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SURGEON GENERAL TO ADDRESS DENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

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PLAN NATIONALLY TELEVISED POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM FOR DENTISTS

A nationally televised program of postgraduate education for the dental profession will be presented April 26. The 90-minute closed-circuit program will be commercially sponsored and will be offered without charge to more than 50,000 dentists in 33 cities. The University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry is developing the program in consultation with the American Dental Association. The clinics will originate "live" from Pennsylvania and from the University of Southern California.

All costs in development and presentation of the TV clinics will be borne by the Procter and Gamble Company. Producing the program will be the Medical Radio and Television Institute which has presented a variety of closed-circuit programs for the medical profession in recent years. Preliminary plans indicate that clinics will be presented on periodontics, audio analgesia, prosthodontics, ultra-high speed technics and endodontics, according to Dr. Lester Burket, dean of the Pennsylvania school. "Use of television will allow thousands of dentists to view technics normally visible only to a few students," Dr. Burket pointed out. "We regard this project as an historic first for the profession and an important contribution to the continuing education of the practicing dentist." Format of the program will be similar to that of a recent series of closed-circuit programs (Grand Rounds) presented for the medical profession under sponsorship of a pharmaceutical company. An estimated total audience of 600,000 physicians viewed the series. Commercial messages by the sponsoring company will be limited to a single, brief segment during the ninety minutes. The University

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Dental Corps Celebration Set

Army Dental Corps will observe the 50th anniversary of its founding Friday, Mar. 3, with a number of scientific and social events throughout the U.S. and abroad. The principal event--being held at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.--will feature presentation of the first memorial lecture in honor of the late Maj. Fernando E. Rodriguez by Sec. Harold Hillenbrand. Several hundred are expected to attend the event, including armed forces dental leaders. Major Rodriguez, considered one of the leading military figures in dental research performed considerable investigation into the bacteriology of dental diseases and published original and fundamental work on the specific bacteriology of caries.

Casualty Treatment Courses Offered

Space for two civilian dentists has been reserved for each of two casualty treatment training courses to be held at the U.S. Naval Training Center, San Diego, Calif. Dates are Oct. 9-13 and Nov. 6-10. Interested members should contact Herbert C. Lassiter, secretary, Council on Federal Dental Services, Central Office.

PUBLIC SPENDS SAME FOR RECREATION, HEALTH CARE IN 1959

The public, in 1959, spent the same amount of money on recreation as they did on caring for their health, the Health Insurance Institute announced recently. An analysis of U.S. Commerce Department figures revealed that out of every dollar the public spends, 6¢ went for health care and 6¢ went for recreation. The Institute's report also noted a 3 per cent decline in the dental care portion of the "health care" dollar. The hospital share rose 13 per cent.

Total "personal needs" spending in 1959 was \$314 billion. Health care and recreation each account for \$18.3 billion of this total. Other "personal needs" expenditures included tobacco, \$7 billion; alcoholic beverages, \$9.6 billion, and food, \$69 billion. The Institute said that proportionate public spending for health care has not changed much in the past two decades. In 1939, health care expenses were 4.2 per cent of the total as opposed to 6 per cent in 1959. The "health care" dollar itself, however, revealed some substantial changes in its distribution. In 1939, the breakdown was: dentists, 14¢; physicians, 30¢; hospitals, 17¢; medicine and appliances, 28¢, and miscellaneous, 11¢. In 1959, the breakdown reads: dentists, 11¢; physicians, 27¢; hospitals, 30¢; medicine and appliances, 26¢, and miscellaneous, 6¢. The Institute's report also stated that in 1959 total insurance benefits from all sources amounted to \$5.2 billion, less than one-third of what the public spent in seeking care. Of this total, insurance companies paid out \$2.8 billion while Blue Cross-Blue Shield accounted for the remainder.

