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American Dental Association

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news letter



AMERICAN
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**ORAL SURGEONS PLAN
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**
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LBJ SIGNS SOCIAL SECURITY BILL; CHILDREN'S PROGRAM TO START SOON

President Lyndon B. Johnson on Jan. 2 signed the Social Security Amendments of 1967 which include the "special project grants for the dental health of children." ADA President F. Darl Ostrander in commenting on the President's action said Mr. Johnson and Congress are to be commended for their prudence and foresight in providing dental care for indigent children. Dr. Ostrander called on Congress for swift appropriation of federal funds to implement the first stage of the program which calls for a four-year series of pilot projects in low-income areas to determine how the plan can be operated nationally. He noted that since 1939, the "ADA has urged five Presidents and a few more Congresses to provide federal support for a national dental health program for children."

The new bill will authorize special project grants for the dental

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III. Court Upholds Fluoridation Law

The Illinois Appellate Court has upheld the ruling of the Circuit Court of Winnebago County dismissing a suit against the City of Rockford. The suit was aimed at preventing the city from initiating a fluoridation program. The Appellate Court held that attacks on the legality of fluoridation ordinances will not be heard because there is a statewide fluoridation law in Illinois. The court said such attacks raise moot questions which are not considered by the courts. Illinois is one of three states which have mandatory fluoridation laws. The other two states are Connecticut and Minnesota.

ADA Insurance Distributes \$1 Million

Participants in the ADA Group Life Insurance Program since 1966 will be receiving some \$1 million in premium reductions with their 1968 premium notices. The ADA Council on Insurance said that the 1968 notices will show a credit or premium reduction in an amount equal to 24.5 per cent of the premium paid in 1966. For participants in the following age groups this will result in the following savings: \$9.80 under age 31; \$18.37 under age 41; \$35.52 under age 51; \$63.70 under age 61; \$73.50 age 61 to 75.

The reductions will distribute \$1 million in excess reserves to the participants in the program. The ADA Group Life Insurance Program has been underwritten by Great-West Life Assurance Company for more than thirty years.

Dr. Bird Heads Dental School

Dr. John T. Bird, Jr., has been appointed dean of Washington University School of Dentistry in St. Louis. Dr. Bird, who is associate dean and professor of dental medicine, succeeds Dr. Leroy Boling, who resigned. Dr. Boling will return to his former position as professor of anatomy in the school.



Present at the recent signing in Seattle of the master contract that will provide pre-paid dental care to members of the Northwest Territory International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers in an eight-state area, are representatives of the IAM Benefit Trust, the National Association of Dental Service Plans, Washington Dental Service and the ADA. Seated from left are: Dr. Kenneth J. Ryan, president, National Association of Dental Service Plans; Mr. Gus N. Stricker, IAM Grand Lodge Representative and chairman, IAM Benefit Trust; and Mr. C. Carey Donworth, employer trustee and Trust secretary. Standing: Dr. F. Darl Ostrander, ADA president; Dr. Jack L. Nugent, president, Washington Dental Service, and Dr. John M. Deines, ADA trustee.

ADTA Tops All Previous AFDE Campaigns

The American Dental Trade Association's 1967 campaign in behalf of the American Fund for Dental Education has surpassed all previous years. On Dec. 15, \$154,264 in contributions had already been received from the ADTA and its member organizations. The total at year's end in 1966 was \$148,163. "I certainly wish to compliment the ADTA," said Dr. Raymond J. Nagle, AFDE president. "Their support of dental education through AFDE contributions has been nothing short of remarkable. The cumulative total of their contributions, now well past the \$1 million mark, has been the Fund's largest source of support since its beginning in 1955. Dental manufacturers and dealers have good reason to be very proud of this." Over 40 per cent of the Fund's support since its creation has come from ADTA contributions, he said. Herbert L. Myers, president, Climax Dental Supply Co., Philadelphia, was chairman of both the 1967 and 1966 ADTA campaigns.

Fluoridation Gains In U.S., Canada

Fluoridation referenda in the United States during the past few months have resulted in nine wins and five losses. Communities voting for fluoridation were Atlantic, Iowa; Holyoke and Newburyport, Mass.; Freemont, Mich.; Asheville, N.C.; Mentor and Wellington, Ohio; Bay City, Tex., and Colonial Heights, Va. Cities which rejected the measure include Claremont and Rochester, N.H.; North Brunswick, N.J., and Barberton and Fostoria, Ohio. Three large cities in Canada also recently began fluoridating; Edmonton, Alberta, serving 380,000 people; London, serving 180,000, and Hamilton, serving 315,000. According to the Canadian Dental Association, this brings the number of Canadians served by fluoridated water supplies to 5.9 million.

Dr. Driscoll Gets Horace Wells Award

Dr. Edward J. Driscoll, a dental director in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and clinical investigator with the National Institute of Dental Research, has received the 1967 Horace Wells Club award in anesthesiology.

INTERNATIONAL ORAL SURGERY CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR FIRST TIME IN U.S.

An International Conference on Oral Surgery will be held for the first time in the U.S. Oct. 7-12 in New York City. This will be the third international meeting and the conference will be held in conjunction with the 50th anniversary meeting of the American Society of Oral Surgeons. Highlight of the conference will be a one and one-half day session on trauma, featuring a multidisciplinary approach to the multiply injured patient. Other international programs slated include pathology of the surgical management of the ameloblastoma, open bite deformity and pre-prosthetic surgery. Additionally, nine international scientific sessions will be held, featuring speakers from over 25 countries. ADA President F. Darl Ostrander will address the opening meeting of the ASOS session. The conference is open to all members of the health professions and additional information, including housing and registration, may be obtained by writing the American Society of Oral Surgeons, 211 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, 60611.

