

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS  
One Park Avenue -Room 810- New York 16, N.Y.

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

No. 13

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I. ASSOCIATION MEETINGS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK, APRIL 23-28, 1950,  
ATLANTIC CITY

Sunday, April 23

1:30 P.M. - Board of Directors Meeting - Hotel Chelsea, Card Room

Tuesday, April 25

2:00 - 3:30 P.M. - Hotel Ritz-Carlton, Green Room

Chairman: To be announced

Subject: INTERPRETATION OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Speaker: Miss Opal Boston, Consultant, Visiting Counselor Program  
State of Illinois

Subject: INTERPRETATION OF SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK TO THE COMMUNITY

Speaker: Mrs. Alfred Wilson, Board Member, Minneapolis  
(Mrs. Mary Wells, Board Member, and Mrs. Wilson will prepare  
the paper jointly)

Discussant: To be announced

Tuesday, April 25

4:00 - 5:30 P.M. - Hotel Ritz-Carlton, Green Room

Chairman: Miss Emilia Rannells, President

Membership business meeting

Thursday, April 27

2:00 - 3:30 P.M. - Hotel Chelsea, Room C

Chairman: To be announced

Subject: ELEMENTS OF SUPERVISION IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

Speaker: Miss Ruth Smalley, Professor of Social Case Work, University  
of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work

Discussant: Miss Margaret Carson, Supervisor, Department of Pupil Personnel  
and Counseling, Board of Public Education, Pennsylvania, Pa.

Thursday, April 27

4:00 - 5:30 P.M. - Hotel Chelsea, Room C

Discussion Leader: John Nebo, Consultant, Visiting Counselor Program,  
State of Illinois.

Subject: SYMPOSIUM ON CURRENT PROBLEMS IN SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

- (1) Certification Requirements as They Affect the Securing  
of Competent Personnel - Mildred Sikkema
- (2) Relating School Social Work Services to Other Special  
Services in the School - to be announced
- (3) Relating School and Community Services - to be  
announced

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On April 28, 9:30 - 11:00 A.M. a group meeting of the Social Case Work Section of the Conference will be devoted to school social work. Jane Wille will give the paper for this meeting. "Social Case Work With Children as Part of the Service of a School and a Court".

You will want to attend this meeting

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On Tuesday, April 25, at 7:00 P.M. the National Child Labor Committee has scheduled a dinner and program meeting. The topic for the program is "School Children No-body Knows: The Truant, the School Leaver, the Migrant Child". This program will also be of interest to you.

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The Association will have a consultation booth at the Conference.

**II. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN CONFERENCE, MARCH 19 - 23, Stevens Hotel, Chicago. Section Meeting - School Social Work**

Monday, March 20 - 2:15 P.M.

Chairman: Mildred Sikkema, NASSW

Co-Chairman: Miss Gertrude A. Baker, Psychologist in Charge  
Special Education Division, Erie, Pennsylvania

Subject: HELPING THE EXCEPTIONAL CHILD WITH SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS

Speaker: Miss Florence Poole, Associate Professor of Social Administration,  
School of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: Miss Opal Boston, Consultant, Visiting Counselor Program,  
State of Illinois

School Administrator; to be announced

Please tell your school people who plan to attend the Conference about this meeting.

**III. MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION OTHER CONFERENCES**

1. Annual Conference of Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Denver, Colorado, February 12-15, Hotel Shirley-Savoy. The theme of this annual conference is "Mental Health for Better Living". Dr. William C. Menninger will give the opening address. Approximately half the convention time will be given over to study and discussion groups. Mr. Arno Bellack, Executive Secretary of the ASCD has asked Mrs. Marguerite Robb, Visiting Teacher, Colorado Springs, and Mrs. Regina Collins, Supervisor, Visiting Teachers, Denver, to participate in the group on "The School's Responsibilities for Mental Health".

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2. The ASCD is sponsoring a meeting at Atlantic City (American Association of School Administrators Convention) in connection with the Superintendents Annual Meeting on February 26. The group will discuss problems of mental health in education. Mr. Bellack has invited Mr. Robert C. Taber, Director, Division of Pupil Personnel and Counseling, Board of Public Education, Philadelphia, to participate.

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3. On February 28 at the conference of the American Association of School Administrators in Atlantic City, a meeting is scheduled on "Removing the Causes of Non-School Attendance". Mildred Sikkema will be one participant. Information concerning others has not been received in the office.

**IV. SAMPLE FORMS FOR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS**

Because of the continuous inquiry concerning suggestions for forms we have mimeographed a set of simple forms which may be used as a guide. The office will be glad to send these on request. Included are: referral blank, monthly report blank, day sheet, master file card, annual report blank and a face sheet for beginning a record.

**V. AN EXPERIMENT IN SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

"Local Directors Association Organizes Study Course on Social Welfare for Grade and High Schools" is the title of an article in the November 1949 issue of Public Welfare (monthly journal of the American Public Welfare Association).

The article tells of a cooperative experiment between the State Department of Education and the Kansas County Welfare Directors Association. Material on social

**(An Experiment in School-Community Relations, continued)**

welfare services, services available to families and individuals, and on what needs are not being met by the current program has been organized into teaching units. These curriculum units are to be published in pamphlet form and there will be units starting with the fourth grade level and continuing through the secondary school curriculum.

The joint committee has had wide representation within education and social welfare and believes they have had an excellent opportunity to view the whole welfare program comprehensively and that it has had invaluable experience in learning the processes in curriculum construction, and of understanding the educator's point of view.

**VI. NOTES FROM THE FIELD**

1. Inter-Agency Policies, Salt Lake City. The Department of Pupil Personnel of the Salt Lake City Public Schools is in process of working out inter-agency policies and practices with other community agencies. They completed last year the policies and practices between the Department of Pupil Personnel and the Juvenile Court and Youth Bureau.

Some of the general principles established are basic and may be useful for other groups which are working on this area of cooperative working relationships. The general principles outlined as important are:

- a. That case workers in all agencies follow the accepted practices of sound social case work.
- b. That the function of each agency be clearly outlined and understood.
- c. That the role of the case worker and other personnel concerned with inter-agency relationships be defined.

There was recognition that in school cases, more than in any other type, more than one agency may have specific functions and relationships in the case. There was agreement that such cooperative working shall proceed as a result of case conferences by the agencies involved and common agreement as to the role and function of each.

To maintain such policies and to prevent duplication of services, the Department of Pupil Personnel has committed itself to the use of a selective registration with Social Service Exchange. The criteria established for this registration are:

- a. Cases requiring services which relate primarily to educational adjustment will not be registered.
- b. Cases which will be registered are serious behavior and personality problems of the individual; maladjustment or conflicts in the home producing social problems which interfere with the school progress of the individual; neglect of pupil by his family; persistent health problems which appear to be related to home conditions; financial problems requiring services of an agency; cases of persistent truancy; cases of exclusion from public schools because of mental inability to profit from instruction.

It is good to note also that when court referral seems indicated and is decided upon, a written summary must accompany the referral including information concerning the child and work which has been carried out by the school social worker.

2. Regional Meetings of Visiting Teachers in Virginia. During the past year various members of the State Department of Education attended regional meetings of the visiting teachers. Areas of the work which were planned for study during the year included: (a) studying children, (b) building desirable working relationships with school personnel, parents and others, (c) understanding the resources available to children in Virginia, (d) studying and discussing some professional material, and (e) understanding family relationships. Plans for the 1949-50 regional

(Notes From the Field, continued)

meetings have developed from the above and include (a) better understanding of good teaching procedures and what makes a good school program, (b) developing skill in working relationships with parents, teachers and others, (c) developing understanding of behavior.

3. The Association office participated (through questionnaire) in a study made on Community Councils and School Relations in Small Cities. (Walter Patterson, Massachusetts, for degree of Doctor of Education.)

An abstract of the study makes several recommendations concerning council-school relations which may be useful to school social workers in planning in your own communities. The study suggests both the need and desire for closer working together:

- a. Councils should have both student and faculty representatives who would report back to their groups.
- b. Councils should work cooperatively with the high school leaders in the development of units of work in the fields of community organization and welfare work.
- c. Councils may encourage schools to consider channeling requests and needs in order to make efficient and full use of community resources.
- d. Councils should welcome requests from school for solution of out-of-school problems and removal of community conditions which prevent proper education of youth.

4. Theses. The office is always desirous of having information concerning theses in the field of school social work. Elizabeth Lang has completed work on "An Analysis of the Statistics of the Visiting Teacher Department of the Minneapolis Public Schools for the School Year 1946-47".

VII. PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

"The Confidential Nature of Birth Records" (January 1949) is a statement of policy endorsed by the Children's Bureau and National Office of Vital Statistics. Copy of this leaflet may be obtained from the Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

"Preparing Your Child for School" by Hazel F. Gabbard, U.S. Office of Education should come to your attention for use with parents. The four parts are

- When Is a Child Ready for School?
- What Does the School Expect?
- How Can the Home Help a Child Make a Good School Adjustment?
- How Can Home and School Work Together?

(Pamphlet #108, Federal Security Agency, U.S. Office of Education, costs 15¢, from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.)

"How To Discipline Your Children" by Dorothy W. Baruch (Public Affairs Pamphlet #154, 20¢ from Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 22 E. 38th Street, New York 16, N.Y.) should be in your schools in quantity, for the use of teachers as well as parents. Material is simply and well presented concerning the feelings behind being "naughty", how we can use prevention, and how we can help a child to help himself. Includes suggestions as to how schools can help.

VIII. NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

The National Council on Social Work Education at its meeting in October appointed a committee on Structure for a Social Work Education Association. Committee assignment included development of (1) list of functions of such an organization, (2) list of organizational principles to be used in formulating plan for structure, and (3) several organizational plans to be considered by the Council and the whole social work field. The Committee has partially completed its assignment and will be prepared to present its report to the next meeting of the Council in February. Committee members are: A. H. Aronson (American Public Welfare Association), Chairman, Joseph P. Anderson (American Association of Social Workers), Leona Hambrecht (American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers), Ernest B. Harper (National Association of Schools of Social Administration), John Moore (National Social Welfare Assembly), Anna Marie Schindler (National Social Welfare Assembly), Sue Spencer (American Association of Schools of Social Work), Mildred Sikkema (National Association of School Social Workers).

IX. FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

A pamphlet giving the various types of social work fellowships and scholarships available in 1950-51 may be obtained from our office or from the American Association of Social Workers, same address as ours. This pamphlet gives such information for each of the schools of social work which are member schools of the American Association of Schools of Social Work.

X. MIDCENTURY WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

On November 29-30 representatives of more than 150 national scientific, community service, religious and civic organizations met with leaders of the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth to outline specific ways in which their programs and resources could be made most useful in the current nation wide citizens' effort to develop mental and emotional well being in children and youth.

Proposals for methods of participation were: to pool our knowledge and experience through a central council; to make available to the Conference fact finding studies, the benefit of special organizational findings related to mental health of children; to urge our members to work with local conference groups in helping to determine local needs and develop long term community projects, to sponsor group discussions within the membership on specific questions related to environmental influences in homes, schools, jobs and other aspects of community life.

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