

Editorial Comment

Our Society waits at the brink of a new horizon, like a gigantic tide ready to be set in motion. All that is needed is someone to start it rolling and stick with it long enough for it to start gathering speed. We need a definite course of commitment. With togetherness in training and educational standards, which can come through us, or will come through someone else, we should be able to get the ball rolling. We have the chance to bring it through us and the time is now.

Education is lifelong; every day, every month, every year, step by step—a person learns, feels the desire to learn and is given the opportunity. In the world now emerging, no one knows what tomorrow will bring, so we must equip every man to be the master of his profession and the controller of his own destiny. If our purpose is to advance the limitless horizons of our profession, there can be no interregnum, no hiatus in this upward, onward march. The measure of a society is not determined by an individual's personal success or failure but by that society's constancy in the search for truth which answers the needs of everyone.

1970 has been designated International Education Year by the U.N. General Assembly. Its purpose is to promote action on four main objectives: 1) to take stock of the present situation throughout the world; 2) to focus attention on a number of major requirements for both the expansion of education and the improvement of existing education programs; 3) to make greater resources available for education; and 4) to strengthen international cooperation.

Education means acquiring knowledge and developing skills, but other implications are understanding the nature and purpose, finding forms of work and service, and establishing a scale of values by which individuals can live

and work with other people. Also, of course, education is a satisfying experience in itself.

In a world of rapid changes, people must adjust to stresses and strains. Many cannot do this without help. Personal counselling services under skilled leadership support people in times of difficulty and enable them to solve problems. These things can be accomplished by the following:

- 1) an extension of dialogue between members;
- 2) dialogues involving different but similar professions;
- 3) programs that will focus attention on the needs and neglected problems of society and as a result help us overcome our disadvantages;
- 4) a review of our own educational and training activities to determine whether they meet our needs and to see how they can be expanded and improved;
- 5) calling attention to uniform standards throughout the profession;
- 6) the display and distribution of folders and materials;
- 7) making full use of our services and information and sharing it with others;
- 8) developing local studies and conducting educational consultations and seminars;
- 9) providing and inviting speakers.

Because this has been set aside as International Education Year by the U.N. General Assembly and because we, the members of AmSect, are in need of national standards of educational procedures and programs—I feel that our organization must do as much as is possible to set the tide in motion and keep it moving.

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