

Heinz on aging

So you have a hearing problem

So you have been diagnosed as having a hearing problem. The next step is to consult with your family doctor or hearing specialists (audiologist) to decide on the most appropriate treatment for you.

Depending on the nature of your problem, simply flushing the ear canal to remove packed ear wax may correct the condition. In some cases, your doctor may recommend surgery. Be sure to obtain a second opinion before you agree to surgery.

Often a hearing aid may be recommended. A hearing aid is a device engineered to amplify sounds. While many older Americans might have objected to a hearing aid in the past - the old aids were large and "obvious" - modern technology has produced a small, almost invisible aid.

Shop for a hearing aid as you would shop for any other major item. There are many different models on the market, each designed for a different kind of problem. While a hearing test can evaluate the nature of your hearing problem, only you can evaluate the comfort, convenience and quality of sound of a particular brand of hearing aid.

Following are a few points to keep in mind as an informed consumer when you purchase a hearing aid:

- What type of aid does your doctor recommend?
- What type of warranty comes with the aid? Does the warranty cover service, adjustments and repairs, as well as counseling in the use of the aid?
- Does the dealer offer a free trial period? You'll probably want to try out the device before you purchase it.
- How much does the aid cost? The more expensive aids are not necessarily the best for you. Shop around. You may find one that costs less and is actually better for your problems.

- Don't buy an aid that has features you don't need.
- Check out the controls for any special features on the aid. Are they easy to manage - not too small or difficult to adjust?

There are some hearing problems that cannot be corrected with a hearing aid or other treatment alone. Your doctor may recommend that you see a therapist for speech-reading. Speech-reading trains you to receive visual clues from lip movements as well as facial expressions, body postures and gestures. Auditory training is another form of treatment. It may include hearing aid orientation, but is most valuable in helping you identify specific communications problems and learn how to handle them.

Correcting a hearing problem can be very expensive. Medicare will pay for the diagnosis and evaluation of hearing loss if the tests are requested by your physician. But in most cases, Medicare will not cover the costs of correcting a problem. You can deduct the cost of a hearing aid when you itemize your medical costs for income tax purposes. Medicaid covers some of the costs of a hearing aid in some states.

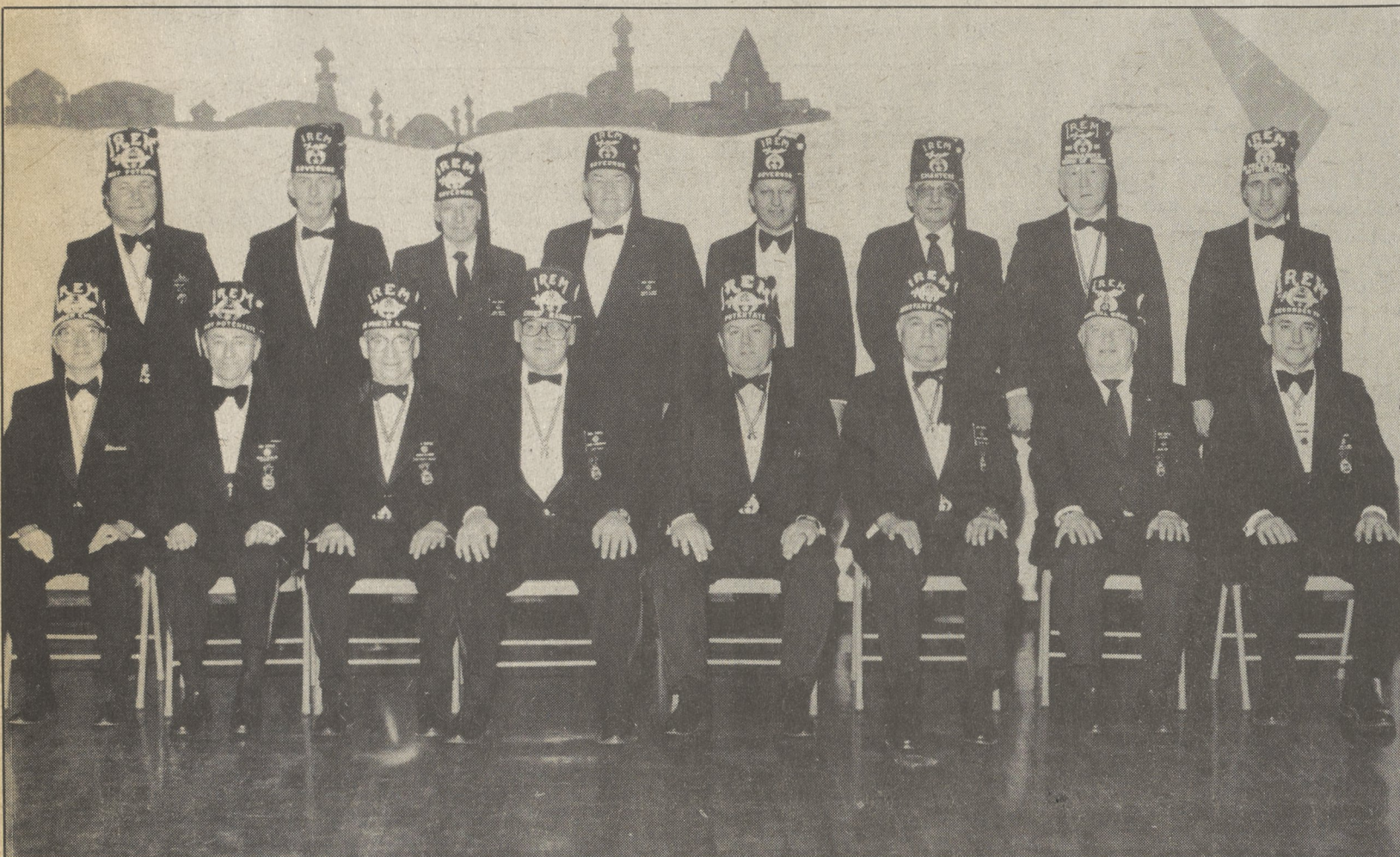
There are several organizations you can turn to for additional information about hearing problems:

