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## ADA News Letter - 10/16/1967

American Dental Association

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AMERICAN  
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**Bulletin**

A special conversion policy is now available for dentists insured under the existing ADA Disability Income Insurance Program who have reached age 70. A mailing has been sent to all presently insured members over age 70 specifying the terms of this conversion policy.

Vol. 20, No. 21      Monday, October 16, 1967  
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**ADA 108th ANNUAL SESSION FEATURES SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES, SOCIAL EVENTS**

The 108th ADA annual session, which will be held Oct. 29-Nov. 2 in Washington, D.C., will offer practitioners a variety of scientific programs and social events. In addition, the House of Delegates will conduct its annual business meeting. Attendance at the session is expected to exceed 23,000 dentists and their families, educators, scientists and guests. Theme of the session is "Meeting of the Americas" and dentists from Central and South America, and many nations abroad, will be in attendance. Headquarters for the session is the Washington Hilton Hotel. All scientific sessions will take place in the Sheraton Park Hotel.

**—Scientific Highlights—**

The 1967 session will provide the practitioner with the latest scientific information in all areas of practice. A special closed-circuit color TV program will be presented in the Delaware Suite of the Sheraton Park Hotel Tuesday, Oct. 31. The program will be presented by the staff of the Walter Reed Army Hospital and will emanate "live" from the medical center. It will demonstrate the newest developments in all aspects of dental practice through use of patients, charts, illustrations, models, film clips and slides. An additional highlight will be a Monday panel sponsored by the ADA Council on Dental Research on "Clinical practice: trends from emerging research." Another Monday program on research is an "International symposium on physical science in the future of dental practice," supported by a grant from the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co.

New feature of the scientific session will be a series of scientific session lectures. Topics will include worldwide missionary dentistry, management of handicapped patients, hypnosis in dentistry and prescription writing. In addition to the regular essay and lecture presentations, 84 clinical lectures and 200 table clinics will be presented. There will be 56 scientific and educational exhibits, including a special exhibit by the ADA Council on Dental Education offering abbreviated "test-yourself" versions of the Dental Aptitude Test and the National Board examination.

*(Continued on Page 2)*



ADA Sec. Harold Hillenbrand, left, talks with Sargent Shriver, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, during a meeting of ADA officials and OEO representatives in Washington, D.C., Sept. 18. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss OEO dental programs and the neighborhood health centers.

### —Social Events—

Highlighting the social calendar will be the President's Banquet honoring ADA President William A. Garrett and Mrs. Garrett Wednesday, Nov. 1, in the International Ballroom of the Washington Hilton Hotel. Tickets for the event are \$15 each and advance reservations are required. Another feature will be a special program by the National Symphony Orchestra in Constitution Hall Tuesday evening. The concert will feature guest soloist Mary Costa of the Metropolitan Opera. Tickets are \$2 each.

Social functions for the ladies will include a special luncheon and fashion show, featuring fashions from Garfinckels Tuesday, Oct. 31. The luncheon will be in the International Ballroom of the Washington Hilton and tickets are \$7.50 each. Other events for the ladies include a variety of tours to such places as the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., Mount Vernon, National Art Gallery, Arlington National Cemetery and the White House. Full information on all tours is contained in the official program.

### —Special Meetings—

A variety of special meetings will precede the ADA session, including three conferences on Saturday, Oct. 28. Meeting at the Mayflower Hotel will be the annual Dental Editors Conference, sponsored by the American Association of Dental Editors and the ADA Council on Journalism. The Ninth National Conference on Disaster Preparedness will be held in the Military Room of the Washington Hilton, and the annual Dental Laboratory Technicians Conference will be held in the Lincoln East and West Rooms of the Washington Hilton. The conferences are sponsored, respectively, by the ADA Council on Federal Dental Services and the ADA Council on Dental Trade and Laboratory Relations. On Sunday, the annual State Society Officers Conference will meet in the Lincoln West Room of the Washington Hilton.

Official Association meetings include the Opening Meeting Monday, Oct. 30, in the International Ball-

room Center of the Washington Hilton. In addition, the first National Conference on International Relations will be held Tuesday in the Pan American Health Organization Building. Thomas C. Mann, former assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, and Dr. Mario M. Chaves, former dental health officer of the World Health Organization, will be principal speakers.

