

# NARST

# NEWSLETTER

Jan 1960

Minneapolis, Minn.

Edited by

C.H. Boeck

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MILES:

Our third newsletter for the 33rd year of NARST is actually a bulletin, for most of the news is contained in the printed program of the 33rd Annual Meeting of NARST, February 10-13, 1960, with the joint session and luncheon of CESI and NARST on Saturday, February 13. The printed program accompanies this newsletter.

Dr. Clarence Boeck, vice president of NARST and program chairman, has arranged a superior program. The excellent program on elementary science for the joint session of CESI and NARST is the fine work of Dr. Albert Piltz, Supervisor of Elementary Science, Detroit Public Schools. Vice president Boeck and CESI Secretary John McLain assumed responsibility for seeing that each member of NARST and CESI received the program, and information on hotel reservations. To them, to CESI President John Navarra, and to all program participants, the executive committees of NARST and CESI are grateful for the fine cooperation which inevitably will result in meetings destined to have major impact on science education in our schools.

President John G. Navarra of the Council of Elementary Science International joins me in welcoming all members of CESI and/or NARST and their friends to the open sessions of the two groups. You and your guests are cordially invited to all luncheons and coffee hours. Please remember to extend a personal invitation, in particular, to graduate students, to your colleagues, and to teachers in the Chicago area. NARST members are cordially invited to attend sessions of the Association's Executive Committee.

## ESTABLISHING CENTERS FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION RESEARCH

The Executive Committee of NARST has authorized the Committee on Unresolved Issues to proceed with the formulation of a tentative plan for establishing research centers at colleges and universities in an attempt to get more patterned research on the fundamental problems in science education. While the tentative general plan has been discussed with many individual members of the Association, it has not been presented officially. This will be done at the February meeting in Chicago.

On Thursday afternoon, February 11th, a short report will be made on the work of the Committee on Unresolved Issues. The Committee report will consist of a listing of all issues and related representative research problems which were suggested by NARST members in response to the questionnaire. The issues and problems have been grouped under the following 9 categories:

- |                          |                             |                                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Philosophy-Objectives | 4. Learning                 | 7. Administration & Supervision. |
| 2. Public Policy         | 5. Methods                  | 8. Teacher Education             |
| 3. Curriculum            | 6. Facilities and Equipment | 9. Evaluation                    |

Following this report there will be a discussion of research centers and a reporting from places where interest has been expressed in establishing a center.

In preparation for this discussion, the membership is urged:

I. If you will be present:

- a. Make plans to report what your institution is prepared to do in establishing a research center.
- b. State any preferences you may have for the various categories of issues as the responsibility of your institution. It would perhaps be wise to have choices made in order of preference as Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2, etc.

II. If you will not be present at the meeting:

- a. Please write a letter to Ellsworth S. Obourn, U.S. Office of Education, Washington 25, D.C., stating what your institution is prepared to do in establishing a research center.
- b. Indicate in order (1, 2, 3) any preferences you may have for certain categories of issues.

The plans for setting up research centers have been kept flexible purposely for the membership to share in shaping them into the most effective and workable pattern. Briefly, it is hoped that one center might assume responsibility, let us say, for the issues of "Administration and Supervision" category while another institution might assume responsibility for the issues in the "Learning" category. On the other hand, it might work out so that a single institution would take responsibility for only three or four issues in a given category.

As the tentative plan now stands, if an institution assumed responsibility for a given group of issues, it is hoped that the staff and graduate students there might hold a series of meetings to consider the issues to delineate under each issue the specific research problems which should be done to resolve the issue. They might, as a further service, prepare bibliographies of research that has been done on the issues.

Perhaps some research at a given institution could be directed toward certain of these problems. However, if a graduate student at some other institution wished to study a problem related to an issue centered in another institution, he would be directed to that institution which might furnish him with a list of problems on a given issue together with a bibliography.

