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## ADA Newsletter - 07/15/1955

American Dental Association

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The logo features the letters 'ada' in a stylized, lowercase font, each letter filled with a dense pattern of small text. The letters are enclosed within a circular border. To the right of this circle, the words 'News Letter' are written in a large, elegant, cursive script. A horizontal dotted line runs across the page, passing behind the 'ada' circle and the 'News Letter' text.

# News Letter

Vol. 8, No. 14 -- July 15, 1955

## **A.D.A. RELIEF FUND CONTRIBUTIONS SOAR TO \$111,273 AS DRIVE ENDS; 44 SOCIETIES EXCEED QUOTAS AS ALL PREVIOUS RECORDS ARE SHATTERED**

The most successful fund drive in the history of the A.D.A. Relief Fund officially ended July 1 with total contributions of \$111,273. All previous records were shattered during the 1954-55 campaign. Contributions were nearly \$5,000 above the previous high of \$105,996 recorded in 1953-54. It was the third consecutive year in which contributions exceeded the \$100,000 quota established by the Council on Relief. In all, 44 constituent societies and federal dental services exceeded their respective quotas, a gain of five over the previous year.

### **TENNESSEE LEADS NATION BY SUBSTANTIAL MARGIN**

Dentists in Tennessee led all others in per capita contributions. During the year, Tennessee dentists donated \$4,216 to the Relief Fund, well over three times the quota for the state. The final figure for Tennessee was 321.8 per cent of quota. Two other societies more than doubled their quotas. Alaska was a close second with a record of 296.7 per cent of quota and Alabama was third with 203.6 per cent of quota. Fourth and fifth places, respectively, went to Southern California, 195.8 per cent, and Hawaii, 191.1 per cent. In dollar volume, New York retained its lead with contributions of \$12,382.50, which represented 81.5 per cent of the state quota. Southern California, with contributions of \$8,969.50, was second in dollar volume while third place went to Illinois with contributions of \$7,754.81, which represented 107.1 per cent of quota. During the campaign, the smaller societies, those with quotas under \$925, again outstripped the larger societies in per capita contributions. The smaller societies contributed 119.9 per cent of their total quota while the larger societies, those with quotas of more than \$925, scored only 109 per cent of quota. Contributions during the year included \$250 sent in as memorials to deceased dentists. A breakdown of contributions by constituent societies is on page 3.

### **INCLUSION OF DENTISTS IN SOCIAL SECURITY BILL IS PROTESTED**

Representatives of the A.D.A. this week protested the action of the House Ways and Means Committee in voting to include all dentists in the Old Age and Survivors' Insurance Program of the Social Security Act. A bill for broader coverage and higher Social Security taxes was formally approved by the committee in a vote of 21 to 3 Wednesday (July 13). It would bring under O.A.S.I. all self-employed professional groups except physicians. In telegrams to congressmen, Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, A.D.A. secretary, objected to the absence of public hearings on the issue. Chairman Cooper (D., Tenn.) of the Ways and Means Committee said the bill will be called up for House action next Monday (July 18) under a procedure requiring two-thirds vote for passage. On the other side of Capitol Hill, however, Chairman Byrd (D., Va.) of the Senate Finance Committee, where the bill would be sent, said that extensive hearings should be held. It was considered likely that a Senate decision on the measure would be deferred until next year.

### **MEMBERSHIP MOUNTS TO ALL-TIME HIGH OF 83,137**

Membership in the A.D.A. reached a record high of 83,137 on June 30, an increase of 641 over the previous high of 82,496 set on Dec. 31, 1954.

## CHANGES IN DENTIST-PHYSICIAN DRAFT LAW ARE NOT RETROACTIVE

The two major changes in the new extension of the doctor draft law are not retroactive, the Defense Department indicated last week. The new measure, now Public Law 118, places an age ceiling of 46 on induction of dental and medical officers and exempts individuals over 35 who have been rejected previously for a commission on physical grounds. The new provisions do not apply to dental officers already in active service but do cover dentists under orders and not yet inducted on July 1, the date the law became effective. These men may have their orders withdrawn at their own request, according to information from the Pentagon. Meanwhile, a long-needed Defense Department move toward making the military services attract more dentists and physicians to seek careers voluntarily as dental and medical officers became known last week. It has been revealed that an inter-service task force, headed by Rear Adm. E. W. Grenfell, a line officer, has been considering changes in administration designed to provide more incentives to professional health manpower in the armed forces. A conference on career planning for dental officers has been tentatively scheduled at the Pentagon on July 20. A.D.A. representatives will attend. Since 1951 the A.D.A. has urged the Defense Department to establish a task force to study the program and personnel policies of the military with emphasis on improving the attractiveness of dental service as a career.

