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Recommended Citation

American Dental Association, "ADA Newsletter - 03/01/1955" (1955). *ADA News Letter*. 176.
<https://commons.ada.org/adanewsletter/176>

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News Letter

Vol. 8, No. 5 -- March 1, 1955

A.D.A. RELIEF FUND PASSES \$100,000 MARK FOR THIRD YEAR IN ROW; TWELVE NEW CONSTITUENTS EXCEED QUOTAS AS TOTAL CLIMBS TO \$101,040

The A.D.A. Relief Fund drive attained its goal for the third consecutive year on Feb. 28 as contributions reached \$101,040. Last year, the goal was not reached until March 11. Twelve new constituent societies topped their quotas during the past two weeks. They were California, Colorado, the District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey and Virginia. The smaller societies (quotas of \$925 or less) passed the 100 per cent mark for the first time, while the larger societies (quotas over \$925) had 99.9 per cent of quota. A complete breakdown of the contributions to Feb. 28 is listed on the accompanying Mimeographed page.

HOOVER COMMISSION SIDE-STEPS RECOMMENDATION OF HEALTH TASK FORCE THAT DENTIST-PHYSICIAN DRAFT ACT IS UNFAIR AND SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED

Discontinuance of the special dentist-physician draft law and a ceiling on the ratio of dentists to members of the armed forces were strongly recommended this week by the medical services task force of the Hoover Commission. The task force report, together with the commission's report on federal medical services, was submitted to Congress as the third report of the session by the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government. The commission's report, while based on the study made by its task force, differed markedly from it in some respects, either by over-ruling or ignoring many of the recommendations. There were 29 recommendations in the Hoover report as compared with 36 in the task force document. The dentist member of the task force, which included 15 leaders in the health field, was Dr. Otto W. Brandhorst, of St. Louis, former A.D.A. president. There was also a subcommittee on dentistry, headed by Dr. Brandhorst, and including Dr. Rudolph H. Friedrich, of Chicago, then chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services; Dr. James P. Hollers, of San Antonio, member of the advisory council to the assistant secretary of defense on health and medical affairs, and Dr. Leo J. Schoeny, of New Orleans, member of the Health Resources Advisory Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization. Staff members of the subcommittee were Mr. Bernard J. Conway, of Chicago, then secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services, and Mr. Francis J. Garvey, then secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation. Following are some of the chief recommendations relating to dentistry in both documents:

DENTIST-PHYSICIAN DRAFT "ABUSED IN ADMINISTRATION"

While the task force called for outright expiration of the dentist-physician draft act, the Hoover commission recommended instead that the secretary of defense, with the assistance of a proposed Federal Advisory Council of Health, "develop recommendations for revision of the Selective Service Act to effect maximum utilization of medical personnel." Referring to the special draft act, the task force said that "we believe that such legislation is unfair in principle and has in the past been abused in administration." The task force pointed to the limited supply of dentists and physicians and recommended that "in view of the urgent need for the best use of personnel in these scarce categories, levies for physicians and dentists under the basic draft law should be made with regard to the specific needs for these specialized services." For dentists, the report emphasized that a procurement system should be devised that would earmark members of the senior dental classes liable for military service. The report also urged that the system provide for a distribution of

dental graduates so that each of the three armed services would receive an equitable share of the more highly qualified students. In its official recommendation, the task force called for special provisions in the Selective Service law to place in separate categories dental and medical students and new graduates and to make separate calls to the individual states for men in these categories. This procedure has been advocated repeatedly by the A.D.A. as an effective substitute for the special draft law to expedite the flow of new dental graduates into the armed forces.

TASK FORCE URGES REDUCTION IN RATIO OF DENTAL OFFICERS

ratio is 1.9 for dentists and 3.3 for physicians. The Hoover Commission, taking note of the recommendation of its advisers, said the reduction would mean about 1,750 fewer dentists and physicians in the armed forces and would result in an estimated \$15 million saving. However, it added that "the commission feels that determination of actual ratios of physicians and dentists to active duty personnel should be left to the Department of Defense." In suggesting the ratio ceiling, the task force strongly criticized the armed forces for "making incomplete use" of the professional skills of health personnel in some areas and "even diverting them to other uses" while at the same time maintaining that present ratios are inadequate. "This points to the need for some method of control outside the Department of Defense," the report said. "We believe that the most effective means of effecting such control is the establishment of ratio ceilings which would inhibit though they might not prevent overstaffing."

