

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FAMILY RELATIONS

Progress Report--June 1941

Although the National Conference on Family Relations is less than three years old, its members and subscribers to MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIVING totaled over 1,500 in 1940. Our goal for 1941 is 2,000. Our numerical growth, while striking, is merely one indication of the importance of our work. The development and activities of the 5 regional, 38 state, 1 territorial and 1 provincial organizations are impressive. Regional conferences meeting in 1941 are New England, July 16-18; Pacific Northwest, April 26-28 and Southern, June 26-28. States holding conferences this year are Alabama, June 26-28; Arizona, April 15, California: Pacific (northern), March 22-23, and Southern, March 15 and July; Indiana, April 11-12; Iowa, March 20-21; Michigan, July 19; New York, March 28-29; Ohio, March 25-26 and Virginia, June 12.

This growth of the National Conference has been due in large part to the high quality of its leadership and to the unstinting cooperation of members in time, effort and money. Our first president, Paul Sayre, professor of family law, Iowa State University, manifested vision, energy and devotion in its founding. Dr. Adolf Moyer, dean of American psychiatrists, as its second president, gave invaluable guidance in the formulation of the basic principles governing our activities. Under President Ernest R. Groves, pioneer in the study of family relations, the Conference is being stimulated to new levels of achievement.

In fact, our chief present limitation to further development is financial. Our budget approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting in Chicago limits expenditures to \$4,000 for the fiscal year 1941. Of this amount, \$1,150 is for printing and mailing of MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIVING, \$1,700 for salary of executive director and assistant in the office, \$200 for printing and mimeographing, \$200 for postage, \$350 for a deficit paid off the first part of this year and \$400 for other necessary expenses.

To meet these modest expenditures, it is estimated that we shall receive from membership dues and subscriptions to MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIVING \$3,200, leaving \$800 additional that must be raised. To balance the budget and to provide for necessary services, it is essential that we obtain this amount through the contributions of our members who, like yourself, understand the importance of our work.

Our anonymous donor has given a total of \$120 for the Life Membership Fund to apply on eight life memberships at one hundred dollars each, in honor of leaders in the development of the work of the National Conference. Your contribution will be applied to one of these life memberships at your request.

Our Fourth Annual Meeting will be held in New York City, December 29-31. The national committees are cooperating, under the leadership of President Groves, in planning the program on Family Preparedness. Topics include Legal Aspects of the Defense Program as They Affect Marriage and the Home, Problems of American Youth and National Defense, Economic Aspects of National Preparedness, Education for Marriage and Family Life as a Means of Strengthening National Security in the 1) Community, 2) High School and 3) College. Plan now to attend. Suggestions for advancing the work of the National Conference and of the regional and state organizations will be appreciated.