

Our Improving Relations With Land Grant Colleges

By Burton W. DeVeau,

Director, Eastern Region

On March 11 and 12, 1955, 31 men representing 18 colleges from 11 states met at Warrensburg, Missouri, to discuss mutual problems relating to the teaching of agriculture. During this meeting the participants formed three discussion groups. The topics assigned to these discussion groups were: "What are our functions and whom shall we serve?", "What is our program?" and "What is our relationship with land grant colleges?" A result of this meeting was the birth of the National Association of College Teachers of Agriculture. Since this first meeting, the NACTA has been actively participating in improving the relations between its member schools and the land grant colleges of agriculture. It is the purpose of this report to cite the milestones in our constantly improving relations with the land grant colleges of agriculture.

At the second annual meeting of NACTA, two guests from the Soil Conservation Service, Howard C. Jackson, Deputy State Conservationist, Missouri and Harold Grogger, Soil Scientist, Missouri spoke to the membership. This was an attempt by the NACTA program committee to introduce workers, in the field, with land grant college training background to the faculty of NACTA schools. This attempt was very successful and was followed up in successive annual meetings by inviting state education leaders and land grant college faculty and administrators to serve as guest speakers.

Historically, the following have served as guest speakers at annual NACTA meetings. Dr. Ralph T. Green, Director, Texas Commission on Higher Education spoke at the third annual meeting. Mr. Arch Ford, Arkansas Education Commissioner spoke at the fourth annual meeting. Also speaking at this meeting was Dr. J. Carroll Bottum, Assistant Head, Agricultural Economics, Purdue University. Attending the fifth annual meeting was Dr. Henry Brunner, Agriculture Education Specialist, U. S. Office of Education.

Dr. E. R. Kiehl, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Missouri spoke at the sixth annual conference. True D. Morse, former Under Secretary of Agriculture, USDA, and Dr. R. C. Potts, Director of Agricultural Instruction, Texas A and M College spoke at the seventh annual conference. Dr. Fred N. Briggs, Dean of Agriculture, University of California participated in the eighth annual conference as a member of a panel group. The participation of these leaders in agriculture representing the land grant colleges at the annual NACTA conference has contributed greatly to the improvement of relations between NACTA schools and the land grant colleges of agriculture.

At their annual meeting in 1937 the American Association of Land Grant Colleges and State Universities, Division of Agriculture appointed a committee on Relationships with Non-Land-Grant Colleges Teaching Agriculture. The members of this committee were F. N. Briggs, California; N. D. Peacock, Tennessee; P. R. Poffenberger, Maryland; S. B. Shirky, Missouri and F. E. Eldridge, Nebraska, Chairman. The function of this committee was to discover the role of non-land grant departments of agriculture and to recommend ways in which all colleges offering agriculture could cooperate together.

The author was invited to speak at the 1958 annual meeting of the AALGCSU on November 11 in Washington, D.C. on the following topic, "A Look at the Land Grant Agricultural Colleges by a Non-Land Grant Staff Member."* Before addressing the association the author met with the Relationship Committee to discuss relations between the two associations. A report of this meeting is given in the **Proceedings of the Fifth Annual Conference, NACTA.**

Following the 1960 annual meeting of the AALGCSU and the efforts of Dr. Roy Joe Stuckey, Wilmington College; Dr. Henry Brunner, U. S. Of-

*A copy of this address may be obtained by writing to the author at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio.

office of Education; Dr. Eldridge and Dr. Briggs a meeting of representatives of the NACTA and the AALGCSU was held at the College of Business Administration, St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri on July 21, 1961. Representing the NACTA were: B. W. DeVeau, Ohio U.; M. H. Folk, Jr.; Louisiana Polytechnic Institute; G. C. Schowengerdt, S.W. Mo St.; and Roy Joe Stuckey, Wilmington College. Representing the AALGCSU were: F. E. Eldridge, Nebraska; F. N. Briggs, California; N. D. Peacock, Tennessee; and S. B. Shirky, Missouri. Dr. H. S. Brunner also participated. F. E. Eldridge served as chairman. B. W. DeVeau served as secretary.

Topics discussed at this meeting were:

1. Transfer and substitution of credits.
2. General agriculture.
3. Relation of extension to NACTA schools.
4. Improving communications with experimental personnel for advanced data.
5. Using NACTA facilities for cooperative experiments.
6. Problems of recognition and stigmas of "accreditation."
7. Increased emphasis on science and business in agriculture curricula.
8. Survey of curriculum patterns.
9. How to continue liaison.

