The Progress of the National Council for the Social Studies

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY, EDGAR DAWSON.

In the December, 1922, issue of The Historical Outlook the plans of the National Council were outlined under the following headings:

I. The proposed amendments to the constitution.
II. The organization which would result from the amendments.
III. The relation of The Historical Outlook to the Council.
IV. The work planned for the Council.
   1. To inform the public as to the social studies.
   2. To survey the status and outlook for these studies.
   3. To list the outstanding efforts to improve these studies.
V. The financial condition of the organization.

It is most gratifying to report at this time that real progress has been made in all of the items listed.

I. THE AMENDED CONSTITUTION

The amendments then proposed were adopted at the annual meeting held in Cleveland on February 24, 1923, and the constitution now reads as follows:

I. NAME. This organization shall be known as THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES. The expression "social studies" as here used includes history, economics, government, sociology, and geography.

II. OBJECT. The purpose of this organization is to promote the association and co-operation of teachers of the social studies and of school administrators, supervisors, teachers of education, and others who are interested in obtaining from the social studies the maximum results in education for citizenship. The National Council will especially undertake to stimulate and encourage study and investigation, experiment and research, concerning problems of teaching the social studies; and to serve as an agency for disseminating information and promoting discussion in a scientific spirit, but without endorsing any particular program of studies or pedagogical method.

III. MEMBERSHIP, DUES, MEETINGS.

1. Any person in sympathy with the purpose of the National Council may become a member of the National Council on approval of the Executive Committee and the payment of the annual dues.

2. The annual dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee, but until otherwise ordered the annual dues shall be $1.00 a year.

3. The regular annual business meeting of the National Council shall be held in connection with the annual meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association unless otherwise directed by vote of the National Council or of the Executive Committee, and announced to the members at least a month prior to the date of the meeting.

IV. ORGANIZATION.

1. The officers shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and a Corresponding Secretary. They shall be elected for one year, at the annual business meeting; and they shall perform the duties commonly pertaining to their respective offices.

2. There shall be a Board of Directors composed of the four elected officers of the National Council, the Editor of the Historical Outlook, and representatives of designated organizations devoted to special fields of scholarship and of professional interest. It shall be the duty of this Board to exercise, under the authority of the National Council, general supervision and control of business affairs and of enterprises and activities undertaken to promote the purposes for which the National Council is organized. Until otherwise directed by the National Council, the Board of Directors shall be composed of representatives designated by the following organizations (one from each):
   American Historical Association.
   American Political Science Association.
   American Sociological Society.
   National Council of Geography Teachers.
   National Council of History Teachers.
   The Elementary, Secondary, and Teachers College Sections of the National Education Association.
   The National Society of College Teachers of Education.
   The regional associations of teachers of history and civics for New England, the Middle States and Maryland, the Mississippi Valley, the Southern States, and the Pacific Coast.

3. There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the four officers and six additional members elected for one year by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee, subject to instruction by the Board of Directors or of the National Council, shall plan and arrange for meetings, investigations, and other means and measures for realizing the purposes for which the National Council is organized; and for these purposes, the Executive Committee, subject to instruction by the Board of Directors or of the National Council, may appoint or authorize the appointment of committees, may appropriate money from the Treasury, and may fill vacancies that may occur in its membership.

4. The Executive Committee shall appoint in advance of the annual business meeting a nominating committee of three members, who shall submit to the National Council nominations for all offices to be filled by election at the annual business meeting; but additional nominations from the floor shall be in order.

V. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION. This Constitution may be amended at any annual business meeting by a majority vote of the members present; but proposed amendments must be in the hands of the Secretary in writing at least a month in advance of the annual business meeting, and must be by him announced to the members with the program of the annual meeting.