

# News and Comments

## *Affairs of the Society*

The 1986 meeting of the History of Education Society was held in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Historians of Education October 17–19. The meeting was held at Stanford University and was hosted by David Tyack.

The Nominating Committee reported that Ellen Condliffe Lagemann had been elected vice president and that Maris A. Vinovskis had been elected to the Board of Directors. The committee also announced the approval of a constitutional amendment changing the membership year of the Society from July 1–June 30 to January 1–December 31.

The Prize Committee announced that the History of Education Society Award for the best article on the history of education published in any journal in the past two years was to be presented to Kathleen C. Berkeley, of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, for her essay “‘The Ladies Want to Bring about Reform in the Public Schools’: Public Education and Women’s Rights in the Post–Civil War South,” which was published in the *History of Education Quarterly* 24 (Spring 1984).

President Joan N. Burstyn reported that her survey of Society members had revealed very heavy involvement of historians of education in current debates about educational reform.

The Board of Directors announced that the next annual meeting would be held in the East. Details will be announced in *The Network*.

## *Meetings of the International Standing Conference*

The Ninth Session of the International Standing Conference for the History of Education will be held at the Janus Pannonius University in Pécs, Hungary, August 31–September 3, 1987. The general theme of the conference is the history of international relations in education. The main topics will be the history of the influence and reception of educational ideas in different countries, the history of the adoption of foreign educational systems, methods, and organizational forms in different countries, and the history of international organizations in the field of education.

Held in conjunction with this meeting will be the Fourth Meeting of the International Standing Working Group for the History of Early Childhood Education, August 27–29, and the Second Meeting of the International Standing Working Group for the History of Education and the Enlightenment, August 29–31.

The official language for all these meetings is English, with German and French as complementary languages.

Further information may be obtained from the conference president, Professor Sándor Komlósi, Institute of Education, Janus Pannonius University, Ifjuság utja 6., Pécs H-7604, Hungary.

### **Report of the Editor**

The following report was given by B. Edward McClellan at the annual meeting of the History of Education Society, 18 October 1986.

When we gathered last year for our annual meeting, the *Quarterly* was undergoing two transitions. One transition had begun in New York with the decision to computerize the *Quarterly's* business operations. Many of the problems connected with that transition had been worked out by the New York University staff, but some remained. Dues notices for 1985 had not been sent, and the names of some members and institutional subscribers had been hidden away in a data base that seemed to yield its secrets only when the mood struck.

The second transition, of course, was the movement of the *Quarterly* from New York University to Indiana University. This was a considerably smoother process, although the task of moving an operation of this complexity is never without its challenges.

To compound the problems of transition, the company that had been doing the typesetting of the *Quarterly* declared bankruptcy and closed its doors in the midst of producing our winter issue. Thus, just as we were about to bring the *Quarterly* back onto its publication schedule, we were forced to find another typesetter.

By early spring we had surmounted all of these difficulties, and both transitions were essentially complete. Since then we have encountered few special problems. Library subscriptions have increased from 913 in 1985 to 943 (a gain of 3 percent), and individual memberships have increased from 324 to 441 (a gain of 36 percent).

While wrestling with the peculiar problems of transition, we have also worked during the past year to redesign the *Quarterly* and take it in some new editorial directions. Although we had a high regard for the previous design, we decided to adopt a new look. With the help of a professional designer, we chose a whiter and thicker paper, a heavier cover, and a new typeface. We also decided to use photographs with articles whenever the authors could supply them. We have continued to fine-tune the design with each issue. With the summer issue, for example, we began to apply a varnish to the cover to prevent fingerprinting during

heavy use; with the fall issue we changed the type size of the reviews and review essays from nine point to ten point to make those parts of the journal more readable. We expect to make further changes as we go along. The cover color will change with each volume year.

