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## ADA News Letter - 03/01/1956

American Dental Association

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# Write Your Congressman Now

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Vol. 9, No. 6, - Mar. 1, 1956

## A.D.A. URGES SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES TO TAKE FAVORABLE ACTION ON INCREASED RESEARCH FUNDS, CONSTRUCTION OF N.I.D.R. BUILDING

Representatives of the A.D.A. appeared before committees of both the House of Representatives and the Senate in Washington, D.C., in the past two weeks urging increased federal support for dental research activities. In addition, many hundreds of telegrams and letters from dental societies and individual dentists from all parts of the nation had been sent to both senators and representatives urging increased attention to dental research needs. In the House, Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A., urged the Subcommittee on Health, Education and Welfare on Feb. 17 to increase to \$6,026,000 the funds earmarked for the National Institute of Dental Research for the 1957 fiscal year, beginning next July 1. In the Senate, Dr. Harry Lyons, of Richmond, Va., president-elect of the Association, on Feb. 29 headed a delegation of six witnesses testifying before the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare to recommend approval of a bill to increase to \$5 million the authorization for construction of a building to house the National Institute of Dental Research. Ten of the 13 members of the Senate Committee joined in a bipartisan sponsorship of the bill (S. 3246) to increase the building authorization from \$2 million to \$5 million. Sen. Murray (D. Mont.), who long has been a strong supporter of dental research appropriations, originated the measure. Joining as co-sponsors of the bill were: Sen. Allott (R., Colo.), Sen. Bender (R., Ohio), Sen. Douglas (D., Ill.), Sen. Hill (D., Ala.), chairman of the Committee; Sen. Ives (R., N.Y.), Sen. Kennedy (D., Mass.), Sen. Lehman (D., N.Y.), Sen. McNamara (D., Mich.) and Sen. Neely (D., W. Va.). The three members of the Committee who declined to serve as co-sponsors of the dental research bill were: Sen. Smith (R., N.J.), Sen. Goldwater (R., Ariz.) and Sen. Purtell (R., Conn.). A similar bill earlier was introduced in the House by Rep. Priest (D., Tenn.) with additional sponsorship of Rep. Wolverton (R., N.J.) and Rep. Boland (D., Mass.).

### NEED FOR EXPANDED RESEARCH 'URGENT,' DR. HILLENBRAND SAYS

Health, Education and Welfare on Friday (March 2). In testimony before the Subcommittee, Dr. Hillenbrand pointed out that expanded scientific research is urgently needed to help reduce the enormous amount of ill health and disability caused by dental disease. He recommended an increase of \$3,055,000 in the 1957 appropriation of \$2,971,000 recommended by the Bureau of the Budget. Dr. Hillenbrand said the A.D.A. in no way seeks to detract from the research grants for the other six health institutes of the federal government. "The Association acknowledges that some priority might properly be given to problems that are related to a high death rate; but it does not believe that such priority should be perpetuated at the cost of problems which, while less dramatic, take a relentless toll of human health and well-being," Dr. Hillenbrand said.

Recommendations regarding appropriations for research grants were scheduled to be reported this week-end by the House Subcommittee on

Pointing to the nation's annual dental bill of nearly \$ 1.5 billion plus a yearly expenditure by the federal government of \$ 100 million for dental care of servicemen, Dr. Hillenbrand said: "And in spite of these very large outlays, less than one-half of the nation receives adequate dental care. It is simply not reasonable to say that the pattern of disease and cost should be continued without effective intervention by the only available weapon -- dental research." Dr. Hillenbrand was commended for an excellent statement by Rep. Fogarty (D., R.I.), Subcommittee chairman. The full text of Dr. Hillenbrand's statement is published as a special section of the March issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association.

