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Notes on Clarence Gonstead, D.C. (1898-1978)

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Color Code:

Red: questionable or uncertain information

Green: for emphasis

CHRONOLOGY

1898: Clarence Gonstead is born (Janse, 1978)

1933 (Mar): **The Chiropractic Journal** (NCA & **ICC**) [1(3)] includes:

-Arthur T. Holmes, NCA Chief Counsel, edits "Good morning, Judge!" (p. 29); which includes "the Colorado Situation" by Hon. Frank Winter, NCA Associate Counsel, and:

GONSTEAD OF WISCONSIN

The case of Allan Wang vs. Merton and Clarence Gonstead was tried on January 23rd to 28th before the Hon. A.O. Zimmerman, Circuit Judge for Dane County and a jury. Wang set forth in his complaint that the defendants were registered chiropractors and that he had gone to them for treatments for tuberculosis; that they had in their treatments improperly diagnosed his disease and failed to discover Potts disease from which he began to suffer sometime about November of 1931; that they continued to adjust him and that because of their failure to diagnose the Potts disease and send him to physicians or surgeons for proper treatment that his health has been greatly impaired and that he suffered therefrom.

The answer was a general denial. The plaintiff testified that he was stricken with tuberculosis of the lungs about 1927, was sent to a Sanitarium in Northern Minnesota and discharged after about six months; that thereafter his condition continued to grow worse and that he sought to be treated by the defendants after medical science had failed to cure him. The defendants adjusted him over a period of about two years prior to April of 1932. Under cross-examination he was compelled to admit that his condition grew constantly better under their treatments and adjustments and that he had repeatedly recommended them to his friends and neighbors and had stated to people that the defendants had saved his life.

When the defendants discovered the Potts disease through the presence of a marked kyphosis in the vicinity of the first lumbar region about November of 1931 there was such a breaking down of the bone that they recommended that he go to a hospital to be placed upon a stretcher or frame. The defendants testified that the plaintiff kept returning to them for treatments thereafter because the adjustments relieved his suffering. The plaintiff was compelled to admit that he did seek to have other chiropractors adjust him after his action for damages was started and he admitted having sent one of his friends to the Gonsteads shortly before the trial and after the action had been started to ask them if they would give him some further adjustments. The plaintiff attempted to prove

negligence by a member of the Medical School, but was not permitted to do so by the court. The case was submitted to a jury upon a special verdict and the jury unanimously concluded after a few minutes deliberation that there was no negligence whatever in the diagnosis of the treatment of the plaintiff.

The action was brought for the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. The plaintiff was represented by Conley & Conley of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and by the firm of Richmond, Jackman, Wilkie & Toebaas of Madison. The defendants were represented by Lawrence J. Brody, N.C.A. Counsel of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

1955 (Nov): **ICA International Review of Chiropractic** [10(5)] includes:

-“Spokesman for state medical group doesn’t like chiropractic story” (p. 16) re: Clarence Gonstead, D.C.

1958 (July/Aug): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [1(1)] includes:

-“Gonstead of Wisconsin builds private airport” (p. 13); includes photo of runway

1963 (Nov/Dec): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [6(3)] includes:

-“Gonstead to build \$800,000 clinic, motel to go up in Mt. Horeb” (p. 46)

1964 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [6(6)] includes:

-“College reports: Los Angeles” (p. 22) includes:
 ...Dr. Gonstead of Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, will be conducting a special lecture series for the faculty and senior students of L.A.C.C. on June 8th and 9th. He will be demonstrating his approach to X-Ray interpretation and adjustive techniques.

PHOTOGRAPH



Left to right: George Haynes, D.C., Clarence Gonstead, D.C., Joseph Berg, D.C. and Kai Drengler (LACC Registrar's collection); similar photo appears in the 1964 (July/Aug) issue of *Digest of Chiropractic Economics*

1964 (July/Aug): ***Digest of Chiropractic Economics*** [7(1)] includes:
-photograph & caption (p. 44):



1964 (Nov/Dec): ***Digest of Chiropractic Economics*** [7(3)] includes:
-"College reports: Cleveland College" (p. 29):

Cleveland College is buzzing in preparation for the Homecoming December 5th and 6th.

A Cleveland Chiropractic College Homecoming always includes two full days of educational features, fine lectures, (Scuttle-Butt has it, that Dr. Gonstead will be here), educational movies, reports, and of course the graduation at the Municipal Auditorium on

Saturday evening, followed by the Annual Graduation Dance are standard procedure.

