

Who Was this Doctor?

- *Expelled from the Palmer School of Chiropractic (PSC) by B.J. Palmer "on June 19, 1922 for disloyalty, disrespect and insult to the President and circulating statements derogatory to the welfare of the institution."
- *Reinstated at PSC by faculty action, July 5, 1922. Graduated in 1922.
- *Contributed to the wording of Connecticut's first Basic Science Act (1924).
- *Organizer, Committee on Educational Standards of the National Chiropractic Association (NCA) in 1935
- *First NCA Director of Education (1941-1961); authored the NCA's first standards for chiropractic schools.
- *B.J. Palmer would call him the "Antichrist" of chiropractic.
- *Father of the NCA Council on Education in 1947.



STILL NOT SURE? see:

Gibbons RW. *Chiropractic History* 1985; 5:44-51

ANSWER: Who Was this Doctor?

John J. Nugent, D.C. (1891-1979) was born in Dublin, Ireland, and settled in Connecticut in 1914. Apparently his university training in Ireland produced considerable dissatisfaction during his later training at the PSC, and his friction with BJ Palmer while a student was an indicator of things to come. Nugent worked closely with C.O. Watkins, D.C. in the initial effort of the National Chiropractic Association (NCA) to develop college accreditation standards and to upgrade basic science training at the chiropractic colleges. By 1938 he had personally inspected the majority, if not all, of the schools, and in 1941 was appointed the NCA's first Director of Education. It was in this capacity that he became a well-known (notorious in some chiropractic circles) figure in the profession. B.J. Palmer once referred to him as the "Anti-Christ of Chiropractic." He provoked the ire of many of the leaders of the academically weakest colleges, whose proprietary schools he sought to merge into larger, non-profit institutions or close. In the late 1940s he saw to the formation of the NCA's Council on Education, immediate forerunner of today's Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE), and made the first contacts with the U.S. Office of Education. He resigned as NCA Director of Education after 20 years, but lived to see the eventual recognition of the CCE (in 1974) by the U.S. Office of Education.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF CHIROPRACTIC, 1000 Brady Street, Davenport IA 52803

President: Alana Callender, M.S.

Editor, *Chiropractic History*: John Willis, M.A., D.C.

Associate Editor, *Chiropractic History*: Bart Green, D.C.

The AHC is a non-profit membership organization open to chiropractors, students and friends of the profession, and committed to advancing and preserving knowledge of the history of chiropractic. The AHC holds an annual convention and twice annually publishes its journal, *Chiropractic History*, which is indexed in the the *Bibliography of the History of Medicine* by the National Library of Medicine. Membership in the AHC is \$50/year (\$20/year for students), and automatically includes a subscription to *Chiropractic History* and the AHC's quarterly newsletter. If the history of chiropractic is important to you, consider joining the AHC.
