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CENTENNIAL SESSION - NEW YORK - SEPT. 14-18



News Letter

Vol. 12, No. 6 - Wednesday, April 15, 1959

EXPANSION OF DENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS IS RECOMMENDED BY A.D.A.; INCREASE OF \$2 MILLION IN APPROPRIATIONS SOUGHT

Prevention of dental disease is the only realistic means for bringing an almost universal affliction under effective control, an official of the A.D.A. told Congress April 15. In testimony before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, Education and Welfare, Dr. Floyd W. Pillars, of Des Moines, Iowa, vice-chairman of the Council on Legislation, urged an increase of \$2 million in the 1960 appropriations for research and training grants for the National Institute of Dental Research—from \$7,420,000 as recommended by the Bureau of the Budget to \$9,420,000. Dr. Pillars noted that there are now some 330 N.I.D.R.-sponsored projects underway in the nation's dental schools and other research institutions compared with 36 in 1955 and emphasized that the recommended increase in appropriations would assure continuation of a "sound and reasonable rate of progress for the dental research program." He said: "The high incidence of (dental) disease has long been outrunning the efforts to arrest it through conventional treatment—and this despite the fact that this country has the world's most advanced and efficient technics and best-trained personnel for providing dental care to the people." Dr. Pillars said that "many extremely promising investigations need to be expanded and a number of new studies should be initiated," among them germ-free animal experiments, investigations of bone grafts for the jaws, dental radiography, strontium-90 studies involving deciduous teeth, bacteremia after dental surgery, and studies of salivary glands as related to the endocrine system. Dr. Pillars recommended that funds for research grants to the schools be increased by \$1 million. He also pointed to the need for well-trained dental teachers and research workers and said that increases in funds for training and fellowship grants of \$500,000 and \$300,000, respectively, were recommended. Additionally, it was recommended that \$200,000 in increased funds be provided for the N.I.D.R. to conduct research projects at its own facilities. Accompanying Dr. Pillars for the testimony were Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, D.C., assistant A.D.A. secretary; Mr. Hal M. Christensen, of Chicago, assistant secretary of the A.D.A. Council on Legislation, and Mr. Reginald H. Sullens, of Chicago, executive secretary of the American Association of Dental Schools.

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS TO GIVE CLINICS AT CENTENNIAL SESSION

As a unique feature of the Centennial Session of the A.D.A., outstanding dental students from all parts of the country will participate in a special Centennial Student Clinic Program to be presented Sept. 14, the opening day of the session in New York City. Student table clinics will be given at 2 p.m. in the Coliseum, site of the scientific program for the five-day meeting. The program is being conducted by the A.D.A. Council on Membership "to demonstrate the high level of accomplishment and the skill and competence of the dental student in the United States." Financial sponsorship of the program is being provided by the Dentists' Supply Company of New York. Each of the nation's 47 dental schools is invited to select an outstanding student clinician who will be sent to New York with expenses paid to participate in the program. At the Centennial Session, the dental students will be guests at a luncheon attended by members of the A.D.A. Council on Membership. Additionally, they will be invited to a reception to be given for all participants in the scientific program. As a highlight of the reception, cash awards will be

announced for the three students adjudged to have presented the best table clinics. Information about the Centennial Student Clinic Program can be obtained from Dr. Louis M. Cruttenden, assistant secretary of the A.D.A., 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11.

AMPLE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Other prospective visitors to the Centennial Session are urged to make applications now for hotel reservations. There are ample accommodations. The official application form for hotel reservations, appearing in The Journal of the American Dental Association, should be filled out and mailed to the A.D.A. Housing Bureau, P.O. Box 5440, Chicago. 7.

BILL INTRODUCED TO EXPAND DENTAL CARE AT BASES FOR DEPENDENTS

A bill that would authorize dental care at armed forces posts for dependents of military personnel "when the dependent is residing with the member (of a uniformed service) at or near his duty station" has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Dent (D., Penn.). The current Medicare program prohibits dental care for dependents at military installations except in "remote areas" where adequate civilian facilities are not available. As had been anticipated, the Defense Department, meanwhile, has indicated that a "denticare" program for military dependents will not be sent to Congress this year. The program, if and when it is presented, is expected to provide for dental care for military families principally through use of private practitioners.

DR. W.R. ALSTADT PRAISED IN 'CONGRESSIONAL RECORD'

The March 16 issue of the Congressional Record reprints a lengthy newspaper interview with Dr. William R. Alstadt, of Little Rock, Ark., past president of the Association. The story appeared originally in the Arkansas Democrat. The newspaper account was inserted by Rep. Gathings (D., Ark.), who praised the dental leader for his contribution to a "better public understanding" of dentistry and dental health, particularly with respect to water fluoridation and misleading claims for "miracle" dentifrices.

