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News Letter

Vol. 10, No. 10 - Wednesday, May 15, 1957

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE APPROVES 'DOCTOR' DRAFT BILL; NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO SELECTIVE SERVICE IS RETAINED

A new bill for drafting dentists and physicians incorporating virtually all the provisions recommended by the A.D.A. was approved unanimously by the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives May 8. The bill is designed to replace the current law which expires June 30. In a last-minute substitution, the committee presented its own version of the bill for hearings rather than that submitted earlier by the Department of Defense. The approved bill limits the drafting of dentists and physicians to those liable for military service under the regular draft law. Under the present special draft law, dentists and physicians up to the age of 46 have been subject to the draft. Additionally, the bill includes several provisions, advocated by the A.D.A., which were not included in the earlier Defense Department version. It calls for continuation of the National Advisory Committee to Selective Service together with the authority to recommend the deferment of dental school faculty members, research personnel and dentists considered essential to a community. The new bill also assures the continuance of certain safeguards, including the right of dental reservists entering upon active duty under the special draft to resign their commissions on their discharge from active duty. The A.D.A. was represented at the hearings by Dr. J. Claude Earnest, of Monroe, La., chairman of the Council on Legislation, and Mr. Bernard J. Conway, of Chicago, secretary of the council.

SENATE URGED TO VOTE FUNDS FOR DENTAL INSTITUTE BUILDING

Construction of adequate facilities for the National Institute of Dental Research was urged by a representative of the A.D.A. at testimony May 6 before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, headed by Senator Hill (D., Ala.). Dr. Thomas J. Hill, of Cleveland, chairman of the Council on Dental Research, testifying on the proposed new budget for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare pointed out that the measure did not include funds for construction of a building to house the N.I.D.R. The budget includes \$6,430,000 for dental health and research activities of the U.S. Public Health Service. "The National Institute of Dental Research has a mandate from Congress to conduct investigations in two areas -- basic research and clinical research," he said. "Unless plans are executed now for constructing adequate facilities for the Dental Institute, its basic research program cannot attain the effectiveness envisioned by Congress." Recommending that the sum of \$3,700,000 be included in the budget for construction, he said: "The dental diseases are so complex in their causation that successful research on these problems requires the combined and co-ordinated knowledge and skills of many scientists....Only in an adequately housed, equipped and staffed National Institute for Dental Research can all these workers and their efforts be fully co-ordinated in an effective assault on major dental problems." Dr. Hill also urged an increase of \$1 million in funds for the Dental Institute's program of grants for research projects at dental schools and research centers and for grants to train research workers. Dr. Hill noted that under the program, there are now 275 research projects at 80 dental schools and other research centers compared with 45 projects at 22 institutions during the fiscal year ending in July, 1956. "This healthy interest and extraordinary progress in dental research deserves to be maintained and heightened," he said.

BETHESDA, MD., CHOSEN AS SITE FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

The board of regents of the National Library of Medicine has selected Bethesda, Md., as the site for the proposed new library building. The library was established by Congress as a successor to the former Army Medical Library and contains one of the world's largest collections of medical, dental and pharmaceutical literature. The board reported that both the Association of American Dental Schools and the Association of American Medical Colleges favored retention of the site in the Washington, D.C., area. The dentist member of the board is Dr. Basil G. Bibby, of Rochester, N.Y., professor of dentistry at the University of Rochester and director of the Eastman Dental Dispensary.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI TO HOLD TWO-DAY DENTAL CONFERENCE

Dr. William R. Alstadt, of Little Rock, Ark., president-elect of the A.D.A., will take part in a conference on oral diagnosis, roentgenology and treatment planning at the Center for Continuation Study of the University of Mississippi, University, on Aug. 21-22. Other clinicians will include Dr. Lee Roy Main, dean of the School of Dentistry, St. Louis University; Dr. Beryl Ritchey, of Colorado Springs, Col., and Dr. Hamilton B. G. Robinson, associate dean of the School of Dentistry, Ohio State University, Columbus.

