

NOTES AND NEWS

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR VA REGIONAL OFFICE IN NEW YORK

Unless the new telephone numbers that became effective September 7, 1965 are used, anyone calling the VA Regional Office in New York City may not reach his party. Postal cards and other literature have been forwarded announcing the telephone number changes and the transfer to the "Centrex" system; however, it is not possible to reach every individual who has reason to call the VA.

For those who may not have been notified or who may have misplaced their notices, here are some important numbers:

VA Prosthetics Center

	AREA CODE 212
Anthony Staros, Director, VAPC.....	620-6636
Gabriel Rosenkranz, M.D., Medical Consultant.....	620-6638
Henry F. Gardner, Tech. Asst. to Director, VAPC.....	620-6574
Frank A. Witteck, Tech. Asst. to Director, VAPC.....	620-6638
Dr. Edward Peizer, Chief, Bioengineering Research Service and Staff.....	620-6511
Mrs. A. S. Keane, Chief, Administrative Div., VAPC.....	620-6637
Frank Schenck, Chief, Orthopedic Shoe Service and Staff (For all ortho- pedic shoe matters).....	620-6214
	620-6215
	620-6216
William J. McIlmurray, Chief, Prosthetics-Orthotics Service.....	620-6503
James Cohen, Coordinator, VAPC Clinic Team.....	620-6502
Harry T. Cavanaugh, Chief, Prefabricated Appliances Section and Staff (For all matters related to temporary prosthesis components and corsets and belts).....	620-6283
Francis Mulvihill, Prefabricated Appliances Section (For all matters related to hydraulic systems).....	620-6604
Werner Greenbaum, Chief, Limb and Brace Section and Staff.....	620-6577
	620-6576
	620-6575

Research and Development Division, Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service, Central Office (N.Y.)

Dr. Eugene F. Murphy, Chief, Research and Development Division, PSAS.....	620-6672
William M. Bernstock, Asst. Chief, Research and Development Division, PSAS.....	620-6671
Earl A. Lewis, Prosthetic Research and Education Officer, R&D Div., PSAS.....	620-6920
Howard Freiburger, Electronics Engineer, R&D Div., PSAS.....	620-6659

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Mrs. Rhoda Beiser, Writer-Editor..... 620-6659
Steven L. Purka, Prosthetics Reference Collection and Exhibit..... 620-6659

Restorations Clinic

Mervin C. Cleaver, D.D.S., Chief..... 620-6956
620-6957

Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service (New York Regional Office)

Julius Feig, Chief..... 620-6921
Brennan C. Wood, Asst. Chief..... 620-6922
620-6933

TRAINING COURSE IN PROSTHETICS AND ORTHOTICS

From June 7, 1965 through June 11, 1965 the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service conducted a training course in prosthetics and orthotics at the VA Center in Los Angeles. The following Prosthetic Representatives participated during the entire week:

Donald F. Beaton	VAC, Cheyenne, Wyo.
Raymond E. Burch	VAC, Boise, Idaho
Roddy Chupurdia	VAC, Los Angeles, Calif.
Arthur H. Dietz	VAH, Seattle, Washington
William F. Dunbar, Jr.	VAH, Albuquerque, N. Mexico
Shigeru Goto	VARO, Honolulu, Hawaii
Peter P. Hamper	VAC, Ft. Harrison, Mont.
Bruce B. McCay, Jr.	VAH, Denver, Colo.
Harry MacBird	VAH, San Francisco, Calif.
Wilson Makabe	VAC, Reno, Nevada
Ray H. Marchington	VARO, Portland, Oregon
Harry H. Nigh, Jr.	VAH, Phoenix, Arizona
Orville M. Norton	VAH, Salt Lake City, Utah
Edward Ruzika	VAOPC, Los Angeles, Calif.
Earl Stone	VARO, San Francisco, Calif.

The group was joined at various times during the course by physicians, therapists, prosthetists, and orthotists from the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of Mr. Chupurdia and Mr. Ruzika and their staffs for the excellent preparations made for the course. We are also grateful to the VA Center in Los Angeles for serving as the host station for the course.

MRS. KEANE COMPLETES 30 YEARS OF FEDERAL SERVICE

Mrs. Anastasia S. Keane, Chief of the Administrative Division of the VA Prosthetics Center, recently completed 30 years of Federal Service. Those of us who have been privileged to work with Mrs. Keane have long appreciated her extremely dedicated services. A most competent employee, she has made many contributions to the effectiveness of the New York facilities of the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service.