**DR. LYONS STRESSES  
NEED FOR BUILDING**

for the hearings. In his statement, Dr. Lyons said that there is need for construction of a building for the National Institute of Dental Research so that necessary facilities and equipment can be centrally located. He said: "The nation's 43 dental schools and seven dental research centers, although capable of carrying on much more extensive dental research than is reflected in the present program, will not, in the foreseeable future be able to carry out all the investigation needed to conduct a realistic search for methods of controlling and preventing dental disease." Dr. Lyons, dean of the School of Dentistry, Medical College of Virginia, was presented to the Committee by Sen. Robertson (D., Va.). Other witnesses in support of the bill were Dr. J. Roy Doty, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics; Dr. Joseph Volker, of Birmingham, dean of the School of Dentistry, University of Alabama, and president-elect of the American section of the International Association of Dental Research; Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, D.C., A.D.A. assistant secretary and former A.D.A. president; Mrs. Charles Center, of Atlanta, Ga., prominent civic leader, and Dr. H. Trendley Dean, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Research and former N.I.D.R. director. The group was accompanied by Mr. Bernard J. Conway, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation. Opposing the bill were four spokesmen for the administration. They were Dr. Lowell T. Coggeshall, assistant for health and medical affairs to the secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Dr. James A. Shannon, director of the National Institutes of Health; Dr. Leonard Scheele, surgeon general of the U.S. Public Health Service, and Dr. John W. Knutson, chief dental officer of the U.S.P.H.S. The administration view, as presented by these officials, was that the building was not needed. The A.D.A. strongly challenged these views. Comments and questions by the members of the Committee indicated

Five members of the Senate Committee, Sen. Hill, the chairman, and Sens. Lehman, McNamara, Murray and Purtell, were present

general support of the bill. Sen. Hill, the chairman, commended the A.D.A. for its presentation. Sen. Purtell, the only non-sponsor of the bill among the committee members present, indicated that he was highly sympathetic to the need for a dental research building.

'Maybe I Should See The Dentist More Often'



**WIDESPREAD SUPPORT  
FOR A.D.A. REQUESTS**

In addition to the many hundreds of dental societies and individual dentists who have sent telegrams and letters to their Congressmen, many other groups interested in improved health for all citizens have supported the A.D.A. request for increased dental research activities by the federal government. Several newspapers, including the Chicago Sun-Times, the Washington Post and Times-Herald and the Dallas Morning News have carried editorials urging favorable action by Congress. The Sun-Times also published a cartoon by Jacob Burck which is reproduced in the adjoining column. Dentists everywhere are urged to seek the editorial support of major newspapers in their communities for an increased research program throughout the nation.

More letters and telegrams are needed to members of the U.S. Congress from individual dentists and dental groups so that senators and representatives may be fully informed regarding the need for increased federal support of dental research. If you have not already written the representative from your district and both of the senators from your state, do so today! Give them your views regarding the need for expanded research to help combat dental disease.

## HOUSE UNIT APPROVES SYSTEM OF INCREASED BONUSES FOR DENTAL OFFICERS

The House Armed Services Committee last week approved two bills of interest to dentistry: the so-called career incentive bill for dental and medical officers in the armed forces (H.R. 9428) and a bill for health care of military dependents (H.R. 9429). The newest version of the career bill sets up a system of graduated increases in additional pay, which is now \$ 100 a month for dental and medical officers. The bill calls for an increase to \$ 150 a month extra after three years service; \$ 200 a month extra after six years, and \$ 250 a month extra after 10 years. Additionally, the measure provides for service credit for the four years spent in dental or medical schools for promotion and pay purposes. It also gives credit for medical internships but not dental internships. With the exception of the provision on internships the measure incorporates generally the program advocated by the Association to increase the attractiveness of a career in the armed forces for dentists. In testimony before the congressmen on Feb. 16, Dr. J. Claude Earnest, of Monroe, La., vice-chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, pointed out that less than one-fourth of the 5,800 dental officers in military service are career officers. "It is generally admitted by those concerned with the dental as well as the total health of the members of the armed services," he said, "that a dental corps staffed primarily with career officers would be more efficient, better trained to its military and ancillary missions, and less costly to maintain." The bill for health care of military dependents, as reported out by the Armed Services Committee, establishes a complicated system of medical care in military facilities and through civilian sources. The bill limits dental treatment to emergency care.

## A.D.A. RELIEF FUND PASSES \$100,000 GOAL FOR 4TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR -- 22 SOCIETIES TOP THEIR QUOTAS AS TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS REACH \$104,853

The A.D.A. Relief Fund drive passed its goal for the fourth consecutive year as contributions reached \$ 104,853 on Feb. 27. It was the earliest the national quota had been achieved in the Fund's history. As contributions poured in following the second appeal, mailed in early February, 22 new states exceeded their quotas. In all, 39 constituent societies have topped the 100 per cent mark. Those passing the 100 per cent mark since the previous report are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Virginia and Wyoming. Alaska, with 458 per cent of quota reached, took over the individual lead, among the constituents. Tennessee was second with 359.9 per cent. The smaller societies (quotas under \$ 1,000), with 110.8 per cent of quota, continued their lead over the larger societies (quotas over \$ 1,000), which have reached 103.1 per cent of quota. A complete breakdown of contributions by constituent societies and federal services is contained on the enclosed Mimeographed page.

