

## NEWS LETTER

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON FAMILY RELATIONS  
1219 University Avenue, S.E.  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

May 1957

Vol. 2 No. 3

IT'S PERSONAL, BUT SO IMPORTANT, TO NCFR The privilege of meeting with six State and Regional Councils has been your President's this year. At each of these meetings there have been many professions all devoted to the family. But, everywhere the low ratio of NCFR members to State or Regional affiliation has been painfully apparent. Your officers have worked mightily this year to renew "service to our State and Regional Councils from the National office". It costs like blazes to run a national office! Our only real income is from membership; members are our life blood. We want to count on each of you to help us keep old members and get new ones. "The Family" is worth it. On page four of this Letter you will find items from the February report to the Executive Committee and Board Members by Mrs. Ruth Jewson, our Secretary. They show some of the efforts being made to keep our Organization strong and growing.

SIGNALS CHANGED Harold Christensen, Editor of Marriage and Family Living, pointed out that it would be better to print our Constitution in the Journal after revisions had been accepted or rejected rather than before. We agreed, so it will not appear in the May issue as indicated in the last News Letter. Instead, we give here a statement from the Revision Committee:

"The revised Constitution (as it will be voted on at Purdue) involves the following changes, as well as minor modifications in language, in the interest of clarity.

1. The name of the Council is changed to agree with the name of the Journal and to provide a more positive emphasis than does the present name.
2. The office of vice president has had no function and is eliminated. The president elect serves in fact as vice president.
3. An attempt is made to establish a closer relationship between the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The terms of the elected members of the latter group are "staggered" to provide continuity.
4. The process of appointing an Executive Director is specified."

LOOK FORWARD to hearing a report from Future Plans Committee, headed by Wallace Fulton, at the Annual Meeting. It will blue print a hopeful next ten years for NCFR.

PAUL GRATKE IS CHAIRMAN of the Wisconsin Family Life Committee. He is responsible for many Adult Education activities of the Milwaukee Library. As one feature of this service he has compiled a nine page Pamphlet Sales List for 1957. The titles cover the entire range of Family Life concerns as well as a few others. One special feature of the list is a packet series called Growing Together. The four headings included in this series are: Discipline, Family Recreation, The Pre-School Child and Sex Education. Each of the packets cost \$2.00. The Milwaukee Public Library address is 814 West Wisconsin Avenue.

ERNEST W. BURGESS, Acting Director, Family Study Center, University of Chicago gave the initial address for the Illinois Council meeting at DeKalb, March 15, "Personality Goals and Roles of Family Members". Professor Burgess selected: (1) the decrease in the authority of the husband and fathers (2) the decline in the dominance of grandparents (3) the downgrading of parents (4) the irresponsibility of children and the helplessness of parents, and (5) parental uncertainty, as ways that social changes have affected the interpersonal relations and roles of the family members. Listeners characterized the presentation as "Splendid". Retiring President, Ben Timmons, introduced Ross Snyder of Chicago Theological Seminary, as new President.

THE 25TH NATIONAL CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE CONFERENCE was held in Milwaukee, March 19-21. Registration exceeded five hundred. The Parent received major attention in general sessions and discussion groups. They considered what parents need to know physically, emotionally and spiritually about pre-schoolers, elementary, high school and college students. Parents in large numbers participated. Directors of the Pre Cana and Cana Conferences from Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee and St. Louis indicated the rapid growth of these courses for marriage preparation and family strengthening. One of NCFR's Membership Development Committee, Msgr. Irving DeBlanc, Director of The Family Life Bureau was the program chairman.

"THE STATUS OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION for Adults in Minnesota" was the subject for panel discussion at the Annual Conference of the Minnesota Council. Francis Gamelin was Chairman. Two workshops "Getting Started in Family Life Education Programs" and "Sharpening Up in Family Life Education" followed the panel.

SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENTS of Council meetings in the March News Letter, complete programs of the Oklahoma and Pacific Northwest Conference have reached us. Blanche Portwood is President of the Oklahoma Council. Roberta C. Frasier heads the Pacific Northwest Conference.

NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTE PROPOSED Lelia Massey, Chairman Department of Home Economics, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio writes concerning a proposal prepared by a special committee of the American Home Economics Association to establish an independent agency within the Federal Government to be known as the Research Institute for the American Home. Endorsement has been given by the Family Service Association of America and the American Vocational Association. Miss Massey attended a Washington pre-legislation conference about the subject April 29. For a free brochure, "Needs in Research for The American Family", write A.H.E.A., Washington, D.C.

DID YOU GET YOUR COPY? Very favorable comments about the Program for the Annual Conference at Purdue, August 21-24, have been received. If you need another copy of the Preliminary Program which was mailed with the March News Letter, write either: Mr. Edward Z. Dager, Chm. Local Arrangements, Sociology Department, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, or Mrs. Ruth Jewson, Administrative Secretary, National Council on Family Relations, 1219 University Avenue, S. E., Minneapolis 14, Minnesota.

