

## A Message from the President

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THE DEPARTMENT of Supervision and Curriculum Development, N.E.A., begins its program at a time when dynamic leadership is essential. This leadership is demanded by the uncertainty and confusion in our national life. At the same time, this leadership has an exceptional opportunity because of the unprecedented recognition which education is receiving as a means for solving certain problems which these times present.

As this Department came into being at Chicago in March through the merging of the Department of Supervisors and Directors of Instruction, N.E.A., and the Society for Curriculum Study, the Board of Directors recognized the need for bold thinking and action for initiating the program of the Department. The program developed at that meeting was presented to the membership for their reaction in the May issues of *Educational Method* and *Curriculum Journal*.

The processes, as well as the content, of our program have been examined. In addition to continuing the activities of the two former organizations, in the future greater emphasis will be given to developing new ways of working. People in local situations will be encouraged to experiment in new ways, while the resources of the Department will be made available to them. It is planned that programs may be reported while in process to our members, thus encouraging others to undertake similar activities and profit by the experience

of the pilot-group or groups. It is obvious that such an emphasis depends upon the participation of the total membership of our organization.

The merging of the two organizations brought together persons who had common purposes and broad resources. It is hoped that as the program of the Department develops through the years, members of the two former organizations and new members who may join will recognize the strength which this new Department has inherited from its predecessors.

*Educational Leadership* combines the two journals, *Educational Method* and *Curriculum Journal*. At its Chicago meeting, the Board of Directors paid tribute to the splendid services Lou LaBrant and Henry Harap had performed as editors of the former journals. The new journal will be published through the central office, and Ruth Cunningham, our able Executive Secretary, has agreed to serve as its Editor for 1943-44.

A program suggesting dynamic action has been outlined. We have a membership capable of implementing this program. Let us go ahead with vigor and courage to meet the challenge of providing experiences for children, youth, and adults appropriate for the demands of our times.—*H. Ruth Henderson, Supervisor of Elementary Education, State Board of Education, Richmond, Va., President, Department of Supervision and Curriculum Development, N.E.A.*

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