It was decided at this meeting to hold a joint committee meeting annually in Chicago in connection with the AALGCSU Resident Instruction meetings held each April to discuss mutual problems. A complete description of this first meeting is given in the August, 1961 issue of the **NACTA Journal**.*

A second meeting of the joint committee was held in Chicago, Illinois in the Conference Room of the Farm Foundation on April 25, 1962.* Representing the NACTA were: M. H. Folk, Jr., La. Tech; B. W. DeVeau, Ohio U.; R. J. Stuckey, Wilmington, Ohio and D. O. Robinson, Arizona State. Representing the AALGCSU were: P. R. Poffenberger, Maryland; R. S. Wheeler, Georgia; and F. N. Briggs, California. Dr. Henry Brunner, U. S. Office of Education, also participated in this meeting. Dean Briggs served as coordinating chairman. B. W. DeVeau served as secretary.

Topics discussed at this meeting were:

1. Transfer of credit.
2. Curriculum improvement problems.
3. What happens to our graduates?
4. Dissemination of information.
5. Future activities.

An important result of these two meetings has been an official invitation by both associations to each other to have official delegates attend regional and national meetings. For example, at the 1961 NACTA convention the land grant college group was represented by Dr. R. C. Potts of Texas A&M College and at the 1962 NACTA convention Dean F. N. Briggs of the University of California was the official land grant college representative. An official representative at the 1963 NACTA convention from the land grant group will be from Kansas State University.

The AALGCSU has asked President Stuckey to suggest several representatives to attend its regional meetings this spring. As a result of this request Dr. T. J. Stanly will attend the Southern Regional AALGCSU meeting in St. Louis, Missouri on April 3; Dean Lloyd Dowler the Western Regional meeting in Corallis, Oregon on April 3 and 5; Dr. B. W. DeVeau and Dr. R. J. Stuckey the Eastern Regional

meeting in New York City on April 9 and 10; and Dr. Karls the Central Regional meeting at North Dakota State College on April 16 and 17.

The third meeting of the joint Liaison Committee will be held at the Farm Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, April 25. Representing the NACTA will be: B. W. DeVeau, Chairman, M. H. Folk, Jr., G. E. Karls, D. O. Robinson, T. J. Stanly and R. J. Stuckey. Persons having specific problems they would like to have the Liaison Committee undertake should contact these representatives prior to or at the annual NACTA Conference to be held in Fort Hays, Kansas, March 31, April 1 and 2. This group will have scheduled meetings at the annual conference to discuss the agenda at the joint meeting.

*Minutes of these meetings can be obtained from Dr. DeVeau.

NEWS ITEMS

POSITIONS WANTED

SAM E. CURL: August graduate (1963), Ph.D., Animal Husbandry from A&M College of Texas, with major work in Physiology of Reproduction and minors in Beef Cattle Production and Veterinary Anatomy. May be contacted through the department of Animal Husbandry, A&M College of Texas, College Station, Texas.

ALFRED J. GIANFAGNA: 228 Braduley Avenue, State College, Penna. Presently Extension Floriculture Specialist, Penna. State. B.S. and M.S. from Cornell. B.S. degree in floriculture and ornamental horticulture and M.S. in ornamental horticulture, minor in plant physiology and agronomy. Contact Mr. Gianfagna at the above address.

Ohio University, Athens, Ohio has received an additional \$9,950.00 technical assistance grant from the Area Redevelopment Administration to supplement the original \$70,000.00 grant to make a feasibility study of commercial tourism in Hocking County, Ohio, according to Dr. Burton W. DeVeau, Director Technical Assistance Project and Head of the Agriculture Department of Ohio University, Athens.

Dr. T. R. Buie, Director of the Agriculture Department of Southwest Texas State College, San Marcos, Texas and a past president of NACTA has accepted a two-year assignment on the island of Taiwan (Formosa). His location will be at Chung Hsing University. He received this assignment through Michigan State University. His mailing address: AID Branch Office, APO 93 Box 104, San Francisco, California. He has promised us an article for a future issue of the Journal on Agricultural and Educational Conditions in Taiwan.

Dr. Lawrence Morris, Professor of Animal Husbandry, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, suffered a heart attack on his way home from the convention last year. He has not completely recovered and expresses his doubts as to being able to attend this year's conference in Hays. His compliments on the December issue of the Journal were greatly appreciated by the staff, as were all the others we received.