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## ADA News Letter - 03/15/1958

American Dental Association

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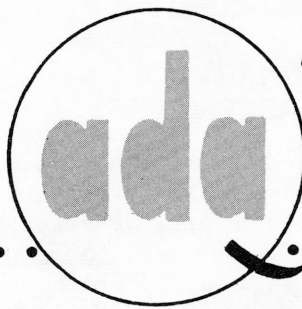
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# News Letter

Vol. 11, No. 6 - Saturday, March 15, 1958

## DENTISTS REQUESTED TO WRITE CONGRESSMEN IMMEDIATELY ON URGENT NEED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING TO HOUSE DENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Dr. William R. Alstadt, of Little Rock, Ark., president of the Association, this week asked all dental society members to inform their congressmen of the urgent need for including within the federal budget for the fiscal year 1959 an appropriation of \$ 3,700,000 for the construction of a building to house the National Institute of Dental Research. The fiscal year begins next July 1. "The American Dental Association needs your immediate and active assistance in our effort to have the National Institute of Dental Research Building started this year," Dr. Alstadt said in a letter to officers of state and district and local societies. "As president of the American Dental Association, I wish to emphasize the critical need for your support and the support of your membership. . . . I want you to know that without the cooperation of the constituent and component societies, the achievement of our legislative goals would be extremely difficult. Keep in mind that it was your support primarily which brought forth a \$ 3 million increase in the dental research appropriation program only two years ago." Representatives of the A.D.A. have testified at congressional hearings that lack of space and facilities for the institute has substantially retarded investigations in basic and clinical research.

### KEY CONGRESSMEN LISTED FOR INCLUSION IN ACTION

A.D.A. members were urged to write to the two senators from their state and their representatives requesting their support for construction

of the dental research building. All communications should be addressed either to the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington 25, D.C. Additionally, dentists were urged to write to the following key congressmen:

Rep. John E. Fogarty  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Education and Welfare  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives

Sen. Lister Hill  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health, Education and Welfare  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate

It is also requested that copies of the letters be sent to the A.D.A. Council on Legislation at Association headquarters, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11.

### BUILDING SEEN AS 'CONTRIBUTION TO HEALTH' FOR A.D.A. CENTENNIAL

In an earlier letter to society officers, Dr. J. Claude Earnest, of Monroe, La., chairman of the Council on Legislation, called for support and

assistance in the project and pointed out that the A.D.A. is marking its centennial in 1959. "The dental profession would consider the construction of the dental research building as one of the major contributions to the nation's health during its 100 years as an organized health profession," he said.

## APPELLATE COURT UPHOLDS DISMISSAL OF \$200,000 LIBEL SUIT FILED AGAINST A.D.A. OFFICIALS BY DR. MICK IN NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Appellate Court, in a decision reported March 14, has upheld a lower court decision dismissing the \$200,000 libel suit filed in 1956 against A.D.A. officials by Dr. Robert J. H. Mick, of Laurel Springs, N.J. Dr. Mick, an outspoken opponent of water fluoridation, had asked damages from the Association and Dr. Lon W. Morrey, editor, Journal of the American Dental Association, and Mr. Herbert B. Bain, director, Bureau of Public Information. Dr. Mick charged that a letter written by Mr. Bain stating that the Association believed Dr. Mick's views on fluoridation to be "based on complete misinformation and to be totally irresponsible" was libelous. The suit was dismissed last May in the Superior Court in Camden, N.J., at the conclusion of the plaintiff's case. In his decision, Judge Edward V. Martino declared that the letter was not derogatory and that "it was merely a disagreement with the view that Dr. Mick has." He added: "To comment upon a person's views is certainly not libelous." In its decision, the Appellate Court held that Judge Martino was correct in throwing the Mick suit out of court.

