CAO TO COLLECT HEALTH INSURANCE DATA

CAO will be gathering statistics on vision care services from provincial health insurance commissions in the coming months. This data will be made available to all provincial associations to better acquaint them with the situation in other jurisdictions. Unpublished 1977 statistics available from Revenue Canada will also be requested in order to develop an optometric income profile.

CLC MEDICARE CONFERENCE

A conference on the future of medicare in Canada sponsored by the Canadian Labour Congress was held in Ottawa Nov. 6-7 and CAO Executive Director Don Schaefer attended on behalf of the Association. Mr. Schaefer was able to discuss various aspects of the delivery of vision care services with a number of delegates including Chief Justice Emmett Hall, who is currently heading an inquiry into medicare in Canada. The Honourable David Crombie, Minister of Health and Welfare, addressed the conference, as did CLC President Dennis McDermott.

OPTOMETRISTS INVITED TO AOA CONGRESS

Optometrists from Canada are invited to attend the American Optometric Association's 1980 Congress, June 25-July 2, in Denver, Colorado. Five thousand doctors of optometry, their families and guests are expected to attend the business and education sessions at the Denver Convention Complex and six area hotels.

Of special interest to international guests will be the International Forum on Friday, June 27. Those attending will have an opportunity to share ideas and exchange information on the delivery of optometric care in their countries. Emphasis will be on optometry laws, both existing and planned. Attendees will receive copies of some of the presentations made at the 1979 meeting in Anaheim, California.

The AOA Congress will also feature 120 hours of optometric continuing education lectures in nine areas of interest: basic science; clinical; consultant services; diagnostic; interprofessional; intraprofessional; office administration; patient management; and treatment. In addition, an extensive exhibit hall of ophthalmic equipment is planned.

The 1980 AOA Congress registration fee for international guests is U.S. $125, if registration is received before May 1, 1980, and U.S. $135, if the registration is received after May 1, 1980. There will be a $5 per course hour charge for continuing education sessions for optometrists. The general registration fee includes access to all Congress special events. Registration forms and full details for the Congress can be obtained from the AOA Congress and Exhibits Manager, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141, U.S.A.

C O V D S E E K S J U V E N I L E D E L I N Q U E N C Y D A T A

The Juvenile Delinquency committee of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development seeks to establish a national program on the relationship of vision, learning disabilities and juvenile delinquency. Will you help compile a complete survey of all programs that have been initiated in working with juvenile offenders? If you are, or have been, involved in any way with a program dealing with delinquents or offenders, please let the committee know the following items:

1. Is your program currently active, or a program of the past?
2. Are you, were you involved in diagnosis, treatment, or both?
3. When did your program begin, and how long was it in effect?
4. If you know of someone else who has had a program with juvenile offenders, please list the following information so we may contact them: Name, Address, City, Province.

All those responding will then receive a copy of the compiled data from the committee. Send all correspondence to:

Roger T. Dowis, O.D.,
F.C.O.V.D.
Chairman, Committee on Vision & Juvenile Delinquency
1495 Canyon Blvd., Suite 220
Boulder, CO 80302

T O R O N T O , O T T A W A U N D E R T A K E P A R E N T E D U C A T I O N

Members of the Toronto and Ottawa optometric societies, with support from CAO, contributed toward better parent vision care education during an exhibition held in both cities during October. The event, called the Baby Fair, attracted about 25,000 parents and expectant parents in both cities—many of whom visited the optometry booth to learn about children's vision needs. Eye charts, pamphlets, posters and audio-visual presentations were employed to help answer people's questions. CAO invited the Ottawa media to attend, which led to some local coverage. While attendance was not as high as expected, all reports indicate the experience was worthwhile for optometrists and parents alike.

O P T O M E T R I S T N A M E D “M A N O F T H E Y E A R”

Dr. Reginald Lewis, a Montreal optometrist has been honoured by the Progress Club of Montreal in being chosen “Man of the Year”. Dr. Lewis is a former president of the club and a founder of the Pythian Clinic of Optometry. He was the first area chairman for Save Your Vision Week when the project was organized in 1958. More recently he was active in alerting the public about the possible dangers to vision during the February 1979 solar eclipse.