### —House Issues—

The House of Delegates will consider more than 40 reports and resolutions, starting Monday, Oct. 30. Among major topics are:

**Dues Increase:** The Board of Trustees has recommended a raise in membership dues from the current \$40 to \$60. The resolution will be introduced at the 1967 session, it will be voted on at the 1968 session and, if approved, will go into effect Jan. 1, 1969.

**Dental Auxiliaries:** The Board of Trustees has recommended approval of a resolution urging that constituent societies "consult immediately with their state boards of dental examiners, state officials, legislatures and other involved agencies to remove restrictions in the state dental practice acts which impair the right of the practicing dentist to exercise his professional competence and judgment in the direction of the dental auxiliaries who work under his direct supervision.... That such revisions of the state dental practice acts include the elimination of the serial list of operations which may be carried out by the dental hygienist and dental assistant.... That such revisions of the state dental practice acts include provisions which recognize the dentist's competence and responsibility in determining how dental auxiliary personnel qualified under educational standards approved by the ADA or under practices acceptable to the constituent and component societies of the state until Association educational standards can be fully implemented, can be utilized to carry out duties which do not require the professional judgment or competence of the dentist."



Gale Sayers, left, Chicago Bears' famed halfback, gets prepared for an acting role as Dr. Luella Cosca of the ADA staff places a dental napkin around his neck. Sayers is appearing in a health education film produced by the ADA Bureau of Dental Health Education. The film was made in the clinical facilities at ADA Headquarters in Chicago.

**Licensure:** The delegates will be asked to approve a resolution calling on state dental examining boards to re-examine traditional licensure techniques. (See News Letter of Sept. 18 for complete text.)

**Dental Society Review Committees:** The Council on Dental Care Programs has submitted for approval of the House of Delegates a statement calling on dental societies to "assume leadership in establishing professional review committees for pre-payment programs. The dental society review committee, as an established mechanism of organized dentistry, should provide for the review of reasonable differences of opinion between a third party agency and a dentist. Third party agencies may include insurance carriers, dental service corporations, administrators of health and welfare trusts and governmental agencies."

**Specialization:** The delegates will consider a New York resolution calling for a moratorium on recognition of specialties. The Council on Dental Education, to which the resolution was referred for study by the 1966 House, and the Board of Trustees have recommended disapproval of the resolution.

**Medicare:** The Council on Legislation, with approval of the Board of Trustees, will submit a resolution to the House of Delegates calling for amendment of Part A of Title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Secu-

rity Act "to authorize payment of hospital costs for beneficiaries who require hospitalization for a dental condition or affliction."

**Closed Panels:** Delegates will consider a Southern California resolution which would amend the statement on the closed panel system of dental practice adopted by the 1961 House of Delegates. The Board of Trustees disapproved the proposal, stating that "the more moderate and realistic statement of the House of Delegates in 1961 accurately reflects Association policy in this area."

**Listing in American Dental Directory:** Delegates will consider a New York resolution calling for listing as specialists in the American Dental Directory "A dentist who devotes time to a special area of practice and who is recognized at the constituent or component society level as having competency and ability by training and experience usually required of a specialist...." The Board of Trustees has recommended rejection of the resolution.

#### **Next News Letter After Annual Session**

There will be no News Letter published Oct. 30 because of the annual session. The Nov. 13 issue will be doubled in size to permit reporting of all session activities.



## ADA ASSURES PUBLIC MODERN X-RAYS SAFE, ESSENTIAL FOR TREATMENT

The ADA has assured the public that modern dental x-rays are both safe and essential for dental treatment. At the same time the Association strongly criticized individuals "who offer nothing more scientific than visions and conjecture" to frighten and mislead the public on x-radiation.

Commenting on testimony recently given during House and Senate Commerce Committee hearings on radiation safety, Dr. Harold Hillenbrand said "the shallowness and misleading quality of some of the testimony is evident from the very statements themselves.

"For example," he pointed out "the formal statement submitted to the Senate Committee by one of the most widely quoted witnesses, is filled with such phrases as:

'There is no reliable information from which one can make accurate estimates....'

'some of these figures are based on rather poor extrapolation of data...'

'I would like to emphasize the inaccuracies in these data and point out that to a certain extent these are no better than educated guesses....'

'It is ironic but indeed fortunate that the health physicist and his associates have done such a good job in minimizing radiation exposure that there are insufficient human populations ...such that data of statistical significance can be collected....'