OUR SINCERE THANKS to Ted Johannis, Curtis Avery and the E. C. Brown Trust for publishing and mailing this News Letter. (Just for the record, the Trustees of the Clara Elizabeth Fund for Maternal Health, Flint, Michigan and its staff produced and mailed the first two Letters this year).

REVEREND J. C. WYNN has recently been appointed Director of Family Life Education Research for the Board of Christian Education for the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Roy W. Fairchild, formerly Professor of Psychology at Occidental College and Mr. Wynn have laid out an ambitious program of primary and secondary family research preparatory to making suggestions regarding family program and curriculum. Both men are NCFR members.

FRIENDS OF WILLIAM GENNE' will be interested to learn of his appointment as Director of the Department of Family Life of the National Council of Churches, a newly created position. He will work with all denominational representatives as they plan and develop church family programs. Mr. Genne' has been a staff member of the Clara Elizabeth Fund, Flint, for over five years. His recent book, "Husbands and Pregnancy" has had a wide and popular reception.

HAVE YOU SENT IN your reservation and registration for the Annual meeting? It should go to NCFR Conference Comptroller's Office - Adult Education, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. (Blank was enclosed with Preliminary Program).

#### WORKSHOPS - COURSES - CONFERENCES

JUNE 7 - JULY 26 The American University, Washington, D. C., is offering a course in Marriage and Family Counseling, summer session, 1957. 3 hours of graduate credit. For information write The American University or Mrs. Patricia Schiller, Marriage Counselor at the Washington Legal Aid Bureau.

JUNE 17 Bert Glassberg, M. D. a member of our Board of Directors, tells us the St. Louis Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools announces a six weeks course at Harris Teachers College designed to teach teachers, physicians, nurses or other persons associated with a school system how to teach Personal and Family Living. It will include aspects of emotional development, personality integration, the evidences of maturity, sex as a facet of the total personality, personal and interpersonal relationships, and preparation for marriage. The course called Personal and Family Living has been endorsed by the Mental Health Authority of the State of Missouri. It will be taught by Dr. Glassberg and guest lecturers. For information write Registrar, Harris Teachers College, 5351 Enright St., St. Louis 12.

JUNE 17-21 Roy S. Dickerson, Executive Secretary, Cincinnati Social Hygiene Society writes that he and Dr. Paul Popenoe will direct a workshop in Family Life Education this summer at Stout State Teachers College, Minomonie, Wisconsin.

JUNE 28-JULY 9 George A. Douglas, Charlotte City Schools, informs us of A Workshop in Personal and Family Living jointly sponsored by East Carolina College, Greenville, North Carolina and The American Social Hygiene Association; open to students with senior or graduate standing; three quarter hours credit.

JULY 1 - JULY 12 Richard K. Kerckhoff and John W. Hudson will conduct a Family Life Workshop for high school teachers of family oriented classes. Subjects considered: the contemporary family, goals of family life education, teaching methods, review of new textbooks, use of current research, use of counseling, etc. Write Merrill-Palmer School, 71 East Ferry, Detroit 2, Michigan.

AUGUST 20-30 The Central Council for Health Education, Medical Director, Dr. John Burton, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London W C 1, England announces an international study conference in Health Education. Subject: "The Promotion of Health and the Techniques of Health Education".

FALL Gerhard Neubeck announces a seminar on the dynamics of marriage called Psychology of Marriage. It will be offered in the fall by the Psychology Department, University of Minnesota.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Part of the February Report from our Secretary to the Board of Directors:

"Letters of invitation signed by Dr. Reuben Hill and Dr. Clifford Kirkpatrick, were sent to all family sociologists who are not already members of NCFR; and to graduate students specializing in marriage and the family.

During February, 196 letters of invitation were sent to general prospective new members. We issued invitations to executives of Family Services who are not already members.

Mr. Treat sent 18 personal membership invitations to members of the Planning and Program Committees of the Illinois Congress on Maternal Welfare.

Dr. Johannis sent names of 46 members of the National Society for the Study of Communication whom he invited to join the NCFR.

As a result of the letters sent in January to professors, suggesting that their students become members of NCFR, we had the following results:

Dr. Mangus	5	Dr. Blood	12
Dr. Clark Vincent	4	Helen Barthel (Columbia)	1
Dr. Esther McGinnis	5	Dr. Jud Landis	14

The February Journal contained a tear sheet for expiring members which they could send in with their membership. By March 7, 28 had come back accompanied by checks.

47 membership cards have come back as a result of the letter telling members that their membership had expired with the February issue.

We sent a postcard notification to the 280 members whose membership expired with the November Journal."

TEACHERS KIT Mrs. Dorothy Dyer is bringing the Bibliography in the present Teachers Kit up-to-date. 96 of the Kits were sold in 1956.

WISH WE COULD let you know who your next officers will be. The April 1 deadline for this Letter makes that impossible. Come to Purdue; they will be introduced there.