## A.D.A. COUNCILS TO SPONSOR WORKSHOP ON TECHNICIANS MARCH 5-7

Dental laboratory owners, dental educators and A.D.A. representatives will participate in a workshop on the training of dental laboratory technicians March 5-7 at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago. Dr. Willard C. Fleming, of San Francisco, dean of the College of Dentistry at the University of California, will preside at the three-day meeting which is being sponsored by the A.D.A. Councils on Dental Education and Dental Trade and Laboratory Relations. Topics to be covered include the function of the dental laboratory as viewed by the laboratory owner, the technician and the dentist; educational programs for technicians, and requirements for dental technician schools.

## MAYOR WAGNER OF NEW YORK IN FAVOR OF FLUORIDATION; CALLS FOR HEARINGS

Mayor Robert F. Wagner, of New York City, gave a qualified endorsement to fluoridation last week and called on the city's Board of Estimate to hold public hearings on the measure. In a television broadcast Feb. 19, Mayor Wagner said: "I personally think fluoridation would be a good thing, but the Board of Estimate must set the policy and so I have somewhat of an open mind in case any new facts are brought out to change my opinion." Fluoridation was unanimously recommended by the city's Board of Health Jan. 12, but it has been opposed by the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. The mayor said that he considered the Board of Health the better authority on health aspects of fluoridation.

## DR. KINGSBURY URGES SUPPORT OF RED CROSS FUND DRIVE

Dr. Bernerd C. Kingsbury, of San Francisco, A.D.A. president, today urged all members of the dental profession to support the 1956 campaign for members and funds of the American National Red Cross. In a letter to the Red Cross, he said: "Through its disaster aid, its armed forces and veterans programs, its nursing and safety services, and its blood donor program, the Red Cross has been continually in the forefront as an outstanding humanitarian institution... I am certain dentists everywhere will respond to the call."

## CUTOFF DATE FOR 1956 A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP DUES IS MARCH 31

Constituent society secretaries are reminded that March 31 is the cutoff date for receipt of 1956 A.D.A. membership dues. Individuals whose dues are not received by that date cease to be members in good standing and their participation in Association insurance programs may be jeopardized. Additionally, the member's subscription to The Journal of the American Dental Association and his listing in the A.D.A. Directory may be discontinued. At the end of January, membership dues had been received for 43,590 dentists, some 4,300 more than on the same date last year. Dental society secretaries are also reminded that the final date for applications for life membership in the A.D.A. is June 30.

## TOPICAL-DOSAGE PENICILLIN PRODUCTS DROPPED FROM A.D.R.

The A.D.A. Council on Dental Therapeutics at its meeting Feb. 16-17 in the Central Office voted to drop all topical-dosage forms of penicillin from Accepted Dental Remedies. Deleted will be all brands of penicillin troches, ointments, pastes, cones and powders used for topical application. Although these products have been useful as adjuncts in treating superficial oral infections, the Council said, they have a high "sensitizing potential" because of their use in prolonged contact with the oral tissues. When penicillin must be administered systemically to individuals previously sensitized by local applications, there is a possibility of severe reactions, it was pointed out. Other antibiotics, without a sensitizing effect, are available for local application to oral tissues, the Council said.

## DR. BERT HOOPER IS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL ON DENTAL EDUCATION

Dr. Bert L. Hooper, of Lincoln, Neb., dean of the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry, has been named chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education. He succeeds Dr. Gerald D. Timmons, of Philadelphia, dean of Temple University School of Dentistry, who recently resigned. Last fall, Dr. Timmons was elected speaker of the A.D.A. House of Delegates. Dr. Maynard K. Hine, of Indianapolis, dean of Indiana University School of Dentistry, has been named to succeed Dr. Timmons as a member of the Council. Both appointments, effective until the 1956 annual session at Atlantic City next November, were made by Dr. Bernerd C. Kingsbury, of San Francisco, A.D.A. president.

## DR. PHILIP E. BLACKERBY NAMED ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF KELLOGG FOUNDATION

Dr. Philip E. Blackerby Jr., of Battle Creek, Mich., has been named to the newly created post of associate general director of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, it was announced last week by Dr. Emory W. Morris, general director of the Foundation. Dr. Blackerby, who is a member and former chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education, has been director of the Foundation's division of dentistry since 1945.