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, 10801 Rockville Pike, Dept. AP, Rockville, Maryland 20852; or dial 1-800-638-8522. They can provide information on hearing aids and provide a list of certified audiologists in each state.
- Office of Scientific and Health Reports, National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke, Bldg. 31, Rm. 8A06, Bethesda, Maryland 20205. Ask for the pamphlet, "Hearing Loss: Hope Through Research."



Celebration planned

Members of the Luzerne County Dental Society and its Auxiliary have been preparing for the celebration of 1985 National Dental Health Month in February. Shown here, from left, are Mrs. Wayne Dombroski, Dallas; Mrs. Louis Mastrini, Shavertown; Mrs. John Dougherty, Mountaintop; and Dr. Bruce Goeringer, Back Mountain. The celebration will kick off with "Children's Dental Day" at the Wyoming Valley Mall on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The day long festival will feature games, prizes, and entertainment, featuring Patrick Ward's "Magic Show", coloring contest winners and a "Toothercise" workout by Lesley McCann's Aerobic World. McDonald's Hamburglar will also be present to greet the children.



New Irem officers

Officers who will serve Irem Temple in 1985 include, from left, first row, David M. Pierce, Recorder Emeritus; Thomas E. Lehman, III, P.P., Treasurer; Harold B. Parry, High Priest and Prophet; James O. Brokenshire, Chief Rabban; Paul Schramm, Potentate; Peter P. Caprari, Assistant Rabban; Richard C.

Post, VMD., Oriental Guide; and Lawrence E. Pace, P.P., Recorder. Second row, Donald E. Britt, P.P., Ray W. Hayes, James Gaughan, Gilbert D. Tough, Timothy D. Shaw and Robert C. Shone, Board of Governors; Clifford T. Jones and Edward L. Herbert, Imperial Representatives.

John Gager joins firm

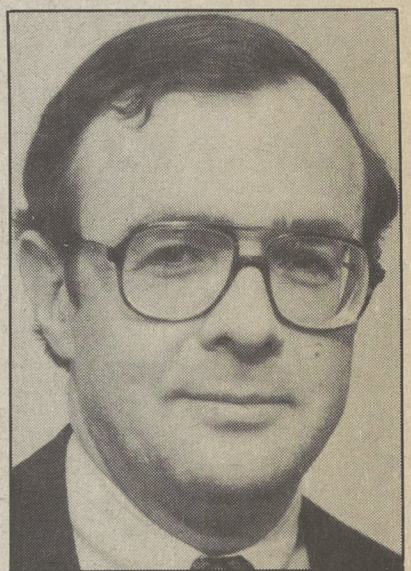
John F. Gager has joined the investment firm of Thomson McKinnon Securities Inc. as an Account Executive in their 15 Public Square Office, Eric B. Olsen, Manager, announced recently.