All Alums looks forward to the annual reunion luncheon on Sunday, held at the Ivonhoe Temple. The Alumni Association has arranged for private busses to pick everyone up at the college auditorium building, and transport them to the luncheon and return them in time or the Sunday afternoon session.

Dr. C.S. Cleveland, Jr., has returned from lecturing overseas and of course will contribute to the Homecoming Program.

We always look forward to hearing Dr. C.S. Cleveland, Sr. from the Cleveland Chiropractic College of Los Angeles.

All Chiropractors are invited. Remember the dates, Saturday and Sunday December 5th. and 6th., starting at 9:00 A.M.

-ad for Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic, of which Lee Vogel is secretary (p. 40)

1965 (Sept/Oct): ***Digest of Chiropractic Economics*** [8(2)] includes:

-Paul Smallie, D.C. authors "World-Wide reports" (p. 4); includes:

WISCONSIN

The new Gonstead Clinic at Mr. Horeb has been completed. The new building provides for extensive educational facilities. Attendance is limited to 40 enrollees. Gonstead makes a charge of \$15 per case for x-ray analysis service. – ICA Review.

-L.E. Cheal, D.C., Director of Research for the Gonstead Clinic of Chiropractic in Mt. Horeb WI, authors "The doctor of chiropractic... a specialist or general practitioner?" (pp. 6-7, 65)

-ad for Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic gives 1965 schedule of seminars; Lee Vogel listed as Secretary of the Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic

1965 (Nov/Dec): ***Digest of Chiropractic Economics*** [8(3)] includes:

-"Gonstead Clinic, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin; a Digest personality portrait" (pp. 6-8); many **photos**
-ad/notice (p. 22):

With Sincere Appreciation
TO ALL THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE IN THE
CHIROPRACTIC PROFESSION WITH WHOM WE HAVE
ENJOYED A MOST REWARDING RELATIONSHIP
PLEASE BE INFORMED
As of October 29, 1965 we no longer are associated in any
manner with the Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic
T.E. Markham, D.C./Lee Vogel/Nancy Vogel
207 North Washington
MOUNT HOREB, WISCONSIN 53572

-Kai A. Drengler, D.C. authors "In rebuttal... specialist or general practitioner" (pp. 40-1, 66); rebuts Les E. Cheal, D.C.'s article in previous issue; Drengler argues DC is a generalist; includes **photograph** of Dr. Drengler and caption:



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Kai A. Drengler of 805 North Central Avenue, Glendale, California, is a native of Copenhagen, Denmark. Born in 1919, he graduated from the University of Leipzig in 1942 with his degree in Engineering and Architecture. After coming to the United States he matriculated at Palmer College in 1960 and after transferring to Los Angeles College of Chiropractic, graduated and passed the California State Board in 1964.

Presently Dr. Drengler is on the staff of the LACC where he teaches science, physiotherapy and technic. In addition to numerous offices held during his school years, he served as director of public relations at LACC for one year. Dr. Drengler is a member of both the California Chiropractic Association and the American Chiropractic Association.

1966 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [8(4)] includes:

-full-page ad for Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic (p. 25); includes **photos**

1966 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [8(5)] includes:

-L.E. Cheal, D.C., Director of Research for the Gonstead Clinic of Chiropractic in Mt. Horeb WI, authors "More about... the general practitioner" (pp. 32-3, 42)

-full-page ad for "Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic" (p. 43)

1966 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [8(6)] includes:

-full page ad for Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic (p. 13)

1966 (July/Aug): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [9(1)] includes:

-full page ad for Gonstead Seminar (p. 27)

1966 (Sept/Oct): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [9(2)] includes:

-full page ad for Gonstead Seminar (p. 43)

1967 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [9(5)] includes:

-ad for Gonstead seminars held at Mt. Horeb (p. 57)

1967 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [9(6)] notes:

-ad for Gonstead seminars held at Mt. Horeb (p. 29)

1967 (July/Aug): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [10(1)] includes:

-ad for Gonstead seminar (p. 35)

1967 (Nov/Dec): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [10(3)] includes:

-ad for "Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic" (p. 24)

