



Joseph L. Bonyun, DC, ND, DHM, FCCS(C)

Dr. Bonyun is best known for developing a lumbar adjustive technique, which bears his name and lateral flexion radiographic studies of the lumbar spine. During his chiropractic career he has lectured extensively throughout North America on his research and technique.

Dr. Bonyun actually anticipated a career in engineering after completing high school, but when he injured his foot and had stabbing pain for three months with no relief, someone suggested he see a chiropractor. He received one treatment and by the third day he was completely pain free. During World War II he was assistant to the medical officer in the Medical Corps and had seen enough blood to make him realize he didn't want a career in medicine. So in January, 1947, he entered Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) under the Veterans' Affairs Plan. While studying chiropractic he worked in the x-ray and accounting departments at the Toronto General Hospital and with this connection, was able to persuade the nurses to attend CMCC dances. When he graduated in January, 1951 he move to Kapuskasing, Ontario to open his practice.

In the fall of 1952, he decided to enroll in Homeopathy and Naturopathy courses in Arcadia, Missouri, as he felt it would benefit his practice. He was able to complete the course in three months due to his chiropractic background, and then returned to Kapuskasing. Unfortunately, the severe cold of Canadian winters took its toll on Dr. Bonyun's health and in 1961 he had to move to Florida. It was very difficult to obtain a Florida license to practice chiropractic at this time, so he was able to receive a registered nurse rating because of his training in the Medical Corps and chiropractic. This enabled him to do private duty nursing both in and out of hospital and eventually he headed the Respiratory and Physiotherapy Departments at Cloverleaf Hospital in North Miami Beach.

Many of the staff knew he was a chiropractor and one day a doctor, who was experiencing some back pain, asked Dr. Bonyun's opinion on the x-rays of his back. Dr. Bonyun was intrigued by the fact that the supine view of the doctor's lumbar spine revealed a most marked left scoliosis. More startling was the fact that one discal space was in almost complete lateral flexion while all other segments were parallel. He reasoned that such discal space distortions remaining after the removal of the vertical gravity force could be viewed as highly significant. This finding proved to be the beginning of the Bonyun technique. Dr. Bonyun treated the doctor who improved with the adjustment. This motivated him to return to chiropractic, so he moved to South Carolina and wrote the board exams in 1963, and set up practice in Manning, South Carolina. It was at this time that he began his research of the lumbar spine and lateral flexion radiographic studies of this area. This work was recognized by the South Carolina Chiropractic Association, in which he was

awarded a Life membership and a wall plaque for outstanding research and service to the profession.

In 1965, he had to give up practice again due to ill health. He was diagnosed as having emphysema and bronchiectasis. He continued to lose weight and was virtually confined to bed. It was at this time that the late Dr. Joseph Janse was very interested in his research and invited Dr. Bonyun to speak to the faculty and students at National Chiropractic College (NCC) and cancelled all classes for two days. After thinking about this honour to address NCC, he decided he just had to postpone dying as there were really too many things for him to do. Over the next four years, he lectured throughout the Eastern, Mid West United States and Canada, with the help of Drs. George Goodheart and Joseph Janse. Dr. Henri Gillet was very impressed with this research and was a great source of encouragement by way of frequent correspondence.

With his health improved somewhat, he returned to Canada in 1969 and set up a practice in Haliburton, Ontario. In 1973 he was forced to give up his practice yet again, due to several coronaries.

He was then invited to join the faculty of CMCC where he taught technique to the second year students and imparted his wealth of knowledge to the interns in the College's Out Patient Clinic.

Dr. Bonyun has received many honours: the most significant being certified as a Chiropractic Clinical Specialist, membership in the College of Chiropractic Sciences in 1976, and in 1986, a life membership in Ontario Naturopathic Association. The Ontario Chiropractic Association also presented him with a wall plaque for his research. The Academy of Naturopathic Acupuncture granted him a fellowship in May, 1976.

In spite of the many health problems through his career as a chiropractor, Dr. Bonyun has continued to contribute much of his time to the advancement of chiropractic. He is also an excellent role model for the future generations of chiropractors of courage and determination.

J Mannington, DC

L'hypertension, souvent associée
aux maladies rénales, touche
15% de la population adulte.
Faites vérifier votre pression
artérielle dès aujourd'hui.



LA FONDATION CANADIENNE DU REIN
Donne plus de chances... à la vie.