## COLORFUL PROGRAM OF SOCIAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR A.D.A. MEETING

The 96th annual meeting of the A.D.A. in San Francisco this fall will have, in addition to a broad scientific program, one of the most extensive social programs ever planned for an annual session. The meeting will be held Oct. 17 through 20. Highlight of the social events will be the President's Dinner, honoring Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., which will be held Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the Palm Court of the Sheraton Palace Hotel. A special dinner, featuring foods for which San Francisco is famous, will be preceded by a cocktail party in the Gold Ball Room. Heading a long list of women's activities will be a ladies' luncheon and fashion pageant at the Garden Court of the Sheraton Palace Hotel on Tuesday, Oct. 18. Theme of the luncheon, which will cost \$4, will be "East Meets West." On Monday, there will be conducted shopping tours through the main stores. Wednesday, a conducted tour of Nob Hill homes is planned.

## OHIO SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS LEGALITY OF FLUORIDATION IN UNANIMOUS RULING

The Ohio State Supreme Court unanimously has ruled fluoridation to be constitutional. In a decision announced on June 29, the court rejected a suit which had asked that fluoridation be banned in Cleveland. Pointing out that the prevention and control of dental caries is a proper subject for legislation, the court said that fluoridation "constitutes neither an infringement of the constitutional liberties of the citizens" nor the illegal practice of medicine. It was the sixth state supreme court to uphold the measure. Fluoridation of Cleveland's water supply was approved by the city council on March 12, 1951. The Cleveland Plain Dealer, in an editorial entitled "The Public Wins," hailed the ruling as a victory for "one of the greatest public health measures of our time." "The forces of superstition, prejudice and often deception have finally been thwarted--on this one issue, in any event," the editorial said. "If ever there had been legitimate grounds for doubt, it would have stemmed from dentists themselves. They should have the most to lose. We think it high tribute to the profession's ethics that dentists have led this successful fight."

## CAIRO TO FLUORIDATE ITS WATER; TWO MILLION PERSONS AFFECTED

One of the world's oldest cities, Cairo, Egypt, has announced plans to fluoridate its water. More than two million persons are served by the city's water system which originates in the Nile River. Other countries, in addition to the United States, which have fluoridation in operation, include Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Holland, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland.

## OVER 4,000 SUBSCRIBE TO DENTAL ABSTRACTS JOURNAL

Over 4,000 advance subscriptions have been received for "Dental Abstracts," new A.D.A. journal to start publication Jan. 1, 1956, it was reported by John Hollister, business manager. The new journal will contain summaries of articles from all important dental publications in the world. Domestic subscriptions are \$6 annually. Foreign subscriptions are \$7.

## POST-PAYMENT PLAN STARTED BY ARKANSAS STATE DENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Arkansas State Dental Association has announced inauguration of a dental care post-payment plan. Dr. John W. Brough, of Little Rock, chairman of the society's post-payment plan committee, reported that 120 dentists had signed up at the start of the plan on July 1. Under the program, which is being operated in cooperation with the Worthen Bank and Trust Company of Little Rock, five per cent of the amount of each bill of \$100 or more is placed in a reserve fund to cover possible losses. The cost to the patient is \$5 per \$100 per year and patients have between 12 and 18 months to repay the loan.