Some participants in intra-VA training course held at VAC, Los Angeles, June 7-11, 1965.



Shown with Mrs. Keane at the award of her 30-year pin are (1 to r): Dr. Edward Peizer, Mr. Anthony Staros, Mr. William M. Bernstock, Mr. Frank Schenck, Mr. William J. McMurray and Dr. Gabriel Rosenkranz.

STAIR-CLIMBING WHEELCHAIR WINS CONTEST

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and The National Inventors' Council of The U.S. Department of Commerce sponsored an "inventors' contest" which was won by the inventors of a stair-climbing wheelchair.

The wheelchair was designed by two Canadian partners, Neville E. Hale and Kenneth Gardner, in the firm of Hale and Associates, Ltd., engineering consultants in Port Credit, Ontario. Shaped like a tank with an upholstered chair perched on top, the wheelchair creeps along like a caterpillar and with its rugged treads gropes its way up and down stairs, while the occupant always remains in an upright position.

The new wheelchair has many unique features. It is fallsafe, and it is operated by battery power with push-button controls located near either the right or left hand of the user. Complex as it seems, it is lightweight, compact, and folds small enough to fit easily into the trunk of a car. Swing-away armrests allow a user to wheel himself right up to a desk or table without difficulty.

Initial screening of the more than 500 entries received was done by scientists at the National Bureau of Standards. Final judging was done by Dr. Donald E. Marlowe, Dean of the School of Engineering at Catholic University, Washington, D.C.; A. Bennett Wilson, Executive Director of the Committee on Prosthetics Research and Development of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.; and Rivington Stone, Senior Staff engineer at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Hale and Gardner joined forces in early 1961. During their second year together, they heard about the stair-climbing wheelchair contest and worked many months designing and building a prototype wheelchair.

As first-prize winners, Hale and Gardner were awarded a \$5,000 prize donated by the Gold Seal Company of Bismarck, North Dakota, through the courtesies of its president and board chairman.

TRAINING COURSE FOR CHIEFS OF VA'S RESTORATIONS CLINICS

The Veterans Administration has 13 Restorations Clinics throughout the country engaged in work on ear inserts, plastic eyes, and a variety of facial and body restorations for its beneficiaries. During the period June 21, 1965–June 25, 1965 a training course was conducted in the New York Regional Office for 12 of the Restorations Clinic Chiefs.

Participating in this course were:

Lawrence Cerullo	VA Outpatient Clinic Philadelphia, Pa.
Mervin C. Cleaver, D.D.S.	VA Regional Office New York, New York
Don F. Gearheart, D.D.S.	VA Hospital Boston, Mass.
Alex Goldstein	VA Center Los Angeles, Calif.
Robert H. McKeever	VA Hospital Memphis, Tenn.
Bernard A. Maloney	VA Hospital Portland, Oregon
Marvin H. Maurer	VA Hospital Hines, Ill.
Woodrow W. Mecham	VA Hospital St. Louis, Mo.
William Schweitzer	VA Hospital Cleveland, Ohio
Holden E. Siegert	VA Center St. Paul, Minn.
Walter G. Spohn	VA Hospital San Francisco, Calif.
Roy T. Tarantino	VA Regional Office Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Thomas E. Knox of the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service in Washington and Mr. William M. Bernstock of Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service in New York conducted the course. Dr. Mervin C. Cleaver, Chief of the Restorations Clinic in the New York Regional Office, was of great assistance in the planning and preparations.

More on VA's Restorations Clinics will be published in a future issue of this Bulletin.

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A new Institute for Biomedical Research, set up by the American Medical Association's Education and Research Foundation, opened in July. The Institute will seek to stimulate basic investigations of biomedical problems. Roy E. Ritts, Jr., M.D., will be the Institute's director.

Institute researchers use laboratory and animal research facilities in the new addition to AMA headquarters in Chicago.

TELEPHONES FOR DISABLED

The latest device developed by Bell Telephone Laboratories for disabled subscribers is the electronic artificial larynx. It provides a voice for those whose vocal cords no longer function.

The Laboratory has also produced a switchboard with an electronic eye, to permit operation by blind people, and an Amplifier Handset telephone with a control switch in the handle to adjust voice volume, to aid the hard-of-hearing.

BRILLE BOOK CATALOG

Some 15,000 textbooks which have been transcribed into 60,000 volumes of braille, largetypes, disks, and tapes have been published in a catalog by the Industrial Home for the Blind. These books are available at the IHB Nassau-Suffolk Braille Library and Museum, located at 328 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, Long Island, New York.