ASSOCIATED, ALLIED GROUPS SCHEDULE MEETINGS AT 98TH ANNUAL SESSION

Meetings of at least 26 allied and associated groups have been scheduled in conjunction with the 98th annual session of the A.D.A. to be held Nov. 4-7 in Miami and Miami Beach. Plans are underway to make the 1957 meeting one of the largest in the history of the Association, according to Dr. Arthur W. Killner, general chairman of the committee on local arrangements. Some 40 hotels, many of them world known, have pledged accommodations for the meeting. Reservations are available from the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, Box 1511, Miami Beach. They may be obtained by filling out the application form which appears on page A-38 of the May issue of The Journal of the American Dental Association. The hotel assignments and dates of the allied and associated group meetings follow (unless designated otherwise, they are in Miami Beach):

Alpha Omega, Americana, Nov. 4
American Academy of Gold Foil Operators, Roney Plaza, Nov. 1-2
American Academy of Oral Roentgenology, Lucerne, Nov. 1-2
American Academy of Pedodontics, Delano, Oct. 30-Nov. 1
American Academy of Periodontology, di Lido, Oct. 31-Nov. 2
American Association of Dental Editors, Eden Roc, Nov. 2
American Association of Dental Examiners, Empress, Nov. 1-2
American Association of Dental Schools, Roney Plaza, Nov. 3
American Association of Public Health Dentists, Columbus (Miami) Nov. 2
American College of Dentists, Eden Roc, Fontainebleau, Nov. 3
American Dental Assistants Association, Ivanhoe, Nov. 4-7
American Dental Hygienists' Association, Saxony, Nov. 4-7
American Dental Interfraternity Council, Saxony, Nov. 3
American Dental Society of Anesthesiology, Sorrento, Nov. 1-3
American Denture Society, Americana, Nov. 1-3
American Society of Dentistry for Children, Balmoral, Nov. 1-3
American Society of Oral Surgeons, Golden Gate, Oct. 30-Nov. 2
Delta Sigma Delta Fraternity, Seville, Nov. 1-4
Georgetown University Dental Alumni Association, Algiers, Nov. 5, luncheon
International College of Dentists, Empress, Nov. 3
Loyola University Dental Alumni Association, Sorrento, Nov. 5, luncheon
Marquette University Dental Alumni Association, Biscayne Terrace (Miami)
Nov. 5
National Association of Seventh-Day Adventist Dentists, Algiers, Oct. 31-Nov. 3
Northwestern University Dental Alumni Association, San Marino, Nov. 6, luncheon
Psi Omega Fraternity, Americana, Nov. 4-7
University of Maryland Alumni Association, Seville, Nov. 3-7
Xi Psi Phi Fraternity, Shoremede, Nov. 4

N.A.D.L. AND A.D.A. AGREE ON PLANS FOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Representatives of the National Association of Dental Laboratories (N.A.D.L.) and the A.D.A. reached agreement on May 10 on educational and administrative aspects of a proposed certification program for dental laboratory technicians. The meeting, held in Chicago, was the third in a series. The presidents of the two organizations, Dr. Harry Lyons (A.D.A.) and Mr. Nathan Cooper (N.A.D.L.), headed their respective delegations. At the conclusion of the meeting, the conferees issued a statement which follows in part:

...It was agreed that the educational aspects of a certification program would be the responsibility of the Council on Dental Education of the A.D.A. The educational phase of the certification program would consist of one formal year of education in an appropriate institution, and the equivalent of one year of supervised training plus three additional years of practical experience. It was agreed that this training and experience could be conducted in a dental laboratory or in other institutions. On the completion of the five year period of education and experience, the candidate would become eligible to apply for certification in a general or particular field of dental laboratory technology. The representatives of the Council on Dental Education indicated that the Council would submit to the 1957 session of the (A.D.A.) House of Delegates a statement on the "Requirements for Educational Programs for Dental Laboratory Technicians". If these "Requirements" are approved by the House of Delegates of the A.D.A. and accepted by the House of Delegates of the N.A.D.L., the program could be initiated at the end of 1957 or early in 1958.

The conferees agreed that the certification program for dental laboratory technicians would be established under general principles advanced by the Council on Dental Education as "Requirements for the Approval of a Certification Board for Dental Laboratory Technicians" which would be submitted to the A.D.A. House of Delegates at its annual session in November, 1957 and which would also be considered by the N.A.D.L. House of Delegates at its annual session in October, 1957.

Under the proposed program, the N.A.D.L., or an agency of its choice, would develop and implement the administrative mechanisms for the certification of dental laboratory technicians. It is proposed that the program would provide for the certification of dental laboratory technicians in the general field of dental laboratory technology and in the individual fields of complete dentures, partial dentures, dental ceramics and crown and bridge technology. Other details of the certification procedure would be developed by the certification agency.

Representatives of both associations emphasized that the certification program would not be initiated until action has been taken by the governing bodies of both associations.

The conferees also agreed that each association will continue its studies of plans for establishing an acceptable program for the recognition of dental laboratories.