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS EXPANSION OF FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

The federal Food and Drug Administration is "woefully" incapable of fulfilling its obligation to protect the public health and is greatly in need of expansion, a government advisory committee reported last week. The F.D.A., among its other duties, has jurisdiction over most of the local anesthetics, analgesics, antibiotics and other drugs used by dentists and over all dentifrices including those which contain preventive agents such as fluorides and penicillin. Secretary Oveta Culp Hobby, of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, appointed the committee last January. It was headed by Mr. G. Cullen Thomas, vice-president of General Mills. Noting that the F.D.A.'s enforcement personnel has actually decreased since 1941, while population and drug output have rapidly grown, the committee recommended a four-fold increase in personnel and facilities over the next decade.

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Total contributions to the 1954-55 A.D.A. Relief Fund Campaign are as follows:

QUOTA OF \$ 925.00 or UNDER				QUOTA OVER \$ 925.00			
1954-55				1954-55			
	QUOTA	CONTRIBUTION	PCT.		QUOTA	CONTRIBUTION	PCT.
Air Force	\$ 600.00	\$ 426.25	71.0	CALIFORNIA	\$ 3,820.00	\$ 4,326.00	113.2
ALABAMA	800.00	1,628.50	203.6	SO. CALIF.	4,580.00	8,969.50	195.8
ALASKA	60.00	178.00	296.7	COLORADO	960.00	1,097.50	114.3
ARIZONA	300.00	610.00	203.3	CONNECTICUT	1,940.00	1,987.50	102.4
ARKANSAS	560.00	663.50	118.5	FLORIDA	1,380.00	1,579.00	114.4
Army	580.00	545.50	94.1	GEORGIA	1,020.00	1,509.10	148.0
DELAWARE	150.00	165.00	110.0	ILLINOIS	7,240.00	7,754.81	107.1
DIST. OF C.	830.00	1,505.50	181.4	INDIANA	2,340.00	2,460.00	105.1
HAWAII	350.00	669.00	191.1	IOWA	1,780.00	2,086.00	117.2
IDAHO	260.00	318.50	122.5	Kansas	960.00	914.65	95.3
Maine	460.00	370.00	80.4	KENTUCKY	1,130.00	1,729.70	153.1
MISSISSIPPI	530.00	536.06	101.1	LOUISIANA	1,020.00	1,096.50	107.5
MONTANA	370.00	552.00	149.2	MARYLAND	1,060.00	1,221.00	115.2
Navy	920.00	573.50	62.3	MASSACHUSETTS	3,690.00	3,738.00	101.3
NEVADA	100.00	151.00	151.0	MICHIGAN	4,100.00	4,429.15	108.0
New Hamp.	300.00	272.00	90.7	MINNESOTA	2,840.00	2,994.05	105.4
NEW MEXICO	240.00	267.50	111.5	MISSOURI	2,450.00	2,563.50	104.6
NORTH DAKOTA	330.00	542.55	164.4	NEBRASKA	1,060.00	1,175.00	110.8
OKLAHOMA	920.00	991.00	107.7	NEW JERSEY	4,020.00	4,650.50	115.7
PANAMA C.Z.	10.00	15.00	150.0	New York	15,200.00	12,382.50	81.5
P.H. SERVICE	210.00	284.00	135.2	N. CAROLINA	1,240.00	1,775.00	143.1
PUERTO RICO	190.00	300.50	158.2	Ohio	4,920.00	4,870.75	99.0
RHODE ISLAND	560.00	866.00	154.6	OREGON	1,230.00	1,392.00	113.2
S. Carolina	450.00	345.50	76.8	Pennsylvania	6,810.00	5,457.25	80.1
S. DAKOTA	350.00	516.00	147.4	TENNESSEE	1,310.00	4,216.00	321.8
UTAH	470.00	636.50	135.4	Texas	3,190.00	2,785.00	87.3
VERMONT	200.00	215.00	107.5	VIRGINIA	1,150.00	1,215.50	105.7
Vet. Admin.	810.00	344.00	42.5	WASHINGTON	1,800.00	2,375.00	131.9
W. Virginia	760.00	743.75	97.9	Wisconsin	2,930.00	2,253.50	76.9
Wyoming	160.00	148.50	92.8				
TOTAL	\$ 12,830.00	\$ 15,380.11	119.9		\$ 87,170.00	\$ 95,003.96	109.0

