

From *the* Editor

Twelfth annual conference. Notable for the high quality of its deliberations, general sessions, clinics, assemblies, group meetings, committee and commission work was ASCD's Twelfth Annual Conference, March 17-21, in the hospitable host city of St. Louis, Missouri. A number of significant actions resulted from this meeting. Several of these are indicated in the following paragraphs.

An open forum. To be included in the ASCD Official Handbook is the following statement, which was officially adopted by the Association at its St. Louis meeting:

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development seeks to provide an open forum for the free expression of competent opinion relating to its area of interest. The appearance of an individual, group, or organization at a convention, and the publication of the opinions, proposals, or judgments of an author or speaker do not, by themselves, indicate endorsement by the Association of the position stated. The Association endorses an individual, group, or organization, or an opinion expressed by an author or participant in its programs only by resolution approved by a vote of its members.

Journal themes for 1957-1958. After examining findings in its recent questionnaire study, which involved several hundred responses from all parts of the country, the Publications Committee drew up the following tentative themes for *Educational Leadership* articles during 1957-1958:

- "Education for the Foreseeable Future" (October)
- "Youth in the Surging College Enrollment" (November)
- "Interpreting the School Program" (December)
- "Evaluation of Teaching" (January)

"Trends — and Individual Differences" (February)

"Integration" (March)

"A New Look at Curriculum Development" (April)

"Teacher Recruitment and Preparation" (May).

As is our custom, we will attempt to include in each issue some articles that are theoretical, some that are more "practical," some with a strong research emphasis; some directed toward the elementary teachers and supervisors, some toward secondary school and some toward college and university personnel. Always we will seek the new author, the fresh, direct, provocative approach. Many of the articles will be solicited; yet we will welcome especially any manuscripts which are sent to our office for reading and consideration for possible use in the journal. If you submitted a suggestion on the questionnaire perhaps you would like to try following it up with an article—we would be glad to read it.

Merit award. On March 17, in an impressive ceremony at the ASCD Conference in St. Louis, ROBERT S. GILCHRIST, superintendent of schools in University City, Missouri, and then president of ASCD was given singular recognition. He was presented with the New York University School of Education's Merit Award for Outstanding Service to American Education. A citation was read and the award was made by WALTER A. ANDERSON, associate dean of the School of Education. In addition to the citation, the School of Education presented Dr. Gilchrist with an electric clock as a remembrance of the occasion.

In memoriam. ANNA MARIE CONNOLLY, associate secretary, ASCD, died on March 22 at the home of her brother in New Jersey. Anna Marie had been ill for some time but her wonderful spirit was such that few people recognized the seriousness of her condition. An inspired and inspiring educator, Anna Marie was held in high esteem and affection by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with her. She will be greatly missed by the headquarters staff and by members of the Association. She is survived by her brother, WILLIAM J. CONNOLLY, Box 81, Milltown, New Jersey.

On February 14, NELLIE LOVERING HOSIC entered into rest at her residence, 1521 Highland Road, Winter Park, Florida, after a brief illness. She is survived by her husband, JAMES FLEMING HOSIC, a founder of ASCD and an honorary member for life.

A living memorial. By official action, the ASCD Board of Directors established a general memorial account to be called "The Importance of People Fund." Contributions may be made to this fund to honor the memory of deceased ASCD members. This money, or the income thereof, is to be used in fostering the purposes of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. The fund is named in honor of RUTH CUNNINGHAM (1907-1956), first executive secretary of ASCD, first editor of this journal, and originator of "The Importance of People" column.

Meetings. On May 18 the Connecticut ASCD will sponsor its second annual conference. Focus is upon "A Look at Connecticut's Resources for Meeting the Special Needs of Children." This meeting will be held at Amity Regional High School in Woodbridge, near New Haven. HERBERT G. TAG is state president.

A stamp honoring teachers. Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced on April 9 the description of the 3-cent stamp to honor the Teachers of America, which will be first placed on sale at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on July 1, 1957, during the Centennial Convention of the National Education Association.

Calendar and booklets. The American Jewish Committee announces issuance in May of the 1957-1958 School Calendar. This informative desk aid lists all important patriotic and religious observances; explains Protestant, Catholic and Jewish holy days, throughout the school year, September 1957-September 1958. Order copies from Community Relations Service, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

Two new booklets have been released by the Association for Childhood Education International: *Discipline* (Bulletin 99); and *Children's Books for \$1.25 or Less* (Bulletin 36). Each is 75 cents per copy. The address: ACEI, 1200 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

Postscript. This year has seen a conscious attempt on our part to increase communication through the journal pages. We have sought and received many responses and reactions from readers. Letters to the editor have increased greatly in number and have been most stimulating in the thoughtfulness of their comments. These letters have related either to broad problems of education or have been commentaries on materials published in the journal. Such interaction and intercommunication are signals of interest and vitality. We look forward to strengthening these signals of communication in the next publication year.

—ROBERT R. LEEPER, *editor*, Educational Leadership.

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