A native of Dallas, Mr. Gager was graduated from Wyoming Seminary, Juniata College with a B.S. in economics. He attended the Pennsylvania State University Graduate School of Business.

Prior to joining Thomson McKinnon, Mr. Gager was employed by Juniata College as Assistant Business Manager, The First Eastern Bank, and most recently as Registered Representative with Kidder, Peabody and Company.

Mr. Gager is married to the former Bethlyn Ann Baker of Napier, New Zealand and resides in Shavertown. The Gager's have two children, Alison, age 10 and Philip, age 7.

Mr. Gager specializes in municipal obligations and other investment grade securities and is available for individual and corporate investment



JOHN F. GAGER

counsel. Thomas McKinnon Securities Inc., with some 2,000 Account Executives in more than 180 offices in the U.S. and Europe, is celebrating its Centennial Anniversary in 1985.

4-H training program set

A 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training will be held March 15-17, at Camp Mt. Luther in Mifflinburg, Pa. You do not need to be a current 4-H leader to attend, but you must have a reasonable certainty of commitment to the 4-H program.

Cost for the leader training is \$40 per person (this includes instruc-

tional materials, food, and lodging). Registration is due February 25. For more information on this training contact Donna Skog at the 4-H office, Courthouse Annex, 5 Water St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711; phone 825-1704 or 459-0736, ext. 704.

4-H is administered through the Pennsylvania State University Cooperative Extension Service.

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International phone billing undergoes changes

Effective January 1, 1985, billing for Intra-lata Foreign Exchange services provided by more than one telephone company has changed. Due to contractual changes between participating telephone companies, each company will now bill for their portion of the service it

provides.

This change may require adjustments on your part. For instance, since you will be receiving two bills, the due dates do not coincide. Please make note of the appropriate due dates and make payments accordingly. Also, please direct any requests to change, repair, augment, or disconnect Foreign Exchange service to your dial tone company. In the past, the local company (Commonwealth Tele-

phone Company) handled these requests.

In addition to these changes, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission approved a new tariffed item for Intra-lata Foreign Exchange service. This new item is called local loop which represents the cost of the local loop providing foreign dial tone. For business, the cost of the local loop is 85 percent of the local business rate. For residence, the cost of the local loop is 85

percent of the local residence rate. The local loop charge will be included in the monthly service and equipment rate on your Commonwealth Telephone Company bill.

All telephone companies in Pennsylvania have been working closely together to assure a smooth transition and to effect billing efficiencies for their customers. If you have any questions or require further clarification on your bill, please call Karen Boltz toll free at 717-675-5227.

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Welcome Wagon

Coslett named committee secretary

Rep. Frank Coslett has been named secretary of the prestigious House Republican Policy Committee for the 1985-86 legislative session.

"The committee charts the legislative course for the House Republican caucus," Coslett said. "It's very important that our area has representation on such a body."

The committee also coordinates legislative action with the governor's office and the Senate.

Coslett, who was sworn in for his fourth two-year term in the House on New Year's Day, also retained his Republican vice-chairmanship of the House Liquor Control Committee.

"That committee is responsible for analyzing bills dealing with liquor law enforcement and the Liquor Control Board (LCB)," Coslett said. "Obviously, the committee will have its hands full with proposals to eliminate the state store system and moving enforcement powers from the LCB to the attorney general's office."

"I believe a great deal of study needs to be done in both of these

areas before we act."

Coslett will also serve on the Professional Licensure Committee.

That panel will evaluate state agencies scheduled for sunset review, including the State Board of Medical Education and Licensure and the State Denil Council and Examining Board. The committee will recommend continuation or termination of the agencies and possible changes in their operations.

"I intend to serve as an advocate for the taxpayers and consumers during the committee's deliberations on these issues," Coslett said. "Too often, the public's views get lost in the shuffle."

A MESSAGE TO AAA MEMBERS

To all who needed, called for or obtained emergency road service in the period January 20 to 22 (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday). I thank you all for your understanding and patience during this extreme cold weather emergency.

I want to assure you that we at the office taking and dispatching your calls and our contract garage operators and their employees on the road, did all that was humanly possible in rendering service.

Again many thanks for your patience and cooperation.

Cordially

Charles J. Spitale

Charles J. Spitale
Executive Vice-President.

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