Contrasted with this, Dr. Hillenbrand said, "is the fact that the scientific literature is replete with studies showing the safety of dental x-rays, studies that are available to anyone who wishes to take the time to examine them."

The safety of dental x-rays, he went on, is further confirmed by statistics on the health of the dentist himself. "The average dentist, or his assistant, takes more than 2,000

x-rays a year and consequently is exposed to considerably more radiation than an individual patient. A recent survey, however, showed that dentists live longer and have a lower incidence of such diseases as leukemia.

"The survey showed that the average age of dentists dying from neoplasms was 67.5 while the average age of non-dentists dying from this cause was 66.3. It showed that the average age of death for dentists who died of diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs, including leukemia, was 71.2, while the parallel figure for the general population was 68.

"And these were dentists working with x-ray machines at a time when they were not collimated and when the film exposure would be in the neighborhood of 5 to 7 seconds instead of the one-tenth to three-tenths of a second as it is now."

He indicated that there has been a tremendous drive in the past decade by the profession to modernize equipment and techniques.

"The Public Health Service reported that in 1964 at least 80 per cent of the dental units in the United States met or exceeded minimum requirements for filtration and collimation. This was more than double the number that met the same requirements in 1960.

"Today, with proper shielding, collimation, filtration and the use of high speed film, the exposure to the lower abdominal region or gonadal area is only a small percentage of the annual natural background radiation to which man is inherently subjected.

"It is unfortunate that a few men who can cite no clinical studies and who offer nothing more scientific than visions and conjecture have been allowed to frighten and mislead the public."

Dr. Hillenbrand said the Association would continue its program of cooperating with federal, state and local governments to improve dental x-ray operation still further, and added:

"No doubt, it could be argued that the success achieved thus far in the dental field is such that the need for new legislation is not obvious. Nevertheless, if the evidence brought forth before this committee should indicate that additional and more rapid improvement could be made through enactment of S2067 or HR 10790, the Association certainly would support such enactment."

### **Washington U. Dental School to Continue**

The Washington University Board of Trustees has approved the continuation of the University's School of Dentistry under the administrative supervision of the vice chancellor for medical affairs, Dr. William H. Danforth, to whom the School's dean will report. Board Chairman Charles Allen Thomas stated that the Board acted expressly on the assumption that by 1970 the School will achieve the goals of financial independence and increased enrollment, facilities and services projected by the dental school faculty's special planning committee.

The committee composed of Drs. John R. Ring, John T. Bird, Jr., Earl E. Shepard, Thomas R. Moore, Harold L. Rosenthal and David A. Bensinger, has filed a detailed report with the Board. Internal improvements and foreseeable increases in financial support, both public and private, were seen as making the School financially self-supporting within three years.

### **19 Laboratories Accredited**

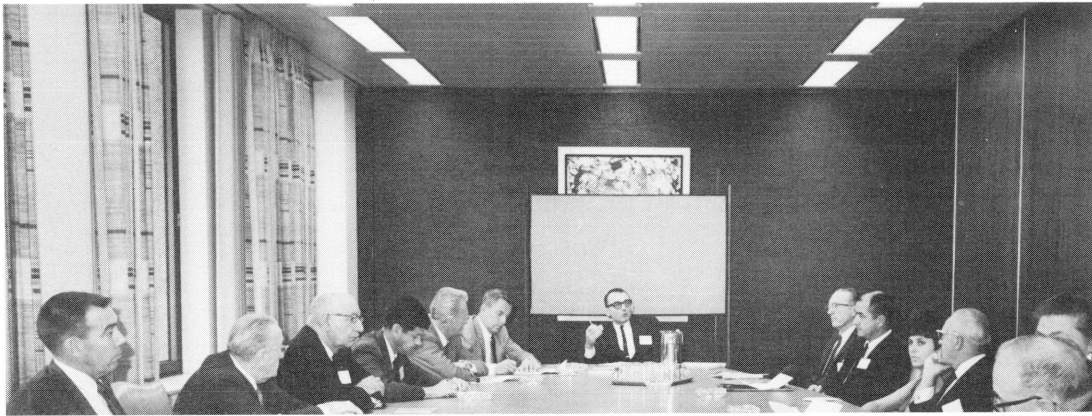
Dr. Alvin H. Grunewald has announced the accreditation of 19 additional laboratories by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Dental Laboratories. He reported that the number of accredited dental laboratories now stands at 350.

