

THE COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION EDUCATION

THREE years ago Mr. Darling, as president of the National Wildlife Federation, and its executive board asked Dr. Henry B. Ward to assume the position of chairman of a new committee. Conservation education had been proclaimed as the primary objective of the federation and he undertook to devote his time to the promotion of this objective.

The work is carried by a small committee of official members and an informal advisory board of approximately 1,000 teachers and leaders in educational circles. These informal advisers are distributed over the length and breadth of the United States. They were willing to aid the promotion of a genuine educational movement, but did not desire to have their names and addresses published, since that would inevitably lead to added correspondence, discussion and perhaps extended argument which they felt could not be handled without waste of time and energy as well as probably also unfortunate interference with their professional duties and obligations in other directions. The work has been carried on actively, but with relatively little publicity.

The first public undertaking was a conference on education in conservation held at the annual meeting of the National Wildlife Federation in Detroit on February 16, 1939. The record of this conference is given in the first pamphlet issued by the committee. It contained the keynote address of the campaign, by Thomas Eliot Benner, dean of the college of education, University of Illinois. This, which outlined a general plan of action and sequence of steps that should be taken to achieve satisfactory results, was followed in the pamphlet by half a dozen brief comments on special movements in conservation education at different points.

A year later at the Washington meeting of the federation a round table discussion was held which with a report of progress by the chairman was printed as the second pamphlet, which opens with a report on the year's work directed towards reaching conclusions on the problems set forth in Dean Benner's address. In the pamphlet this report was followed by brief comments and criticisms.

The third publication took the form of a symposium on "The Foundations of Conservation Education." It assumed the proportions of a book and constitutes the first educational contribution on this topic which has appeared.

A fourth publication entitled "Teaching Conservation in the Public Schools" has been prepared. Its printing and distribution will be carried out as soon as conditions permit.

Colored stamps, portraying types of life, both plants and animals, are issued in sheets every year in connection with the celebration of National Wildlife Week, designated by the President. Leaflets and pamphlets dealing with individual problems or projects of interest to the lover of nature and with fishing and hunting are issued irregularly and distributed on request. Unique grade school booklets have been prepared by a group of successful teachers and printed in attractive form for use in grades three to eight of the public school system.

Full information on work of the federation may be secured from the business office of the National Wildlife Federation, 1212 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

THE RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS

DR. A. R. OLPIN, director of the Research Foundation of the Ohio State University, has been appointed chairman of the Research Advisory Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers, which met for the first time under its new chairman in New York City on September 10. Dr. Olpin succeeds Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has resigned because of the pressure of other war work in which he is now engaged. Matters on the agenda for the New York meeting included proposals for the exchange of information by universities and research institutes and coordination of research activities in connection with the war effort.

Dr. Olpin has been director of the Research Foundation since 1938. In that work he now has the responsibility of administering research contracts amounting to well over a million dollars annually. In addition he serves as consultant to several war committees in Washington.

Other members of the National Association of Manufacturers Research Advisory Committee include Dr. Henry A. Barton, the American Institute of Physics, New York; C. W. Good, the Department of Engineering Research, University of Michigan; Dr. Ross G. Harrison, National Research Council; G. Stanley Meikle, Purdue Research Foundation, Lafayette, Ind.; Dr. R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology; Dr. F. R. Moulton, the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Dr. George R. Pegram, Columbia University; Nat Sage, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Raymond Stevens, Arthur D. Little, Inc.; Dr. E. R. Weidlein, Mellon Institute of Industrial Research; Dr. John T. Tate, University of Minnesota; Julius Weinberger, Radio Corporation of America, New York City.