

CHIROPRACTORS: Right to possess or prescribe narcotics.

8-23

August 21, 1934.



Mr. Will B. Wood, District Supervisor,
Treasury Department, Bureau of Narcotics,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

A request for an opinion has been received from you under date of August 15, 1934, such request being in the following terms:

"Please advise this office if chiropractors, under the State law of Missouri, are authorized to possess and prescribe narcotic drugs."

Revised Statutes Missouri 1929, Section 13546, provides as follows:

"The practice of chiropractic is hereby defined to be the science and art of palpating and adjusting by hand the movable articulations of the human spinal column, for the correction of the cause of abnormalities and deformities of the body. It shall not include the use of operative surgery, obstetrics, osteopathy, nor the administration or prescribing of any drug or medicine. The practice of chiropractic is hereby declared not to be the practice of medicine and surgery or osteopathy within the meaning of article 1, chapter 53, or chapter 102, R. S. 1929, and not subject to the provisions of said chapters."

In view of this statute it is our opinion that a chiropractor in the State of Missouri would have no authority to prescribe or administer narcotic drugs, or to possess such drugs with any greater degree of legality than a layman.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD H. MILLER

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.

APPROVED:

ATTORNEY GENERAL.