RECOMMEND LIMITS ON COMPREHENSIVE CARE

armed forces. As for military dependents, the task force proposed that dental care be limited to emergencies. The Hoover Commission, in its recommendation on military dependents, proposed that a system of voluntary health insurance be developed, with the government as a contributor, to cover dependents. The task force also recommended a wider use of auxiliary personnel in the dental corps. Both the task force and the Hoover Commission agreed on the importance of more effective in-service training for professional health personnel. In the entire field of health operations, the commission made some sweeping recommendations, including the establishment of a Federal Advisory Council of Health to coordinate and supervise all federal health activities, the closing of 19 Veterans Administration hospitals, abolition of U.S. Public Health Service hospitals, and a close financial screening of veterans seeking treatment for non-service-connected disabilities. The commission estimated that the government would save \$293 million if its proposals were followed.

The task force recommended ratios not to exceed 1.7 dentists and three physicians for each 1,000 troops in the armed forces. The current

In the military sphere, the task force also recommended that comprehensive dental care be provided primarily for career personnel in the

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO CONFER WITH A.D.A. ON DRAFT LAW

Defense Department officials and dental chiefs of the military services will meet with the A.D.A. Council on Federal Dental Services March 6 at the opening of a two-day conference of the council in Chicago. The council chairman is Dr. F. J. Reichmann, of Oklahoma City. The chief topic will be the special dentist-physician draft act, scheduled to expire June 30. The Association has gone on record opposing extension of the measure while the Defense Department has recommended its continuation. Taking part in the conference will be Dr. Thomas P. Fox, of Philadelphia, dentist member of the Civilian Health and Medical Advisory Council to the assistant secretary of defense for health and medical affairs; Dr. Hollers, Dr. Schoeny, Mr. Stephen S. Jackson, assistant general counsel for manpower and personnel to the Defense Department, and Col. William W. Roe Jr., of the Army Medical Corps, attached to the office of the assistant secretary of defense for health and medical affairs. The dental chiefs participating in the conference will be Major Gen. Oscar P. Snyder of the Army, Rear Adm. Daniel W. Ryan of the Navy and Brig. Gen. Marvin E. Kennebeck of the Air Force.

EXTENSION OF ACT IS ON AGENDA OF INTER-ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

the Hotel Statler in New York City. A.D.A. representatives at the meeting will be Dr. Percy T. Phillips, of New York, trustee; Dr. Kenneth A. Easlick, of Ann Arbor, Mich., consultant to the Council on Dental Health; Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, secretary of the Association, and Mr. Conway.

Extension of the dentist-physician draft law will also be on the agenda of the Inter-Association Committee on Health at a meeting March 4-5 at

Following is a list of contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund to Feb. 28 by constituent societies.

<u>QUOTA OF \$925.00 or UNDER</u>				<u>QUOTA OVER \$925.00</u>			
1954-55				1954-55			
	<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>CONTRI- BUTION</u>	<u>PCT.</u>		<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>CONTRI- BUTION</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
Air Force	\$600.00	\$ 393.25	65.5	CALIFORNIA	\$3,820.00	\$4,167.00	109.1
ALABAMA	800.00	1,548.50	193.6	S. CALIF.	4,580.00	8,261.50	180.4
ALASKA	60.00	168.00	280.0	COLORADO	960.00	1,021.50	106.4
Arizona	300.00	104.00	34.7	Connecticut	1,940.00	1,908.50	98.4
ARKANSAS	560.00	625.50	111.7	FLORIDA	1,380.00	1,461.00	105.9
Army	580.00	531.50	91.6	GEORGIA	1,020.00	1,499.00	147.0
DELAWARE	150.00	165.00	110.0	ILLINOIS	7,240.00	7,432.56	102.7
DIST. OF C.	830.00	889.50	107.2	INDIANA	2,340.00	2,409.00	102.9
HAWAII	350.00	600.00	171.4	IOWA	1,780.00	2,080.00	116.9
IDAHO	260.00	316.50	121.7	Kansas	960.00	907.65	94.5
Maine	460.00	341.00	74.1	KENTUCKY	1,130.00	1,348.30	119.3
Mississippi	530.00	486.00	91.7	LOUISIANA	1,020.00	1,055.50	103.5
MONTANA	370.00	545.00	147.3	MARYLAND	1,060.00	1,163.00	109.7
Navy	920.00	525.50	57.1	Massachusetts	3,690.00	1,845.50	50.0
NEVADA	100.00	151.00	151.0	MICHIGAN	4,100.00	4,305.15	105.0
New Hamp.	300.00	258.00	86.0	MINNESOTA	2,840.00	2,934.05	103.3
NEW MEXICO	240.00	251.50	104.8	MISSOURI	2,450.00	2,505.50	102.3
NORTH DAKOTA	330.00	539.55	163.5	NEBRASKA	1,060.00	1,168.00	110.2
OKLAHOMA	920.00	981.00	106.6	NEW JERSEY	4,020.00	4,217.50	104.9
PANAMA C.Z.	10.00	10.00	100.0	New York	15,200.00	10,905.50	71.7
P.H. SERVICE	210.00	280.00	133.3	N. CAROLINA	1,240.00	1,334.00	107.6
Puerto Rico	190.00	140.50	73.9	Ohio	4,920.00	4,661.75	94.8
RHODE ISLAND	560.00	754.50	134.7	OREGON	1,230.00	1,344.00	109.3
S. Carolina	450.00	334.50	74.3	Pennsylvania	6,810.00	5,264.75	77.3
S. Dakota	350.00	149.00	42.6	TENNESSEE	1,310.00	3,698.00	282.3
UTAH	470.00	573.50	122.0	Texas	3,190.00	2,539.50	79.6
Vermont	200.00	147.00	73.5	VIRGINIA	1,150.00	1,189.50	103.4
Vet. Admin.	810.00	339.00	41.9	WASHINGTON	1,800.00	2,316.00	128.7
W. Virginia	760.00	737.50	97.0	Wisconsin	2,930.00	2,189.50	74.7
Wyoming	160.00	148.50	92.8				
TOTAL	\$12,830.00	\$13,034.30	101.6		\$87,170.00	\$87,132.71	99.9

