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NEWS letter



ADPAC SEEKS CONTRIBUTIONS

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DENTISTRY FACING MAJOR MANPOWER CRISIS, DR. ZAPP TELLS CONFERENCE

Dentistry stands "in the midst of a major health crisis," Dr. John S. Zapp told participants in the annual Workshop of Dental Examiners and Educators held at ADA Headquarters Feb. 13-14. Dr. Zapp is special assistant for dental affairs and acting deputy assistant secretary for health manpower in the office of the assistant secretary for health and scientific affairs in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

He explained that the crisis is manpower: "Professional manpower is in short supply and is unevenly distributed, while demands for service are rising higher and higher. Despite the gains made under federally supported expansion programs, education and treatment facilities are inadequate and the cost of training and treatment go up at an unprecedented rate," Dr. Zapp said.

He stated: "That is the prime fact of the current crisis in health. If we prefer not to face up to it, then by 1980, or even sooner, to the constant drumbeat of massive needs being translated into active demand, the crisis will have become chaos."

Experts predict that dentistry will have to double its present capabilities by 1980, Dr. Zapp pointed out. This would mean having some 168,000 dental practitioners in ten years. Recruitment, full utilization of dental auxiliaries and continuing education were suggested by Dr. Zapp as remedies to the manpower problem. "We need to give this whole matter of

recruiting, training, and utilizing members of minority groups some very real study. For we very much need them in the health field. We need them in medicine as well as in dentistry, and we need them not only as doctors but as auxiliaries -- both existing kinds and new kinds."

Dr. Zapp added: "As we move toward a more intelligent use of

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Three heads of dental organizations are shown during the annual Workshop of Dental Examiners and Educators. From left are Dr. Wade H. Breeland, president of the American Association of Dental Examiners; Dr. Harry M. Klenda, ADA president, and Dr. Charles A. McCallum, Jr., president of the American Association of Dental Schools.

auxiliaries, we have an opportunity to give some thoughtful consideration to the men and women who might find their future in these new fields. I would especially like to see the profession take responsibility for training male hygienists. I have in mind a special group recruited from discharged military personnel," he said.

Commenting on the need for continuing education programs, the dental leader recalled: "I remember reading that within five or ten years of graduation the average professional man is obsolete. In view of the fantastic scientific progress of the last decade, I am almost willing to concede the point. And yet, because the protection of our patients is at stake, the health professions cannot let this be. Continuing education, therefore, moves to a central place in our calculations."

DENTAL AUXILIARIES

Another speaker at the Workshop, Dr. Kenneth J. Ryan of Flint, Mich., discussed the expansion of duties for auxiliaries. Noting that some practitioners believe dental hygienists to be over-trained for their jobs, Dr. Ryan said: "I believe that the dentist must assume the responsibility for not using the hygienist to the full capacity of her training as an integral part of the dental health team. In addition to the prophylactic duties, they should be utilized in dental health education, prevention, and could assume greater responsibility in periodontal procedures."

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Continuing education of dentists was the topic of Dr. W. Arthur George, associate dean and director of continuing education at the University of Pittsburgh dental school. He noted that, with the scientific advances of the last few years, continuing education is necessary for dental practitioners to keep pace with changes in treatment and practice. He said that several dental schools are using a wide variety of teaching methods in continuation programs -- programmed instruction, films, video

and audio tapes, even courses offered over educational television. He described a program currently being conducted by the University of Pittsburgh.

The program is operated on a five-week schedule. Courses are offered one day each week, usually the day the dentists have their offices closed. "The off-campus program at Pitt has expanded to include 15 cities in Pennsylvania and several in surrounding states. College classrooms, hospitals, private dental offices and hotel rooms have served as teaching areas. The Veterans Administration has been most helpful in providing both teaching facilities and personnel to set up the programs," Dr. George said.

The Workshop was sponsored by the American Association of Dental Examiners, American Association of Dental Schools and the ADA Councils on Dental Education and National Board of Dental Examiners.

CBS Show On Pain March 10

"The Mystery of Pain," will be shown over the CBS network Tuesday evening, March 10. The program will deal with three common types of pain -- dental, muscular and headache. The segment dealing with dental pain was filmed on location at Loma Linda University in California and features Dr. Niels Jorgenson, a private practitioner and professor at the dental school. He will demonstrate a method for treating anxious patients who are overly sensitive to dental pain. Other participants will be Dr. Janet Travell, formerly physician to the late President, John F. Kennedy, and Dr. John J. Bonica an expert on chronic pain from the University of Washington in Seattle. "The Mystery of Pain" is a half-hour program and local listings should be checked to find the time the program will be aired in different parts of the country.

South Dakota Fluoridation Law Vote

South Dakota became the first state to schedule a state fluoridation referendum when the state legislature recently passed a bill to this effect. The state fluoridation law was enacted in March of 1969.



The American Dental Political Action Committee met Feb. 16 in Chicago to discuss 1970 campaign activities. Seated at head of table is Dr. John B. Wilson of San Marino, Calif., ADPAC chairman. Dr. Harry M. Klenda of Wichita, Kan., ADA president, is seated second from left of Dr. Wilson.