-"New England Chiropractic Council holds first annual seminar in Boston" (p. 47); among the speakers and guests are: Clarence Gonstead, D.C.; Graham Rockley, D.C.; A.L. Schultz, D.C.; Narciso G. Rayes, Philippine Ambassador to the UK & UN; Joseph Janse, D.C., N.D. of National College; H. Ronald Frogley, D.C. of Palmer College; Chester C. Stowell, D.C. of Lincoln College; William N. Coggins, D.C. of Logan College; Ernest Napolitano, D.C. of Columbia Institute of Chiropractic; Steven Owens, D.C., member of the CINY Board of Directors; J. Joseph Allen, D.C. of Columbia; Massachusetts Governor John A. Volpe; Michele E. Merolla, D.C., editor of the New England Journal of Chiropractic; Malcolm E. Macdonald, D.C.; many **photos** of unidentified individuals

1968 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [10(5)] includes:

-ad for "Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic" (p. 58)

1968 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [10(6)] includes:

-"In Beloit Wisconsin: a Digest clinic and personality profile" (pp. 10-2); many photos, including C.W. Gonstead, D.C., M.J. Gonstead, D.C. and G.W. Johnson, D.C.

-ad for "Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic" (p. 58) to be held in San Francisco, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Boston

1968 (July): **ACA Journal of Chiropractic** [5(7)] includes:

-"Architecture & office design" (pp. 12-5) includes many photos of clinic of M.J. Gonstead, D.C.'s clinic in Beloit WI

1968 (Nov/Dec): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [11(3)] includes:

-"Teach-in' is new method at Parker Seminar" (p. 4); notes Parker seminar at Las Vegas during 9-12 January 1969 will feature Clarence Gonstead, D.C.; Raymond Nimmo, D.C., Major B. DeJarnette, D.O., D.C. and Richard Van Rump, D.C.; photos of each

1969 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [11(4)] includes:

-“Parker meeting at Las Vegas” (p. 6); includes photograph of (left to right): Clarence Gonstead, D.C. of Mount Horeb WI; Raymond Nimmo, D.C. of Grandbury TX; Jimmy Parker, D.C.; Major B. DeJarnette, D.O., D.C. of Nebraska City NB; Richard VanRumpt, D.C. of Santa Barbara CA



1970 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [12(4)] includes:
-full page ad for Gonstead Seminar (p. 39)

1971 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [13(5)] includes:
-full page ad for Gonstead Clinic (p. 5); includes photograph of reception area:



-Linda Rhodes, D.C. of the Gonstead Clinic authors “The Gonstead method of case management: the low back syndrome” (pp. 24-5)

1971 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [13(6)] includes:
-Douglas B. Cox, D.C. of Mt. Horeb WI authors “Gonstead chiropractic concepts: 14x36 A-P and lateral x-rays” (p. Supplement A)
-full-page ad for Gonstead seminar (p. 19)

1971 (July/Aug): **DCE** [14(1)] includes:
-Joseph W. Howe, D.C. authors letter to the editor in rebuttal to that of Douglas Cox, D.C.’s article about Gonstead x-rays (p. 4)
-“Gonstead on... the level foundation: excerpts from the new ‘Gonstead Notes’” (pp. 40-1)

1971 (Sept/Oct): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [14(2)] includes:
-two-page ad for Gonstead seminars (pp. 34-5)

1972 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [14(4)] includes:
-two-page ad for Gonstead Clinic and Gonstead “Viking X-ray Equipment” (pp. 30-1)

1972 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [14(5)] includes:
-two-page ad for Gonstead seminars and x-ray equipment; includes **photo** of Dr. Gonstead

1972 (July/Aug): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [15(1)] includes:
-two page ad for Gonstead seminars and Gonstead Viking x-ray equipment (pp. 50-1)

1972 (Nov/Dec): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [15(3)] includes:
-two-page ad for “Gonstead-Viking X-ray” and Gonstead seminar (pp. 42-3); features Peter Martin, D.C., D.O., N.D., photograph & caption:

Dr. Peter Martin, Palmer College Extension Instructor for Laboratory Science, talks about his most recent attendance at the Gonstead Seminar:



“Everytime I take the Gonstead course I learn something new and valuable to use in my practice. No matter which class I attend, the material always reflects current information gleaned from the volumes of patient records and 50 years of experience accrued by Dr. Gonstead.

“This last time, I went back into the Basic class because it is a good way to re-discipline my x-ray analysis and listing techniques. But more importantly the Gonstead Seminar goes beyond adjusting procedure and x-ray marking; it teaches you case management. This is an area that has been largely neglected in chiropractic for a long time and an area in which the Gonstead Seminar is filling a very great need.

“Now that I have full time practice I will be attending every chance I get.”

Dr. Martin is instructor of the Blood Chemistry, Blood Count and Urinalysis Lab procedure courses taught during the Thursday

prior to all Mt. Horeb Seminars. For more information write to the Gonstead Seminar, P.O. Box 46, Mt. Horeb, Wis., 53572.