* * * * *

	<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>CONTRIBUTION</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
QUOTAS OF \$925 OR UNDER	\$ 12,830.00	\$ 13,034.30	101.6
QUOTAS OVER \$925	87,170.00	87,132.71	99.9
STUDENTS		632.00	
MEMORIALS		240.00	
MISCELLANEOUS		1.00	
GRAND TOTAL	\$100,000.00	\$101,040.01	101.0

A.D.A. URGES INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP AND RESEARCH GRANTS

Increased support for dental research projects and for dental research fellowships, and construction of a building to house the National Institute of Dental Research were urged by the A.D.A. last week in Congress. In testimony filed with the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor and Health, Dr. Floyd W. Pillars, of Des Moines, Iowa, member of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, recommended that funds for dental research grants be increased from \$421,000 to \$1 million in the proposed new budget for the U.S. Public Health Service and that appropriations for fellowships be raised from \$100,000 to \$250,000. At the same time, Dr. Pillars noted that the dental research activities of the N.I.D.R. have outgrown their facilities. "There appears to be no plausible reason for any further delay in the construction of a building to house the dental institute," he said. He pointed out that Congress in 1948 authorized \$2 million in appropriations for the building of which \$100,000 was used for building plans. He suggested that since the remainder would not be adequate under today's construction costs, that a portion of unneeded funds earmarked for the clinical research facilities at the National Institutes of Health be authorized for construction of the dental institute building. Recommending increases in research grants and fellowships, Dr. Pillars noted that "the successful attack upon dental disease must depend ultimately upon effective methods of prevention, a goal that can only be achieved through an intensive and expanded dental research program."

BILL SEEKS TO REMOVE LIMITS ON DENTAL CARE FOR VETERANS

In other action on Capitol Hill, Rep. Long (D., La.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Hospitals, introduced a bill seeking two basic changes in the outpatient program of the Veterans Administration. One proposes that no limit be placed on the series of treatments that a veteran can receive and the other would extend to two years, instead of the current one year, the period in which a veteran can apply for outpatient dental care after discharge from military service. The measures advocated by Rep. Long, only dentist in Congress, could readily result in a return to the system of unending dental care for the individual veteran, a system which the A.D.A. strongly opposes. The Association has urged a law placing permanent legislation restrictions on dental care for veterans. A bill incorporating these restrictions has been introduced by Rep. Frelinghuysen (R., N.J.).