ADPAC SEEKS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DENTISTS ACROSS NATION FOR 1970 CAMPAIGN

Dr. John B. Wilson, chairman of the American Dental Political Action Committee emphasized the need for immediate financial support of ADPAC at a meeting of the group Feb. 16 during the Chicago Midwinter meeting. Speaking to representatives from 15 states, who were guests of the ADPAC Board of Directors, Dr. Wilson appealed to dentists across the nation to send their contributions to ADPAC headquarters, 1427 Marino Avenue, San Marino, California 91108. The financial goal for this year's activities is \$100,000.

"Unless dentistry through ADPAC mounts a vigorous effort to support candidates for Congress in 1970 who stand with the dental profession on health issues, the private system of health care may disappear by 1975," Dr. Wilson predicted. Organizations like the ADA may not legally contribute to political campaigns; political action committees like ADPAC are specially established to assist candidates for political office, Dr. Wilson stated.

Dr. Bowen Associate Head Of NBS Unit

Dr. Rafael L. Bowen of Takoma Park, Md., has been appointed associate director of the ADA Research Division at the National Bureau of Standards, according to Dr. C. Gordon Watson, ADA executive director. Dr. Bowen succeeded Mr. Harold J. Caul who retired Jan. 1 after 23 years at NBS. Dr. Bowen previously had been a research associate at NBS since 1956. He received his dental degree from the University of Southern California dental school.

Dr. Hillenbrand Named NSMR Director

Dr. Harold Hillenbrand, ADA executive director emeritus, has been elected a member of the Board of Directors of the National Society for Medical Research. The Society concerns itself with the aspects of animal experimentation for research purposes. It is also interested in the needs of biology teachers in high schools and colleges.

The ADA also participated in the actions of an Ad Hoc Committee which recently rewrote the NSMR's Guiding Principles in the use of animals by secondary school students and science club members. Dr. Harvey W. Lyon, director of the Division of Clinical Studies in the ADA Research Institute, was a member of the Committee.

Air Force Dental Officer Promoted

Col. Roger Hombs of Washington, D.C., has been promoted to brigadier general in the Air Force Dental Corps. He is presently assigned to the Headquarters USAF as deputy assistant surgeon general for dental services. Gen. Hombs received his dental degree from Washington University dental school. He joined the Air Force dental corps in 1949.

Two Wisconsin Dentists On State Units

Dr. H. G. Grewe of Eau Claire, Wis., recently was appointed to the board of the Department of Health and Social Services of Wisconsin. Dr. Grewe, immediate past president of the Wisconsin State Dental Society, is the first dentist ever to be appointed to this board.

Dr. L. C. Scribner of Stevens Point, Wis., a past president of the Wisconsin State Dental Society, recently was reappointed to the Wisconsin Council of Health of the state's Division of Health (formerly Board of Health). Dr. Scribner will serve as president of the Council for the first year of his seven-year term.

Dr. Scherp Heads NIDR Caries Program

Dr. Henry W. Scherp has been appointed special assistant to the director of the National Institute of Dental Research for a National Caries Program. Previously, Dr. Scherp was chief of NIDR's laboratory of microbiology. In his new post, Dr. Scherp will serve as leader and coordinator of NIDR's concerted effort to make tooth decay almost completely preventable by 1980, Dr. Seymour Kreshover, NIDR director, said.

Dr. Krajicek New VA Dental Chief

Dr. Dayton Dunbar Krajicek has been named assistant chief medical director for dentistry, succeeding Dr. Jerome J. Hiniker, who died last year. Dr. Krajicek is a native of Scribner, Neb., and received his dental degree from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. He has been with the Veterans Administration since 1946. He is a member of the American College of Dentists and is a diplomate of the American Board of Prosthodontics.

Grand Rapids To Salute Fluoridation

Congressman Gerald Ford, (R.-Mich.) will address a banquet marking the 25th anniversary of fluoridation in Grand Rapids, Mich. The banquet will be held April 10 in the Pantland Hotel. Officials of the Michigan Dental Association and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce will be present.



Several members of the NDA-ADA liaison committee met recently with ADA staff in Chicago to discuss such topics as Medicaid, Partnership for Health programs, the ADA Task Force on National Health Programs and NDA cooperation in National Children's Dental Health Week. Seated are: (right foreground) Dr. Robert L. Smith, NDA vice-president; Dr. C. Gordon Watson, ADA executive director; Dr. James W. Holley, III, NDA president, and Dr. Eddie G. Smith, Jr., NDA speaker.

Dental Insurance For 3M Employees

A dental prepayment program for Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing (3M) employees covered by a salaried benefits program will go into effect March 1. Coverage for 3M employees and their dependents will affect employees in every state and total more than 25,000 nationwide. The plan will pay 75 per cent of reasonable and customary fees for most dental procedures, including twice yearly check-ups. The plan will pay 50 per cent for prosthodontic and orthodontic procedures. The plan has a \$25 deductible. Orthodontics is subject to a lifetime maximum benefit per individual of \$750. Other maximum benefits are \$1,000 per calendar year and a total of \$2,500 lifetime per individual. The dental plan is part of an insurance package for salaried 3M employees.

Seattle Begins Fluoridation Program

The city of Seattle, Wash., started fluoridation of its municipal water supplies recently. Fluorides were added at different times to the various water sources serving the area including an 11-billion gallon reservoir.