\* \* \* \*

1954-55			
	QUOTA	CONTRIBUTION	PCT.
QUOTAS OF \$ 925 OR UNDER	\$ 12,830.00	\$ 15,380.11	
QUOTAS OVER \$ 925	87,170.00	95,003.96	
STUDENTS		638.00	
MEMORIALS		250.00	
MISCELLANEOUS		1.00	
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 111,273.07	111.3

## **A.M.A. REFUSES TO REVISE UNILATERAL DEFINITION OF ORAL SURGERY**

Last month's action of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association in reaffirming its own definition of oral surgery will have little, if any, effect upon that specialty of dentistry, it was pointed out by members of the A.D.A. Special Committee on Problems in the Field of Oral Surgery. The Committee had asked the A.M.A. to revise its previously adopted resolution which attempted to define the limits of oral surgery. The A.M.A. Board of Trustees had unanimously urged its own House of Delegates to follow this suggestion of the A.D.A. Committee only to be rebuffed by the A.M.A. delegates. Members of the A.D.A. Committee pointed out that the rights of dentists to participate in the specialty of oral surgery are determined by state laws rather than by pronouncements of the medical profession at the national level.

## **ALASKA BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS SCHEDULES EXAMINATIONS FOR AUG. 23**

A four-day examination for dentists seeking to practice in Alaska will be held by the territorial board of dental examiners at Elmsdorf Field, Anchorage, beginning at 8 a.m. Aug. 23. Patients will be provided by the armed forces. Examinations also will be held for dental hygienists. Individuals wishing to take the examinations are asked to communicate at once with Dr. Richard H. Williams, secretary of the board, at Box 2122, Juneau, Alaska.

## **DR. WALTER WILSON IS NAMED DEAN OF FAIRLEIGH-DICKINSON DENTAL SCHOOL**

Dr. Walter A. Wilson, of Trenton, N.J., has been appointed dean of the new School of Dentistry, Fairleigh-Dickinson College, at Teaneck, N.J., effective Aug. 1. Dr. Wilson, who has been secretary of the New Jersey State Board of Dental Examiners for the past 15 years, is a former member of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health. The new school is expected to open in 1956.

## **MISSISSIPPI DENTISTS PLAN PANEL ON HIGH-SPEED, ULTRASONIC INSTRUMENTS**

Reports on a number of high-speed and ultrasonic dental handpieces will be presented at the two-day annual meeting of the Northeast Mississippi Dental Society Sept. 1 and 2 at the University of Mississippi. Another highlight of the meeting will be a four-hour civil defense training course. Dr. Carl Norwood Jr., 811 Gloster St., Corinth, is in charge of registration.

## **CIVIL DEFENSE TRAINING URGED FOR ALL DENTISTS IN ARMED FORCES**

The committee on dentistry of the National Research Council has recommended to the Federal Civil Defense Administration that all dentists in the armed forces receive training in the management of mass casualties. It was further recommended that a training program of this nature be established in dental schools. The committee pointed out that with his basic knowledge of medical sciences, the dentist should be assigned the same role as the physician in the initial tasks of first aid and evacuation.

## **BRIEFS IN THE NEWS**

The first large-scale series of dental aptitude tests to be held overseas for prospective dental students has been scheduled for Heidelberg, Germany, on Oct. 8, 1955, and Jan. 7 and Apr. 28, 1956. The tests, sponsored by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education, are for Americans in the armed forces and are part of the Overseas Program of the University of Maryland, one of the nation's three schools officially designated to provide educational facilities for the armed services abroad....Dr. Norman F. Gerrie is serving as acting chief dental officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, replacing Dr. John W. Knutson now on leave to the World Health Organization. Dr. Gerrie has been chief of the developmental studies branch, division of dental public health....The Chicago Dental Society has announced its 15th annual \$ 500 competition for an essay based on original dental research. Application forms and information may be obtained from the society's offices at 30 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 2....The Arkansas State Dental Association will hold its 12th annual seminar Nov. 6-8 at the Velda Rose Motel in Hot Springs....Miss Helaine Levin, of Chicago, A.D.A. film librarian, will be among the speakers at the third annual meeting of the Audio-Visual Conference of Medical and Allied Sciences to be held July 24-27 at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago.