

Message From the President

We are rapidly realizing the results of the increased interest and activity on the part of our officers and committeemen.

The receipt of the ten-thousand dollar grant from the American Nature Association will make it possible for our Conservation and Outdoor Education Committee under the leadership of Lydia Elzey of State College, Pennsylvania, to perform a very important service to education and for NABT. The Liaison Committee has been helpful in the promotion of this and other financial assistance under the leadership of Edgar Martin of Washington, D. C.

Prevo Whitaker of Bloomington, Indiana, chairman of the Education Committee, has reported on the activities of the AAAS Cooperative Committee and has developed a plan of action.

The Health Committee has been unusually active under the chairmanship of Clifford Knapp and a valuable report will soon be forthcoming.

The Membership Committee is still in the process of getting organized and equipped for action. Various delays will make it necessary for the main membership drive to be launched early this fall after school opens. Robert McCafferty has been very helpful in getting the stationery and folders printed at cost at his high school. Frances Gourley, membership chairman, has secured acceptance of nine regional chairmen

and of over half the state chairmen. She will welcome any help on this important work from any other members.

Dr. D. F. Miller has been active in getting suggestions for a revision of the Constitution, particularly on the matter of setting up a board of Directors with overlapping terms to help give more continuity to our work.

The Nominating Committee under the leadership of Lydia Elzey of State College, Pennsylvania, has already completed its job for our next election.

Dr. Betty Lockwood has done a magnificent job in getting the business affairs of ABT organized and to get us back in the black again. She finds it necessary to turn over this phase of the work to someone else now so we have again been fortunate in having Mrs. Muriel Beuschlein of Chicago accept the Managing Editorship.

Our Editor too has been carrying most of the burden of the editorial work. We are pleased to announce the appointment of an assistant editor. Dr. B. Bernarr Vance of Dayton, Ohio, has agreed to help with this important job.

We look forward to a new format for our magazine with the fall issues, a lot of new members as a result of our membership drive, a great deal more interest in health and conservation education, and a much stronger NABT program generally.

Conservation Project Gets Underway

The three-year conservation project of THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BIOLOGY TEACHERS which was made possible by a \$10,000 grant-in-aid by the *American Nature Association* has been organized by the seven-member Executive

Committee for the project. They are Dr. E. L. Palmer of Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Miss Lydia Elzey of Penn. State College, State College, Penn.; Dr. George Jeffers, Longwood College, Farmville, Va.; John Harrold,

Secretary, NABT, Midland, Michigan; Dr. Howard Michaud of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; Dr. Leo Hadsall, Fresno State College, Fresno, California; and Dr. Richard L. Weaver, N. C. Department of Public Instruction, serving as President of the National Association of Biology Teachers and Project Coordinator.

Nine Regional Chairmen of National Association of Biology Teachers will guide the conservation project in their areas. They are Mabel Potter of Massachusetts, Joseph Horvath of Pennsylvania, Robert McCafferty of Ohio, Rex Conyers of Missouri, Charles E. Packard of Virginia, Aldina S. Gates of Louisiana, Clifford Knapp of Montana and Leo Hadsall of California.

State Chairmen for the project are being selected now to organize the work at the state level and to serve on the National Committee. An Advisory Committee composed of representatives of various conservation and professional educational groups is being organized to advise and assist the Project Committee. Some of these organizations will possibly be engaged in similar studies for other levels of instruction and the studies can supplement each other.

The project will include regional and state work conferences of biology teachers to review programs in conservation education, exchange experiences on the relative values of various teaching techniques and to prepare some unit teaching materials.

As state committees are organized a consultant will be requested to work with them from each State Department of Education, State Department of Conservation and State Teachers Association. Each chairman will determine the size of his committee. The duties of the state chairmen and committee will consist in part of the following:

1. Work with regional Chairmen and Project Coordinator in setting up a regional work conference during the next two years.
2. Work with the three state advisers to decide how best to do some of the following things:
 - A. Locate outstanding biology teachers who are emphasizing conservation in their teaching.
 - B. Collect descriptions of special teaching techniques employed by these teachers. (Which would illustrate parts of C.)
 - C. Help develop and perfect a set of "criteria of good teaching practices adapted to conservation education in high school biology."
 - D. Organize sub-committees or encourage individuals to write up special units on conservation adapted to the biology program for that section of the country.
 - E. Assist in preparing, collecting, and editing some of these materials for publication, in the "American Biology Teacher" and "Nature Magazine" and other publications and also some as special individual leaflets or teaching units for other teachers.
 - F. Be responsible for a report on the status of conservation education in his state as demonstrated by High School biology Teachers. This would form part of the final report on the three-year project to be published by the National Association of Biology Teachers and the American Nature Association.
 - G. Keep the Regional Chairman and the Project Coordinator informed as to progress, and need

for materials and help by the Executive Committee.

Work conferences are being held in several states this fall as a part of the meetings of state teacher's associations, particularly in North Carolina and Indiana. As rapidly as state chairmen can be selected and plans completed other states will organize work conferences.

The first of four regional conferences is scheduled for Philadelphia as a part of the annual meeting of National Association of Biology Teachers on December 28 at Hotel Adelphia. Representatives from the New England, Middle Atlantic, and Eastern coastal states as far south as North Carolina will be particularly invited to this work conference, which will be held under the leadership of Dr. Richard L. Weaver and the regional chairmen for regions I, II, V. The experience of this work conference will help determine the plans for the others scheduled for the deep south, the far west and the central states.

The Conservation Project Committee is particularly anxious to enlist the help of all our members interested in conservation and any others, whether members or not, who can help do any of the following.

1. Compile as accurate an account as possible of the extent of conservation education in High School Biology programs in each state.
2. Prepare descriptions of special techniques used and of units of study for publication.
3. Develop the best set of criteria possible on good teaching practices in conservation education adapted to the various regions of the United States.

Submitted by
 RICHARD L. WEAVER,
President, NABT

THE PHILADELPHIA MEETING

The annual meeting of THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BIOLOGY TEACHERS will be held December 27-30 at Hotel Adelphia in Philadelphia as a part of the AAAS Convention. National Association of Biology Teachers is cooperating with National Association of Science Teachers and the American Nature Study Society in sponsoring three joint sessions in the morning of December 27, 28 and 29.

Your President, Dick Weaver, is responsible for the planning of the first of these joint sessions which will be devoted to "Adapting Science Instruction to the Developmental Needs of Children." Dr. Rose Lammel of New York University will give a talk on this topic and then there will be discussion groups of 20-25 people led by various members of the three cooperating organizations.

Dick Westwood, Past President of American Nature Study Society is responsible for the second joint session on "Adapting Science Instruction to Community Needs." Teachers will describe how they have organized their work to do this.

Art Baker, President of National Science Teachers Association is arranging the third of the joint sessions on "Adapting Science to Meet National and International Needs."

Dr. Harvey Stork, President-Elect of National Association of Biology Teachers is arranging for two of the afternoon NABT programs on December 27 and 29. On December 28 there will be a workshop on conservation education directed by Dick Weaver and Dr. E. L. Palmer, to evaluate present programs of conservation education and to make plans for the preparation of some curriculum materials and in-service education programs. This will be the first of four regional conferences sponsored by NABT as a part of the new conservation project made possible by the grant of \$10,000 by the American Nature Association.

The Board of Directors will hold meetings December 27-28 and 29 from 8-10 A.M. to develop plans for 1952. The Membership Committee will meet December 28, 8-10