Dr. Lewis is a third generation optometrist — his grandfather and an uncle served to guide him into his chosen profession. Now he has been joined in practice by his son Howard, a 1968 graduate of the School of Optometry, University of Montreal who has done post graduate work at the Optometric Center of New York City.
YOU BELONG TO THE DELTA HOTEL CORPORATE PLAN

As a CAO member, you are entitled to the following benefits at all Delta Hotels in Canada; simply show your CAO membership card mailed with the last Journal:

Guaranteed reservations — when you pre-register your room is held even if you can’t call to say you’re late. And if the hotel is full, Delta will pay for your room and transportation to and from another line hotel. By pre-registering, all you do is sign in on arrival to take advantage of the following rates, which are guaranteed until June 30, 1980.

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<tr>
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Delta Hotels are under construction in Calgary, Mississauga and St. John, New Brunswick.

2,000 EXPECTED AT GERMAN CONGRESS

Optica ’80, a combined trade fair and congress for the Scientific Association for Ophthalmic Optics and Optometry (WVAVO), is expected to attract 2,000 people to Cologne, West Germany, May 10-14.

Under the theme “Vision and the Environment” the Congress will examine problems facing wearers of spectacles and contact lenses and discuss illumination and safety precautions in the workplace. Special importance will be attached to work at display units. A survey carried out at an insurance company reveals that a large number of people working at data displays suffer from headaches,smarting,swimming and running of the eyes. To avoid these complaints it is particularly important to realize optimal vision of a high standard with both eyes.

The WVAVO is arranging 32 plenary sessions, panel discussions and 18 trade seminars in connection with Optica ’80. There will be simultaneous translation into German, English and French.

JOSEPHSON LECTURES AT OPTIFORUM

Dr. Joshua Josephson lectured on silicone contact lenses and their comparison to hydrogels and oxygen permeable rigid lenses at Optiforum, the first annual symposium sponsored by Allergan Pharmaceuticals held in New York March 2. The event featured an international panel discussion and lectures by Dr. Josephson and Drs. Neil Bailey, Peter Fanti, Jan Jurkus, Donald Korb, Robert Morrison and Norman Bier. The symposium was held the day before Optifair East and proceeds were donated to the American Optometric Foundation.

Optifair, featuring over 220 hours of continuing education by over 100 lecturers, is one of the largest optometric gatherings in the U.S.

GETMAN LECTURES IN MONTREAL

G.N. Getman, O.D., D.O.S., presented a three-day Regional Graduate Clinical Seminar, for the Optometric Extension Program Foundation, at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal, March 8-9. Attendees received three days of hands-on clinical experience working with patients. Day One provided group exploration of clinical basics for regimen options and goals. Day Two gave registrants practice in determining actual patient care needs and prescribing behavioral vision care programs. Day Three taught how to work with local educators to provide more children with full-spectrum vision care.

RABIES DEATH FROM CORNEAL TRANSPLANT

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — Federal health officials say a second death within recent months of persons who contracted rabies through a cornea transplant demonstrates the need for better screening of eye donors. A 36-year-old man died of rabies in France in November after receiving a cornea transplant from a woman who had died of muscular ailments, the U.S. National Centre for Disease Control said Jan. 25. In August, a 37-year-old Boise, Idaho, woman died after receiving an eye transplant from a 39-year-old man who developed weakness in the arms and legs and died in a hospital.

QUEBEC CONTACT LENS SYMPOSIUM

The International Symposium on Contact Lenses held in Québec City, October 6 and 7, 1979 accomplished its goal of attracting a large number of practitioners to hear top rate lecturers in a setting designed to stimulate interchange of ideas. The lectures were attended by over 325 persons from Canada and the United States. Major companies in the contact lens field were present and their displays attracted the interest of the majority of optometrists in attendance. Some of the most renowned specialists gave lectures on various topics related to the clinical and scientific aspects of contact lenses: Professeur M. Bonnet, Paris, France; Dr. Sami El Hage, Houston, Texas; Dr. Gerald Feldman, San Diego, California; Dr. Joshua Josephson, Toronto; Dr. André Lamonde, Montréal; Dr. Ross Maskell, Manchester, England; Dr. Jacques Sévigny, Québec; and Dr. George Woo, Waterloo. Simultaneous translation services were provided. During the evening, the congress attendees enjoyed the enchantment of historical seventeenth century Québec City as well the French atmosphere and haute cuisine of its many fine restaurants. The Symposium is an annual event and will be held in Québec City again in October.