NEW FILM ON MODERNIZING DENTAL X-RAY EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

A new motion picture, "Dental X-Ray Equipment; Alteration for Modern Radiation Hygiene," has been produced by the A.D.A. Council on Dental Research in cooperation with the National Bureau of Standards. The 16 mm. sound film, in color, runs for 18 minutes and was designed to show members of the dental profession how good diagnostic x-ray pictures may be produced with a minimum amount of exposure for the patient. Included are procedures for checking x-ray equipment for collimation and filtration of the useful beam, for tube head leakage and for adequate length of the timer cord. Using the x-ray machines currently operating in most dental offices, the motion picture also shows how to use high speed film, either by reducing the milliamperage or by increasing the target-film distance. The film is available on loan from the A.D.A. Film Library, 222 E. Superior St., Chicago 11.

END LAST WITHHOLD ON BUDGET PAYMENT PLAN

The budget payment plan sponsored by the California State Dental Association has eliminated the two per cent withhold that was in effect. "This is believed to be the first plan in the nation that has achieved this," Dr. J.H. Eshleman, of Philadelphia, chairman of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Health, said. The dropping of the withhold was effective April 1. The action was made possible because of the cooperation of the membership in building a sizable reserve (about 19 per cent of outstanding indebtedness), the earnings received on the invested reserve, and money recovered on defaulted notes, Dr. Charles M. Silk, of San Francisco, chairman of the society's Postpayment Plan Committee, said. The Bank of America which finances the budget plan congratulated the dentists on their cooperation which made the action possible. During the six-month period ending Nov. 25, 1958, the postpayment plan financed \$1,944,523 in dental care. This was an increase of about \$50,000 above the preceding six months. Since the plan was started in May, 1951, it has financed more than \$21 million in dental care.

CONSTRUCTION STARTS ON BUILDING FOR INSTITUTE OF DENTAL RESEARCH

The first spadeful of earth was turned April 13 for construction of the \$4 million building to house the National Institute of Dental Research at Bethesda, Md. Taking part in the groundbreaking ceremonies were Dr. C. Willard Camalier, of Washington, D.C., assistant secretary of the A.D.A.; Dr. John W. Knutson, chief dental officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, and Dr. Francis A. Arnold Jr., director of the National Institute of Dental Research. The structure, aptly started in the Centennial Year of the Association, is expected to be completed in the fall of 1960. Actual construction climaxes a 10-year drive on the part of the Association to obtain a building to replace the scattered facilities of the Institute. Congress gave final authority last summer to construction. Cornerstone-laying ceremonies are expected to be held later in the year.

A.D.A. MEMBERSHIP NOW 84,291; STUDENT MEMBERS AT ALL-TIME HIGH

Student membership in the Association reached an all-time high of 12,082 March 31, representing 85.8 per cent of all undergraduate enrollment in the country's 47 dental schools. The figure also included 495 graduates enrolled for advanced training. The membership figure as a whole for March 31 was 84,291, an increase of 2,565 members over the figure at the same time last year. Gains were shown by 34 of the constituent societies and four of the five federal dental services.

DR. S. MAYO SILVERMAN OF LOS ANGELES DIES AT 49

Dr. S. Mayo Silverman, of Los Angeles, repeatedly a member of the A.D.A. House of Delegates, died suddenly March 17 at a meeting of the Council on Dental Health of the Southern California State Dental Association. He was 49 years old. Dr. Silverman, who was completing his third term as secretary of the state society, was the nominee for president-elect. He was a past president of the Los Angeles County Dental Society. Dr. Silverman was a fellow of the American College of Dentists.

DR. PHILLIPS GREETES PHARMACY STUDENTS; IS RECIPIENT OF TWO HONORS

Dr. Percy T. Phillips, of New York, president of the A.D.A., issued a special message to senior pharmacy students of the country in the April 6 issue of American Druggist magazine. The message, one of a series by heads of major health organizations and sponsored by E. R. Squibb and Sons as institutional advertisements, points out that "the phenomenal development of new drugs in recent decades, the appearance of antibiotics and other anti-infectives, the production of new analgesics and anesthetics have helped make it possible for the dentist to provide services that were unheard of not too many years ago." Dr. Phillips was the recipient of two new honors recently. The Alumni Association of the College of Dentistry, New York University, presented him with a special award at a dinner meeting saluting the centennial anniversary of the A.D.A. April 7. The award was "in recognition of his continuing and indefatigable endeavors on behalf of organized dentistry." At the same meeting, Dr. Arthur H. Merritt, of New York, president of the A.D.A. in 1939 and 1940 and an alumnus of the school's class of 1895, was honored for "his outstanding services and attainments." Earlier, Dr. Phillips received the Thomas P. Hinman medallion for his outstanding work in dentistry. The medallion was presented at the Hinman Clinic in Atlanta, Ga., which he attended in March.