1972: David Lindsey, D.C. published **Chiropractic Year Book**, includes photographs:



Dr. Clarence Gonstead (p. 50)

1973 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [15(4)] includes:

-two-page ad for "Gonstead-Viking X-ray" and Gonstead seminar (pp. 42-3):

1973 (Mar/Apr): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [15(5)] includes:

-two-page ad for Gonstead Viking X-ray and Gonstead seminar in Las Vegas (pp. 42-3)

1973 (May/June): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [15(6)] includes:

-two-page ad for Gonstead Viking X-ray and Gonstead seminars (pp. 42-3)

1973 (Sept/Oct): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [16(2)] includes:

-"50th celebration for Gonstead Clinic" (p. 78); includes photograph:



Dr. D.D. Palmer and staff with Dr. and Mrs. Gonstead at the 50th anniversary

1978 (Nov/Dec): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [21(3)] includes:

-Joseph Janse, D.C., N.D., president of the National College of Chiropractic, authors "A great distinguished clinician and teacher is called home" (p. 28) re: Clarence Gonstead, D.C.:

Clarence S. Gonstead was an extraordinary, exceptional person. His passing in the forepart of October shall be mourned and acknowledged by thousands of doctors of chiropractic from all over the world. His passing marked the conclusion of a singular uniquely significant life. A life the impact and input of which defined indescribable benefit, augment, expansion and probity for so many members of the profession. It would be truly difficult to name anyone else who enscribed [sic] as strong an affectivity upon the clinical profile of the practicing chiropractor than this modest, unpretentious, rather shy person from Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin and of Norwegian lineage.

The Gonstead Method of Specific Spinal and Pelvic Adjusting became, and stands as a hallmark of clinical importance throughout the chiropractic clinical world. Certainly the science and the art of the Gonstead Method has redounded in immeasurable benefit to so many in every nook and cranny and at every level of the chiropractic world. Mt. Horeb, the handsome, well-ordered and ever-busy Gonstead Clinic and the beautiful Karakahl Motel became the center of worldwide chiropractic, interest and learning. From all points of the compass, from every land of the free world, there were those who came to be taught by this gentle, gracious person and his staff. Indeed, Dr. Clarence S. Gonstead was a phenomenon, yet never did he abdicate the common human touch or his sense of appreciation of the goodness of life and the sentiment overtones of the Divine.

Dr. C.S. Gonstead was a quiet, gentle man. He never dabbled in verbiages of egocentric displays. He was a polite, genteel person, respectful of all others. He was a courageous man living wit an unremitting conviction. He was a family man, his home being a haven of hospitality and he adored his wife who accompanied him in all of his travels. She, in her own affectivity, is, indeed, known as a precious, dear, thoughtful, lovely lady.

So by Divine decision, a noble, valiant servant of humanity, an exceptional stalwart within the chiropractic profession has been called to serve in even Greater Dimensions. Let us all be grateful for all that he was and all that he provided us with. I, personally, in my relations with this noble, exceptional person and through all that he placed at my learning disposal, have experienced a singular blessing and privilege.

To benefit the living and to help perpetuate Dr. Gonstead's memory and his dedication to chiropractic, a memorial fund has been established with the Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research. Those desiring to participate in honoring Dr. Gonstead's memory may send their contribution to FCER, 3209 Ingersoll Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50312. Each gift will be acknowledged to the Gonstead Family as well as to the donor.

1979 (Jan/Feb): **Digest of Chiropractic Economics** [21(4)] includes:

-“Dr. C.S. Gonstead honored in Oslo” (p. 6):

Early in 1978, Dr. C.S. Gonstead was the guest of honor at the international grand opening of Denmark's largest new chiropractic clinic in Bronderslev. Built by Dr. Erling Pedersen, who studied with Dr. Gonstead at the clinic in Mt. Horeb, the Oslo clinic was dedicated in total to the Gonstead name and work. A bust of the late doctor stands proudly in the building's entryway.

-“The Invincible Legacy: Dr. Clarence S. Gonstead, Mt. Horeb, WI, July 24, 1898 – October 2, 1978” (pp. 14-5)

-“Announcement to the profession from the Gonstead Clinic and the Gonstead Seminar of Chiropractic” (p. 63)

References:

Janse J. A great distinguished clinician and teacher is called home.
Digest of Chiropractic Economics 1978 (Nov/Dec); 21(3): 28