Dentistry Shares in PHS Grant

The University of Michigan School of Public Health has been announced as recipient of a \$16,515 grant from the U.S. Public Health Service to further the School's work in public health dentistry. The grant was one of thirty-five, totaling \$824,600, shared by 24 schools in 15 states and Puerto Rico. The purpose of the grants is to strengthen or expand graduate public health training of all kinds.

Fauchard Bicentennial to be Noted

A celebration of the bicentenary of the death of Pierre Fauchard, "Father of Modern Dentistry," is being planned by a committee of Federation Dentaire Internationale. The program of events will take place July 1 and 2, in and around Paris, France. Highlights of the celebration will include issuance of a memorial stamp by the French government, placing of a bust of Fauchard in the chateau of Grand-Mesnil where he lived, presentation of memorial session at the Sorbonne and publication of a new facsimile edition of Fauchard's le Chirurgien Dentiste.

Dentist on Arizona Health Board

Gov. Paul Fannin of Arizona has announced appointment of Dr. C. J. Mehlum of Phoenix to the State Board of Health. Dr. Mehlum will fill an unexpired term of office, terminating Feb., 1964. It is the first time a dentist has served on the Arizona State Board of Health.

Famed Dental Leader Dies at 90

Dr. Arthur W. Merritt, 90, an ADA past president, founder of one of the first free dental clinics in the United States and a prime mover in the founding of the Columbia University School of Dentistry, died Feb. 10 at his New York City home. A practitioner for nearly 65 years, Dr. Merritt earned his D.D.S. from New York University in 1895. In addition to being the recipient of some of the profession's highest honors, Dr. Merritt held honorary degrees from the University of Michigan, Columbia, New York, Maryland and Baylor. The pioneer elementary school dental clinic he founded in 1907, today has grown into eight dental clinics with full-time staffs.

SURGEON GENERAL WILL KEYNOTE ANNUAL DENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

The newly appointed Surgeon General, Dr. Luther L. Terry will be the keynote speaker for the 12th annual National Dental Health Conference in Chicago, Apr. 26-28. Dr. Terry's address will be delivered to an audience including dental leaders from most of the states as well as public health dentists representing local, state and federal agencies. Conference topics will relate to major recommendations of the recently completed Survey of Dentistry: fluoridation, programs for the aging and chronically ill, care programs for children, expanding role of dental auxiliaries and dental health education. In addition, a progress report will be made concerning the Northwestern University study of record and accounting systems in the dental office. Panel presentations are planned for each subject area, with subsequent discussion periods. Dr. Terry, a public health career medical officer, has extensive research experience and was formerly assistant director of the National Heart Institute.

Fluorides With Vitamins Rejected

The Council on Dental Therapeutics has ruled that fluoride supplements that include vitamins or vitamins and minerals would not be eligible for preferential classification. The Council pointed out at a Feb. 17-18 meeting that vitamins have not been shown to increase the effectiveness of the fluoride in developing resistance to decay. It also noted that the decision to supplement children's diets with vitamins is usually made by the pediatrician. Furthermore, the Council said, in some areas a greater or lesser amount of fluorides is needed, depending on the climate and the amount in the water naturally. The amount of vitamins needed, however, remains relatively constant. In other actions, the Council considered standards for assessing the safe design and manufacture of audio analgesia devices and will request manufacturers' comment on the specifications. When in final form, the set of standards will be published in The Journal. The Council elected Dr. Frank J. Orland of Chicago as vice-chairman.

Negro Dentists Slate African Tour

A tour of African nations to acquaint American Negro dentists and physicians with health problems of the new countries is planned for August by the National Dental Association and the National Medical Association. The tour is the first step in a long-range program designed to arouse interest in direct participation in helping to overcome health problems in those nations.

ADA Delegates to FDI Session Named

The Board of Trustees has announced appointment of ADA delegates to the Federation Dentaire International annual session in Helsinki, Finland, July 9-15. They are Pres. Charles H. Patton, Pres.-Elect John R. Abel, Dr. Gerald D. Timmons, Dr. Obed H. Moen and Sec. Harold Hillenbrand. Alternate delegates, appointed by Pres. Patton, are Drs. Edward F. Mimmack, LeRoy M. Ennis, John Knutson, Carlos H. Schott and Francis A. Arnold, Jr. Dr. Arnold will be one of the American dentists participating in the scientific program of the meeting as will be Drs. Leonard M. Monheim, Wallace J. Gardner, Gladys Underwood and Louis I. Grossman.