200 PAPERS TO BE PRESENTED AT I.A.D.R. MEETING, MARCH 18-20

More than 200 papers will be presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for Dental Research, to be held March 18-20 at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago. The program will also include an address by Dr. Harold C. Urey, noted University of Chicago physicist, at a joint meeting of the I.A.D.R. and the American Association of Dental Schools. For the first time, printed abstracts of all reports will be available in advance of the meeting. Copies of the abstracts may be obtained by pre-registering with Dr. Dan Y. Burrill, 129 E. Broadway, Louisville, Ky. The registration fee is \$2.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL SCHOOLS MEETS IN CHICAGO MARCH 20-23

Research grants and the effect of draft legislation on dental education will be two major topics of discussion at the four-day meeting of the American Association of Dental Schools starting March 20 at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago. Dr. Leo J. Schoeny, of New Orleans, dentist member of the Health Resources Advisory Committee of the Office of Defense Mobilization, will discuss the draft of dentists at the dean's breakfast March 22. Dr. H. Trendley Dean, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Research, will preside March 23 at a general session on the subject of research grants. Special conference sessions on dental hygiene education and on dental teacher training have also been scheduled.

A.D.A. MEMBERS INVITED TO ATTEND FIRST ASIAN DENTAL CONGRESS IN TOKYO

Members of the American Dental Association have been invited to attend the First Asian Dental Congress in Tokyo Oct. 13 through 16. Sponsored by the Japan Dental Association, the congress will be held immediately prior to the A.D.A.'s San Francisco meeting. Individuals wishing to attend the congress are asked to write Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, A.D.A. secretary.

U.S. JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO SPONSOR COMMUNITY HEALTH WEEK

State and local dental societies are urged to cooperate in observing Community Health Week starting March 21. Kits of program suggestions and publicity material for the event are now being distributed by the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce which sponsors the observance annually. Purpose of the program is to acquaint the public with the health resources in their communities. Much of the material in the kits was prepared by the National Health Council which will hold its 1955 National Health Forum March 23 and 24 in New York City during the event. Kits and additional information may be obtained from local Junior Chambers of Commerce. In many communities, newspapers will publish a health supplement as part of the observance and dental societies wishing to cooperate in the program may obtain special newspaper articles on dental subjects by writing the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information.

U.S. DENTISTS INVITED TO ATTEND DENTAL MEETING IN PARIS

U.S. dentists wishing to attend the Semaine Odontologique (dentistry week) in Paris, March 31 through April 6, are requested to write Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, A.D.A. secretary. The event is sponsored by the dental societies of Paris and of France.

BUFFALO SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY LAUNCHES \$50,000 FUND DRIVE

An annual participating fund for dental education has been launched at the University of Buffalo. Designed to bring \$50,000 to the School of Dentistry in the first year, the fund will be used to finance an expanded teaching staff, increased research and a widened postgraduate program. Dr. Edward F. Mimmack, of Buffalo, a member of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics, is chairman of the fund's executive committee.

COUNCIL ISSUES GUIDE FOR STATE SOCIETIES ON UNION DENTAL PROGRAMS

A guide for state dental societies in planning administrative procedures for union dental programs was adopted by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health at its recent meeting in the Central Office. Purpose of the guide, according to Dr. David W. Brock, of St. Louis, council chairman, is to suggest preliminary steps that may be taken by a society in whose area union dental health programs may be developed. In other action, the council announced preliminary plans for a conference on federal dental health programs sometime in 1956. The conference will cover the entire scope of the federal programs including such subjects as the role of dental education in preparing dentists for the armed forces, use of ancillary help, the dental laboratory problem, and the responsibility of the government for dental health in its military, veterans and public health activities.

HEART ASSOCIATION, A.D.A. ISSUE LEAFLET ON BACTERIAL ENDOCARDITIS

The American Dental Association and the American Heart Association have issued a joint recommendation on administering penicillin as a preventive measure against bacterial endocarditis. The recommendation, contained in a handy leaflet, describes the procedure for injection or oral administration of antibiotics prior to dental operations for patients with histories of rheumatic fever or heart disease, or a congenital heart defect. Copies of the leaflet will be mailed to all A.D.A. members in the near future with the next issue of the A.D.A. Information Bulletin.

FLUORIDE DENTIFRICES MAKE APPEARANCE ON MARKET

A new round of claims of "therapeutic powers" for dentifrices appeared in the offing last week as Proctor and Gamble announced the beginning of over-the-counter sales of a toothpaste containing stannous fluoride. The test is limited to three cities. The dentifrice, called Crest, was advertised as containing Fluoristan, which Proctor and Gamble described as "fluoride in its most effective form." In an article on the new dentifrice, the trade publication Advertising Age noted that Colgate's and Block Drug Co. were also preparing to market fluoride toothpastes. "We know of no adequate evidence that any dentifrice presently on the market is useful in preventing tooth decay except as it assists the toothbrush in cleaning the teeth," Dr. J. Roy Doty, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics, reported in response to inquiries from trade sources. He also pointed out that the council "knows of no substitute for fluoridation of public water supplies."