### **WAADA, ADHA, ADAA To Meet**

The Women's Auxiliary to the ADA, American Dental Hygienists' Association, and American Dental Assistants Association will hold sessions in Washington, D.C., in conjunction with the 108th ADA annual session. The 13th annual session of WAADA will open Sunday, Oct. 29 at the Mayflower Hotel with a brunch and a "learnshop" for dental health education. The WAADA House of Delegates will meet Monday morning and the final session will be held Monday afternoon. Social highlight of the session will be the annual president's luncheon, honoring WAADA president, Mrs. G. Gibbs Smith of Kaysville, Utah, Monday at 12:30 p.m.

More than 1,000 members are expected to attend the 43rd annual session of the ADAA, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, also at the Mayflower Hotel. Dr. Carl C. Byers of General Motors Corp. will address the opening meeting Monday, Oct. 30. Educational presentations during the four-day session will include a discussion of special complications arising from drugs used in dentistry, a lecture on communications in patient education and a report on the expansion of dental assistants' responsibilities under the ADA Dental Health Program for Children. ADAA president, Miss Merle Andrews of Huron, S.D., will preside over the session.

The 44th annual session of ADHA will open Oct. 27 with a Board of Trustees meeting at the Hotel America. The first general session will be held Monday, Oct. 30, presided over by Mrs. Wilma Motley, ADHA president. Keynote speaker will be Dr. E. Cheraskin of the department of oral medicine at the University of Alabama. Other speakers during the session will include Brig. Gen. Robert B. Shira of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Capt. Henry H. Scofield of the U.S. Naval dental school. Social highlight of the ADHA session will be the president's luncheon on Wednesday, featuring a lecture on "Education of the deaf" by Dr. Leonard M. Elstad, president of Gallaudet College.



Dentists from all over the country attended a conference Sept. 29-30 at ADA Headquarters which was conducted as part of a three-year study by the Association on smoking and health. Seated at the head of table is John Weir, director of the ADA project, and seated in left foreground is Roy L. Davis, project officer of the U.S. Public Health Service, representing the National Clearing House for Smoking and Health. The ADA study is supported by a grant from the PHS.

### Urge HEW Under Sec. Of Health

Sen. Lister Hill (D.-Ala.) has introduced an amendment to H.R. 6418, the Comprehensive Health Planning Bill, which calls for establishment of the office of Under Secretary of Health in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The proposal drew high praise from ADA Pres. William A. Garrett who pointed out that the ADA has been urging establishment of a separate key office for health affairs for more than 30 years. "In view of the current and future expansion of national health programs administered by HEW, the creation of an office of Under Secretary of Health is an absolute necessity to guarantee proper coordination of these activities within the Department," Dr. Garrett said.

In introducing the amendment, Sen. Hill said the "new office would have responsibility for organizing and directing our national health activities." He added: "It would provide national policy leadership for the health programs of the Department. It would serve as a focal point for the development and coordination of national health goals. At present, no officials in the Department has the broad responsibilities for health activities and health policy that the position of Under Secretary of Health would involve. No office now exists for the overall coordination of health programs."

### Standing, Reference Committees Named

ADA Pres. William A. Garrett has appointed the standing and reference committees of the House of Delegates for the 1967 annual session. Committee chairmen of standing committees are: Drs. Thomas D. Holder of Portland, Ore., credentials, and Schuyler P. Strang of Downey, Calif., rules and order. Chairmen of reference committees are: Drs. Frank P. Bowyer of Knoxville, Tenn., dental education and hospitals; Frank M. Kyes of Washington, D.C., dental research and therapeutics; Odin M. Langsjoen of St. Cloud, Minn., dental trade and laboratory relations; George E. Mullen of Brooklyn, N.Y., federal dental services; James E. Bauerle of San Antonio, legislation and judicial procedures; Robert Jordan of Atlanta, miscellaneous business; Floyd E. Dewhirst of Los Angeles, president's address and administrative matters, and John M. Faust of Hattiesburg, Miss., public health.

### Mexican Dental Assn. Marks 25th Year

American dentists have been invited to attend the 25th anniversary celebration of the Mexican Dental Association to be held in conjunction with the ninth National Dental Congress and the second International Congress Nov. 1-5 in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. Further information can be obtained from the Mexican Dental Association, Sinaloa No. 9, 3er, Piso, Mexico 7, D.F.