TWO NEW BUILDINGS DEDICATED AT GEORGETOWN

Dedication of two new buildings at Georgetown University Medical Center—the \$3 million Lawrence C. Gorman Diagnostic and Research Building and the \$1,227,000 Kober-Gorman dormitory for dental and medical students—took place in conjunction with the spring convocation March 17. The research building has facilities for an enlarged outpatient dental department, a cleft palate clinic, an oral surgery clinic and expanded facilities for research. At the convocation, an honorary doctor of science degree was conferred on Dr. Clemens V. Rault, dean of the School of Dentistry, Georgetown University. Dr. Rault is also a representative of the A.D.A. on the Dental Advisory Committee of the Department of Defense.

RELIEF FUND CONTRIBUTIONS REACH \$105,877

As of March 31, contributions to the A.D.A. Relief Fund were \$ 105,877.29 in the 1958-59 campaign. Although the figure represented nearly 106 per cent of the \$ 100,000 quota, 12 constituent societies failed to meet their respective quotas totaling \$ 4,125. Contributions to the Relief Fund were \$ 117,000 at the same date a year ago.

A.D.A. BOOK, 'ATLAS OF THE MOUTH,' RECEIVES AWARD

The recently issued second edition of "Atlas of the Mouth," published by the American Dental Association, has been selected as a top honor book in the 10th Annual Exhibit of Chicago and Midwestern Bookmaking. The announcement was made by the executive committee of the Chicago Book Clinic. Three traveling exhibits of the winning books will be displayed by major midwestern libraries for the remainder of the year.

DR. L.M. FITZGERALD HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO ORAL SURGERY

Dr. Leslie M. FitzGerald, of Dubuque, Iowa, past president of the A.D.A., has been presented the annual Arnold K. Maislen Memorial Award of New York University for a major contribution to oral surgery. Dr. FitzGerald is secretary of the American Board of Oral Surgery and a past president of the American Society of Oral Surgeons.

FIVE COUNTIES IN WEEKEND EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE PLAN IN NEW JERSEY

Under the auspices of the Council on Dental Health, the Southern Dental Society of the New Jersey State Dental Society has inaugurated a weekend dental emergency service. The program covers five counties, each with one or two dentists on call, and is designed for those who may not be able to reach their family dentists during a weekend should emergency care be needed. Dr. Fred Van Istendal, of West Collingswood, N.J., is chairman of the council.

DR. DANIEL F. LYNCH CHOSEN FOR FONES AWARD

Dr. Daniel F. Lynch, of Washington, D.C., past president of the A.D.A., has been chosen as the 1959 recipient of the Fones award to be presented by the Connecticut State Dental Association at its annual meeting May 13-14 in Hartford. The award is conferred "for achievement in the art and science of dentistry." The society will make two additional awards. The Hayden Award, given for outstanding public service in the dissemination of dental health information in the state, will be presented to Mr. Carlton Hill, editor of the New Canaan Advertiser, and Mr. Arthur Leland Glidden, president of the New Canaan Water Co., for their successful efforts on behalf of water fluoridation for the community.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS

Dr. John R. Abel, of Los Angeles, A.D.A. trustee, is being presented with an Award of Merit by the General Alumni Association of the University of Southern California at an alumni day luncheon May 16....A survey by the A.D.A. Council on Legislation indicates there are 13 dentists holding seats in legislatures of nine states. Pennsylvania leads with four dentist-legislators and West Virginia is second with two. Others with one each are Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York and Vermont....Dr. Gilbert P. Smith, of New York, dean of the School of Dental and Oral Surgery, Columbia University, has been named a judge to help select the winning exhibits in dentistry at the 10th National Science Fair to be held May 6-9 in Hartford, Conn....Dr. Raymond J. Nagle, of New York, member of the A.D.A. Council on Dental Education, has been named the dentist member of a new Commission on Health Services for New York City, appointed by Mayor Wagner. Its initial study will be concerned with services in hospitals....A Boston industrialist, Mr. George Sherman, has made a \$ 25,000 gift to Boston University School of Medicine for the establishment of a research laboratory for the department of stomatology. The department offers postgraduate training in oral surgery and periodontology....For the first time in its 56-year history, the St. Louis University School of Dentistry will accept applications from women for entrance to the school next fall....Three research grants of \$ 25,841 were awarded by the National Institute of Dental Research during February.