STATE SECRETARIES' MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE TO OPEN JUNE 10

Nearly a score of speakers will participate in the 9th State Secretaries' Management Conference to be held at A.D.A. headquarters, June 10-12. The conference will feature discussions of various activities of constituent dental societies. In addition to members of the Central Office staff, speakers will be: Dr. Gory N. Casto, Jr., secretary of the West Virginia State Dental Society; Dr. Joseph L. Champagne, secretary of the Michigan Board of Dentistry; Dr. Paul W. Clopper, secretary of the Illinois State Dental Society; Mr. Ray Cobaugh, executive secretary of the Pennsylvania State Dental Society; Dr. Henry E. Colby, former president of the Minnesota State Dental Association; Mr. Andrew M. Cunningham, secretary of the North Carolina Dental Society; Mr. Broderick H. Johnson, executive secretary of the Indiana State Dental Association; Mr. Robert E. Paulsen, executive secretary of the Washington State Dental Association; Mr. James Robinson, executive secretary of the Southern California State Dental Association; Mr. John G. Rooks, executive secretary of the California State Dental Association; Dr. Harold E. Tingley, secretary of the Massachusetts State Dental Association, and Mr. D. C. Trexler, director of institutes and short courses at the University of Mississippi.

'PUBLIC DENTURIST' BILL AGAIN INTRODUCED IN ILLINOIS

A bill to set up a class of licensed dental laboratory technicians to be known as "public denturists," who would be authorized to sell and fit dentures directly to the public, has been introduced again in the Illinois State legislature. A similar bill was defeated two years ago. The bill was approved, 19 to 6, by the House Committee on License and Miscellany on May 7. Backers of the bill are a small group of technicians who have been enjoined against continuing their illegal practices by Illinois courts. Among those who testified in opposition to the measure was the executive secretary of the Illinois State Laboratory Association. The Chicago Sunday Tribune, in an editorial on May 12, called for the bill's defeat. It said: "The quality of the measure can be judged by the fact that it sets up an examining committee, three of whose five members would have to be drawn from the ranks of the lawbreakers, but at the same time exempts any of them who has been in the racket for three years from taking any examination. It's a rotten bill, and fortunately one that should be easy to kill." Two other Chicago newspapers, the Sun-Times and the American on May 10 also published strongly worded editorials calling for defeat of the bill.

FLUORIDATION NOW REACHES 1,506 COMMUNITIES

Fluoridation of public water supplies has exceeded the 1,500-mark for communities. The procedure was in operation in 1,506 communities with a combined population of 31,566,653 as of May 1, according to the U.S. Public Health Service. In Sheboygan, Wis., the health department, reporting on the conclusion of a 10-year fluoridation test period, said an average reduction of about 50 per cent in dental disease was found among children from kindergarten to ninth grade as compared with children of the same age group before the program was started on Feb. 25, 1946. Last week, residents of Raleigh, N.C., for the second time in five months voted in favor of fluoridation.

REPRINTS OF NEW ARTICLE ON FLUORIDATION NOW AVAILABLE

Reprints of the article, "What You Should Know About Fluoridation" which was published in the May 12 issue of Parade, the Sunday Picture Magazine, may be obtained at a cost of only \$5 per thousand from the A.D.A. Bureau of Public Information, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11, Ill. The article, written by Dr. Harry Lyons, A.D.A. president, discusses frankly the claims of anti-fluoridationists. It will be of particular interest in communities where fluoridation is now under consideration.

OPENINGS AVAILABLE FOR DENTAL OFFICERS IN 'OPERATION DEEP FREEZE'

Two billets for Navy dental officers are available for Operation Deep Freeze III in Antarctica and the climax of the International Geophysical Years. Scientists from some 50 countries are participating in the international event. The openings for dental officers are for the rank of lieutenant commander or below. The officers selected will remain in the Antarctic for 18 months. Information can be obtained from the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, Washington 25, D.C.

DR. PHILLIPS NAMED DIRECTOR OF GROUP HEALTH DENTAL INSURANCE

Dr. Percy T. Phillips, of New York, A.D.A. trustee, has been elected a director of Group Health Dental Insurance, Inc., a voluntary prepayment program. Dr. Phillips has served as chairman of the program's Dental Advisory Council since 1954. The plan has been approved by the First District Dental Society of the State of New York. Elected with Dr. Phillips was Dr. David M. Delo, president of Wagner College, Staten Island. The board is composed of 24 members one half of whom are dentists.

DR. HILLENBRAND TO RECEIVE ALUMNI CITATION FROM LOYOLA

Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, of Chicago, A.D.A. secretary, will receive an Alumni Citation from Loyola University, Chicago, on May 19. Plaques will be presented to seven alumni in recognition of "outstanding careers" exemplifying the ideals of the university. Dr. Hillenbrand, who received a dental degree from the school in 1930, formerly served on its faculty as associate professor of ethics and social relations.