

Fred H. Barge, D.C., Ph.C., F.I.C.A. was born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin on January 13, 1933, the son of 1923 Palmer graduate Henry A. Barge, and a member of a family that has produced more than a dozen chiropractors. Dr. Fred earned his doctorate in chiropractic from the then Palmer School of Chiropractic in 1954, and engaged in post-graduate studies at the then Logan Basic College of Chiropractic in St. Louis during the following year. He was awarded the "Philosopher of Chiropractic" degree by Palmer College of Chiropractic in 1965 for his thesis, "Tortipelvis and the Intervertebral Disc Syndrome." In the late 1950s and early 1960s he was active with his



father in opposing the proliferation and use of various so-called "quack devices" by chiropractors. Since his graduation from Palmer, he has maintained a multi-doctor practice in his hometown, originally in partnership with his father, and was active in the 1960s and 1970s in opposing fluoridation of the water supply in LaCrosse.

Dr. Barge has been very active in the Palmer College of Chiropractic Alumni Association, and served as *President* of this international organization during 1973-74. At various times he has served as a member of the board of trustees of his alma mater, and as a "key-holder," that is, a member of the panel who appoints members of Palmer's governing board.

In 1976 he was named a "Fellow of the International Chiropractors' Association," and in 1988 he succeeded Dr. Michael Pedigo as *President* of the ICA. Dr. Barge was a significant influence in the campaign to prevent a merger of the ICA and the ACA. When his vice-presidential running mate, Gerard Clum, D.C., *President* of Life Chiropractic College West, needed to take a leave of absence from the Northern California school for health reasons, he turned to Fred Barge to provide the interim leadership as *Acting President* of Life-West. In more recent years, Dr. Barge has been a frequent visiting professor at Life College in Marietta, Georgia.

Dr. Barge has lectured widely throughout the United States and internationally on topics related to chiropractic and health care. He is a prolific writer, contributing columns on a regular basis to a number of periodicals in the profession. He is also a well-published author; I suspect that he may be aiming to beat B.J. Palmer's record number of books. And although he has a ways to go to accomplish that mark, his list of books is extensive, including works entitled:

<i>Tortipelvis</i>	<i>Are You the Doctor, Doctor?</i>	<i>Giant vs. Pygmy &amp; Thots</i>
<i>Torticollis</i>	<i>Life Without Fear</i>	<i>It Is As Simple as That &amp; More</i>
<i>Scoliosis</i>	<i>One Cause, One Cure</i>	

I will be surprised if he tells us that he's not working on his next book now. :-)

I have been acquainted with Fred since 1983 or 1984, when we began a pen-pal relationship at the prompting of a mutual friend, Dr. Paul Smallie of Stockton, California. Our correspondence ranged over a variety of topics, but focused especially on issues related to "philosophy" in chiropractic, including constructs such as Innate Intelligence and subluxation. I did not have the opportunity of meeting Dr. Barge face-to-face until the 1988 ICA convention in Monterey, but by this time we had already established some degree of mutual understanding of our frequently opposing views about chiropractic, about science, about vitalism, and about health care in general. We are opponents, not enemies.

In our early exchanges of letters and viewpoints, Dr. Barge often suggested to me that the reason that we disagreed was that I "didn't understand chiropractic." However, over the years, as I have had the pleasure of becoming more familiar with the profession and with chiropractic history, I believe we have each come to recognize that our disagreements are based not on ignorance of one another's views, but rather upon fundamentally different *a priori* assumptions about life, about science, and about epistemology. Along the way the bond between us has been nurtured by our mutual fascination with and affection for chiropractic history. I think I'm safe in speaking for both of us when I say that we both adhere to B.J. Palmer's belief that "conflicts clarify." Dr. Barge and I have agreed to disagree, and that's good. That's what academic freedom and higher education are all about.

Dr. Barge brings civility, a sense of humor, and a passion for his vision of chiropractic to his lectures. He is always a gentleman, and always welcome in my classroom. I've asked the good doctor to let us know whether students should ask questions along the way, or save them up for the end of his presentation. There will be no mid-class break this morning, and we will continue until 9:45 AM. So, if you get ants in your pants, please leave the room quietly so as not to disturb the rest of us. :-)

I've told Fred that he has carte blanche to speak on whatever he likes this morning, but since this is a course in chiropractic history, perhaps we can coax him to draw upon his extensive knowledge, his archives and his personal recollections for an historical slant. There are also several questions that I think might be worthy of our esteemed visitor, so if you'll indulge me just a moment longer, here they are:

1. What is meant by the title of your book, *One Cause, One Cure*?
2. Your beliefs have been labeled "traditional straight chiropractic" by Dr. Joe Strauss. How are your ideas different from those of Dr. Strauss, who is known as a "super-straight" or "purpose-straight" or "objective-straight" chiropractor, and lastly,
3. Given that you have so graciously and carefully reviewed the biography I've written about the life and times of B.J. Palmer, where do you think I've made my most serious errors?

And, Dr. Barge, please feel free to answer any, or all, or none of these questions. The most important questions will come from our student doctors.

OK, enuf sed! Ladies and gentlemen, without further ado, it's my pleasure to introduce my friend, Dr. Fred Barge.