

LEGISLATION

1. October 1946 - Board of Directors of A.O.T.A. appointed Miss Messick Chairman of Legislative Committee.
2. December 9, 1947 - Miss Messick asked you President to serve as a member of the Legislative Committee of A.O.T.A.
3. The Board of Management and Mrs. Kahmann have asked that the National Legislative Committee concentrate our original efforts in the states of Maryland and New York, jointly with N.P.A.
4. December 12, 1946 - Meeting of few officers of A.O.T.A. and A.P.A. in Washington: Miss Hurt, Miss Messick, Miss Brunyate, Miss Lester, Miss Elsen, Mrs. Kendall, Miss Byrd.

Discussion:

Aim: To get a restricted use of the title of O.T., not to try to qualify the profession.

Channels possible:

- a. Physical Medicine bill: suggestion to amend the Medical Practice act by a bill on Physical Medicine to include O.T. and P.T.
 - b. Work through the A.M.A. - if presentee through right channels.
 - c. Bill through state legislatures.
- Precautions suggested by P.T.'s through their experience.
- a. "Grandfather clause"; covers people who got early training in the only available schools not now approved. Those who are thus blanketed in will be a diminishing group. You have to blanket in all people who earn livelihood by said occupation because you can not deprive people of livelihood.
 - b. To get bill introduced
 1. Reviewed by Legislative council which meets on odd years between Legislature sessions.
 2. If bill does not go through thus a delegate introduces it to the legislature.

Sample: New York State: From the University of The State of N.Y. The State Education Dept. Signed, Assis. Commissioner Ed. "The practice of Physiotherapy in this State is regulated by statute. The New York State Ed. Dept. registers those who qualify, and only those holding licenses from the Dept. have the right to practice Physiotherapy in the State. The Dept. invites the aid and cooperation of all licensee physicians to eradicate the unlawful practice of physiotherapy by so-called "Physiotherapy Technicians". Since the right to practise physiotherapy in this State is limited to physiotherapists registered with this dept., all physicians are cautioned against referring patients for physiotherapy treatment to non-licensed individuals. Such indiscriminate referrals may lead to charges of "Aiding and abetting" in the illegal practice of physiotherapy. The bulletin of registered physicians and physiotherapists is a convenient guide to all practitioners seeking verification of the license and registration of a P.T. In case of doubt, an inquiry should be directed to the State Ed. Dept."

5. December 17, 1947: Meeting Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Library, Dr. Thomas Sprunt's Advisory Committee on Physical Therapy (Drs. Sprunt, Voschell, Ward) Mrs. Kendall, Mr. Kendall, Miss Byrd, Miss Messick, Miss Hurt, Miss Brunyate.

- a. Discussion - P.T.s: Present P.T. bill stands alone, in the Health Section and not in the Medical Practice Act. Thus at every legislative meeting new bills on P.T. and Chiropractics will come up.
What we really need is an amendment of the Medical Practice Act.
- b. Dr Sprunt's Committee advice.
 1. Revise your bill to make it an amendment to the Medical Practice Act. That revision to read Phhsical Medicine, including P.T. and O.T.
 2. It is time for the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty to get busy and give backing to this group.
 3. The Med. and Chiro, Faculty problem is:
 - a. To sponsor the P.T. bill to protect the term P.T. and/or
 - b. To amend Med. Practice Act. to make P.T. and O.T. part of medicine.
 - c. O.T. write and ask that O.T. be represented by the Medical and Chiri
6. January 23?, 1947
Meeting Executive Committee Medical Chirurgical Faculty of Md.;
Dr. Walter D. Wise, chairman, Dr. Toulson, Dr. Shatard., Mrs. Kendall
Mr. Kendall, Miss Byrd, Miss Wolfe, Miss Colburn, Miss Brunyate.
 - a. Discussion * P.T.s
 1. A rider was attatchee to the P.T. bill between the time it left the P.T. hands and the time it appeared printed stating "nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit chiropractors from practicing Physical Therapy!"
 2. Therefore our bill is useless.
 - b. Dr. Wise:
 1. Seems as though we'll have to amend the Practice Act but it is too late to do it hurriedly this year.
 2. Would it be alright if we just blocked any bill appearing at the legislature this session?
 - c. P.Ts:
 1. Yes, we are happy as things are but do not want a bad bill to go through allowing unqualified people to be licensed.