These books, when not in use in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, are available to blind students throughout the country who attend public school along with sighted pupils. The IHB Braille Library Service ensures a blind child's receiving textbooks identical with those of his sighted classmates. The catalog includes a brief description of the book's contents and grade level with each title.

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY OFFERS MASTER'S DEGREE
IN REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION**

Northeastern University, Boston, with an initial grant of \$42,000 from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, will offer a master's degree program in rehabilitation administration. No such education program has ever been available in the United States. It is planned to expand the program to include the doctoral degree.

The new program, which will provide for the education of rehabilitation administrators in the eastern half of the nation, will be headed by Reuben J. Margolin, Ed.D., director of the New England Rehabilitation Research Institute at Northeastern University.

Enrollments are to be secured from rehabilitation supervisors, administrators, and counselors as well as selected students interested in entering the field. Enrollees in the new course will have internship assignments with the New England Rehabilitation Research Institute and other cooperating rehabilitation agencies.

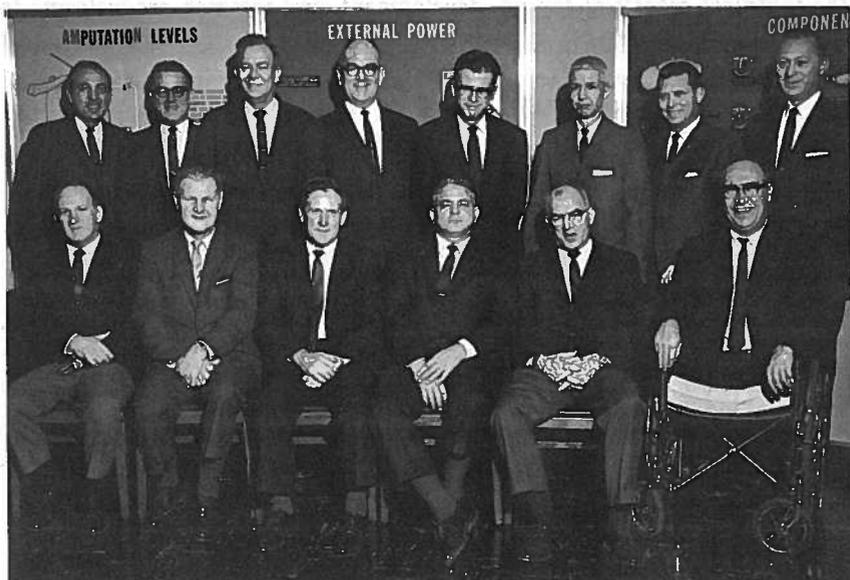
TRAINING COURSE FOR PROSTHETIC REPRESENTATIVES

The first of a new series of intensive training courses was conducted by the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service from November 29 through Decem-

ber 10, 1965, in their New York Offices. Fourteen Prosthetic Representatives, of the eighty-six throughout the country, attended.

The course was devoted to fabrication and fitting concepts of upper- and lower-extremity prosthetics with emphasis placed upon the principles, procedures, and techniques involved in the checkout, evaluation, and acceptance of completed devices.

The participating Prosthetic Representatives, who, as Chiefs of Prosthetics Services, are primarily responsible for the implementation of the VA's prosthetic and sensory aids programs in the field, will thus be even better prepared to discharge one of their most important functions—assuring that amputee veterans receive the best possible prostheses.



Participants in training course for Prosthetic Representatives held in New York, November 29–December 10, 1965. Seated (left to right): Jack Miller, VARO, Newark, N.J.; Fred C. Griffin, VARO, Winston-Salem, N.C.; James T. Kenny, VAH, Coral Gables, Fla.; James H. Fink, VAH, Huntington, W. Va.; William R. Bouldin, OPC, Philadelphia, Penna.; Otis N. Denny, VAH, Dearborn, Mich. Standing (left to right): Robert W. Wallace, VAH, Little Rock, Ark.; James T. Hall, VAH, Houston, Texas; James C. Higgins, VAH, Albany, N.Y.; James F. Flowers, Jr., VAH, Dallas, Texas; Robert W. Flinn, VARO, Providence, R.I.; Richard Frazee, VARO, Roanoke, Va.; Edward C. Grigg, VAH, Washington, D.C.; John C. McCarthy, OPC, Boston, Mass.