In addition to the international conference in October, the ASOS will sponsor a continuing education conference on the temporomandibular joint July 1-2 in Chicago. National and international speakers will comprise the faculty, which includes oral surgeons, a neurologist, psychologist, anatomist and pathologist. The conference will provide an in-depth study of TMJ problems and their treatment. The TMJ education program is also open to all health professionals and additional information may be obtained from the ASOS.

\$537,000 Grant For Periodontal Research

The University of California's San Francisco Medical Center has received a \$537,000 award from the Division of Dental Health of the Public Health Service to conduct periodontal disease research. The seven-year project will develop courses based on the most advanced teaching technology. Dr. Perry Ratcliff, professor and chairman of the division of periodontology at the University of California's School of Dentistry, and Dr. Robert John, associate clinical professor of periodontology, will direct the project.

'Bonus' Checks Mailed To Dental Schools

The American Fund for Dental Education mailed \$1,000 checks to each of the nation's dental schools last month closely following a similar \$1,000 grant made to each school in October. "You might call them year-end 'bonus' checks made possible by dental education's many supporters during 1967," said Dr. Raymond J. Nagle, AFDE president. This is the seventh "across-the-board" unrestricted grant made to all the dental schools at one time, Dr. Nagle said. Only once before in 1965, has the Fund awarded \$2,000 to each of the schools in a single year. Since 1963, the AFDE has given \$348,000 in unrestricted grants to the schools. The money is used for faculty workshops, teaching seminars, curriculum studies, purchase of teaching aids and student recruitment. Dr. Nagle also announced the promotion of M. Robert Krag to director of the grants and allocations division. His new responsibilities include administration of the AFDE fellowship and scholarship programs. Krag joined the Fund in 1967 as administrative assistant to Joseph E. Dickinson, AFDE executive vice-president.

Harvard To Continue Dental School

Harvard president Nathan M. Pusey has announced that Harvard University will continue its program of dental education. Accepting recommendations of a select committee, the University will continue its programs of graduate and post-graduate education in dentistry but with changes in admission procedures, curriculum planning and content, and clinical training practices. The present practice of admitting dental students in direct competition with medical students for places in first year classes will be discontinued. Dental students will be admitted separately, enabling the dental school to increase the size of its classes. In addition, third and fourth year dental students will study in hospital settings rather than the dental clinic.

ADA Calls For More Negro Dentists

The ADA has called for an increase in the number of Negro dentists particularly in view of the rising demand for dental care by lower income groups. "Negroes constitute 11.4 per cent of the U.S. population, but only two per cent of the nation's dentists," according to an editorial in the January Journal of the Association. "The unfavorable ratio of Negro to white dentists is worsening," the editorial stated. "At a time when the demand for dental care is rising, especially by the lower income group, the decline in the number of Negro dentists is regrettable." The editorial noted that the same ratio of Negroes to whites exists in the medical profession and that "members of both professions have expressed their concern over the paucity of Negroes in these professions."

The editorial continued: "Several approaches to the problem were highlighted at a conference on the Negro in medicine. These included financial support, special summer courses in premedical studies, establishment of premedical programs in Negro colleges, spreading the freshman year of medicine over a longer span than one academic year for certain students, improvement of premedical advisory programs, and the recruitment of more Negro women into medicine." The editorial concluded: "There are many parallels in dentistry and medicine, and the representation of Negroes in the two professions is one of them. The number of Negro dentists and physicians should be increased, and the solutions offered to the medical profession can be applied also by the dental profession."

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health of children "who would not otherwise receive it because they are from low-income families or for other reasons beyond their control." The grants will be awarded to state or local health agencies and non-profit institutions or organizations. Federal participation will be limited to 75 per cent of the costs of such projects.

Study Geriatric Patient Dental Care

Two Texas institutions were brought together in a program of teaching and service when a pilot program in "Dental Care for the Geriatric Patient" was initiated recently. The Baptist Memorials Geriatric Hospital in San Angelo, Tex., provided the opportunity for two dentists and three students from Baylor University College of Dentistry to learn through observation and experience the problems encountered in providing dental care for the aged patient. The project not only offered experience for students and young dentists in working with the elderly, but also provided a survey of the dental needs of the geriatric patients at Baptist Memorials Hospital. The program was co-sponsored by the departments of Student Religious Activities and the Baylor Dental Alumni Association through donations from individual members of the association.

AFDE Dental Laboratory Scholarships

The American Fund for Dental Education has announced that it will award eleven one-year dental laboratory technology scholarships for the 1968-69 school year. Scholarships are: Four \$500 scholarships sponsored by the American Dental Trade Association, four \$500 scholarships by the Dentists' Supply Co. of N.Y., York, Pa., two \$500 scholarships by the National Association of Certified Dental Laboratories and one \$650 scholarship by the Dental Gold Institute. Applications are available from the AFDE, 211 East Chicago Ave., Chicago, 60611, the sponsoring organizations, and all accredited laboratory technology programs. Deadline is July 1, 1968.

New Deans For 2 Dental Schools

Dr. K.J. Paynter has been appointed dean of the new Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada, and Dr. Louis G. Terkla has been named dean of the University of Oregon dental school to succeed Dr. Harold H. Noyes.