



“Raising Our Professional Standards”

A Message from

CHARLES A. HENNESSY,

President of OALMA

Our 1956 Assembly in San Francisco was an outstanding success and I'm sure that those who were fortunate enough to be able to attend, returned to their homes fired with new enthusiasm and new ideas. First, I wish to express my gratitude for the honor of being chosen to serve as your president for the coming year, and to assure all of my fellow members of the OALMA that I will do my utmost to uphold the precepts and further the aims and ideals of our organization.

I am convinced that one of the most important goals of our organization is that of raising our professional standards and, having done so, to achieve recognition as such from those professions with whom we come in daily contact. The most potent tool with which we have to work in order to reach this goal is education. I have received a letter from Mr. M. L. Sturtz of the D. R. Coon Co., which illustrates my meaning far better than I could ever say it:

“October 26, 1956,
Detroit, Mich.

Mr. Coon and I had been planning to attend the OALMA Convention at San Francisco this year, but due to unforeseen events that have taken place during this past month, it was impossible for either of us to be there.

I was particularly anxious to put in my appearance and personally express my full appreciation to all of the members of the UCLA faculty regarding the course in Prosthetic Education.

This new method of using the “quadrilateral type” of suction socket, also the method of fitting, adjustable limbs, and the alignment jig, is about as close to perfection, anatomic and mechanical, as I have seen in all of my 28 years in the limb industry. In the past we have had remarkable success with the trial and error method, but have constantly wished for a better way to serve the handicapped. They depended solely on us for rehabilitation, with confident expectation of miraculous results. Many were fitted satisfactorily and comfortably, but all manufacturers have had difficult cases that failed to respond to the most diligent efforts.

Now, however, we are assured of more satisfied wearers of prostheses through the scientific approach taught at UCLA and NYU. The plastic arm has been a boon to the arm amputee and we are certain that your new method

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will do much for the leg amputee. My training courses at both universities have convinced me that all prosthetists should avail themselves of the opportunity to learn the new methods which have been a wonderful revelation to me and the entire class of 1956." (signed) M. L. Sturtz.

There is an old saying that "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." I feel that I can speak with authority when I say that this is one old saying that simply "ain't" so. As an "old dog" I have learned quite a few new tricks with the wonderful help and cooperation of some of the best minds in our country in the fields of engineering, anatomy, medicine and related subjects. But the most important thing that I have learned is that we never know it all and there is always room for improvement. We have come a long way and we still have a long way to go. Our goal can be achieved in the not too distant future if we all keep in mind that our only reason for existence is to serve the handicapped.

CHARLES A. HENNESSY
President

New OALMA Board Elected • Peters, Hanicke, Storrs and Dodd Join Governing Body

The governing body of OALMA is made up of eleven Regional Directors chosen by ballot from the Regions into which the United States is divided. These eleven directors, with the addition of the President, the two Vice Presidents and the Secretary-Treasurer, serve for a term of one year beginning with the closing day of the National Assembly.

In the elections for the term 1956-1957, OALMA members picked the following to represent the Regions and States listed:

Region I (New England states): Karl W. Buschenfeldt, Stoughton, Mass.

Region II (New York, New Jersey): John A. McCann, Burlington, N. J.

Region III (Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia): Basil Peters, Philadelphia, Pa.

Region IV (North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida): Bert R. Titus, Durham, N. C.

Region V (West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan): Paul E. Leimkuehler, Cleveland, Ohio.

Region VI (Eastern Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin): Ralph Storrs, Kankakee, Ill.

Region VII (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Western Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado): Erich Hanicke, Kansas City.

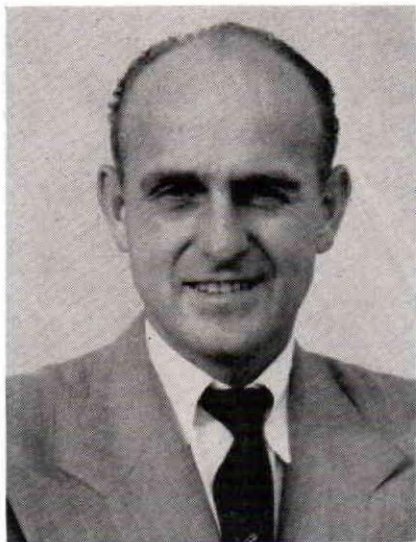
Region VIII (Texas, Oklahoma, Western Louisiana, Arkansas, New Mexico): A. L. Muilenburg, Houston, Tex.

Region IX (Southern California, Arizona): Kenneth L. Dodd, Santa Monica, Calif.

Region X (Northern California, Nevada, Utah): Herbert J. Hart, Oakland, Calif.

Region XI (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana): Lenart Ceder, Portland, Ore.

Directors serving on the Board for the first time include Basil Peters of Philadelphia, Erich Hanicke of Kansas City, Ralph Storrs of Kankakee, Ill., and Kenneth Dodd of Santa Monica.



KENNETH DODD
Director, Region IX



ERICH HANICKE
Director, Region VII

Basil Peters, better known as "Bill," is head of the B. Peters Co. in Philadelphia. He served in World War II as Lieutenant, U.S.N., in charge of the Limb Shop at Philadelphia Navy Hospital. Peters is now President of the Pennsylvania Orthopedic-Prosthetic Society.

Erich Hanicke, President of the P. W. Hanicke Manufacturing Co. of Kansas City, celebrates his 40th anniversary in the artificial limb and brace profession next April 10th. Mr. Hanicke received his training in Dresden, Germany, and came to Kansas City in 1921 to become associated with his uncle, the late P. W. Hanicke. His wife, Betty, is associated with him and with his brother Werner, in the management of the company. Mrs. Hanicke is a former President of the Ladies Auxiliary of OALMA. A special interest of Erich Hanicke is in the designing and building of appliances for the congenital and unusual case.

Kenneth L. Dodd, President of Modern Orthopedic Appliances of Santa Monica, Calif., is a native of St. Paul, Minn. He served in the Navy in the Second World War before entering the orthopedic appliance profession. His most recent activity is as Associate Instructor in basic principles of orthotics at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Biographical sketches of other directors will appear in the March issue of this *Journal*.

The Southeast (Region IV) Invites You: Tampa in February

OALMA members in the cold North and everywhere else are cordially invited to join their friends of Region IV at the spring meeting in Tampa, Fla. The hotel is the new Hillsboro (special rates). The dates are February 15, 16 and 17, 1957. Registration is Friday afternoon and evening, February 15. The program begins with a breakfast session the morning of February 16 and ends that evening. The business session of Region IV will be held the morning of February 17. Jack L. Caldwell, Manager of J. E. Hanger, Inc. of Tampa, is in charge of the program.