The U.S. Office of Education is prepared to assume whatever roles in the administration of this program that may seem desirable to the Association. It might be desirable, for example, for the U.S. Office of Education to act as a central clearing house on research in which capacity it would have the issues and problems from all centers available and could direct any inquiries on specific issues to the proper institution. It might also be possible for the Office of Education to assist in the preparation of bibliographies on various issues. Another role which the Office of Education might assume, if it seems desirable, is the responsibility for any issues which deal with studies which are done there normally such as status, enrollment and trend studies.

On Thursday evening, February 11th, it is planned to have these groups, elementary, secondary and college, work on a further refinement and editing of the issues. If it seems necessary from the afternoon discussion, a fourth group may be set up to work out further preliminary plans related to the establishment, responsibility and functioning of research centers.

If any member has ideas, pro or con, on this problem of establishing research centers, the Committee will appreciate a letter prior to the Feb. meeting.

Paul E. Blackwood      W. Edgar Martin      Ellsworth S. Obourn

NARST - AAAS CHICAGO MEETING DECEMBER 26-31 1959

The NARST - AAAS Research Symposium, reviews of research in science education at the elementary, secondary and college levels and the implications of the research was held in the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, on December 28, 1959. The reviews reported on research for the period July 1, 1957 to July 1, 1959. More than a hundred attended the annual symposium.

NARST members were also much in evidence at sessions of NSTA, ANSS, NABT and section Q sessions. Some of the sessions were jointly sponsored. The coffee hour, co-sponsored by the Science Teaching Societies and the AAAS smoker offered other opportunities for new and old friends to meet and greet.

33RD ANNUAL MEETING, HOTEL SHERMAN

Chicago February 10, 11, 12, 13

Complete program enclosed - Please bring to Chicago with you.

Hotel Reservation Card is included in this packet.

Rates start at 7.45 and increase at .50 increments, Doubles at 11.45

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES

The enclosed programs should be brought to Chicago with you! NARST is grateful to Mr. Blair Coursen, President of the General Biological Supply House (Turtox Products) for underwriting the printing expenses. He is extending this most generous courtesy for the third time. The first gift of this nature was made in 1958.

Because the program was in the hands of the printer before the AACTE joint session Friday evening was set, the following information is provided:

The presiding officer will be Wendel Wright.

The speaker will be Marquis Childs.

The social hour has been cancelled.

It is hoped that members of NARST will encourage outstanding graduate students and other potential members to join us in Chicago!

NEWS NOTES

The National Commission on Teacher Education and Professional Standards (TEPS) received a list of NARST members (name, position, address) for each state and has forwarded these lists to state directors of TEPS for use in the selection of individuals to be invited to state and regional TEPS meetings.

Albert F. Eliss is now Science Education Specialist, Department of Public Instruction, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. He is one of three science education specialists working under the NDEA.

Robert C. MacCurdy has been appointed head of the Utah Science Education Center, headquarters at Logan.

Robert C. Sherman has recently retired at North Texas State College, Denton, Texas.

Willard J. Jacobson will serve as Fulbright Lecturer in Science Education, London, England, during the second semester this year (spring 1960).

Wayne Taylor formerly at University of Texas, Austin, Texas, has recently accepted position as Associate Professor of Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

Philip G. Johnson is on sabbatical leave. He plans to go to Puerto Rico where he has been serving as consultant in science education on a five-year curriculum project. Later he plans to make a tour of Europe with Mrs. Johnson.

George B. Salmons has been made chairman of the Natural Science Department, Plymouth Teachers College, Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Your president has accepted an invitation to represent NARST on an Advisory Committee, National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

#### FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS FOR 1961 NARST MEETING

If you plan to present a paper at the February, 1961, Annual Meeting of NARST or know of someone who should be contacted about presenting a paper, please see Dr. Clarence Boeck at the 1960 meeting in Chicago or write him at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

#### DUES:

Secretary-Treasurer Pruitt will accept dues of 10.00 for the 1959 year. 1960 dues will be payable at the time of the February meeting.