlet entitled "What's Ahead in Educational Television for Greater Washington" is now being made in cooperation with 619 dentists in the District of Columbia. Purpose of the material is to interest professional men in the early plans for stations in their communities and to acquaint individual citizens with the aims of educational TV. Copies of the brochure may be obtained free of charge by any U.S. dentist by writing the Committee's headquarters in the Ring Building, 1200 18th St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Herbert Bain, director of the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information is a member of the Committee's advisory council.

COUNCIL CRITICIZES UNNECESSARY USE OF SUGAR IN DRUGS FOR CHILDREN

Unnecessary use of sugar-sweetening agents in drugs intended for use by children over long periods of time was criticized by the Council on Dental Therapeutics at its meeting Jan. 21-22 in the Central Office. The Council voted to request drug manufacturers to consider use of non-sugar sweetening agents in order to avoid increased dental caries activity in children using their products. In other action, the Council approved a report on "Prescribing Fluorides for Individual Use" for publication in The Journal of the A.D.A. The report points out that oral administration of fluorides on a prescription basis may be effective but it emphasizes the practical difficulties and limitations of the procedure. Dr. Floyd D. Ostrander, of Ann Arbor, Mich., who left the Council in 1954 after being a member for 12 years, was honored at the meeting for his "long and valuable service," and his "leadership and inspiration to the Council."

PAN-PACIFIC DENTAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN HONOLULU OCT. 24-25

A Pan-Pacific Dental Conference sponsored by the Honolulu County Dental Society will be held Oct. 24-25 at the Reef Hotel in Honolulu following the A.D.A. annual session in San Francisco. In addition to the A.D.A., invitations have been extended to the dental associations in Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Philippines. Dr. Floyd A. Sandberg, 280 Lewers Road, Honolulu, is handling preliminary arrangements. Individuals interested in presenting clinics at the meeting are asked to write Dr. Robert C. Sample, 557 Alexander Young Bldg., Honolulu.

DR. M. E. ZINSER, PAST PRESIDENT OF ILLINOIS SOCIETY, DIES AT 58

Dr. Melford E. Zinser, of Chicago, past president of the Illinois State Dental Society and a veteran member of the A.D.A. House of Delegates, died Jan. 25 at the age of 58. Dr. Zinser served as president of the Loyola Dental Alumni Association and entertainment chairman for the 1948 A.D.A. annual session in Chicago. He was a delegate to the 1947 International Dental Congress in London. He is survived by his wife, Anne.

FATHER W. D. O'LEARY, REGENT OF NEW ORLEANS LOYOLA DENTAL SCHOOL, DIES

The Rev. William D. O'Leary, S.J., regent of the Loyola University School of Dentistry in New Orleans, died Feb. 1 at the age of 58 following a heart attack. Father O'Leary, a physician, was formerly acting dean of the school.