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of Pennsylvania will have editorial control of the entire program and will serve as the originating center for the live clinics. Program time will vary from 9-10:30 p.m. on the East Coast to 6-7:30 p.m. on the West Coast. Cities to be included in the network are Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Bridgeport (Conn.), Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Garden City (N.Y.), Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Newark, New Orleans, New York, Pasadena, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland (Ore.), San Diego, San Francisco, St. Louis, Seattle, and Washington.

Liaison Committees Appointed

The ADA and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals have announced appointment of liaison committees to meet "subject to call of either organization." The ADA has on previous occasions pointed out that the Commission does not now have member associations of any kind qualified to represent the dental profession and that such representation is essential to the development of adequate hospital dental programs. The Commission currently has four member organizations: American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, American College of Physicians and American College of Surgeons. Members of the ADA liaison committee, appointed by Pres. Charles H. Patton, are Drs. Fred A. Henny, chairman, O. J. McCormack and John Fauber. Its opposite number, designated by the Commission, is manned by Drs. John I. Brewer, chairman, Albert W. Snoke, and Amos H. Johnson.

Dental Meeting Set For Montevideo

The International Dental Congress of Uruguay-Argentina has selected Montevideo, Uruguay, as site for its 1961 meeting. The event will take place Nov. 12-19. ADA members are invited to attend and can obtain detailed information by writing the executive committee of the Congress, Av. Agraciada 1464 (P.13) in Montevideo.

Relief Fund Nears Goal

Contributions to the 1960-61 Relief Fund reached \$108,461.61 as of Feb. 15. This figure is nearly \$17,000 below the total goal set for the campaign. Societies who have oversubscribed their individual quota are (in percentage): Alaska, 208; Arizona, 127; Colorado, 118; Delaware, 123; District of Columbia, 162; Hawaii, 138; Maine, 110; North Dakota, 131; Oklahoma, 108; South Dakota, 148; Tennessee, 281 and Wyoming, 113. The Public Health Service has contributed 105 per cent. Constituent societies as a whole have met 87 per cent of their quota, and federal dental services, 52 per cent.

New Association Booklet Available

A revised and re-designed edition of The American Dental Association: Its Structure and Function is now available from the Bureau of Public Information, Central Office. The illustrated, 32-page publication discusses the aims and procedures of the Association and outlines in detail the tasks of its councils, bureaus and offices. An appendix lists all publications of the Association. As many as 25 copies of the booklet are available without charge to societies; 25 to 100 copies are 60¢ each, and 100 to 500 copies, are 55¢ each. Prices for orders of more than 500 copies are available upon request.

New Grads Pledge \$100,000 to School

Seniors at Tufts University School of Dentistry in Boston have pledged \$100,000 toward the building of a new dental center at the University. The pledge, unanimously endorsed by the class of 98 men and one woman, will be payable over a 10 to 12 year period. Dean John W. Hein, in acknowledging the gift, said he believed the unsolicited pledge to be much larger than any ever made by a senior class at Tufts or elsewhere. He pointed out that fulfillment of the pledge will mean sacrifice on the part of many of the students since "Tufts traditionally has provided the opportunity for professionally training young men from homes of modest means." Commenting on the event, ADA Sec. Harold Hillenbrand expressed the hope that the action would "stimulate those interested in better oral health to give dental education the financial support which has been lacking all too long."

Belgium Honors Dental Leaders

Two dental leaders have been presented high awards by the Government of Belgium. Conferring of the awards was initiated in conjunction with the centennial in 1959. Recipients of the awards were Dr. Percy T. Phillips, New York, president during the centennial year, and Sec. Harold Hillenbrand.