Our major departure in the realm of editorial policy has been to rely less heavily on review essays and to assign more single-book reviews. We have moved in this direction for two reasons: First, by assigning each book for review as it comes in, we are able to insure more timely reviews. Second, single-book reviews are far more likely to be completed than are essay reviews.

During the past year, we have published six issues. The spring-summer and fall issues of 1985 were edited in New York. The winter issue contained only articles and reviews selected by the New York staff but was copyedited and produced by the Bloomington staff. The spring, summer, and fall 1986 issues have all contained a combination of materials selected by the New York and Bloomington staffs, and the same will be true of the next two issues. We are pleased that several articles have drawn extended notice in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Since assuming responsibility for the selection of articles in May of 1985, we have reviewed and acted on nearly 150 manuscripts. We have had many good submissions and have often found it difficult to choose from among them. We have been able to reach a decision on articles in an average of ten weeks and to publish them within six to nine months of acceptance.

In this same period we have assigned more than eighty books for review. We have been extremely pleased with the willingness of scholars to review for the *Quarterly* and very impressed with the quality of reviews they have produced.

As our financial report indicates, both income and expenditures were unusually high last year. The income was high because the Society collected both 1985 and 1986 dues during the fiscal year and because the *Quarterly* was able to collect several outstanding bills from institutional subscribers and to sell a number of indexes. The expenditures were high because we had to pay for five issues, to purchase several pieces of office equipment, to send out several large mailings, and to purchase back issues needed to fill library orders.

As we look to the future, I am pleased to report that we will have the help of several new members on the editorial board. They are: Edward R. Beauchamp, Linda L. Clark, Lynn D. Gordon, Jurgen Herbst, John L. Rury, Michael W. Sedlak, Maxine Schwartz Seller, Harold Silver, and Julia Wrigley. I look forward to working with them and am grateful to them for their willingness to serve.

I would be remiss if I did not end this report by paying tribute to several people who made unusual contributions to the work of the *Quarterly* in the past year. Amy C. Schutt has supervised every phase of our production, from copyediting to final printing, has kept our financial records, and has handled our relations with a range of other agencies including the copyright office and the postal service. Diana L. Bush has supervised membership and subscription services. She has responded to countless claims and inquiries, has filled dozens of orders for indexes and back issues, has completely reorganized subscription records, and has even coaxed several idiosyncrasies from our computer program.

Outside the office, I have had the good advice of a superb editorial board and of dozens of others who have evaluated manuscripts for us. Several members of the board have now completed their terms, and I want to pay special tribute to them. They are: Joyce Antler, Suzanne Wilson Barnett, Arthur Engel, Joan Burstyn, Robert Engs, Marvin Lazerson, David Tyack, W. Paul Vogt, and Jennings Wagoner. I am sure Paul Mattingly and James McLachlan would want to join me in thanking them for their years of service to the *Quarterly*.

Finally, I am grateful to the officers and members of the Society. We have had nothing but the warmest support during the past year, and this has made editing the *Quarterly* a joy as well as a privilege.

### Quarterly *Financial Report*

#### Fiscal Year 1985/86

##### *Income*

Individual memberships ( <i>HEQ</i> share, 2 years)	\$11,828.00
Institutional subscriptions	42,725.10
Sale of indexes and back issues	1,852.95
Microfilm royalties	346.10
Sale of mailing list	321.75
Interest	1,389.36
Miscellaneous	126.00
	58,589.26

##### *Adjustments to Income*

Refunds and currency adjustments	(162.96)
Total Income	58,426.30

*Expenditures*

Printing/Mailing (5 issues)	\$33,525.24
Salary, wages, and benefits	14,922.26
Consultants	350.00
Office supplies	2,356.15
Office postage	2,269.70
Equipment (2 typewriters, 1 printer)	1,769.00
Repairs and maintenance	526.05
Photoduplication	413.37
Telephone	481.24
Purchase of back issues	632.00
Miscellaneous fees	314.86
Total Expenditures	<hr/> 57,559.87
Net income	866.43