## NEW YORK FLUORIDATION BILL CALLED 'DEMONSTRATION OF DARK AGES THINKING'

Two bills that would forbid fluoridation without a referendum were acted on by the New York state legislature last week. One measure failed of passage in the General Assembly. The other, which was directed specifically at New York City, would require a referendum in that city before the measure could be placed in operation. New York is one of the few major cities in the country without the program. The bill was approved by the New York State Senate and is now before a committee of the General Assembly. The legislature is scheduled to adjourn March 18. In a message to some members of the state legislature, Dr. Percy T. Phillips, of New York, president-elect of the A.D.A., pointed out that the public generally is not qualified to evaluate a scientific measure. "It seems basically unfair," Dr. Phillips said, "to impose upon the general public the necessity of making definitive determination of a basic scientific problem upon which it cannot be expected to be as a whole formally trained and qualified." The same point was emphasized in a New York Times editorial March 5 which deplored the State Senate action on fluoridation as "an appalling demonstration of Dark Ages thinking." "No one but a scientist or a medical or dental authority is competent to judge its effectiveness or its safety," the editorial said. "How can the man in the street possibly have the scientific information to decide this question for himself? Would you insist that he vote for or against pasteurization of milk, or inoculation against disease, before official authority could put in effect such preventive measures for protection of the public health? . . . To pass this anti-science, anti-home rule bill is an appalling demonstration of Dark Ages thinking. We suppose the Senate will now vote to declare the earth flat and annul the law of gravity."

## CONGRESS URGED TO KEEP CAREER INCENTIVE PAY PLAN FOR DENTAL OFFICERS

A recommendation that Congress retain without change the current career incentive pay plan for dental and medical officers in the armed forces has been presented to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives by a representative of the A.D.A. The committee is considering several legislative proposals for military pay adjustments for all members of the armed services. In a letter to Chairman Vinson (D., Ga.) of the Armed Services Committee, Dr. J. Claude Earnest, of Monroe, La., chairman of the Council on Legislation, pointed out that since the passage of the career incentive legislation by the last Congress, greatly increased numbers of applications for extended service in the dental corps and sharp drops in resignations have been reported for the Army, Navy and Air Force. Noting that the report illustrates the salutary effects of the legislation on the dental corps of all the armed services, Dr. Earnest said that "there is every indication that this favorable experience will continue so long as this legislation remains in effect." He added: "The American Dental Association strongly recommends that Congress retain without change the existing career incentive pay plan for dental and medical officers of the military and Public Health Service in any military pay adjustment legislation enacted this year."

The following is a list of Relief Fund contributions to March 7 from constituent societies and federal dental services. Societies which have reached or exceeded the 100 per cent mark are listed in capital letters.

<u>QUOTA UNDER \$1,000.00</u>				<u>QUOTA OVER \$1,000.00</u>			
	<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>CONTRI- BUTION</u>	<u>PCT.</u>		<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>CONTRI- BUTION</u>	<u>PCT.</u>
ALABAMA	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,539.00	181.1	CALIFORNIA	\$ 4,010.00	\$ 4,606.50	114.9
ALASKA	60.00	110.00	183.3	SO. CALIF.	4,900.00	9,450.01	192.9
ARIZONA	360.00	575.00	159.7	COLORADO	1,010.00	1,206.00	119.4
ARKANSAS	530.00	653.65	123.3	CONNECTICUT	1,950.00	2,056.00	105.4
DELAWARE	150.00	270.00	180.0	FLORIDA	1,530.00	1,893.00	123.7
DIST. OF COL.	740.00	760.00	102.7	GEORGIA	1,080.00	1,215.50	112.5
HAWAII	390.00	692.00	177.4	ILLINOIS	6,830.00	8,187.40	119.9
IDAHO	280.00	302.00	107.9	INDIANA	2,230.00	2,624.00	117.7
KANSAS	970.00	1,077.50	111.1	Iowa	1,740.00	1,736.50	99.8
MAINE	440.00	718.00	163.2	KENTUCKY	1,170.00	1,625.84	139.0
Mississippi	550.00	405.00	73.6	LOUISIANA	1,050.00	1,074.00	102.3
MONTANA	370.00	512.50	138.5	MARYLAND	1,160.00	1,497.50	129.1
NEBRASKA	960.00	1,151.00	119.9	Massachusetts	3,580.00	3,216.00	89.8
NEVADA	120.00	173.00	144.2	MICHIGAN	4,240.00	4,711.00	111.1
New Hampshire	310.00	248.00	80.0	MINNESOTA	2,650.00	3,252.50	122.7
NEW MEXICO	260.00	410.00	157.7	MISSOURI	2,350.00	2,393.00	101.8
NORTH DAKOTA	290.00	512.00	176.6	NEW JERSEY	4,020.00	5,046.50	125.5
OKLAHOMA	910.00	987.00	108.5	New York	14,600.00	12,538.60	85.9
Panama C.Z.	20.00	-0-	---	NO. CAROLINA	1,310.00	1,688.00	128.9
Puerto Rico	250.00	169.00	67.6	Ohio	4,920.00	4,477.63	91.0
RHODE ISLAND	540.00	765.00	141.7	OREGON	1,320.00	1,469.00	111.3
So. Carolina	440.00	406.00	92.3	Pennsylvania	6,660.00	6,241.50	93.7
SO. DAKOTA	300.00	496.00	165.3	TENNESSEE	1,380.00	4,355.00	315.6
UTAH	510.00	633.00	124.1	TEXAS	3,280.00	3,378.00	103.0
VERMONT	170.00	274.00	161.2	VIRGINIA	1,280.00	1,364.00	106.6
WEST VIRGINIA	700.00	865.00	123.6	WASHINGTON	1,920.00	2,302.50	119.9
WYOMING	160.00	192.00	120.0	Wisconsin	2,880.00	2,636.50	91.5
TOTAL	\$11,630.00	\$14,895.65	128.1		\$85,050.00	\$96,241.98	113.2
FEDERAL DENTAL SERVICES				Quotas under			
Air Force	630.00	502.83	79.8	\$1,000	11,630.00	14,895.65	128.1
Army	590.00	501.50	85.0	Quotas over			
Navy	1,070.00	775.50	72.5	\$1,000	85,050.00	96,241.98	113.2
P.H. SERVICE	240.00	439.50	183.1	Fed. Dental			
Vet. Admin.	790.00	395.50	50.1	Services	3,320.00	2,614.83	78.8
TOTAL	\$ 3,320.00	2,614.83	78.8	Students		948.00	
				Memorials		20.00	
				Miscellaneous		207.06	
				GRAND TOTAL	\$100,000.00	\$114,927.52	114.9

