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IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Fred H. Barge
1933-2003

A Chiropractic Icon Passes On But Leaves Behind a Legacy of Integrity, Wisdom and Purpose

ICA and the chiropractic community were deeply saddened to hear of the sudden passing of one of its very dear and notable leaders, Dr. Fred H. Barge. Dr. Barge passed away on Wednesday, July 2nd at his home in Onalaska, Wisconsin. He was 70 years old.

A renowned chiropractic philosopher, lecturer, inventor and prolific writer, Dr. Barge was ICA's president from 1988-91, served on the ICA Board of Directors for several years, and in May of this year was elected Vice President by an overwhelming majority. As Professor of Chiropractic Philosophy at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, a position he held from 1998 until the time of his death, Dr. Barge extended his influence on the profession by teaching the student doctors at his alma-mater the philosophy, science and art of chiropractic. He also served as a special advisor to the President of Palmer College.

In his more than 40 years as a clinician,



Dr. Fred Barge ready to start the proceedings at ICA's 2002 Symposium in Rome, Italy on the Philosophy, Science and Art of Chiropractic.

Dr. Barge brought 17 chiropractors into direct practice with him and tutored over 40 interns in his clinic at La Crosse, Wisconsin. He also served on the graduate education faculties of 13 chiropractic colleges and as a visiting professor at New York Chiropractic College, Life Chiropractic College West, Logan Chiropractic College and Life University.

His inventions included the Barge Tortipelvis Bench, a line of cervical technique chairs, a cervical adjustment pillow and vertical film filing cabinets. He held patents on two devices, an automatic toggle headpiece and pelvic adjusting apparatus, and a reclining radiographic table.

Founder and President of Barge Chiropractic Publishing in La Crosse, Wisconsin, Dr. Barge's nine chiropractic texts, ranging from clinical conditions

on scoliosis and wryneck, to the metaphysical concepts of chiropractic as articulated by B.J. Palmer, are highly acclaimed throughout the chiropractic profession worldwide and used in the curriculums of many chiropractic colleges.

A second generation chiropractor, Dr. Fred H. Barge was, in his words, "born and bred in chiropractic." Fred was number nine in the Barge family to pursue the chiropractic profession. His family tree would later grow to include 19 chiropractors.

During his childhood young Fred traveled with his father, a 1923 Palmer graduate, to the Palmer School for Lyceums and other Palmer affairs. He knew B.J. Palmer as a child and could recall talking with him on numerous occasions. His father considered B.J. his friend and carried on a lifetime of correspondence with chiropractic's charismatic leader. B.J. became one of Fred's teachers and mentors, along with other chiropractic greats mentioned in his writings — Vinton Logan, E.L. (Bud) Crowder, Galen Price and Clarence Gonstead.

Dr. Barge graduated from the Palmer School of Chiropractic in 1954 and underwent postgraduate studies at the Logan Basic College of Chiropractic in 1955. He interned with Dr. Clarence Gonstead and his father, Dr. Henry Barge, then established his own chiropractic practice in La Crosse, Wisconsin in 1957. In 1965, Dr. Barge received his philosopher's degree in chiropractic (Ph.C.) from Palmer College.

A legend in his own time, Dr. Barge became internationally recognized as a speaker, teacher, mentor, clinician and author. He is considered one of chiropractic's greatest philosophers and his sayings are quoted along with those of D.D. Palmer, B.J. Palmer and R.W. Stephenson. A man of immense integ-

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HR 2560 Offers Positive, Innovative Approach to Chiropractic in Medicare

The International Chiropractors Association has joined the Chiropractic Coalition in enthusiastically endorsing legislation crafted by Illinois Representative Don Manzullo that would significantly enhance the status of the doctor of chiropractic and chiropractic patient in the federal Medicare program. The Coalition comprises of the ICA, World Chiropractic Alliance (WCA) and the Federation of Straight Chiropractors and Organizations (FSCO).

HR 2560, the "Chiropractic Medicare Freedom and Benefit Protection Act" would set up a separate doctor level category for doctors of chiropractic, making chiropractic services uniquely theirs. No longer would an MD, DO, or physical therapist be able to provide or receive reimbursement for subluxation correction services. According to the bill's author, the bill will "not only reshape the definition of chiropractic in federal policy...it will blow the lid off the definition of chiropractic in federal policy... We will make it clear once and for all that chiropractic is equal — but unique."

"This powerful legislative initiative has been so thoughtfully crafted and is so innovative, opening new doors for

chiropractor and chiropractic patient alike in Medicare, that it deserves the strong and immediate support of everyone in the chiropractic profession," said ICA President Dr. C.J. Mertz.

HR 2560 would:

- Amend the Social Security Act to expand and clarify the scope of chiropractic services that may be furnished under the Medicare program and to state specifically that "chiropractors are the only health care professionals qualified under that program to furnish those services."
- Set up a separate provider category just for chiropractic — we'll no longer be lumped in the same box as medical doctors.
- Prevent MDs and DOs from claiming to provide chiropractic services (and get paid for them).
- Ensure that "medical necessity" criteria and the resulting endless harassment in validating chiropractic claims that presently dominate the Medicare process will no longer apply to chiropractic care.
- Won't restrict any DC from practicing the way he or she chooses — from

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