## FULL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION URGED FOR DENTAL EXPENSES

Deduction of all dental and medical expenses as casualty losses for income tax purposes was urged by the A.D.A. this week. In a letter to Rep. Mills (D., Ark.), chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, Dr. Ralph Creig, of Cleveland, vice-chairman of the Association's Council on Legislation, pointed out that the A.D.A. is on record favoring a revision of existing tax laws. Currently, taxpayers are permitted to deduct dental and medical expenses which exceed three per cent or more of adjusted gross income. "The opportunity to deduct all dental and medical expenses as a casualty loss would be particularly beneficial to the taxpayer who has borne the expense of a catastrophic illness for himself or one of his dependents," Dr. Creig said. He also pointed out that the removal of the limitations "would encourage many citizens to seek treatment for their health conditions at an early stage of illness."

## DUES DEADLINE IS MARCH 31; MEMBERSHIP NOW 66,180

March 31 is the deadline date for receipt of 1958 Association dues. All dentists are reminded that non-payment of annual dues by that date may jeopardize their participation in the Association's insurance programs. Additionally, subscriptions to The Journal of the American Dental Association will be suspended until membership is restored. As of Feb. 28, there were 50,848 active members in the Association, an increase of 1,579 over the number reported at the same date last year. The total membership in all categories was 66,180.

### A.D.A. STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REACHES 10,409 ON FEB. 28

Student membership as of Feb. 28 was 10,409 as compared with 9,996 reported at this time last year. Sixteen dental schools have 100 per

cent student membership in the A.D.A. Included are dental schools at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco; Loyola University, Chicago; Loyola University, New Orleans; University of Southern California, University of Detroit, Creighton University, University of Nebraska, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Seton Hall University, New York University, University of North Carolina, University of Oregon, Temple University, Baylor University, University of Texas and the Medical College of Virginia.

## JOINT SESSION WITH A.A.D.S. TO CLIMAX DENTAL RESEARCH MEETING

The 36th general meeting of the International Association for Dental Research will be held March 20-23 at the Hotel Statler in Detroit. Climaxing the meeting, a session jointly of the I.A.D.R. and the American Association of Dental Schools will be held at 8 p.m. March 23 with the theme, "Interrelationship Between Research and Education in Modern Dentistry." Talks will be given by Dr. Roy O. Greep, of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine; Dr. Harry Lyons, of the School of Dentistry of the Medical College of Virginia, and Dr. C. J. Van Slyke, of the National Institutes of Health. The four-day meeting of the I.A.D.R. will include reports on experimental caries, microbiology, calcification, anesthesia and radiation, oral mucosa and carcinogenesis, tooth structure and chemistry, saliva, transplantation, cementum and bone grafts, enamel solubility and caries susceptibility, periodontium, the pulp, fluorides, and oral environment and caries. Dr. Reidar F. Sognaes, of the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, is the president and Dr. Ned B. Williams of the School of Dentistry, University of Pennsylvania, is president-elect.

## USE OF TELEVISION FOR TEACHING TO BE SUBJECT AS SCHOOLS' MEETING

"Television as an Educational Medium in Dental Education" will be the subject of a general session at the 35th annual meeting of the American Association of Dental Schools to be held March 23-26 at the Statler Hotel in Detroit. Dr. Arthur H. Morrison, of New York University, and Dr. Rene Rochon, of the University of Detroit, will preside at the general session, beginning at 9 a.m. March 26. The meeting will also include sessions on testing and examinations and on the teaching of anesthesiology, biochemistry, dental anatomy, internal medicine, preventive dentistry, roentgenology, history of dentistry, operative dentistry, oral surgery, pedodontics and removable partial denture prosthodontics. The president of the organization is Dr. Roy G. Ellis, of the University of Toronto, and the president-elect is Dr. William H. Crawford, of the University of Minnesota.

## DENTAL SOCIETIES URGED TO SUPPORT SCIENCE FAIRS

A packet of materials relating to science fairs was mailed last week to all the presidents and secretaries of the constituent and component dental societies. In an accompanying letter, Dr. William R. Alstadt, A.D.A. president, urged each dental society to take an active role in supporting the National Science Fair movement. "By participating in science fairs," Dr. Alstadt said, "the alert dental society will find opportunities to render service to its community, to establish better public relations for dentistry and to stimulate elementary and high school students to become interested in dental science as a career." Information and suggestions on how the dental society can participate more effectively in science fairs at both the state and community levels were enclosed as part of the science fair packet. A resolution urging the support of the National Science Fair movement by the constituent and component societies was unanimously adopted by the A.D.A. House of Delegates last November in Miami Beach.

## A.D.A. RELIEF FUND DRIVE CONTINUES TO GAIN

Contributions to the 1957-58 Relief Fund totaled \$ 114,927.52 as of March 7, representing 114.9 per cent of the \$ 100,000 quota. As the drive entered its final weeks, 43 constituent societies and one federal dental service have surpassed their respective quotas. Tennessee led all societies and federal dental services with contributions equaling 315.6 per cent of its quota. Southern California was second with 192.9 per cent of its quota. A list of contributions by dental societies to March 7 can be found on the accompanying Mimeographed page.

## NAME NEW A.D.A. FILM LIBRARIAN

Appointment of Mr. Herbert B. Jackman, of Chicago, as film librarian of the A.D.A. Bureau of Library and Indexing Services is announced by Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, Association secretary. Mr. Jackman, who has been employed as a writer and film coordinator for the Portland Cement Association, will join the A.D.A. staff March 17. He succeeds Miss Helaine S. Levin. Mr. Jackman formerly was assistant to the director of the audio-visual center at the University of Chicago. He also served on the headquarters staff of the Film Council of America. Mr. Jackman attended Antioch College and is a graduate of the University of Chicago. In his new position, he will work with Dr. Donald A. Washburn, director of the Bureau of Library and Indexing Services.

## NATIONAL HEALTH FORUM TO HEAR DR. R.H. FRIEDRICH

Dr. Rudolph H. Friedrich, of Chicago, secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health, will take part in a panel on "Special Problems of Private Practice in Core Cities and Suburbs" at the 1958 National Health Forum to be held March 18-20 at the Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. The panel will be presented at 2:30 p.m. March 19. The forum is sponsored by the National Health Council. The A.D.A. was host to executives of member agencies of the council at Association headquarters Feb. 20. The A.D.A. is one of the council's 45 member groups in various fields of health.

## HOMER DICKSON TAKES OFFICE AS N.A.D.L. PRESIDENT

Mr. Homer Dickson, of Fort Smith, Ark., has taken office as president of the National Association of Dental Laboratories, succeeding Mr. Nathan Cooper, of Baltimore. Other new officers of the organization are Mr. Harry J. Schrimpf, of Fargo, N.D., vice-president; Mr. Ralph B. Rothstein, of Washington, D.C., secretary, and Mr. Ugo Garganese, of Warwick, R.I., treasurer.

## NAVY ESTABLISHES NUCLEAR DENTISTRY BRANCH

A radioisotope branch has been established at the U.S. Naval Dental School, National Naval Medical Center, at Bethesda, Md. Clinical and laboratory research in dentistry will be conducted with short-life isotopes produced by a newly-installed nuclear reactor at the medical center. Instruction and training in the use of isotopes and their possible applications in dentistry will be given by Capt. Louis S. Hansen and Arne Nielsen of the Navy Dental Corps.