

SESSION HELD FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS

At the Meeting House of the Society for Ethical Culture

On Saturday, October 26, at 5 P. M.

Chairman, JAMES S. HIATT

Secretary Public Education Association, Philadelphia

Mr. O. M. MILLER, Educational Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of Cleveland, Ohio, extended an invitation to the Conference to hold its next meeting, or the meeting of the National Association proposed to be formed, at Cleveland.

No formal action was taken on the invitation.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have had too much of interest in our discussions during the week to permit the possibility of further developments to pass by. With that in mind, Superintendent STEVENS announced an Organization Committee two days ago. That Committee consisted of MRS. BRYANT B. GLENNY of Boston, DR. ARTHUR D. DEAN of Albany, New York, Principal JESSE B. DAVIS of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Miss HENRIETTA RODMAN of New York, who withdrew in favor of MR. MEYER BLOOMFIELD of Boston, and DR. BENJAMIN C. GRUENBERG. Since MR. GRUENBERG is Secretary of that Committee, I will ask him to present the report.

MR. GRUENBERG: The Committee had only two formal meetings, but had several informal conferences. Each member has conferred with several people not on the Committee, and we have made a conscientious attempt to canvass the sentiment in regard to organization. The first suggestion was for a national society along the usual formal lines, but we have come to the conclusion that such an organization is not at this time the most desirable, for a variety of reasons.

It seems to your committee that the Vocational Guidance movement can best be furthered through the establishment by this conference of a general committee of a number to be decided upon—we will call it x members. That committee should represent workers from different parts of the country and from different fields of activity. This general committee should be left to complete its own organization and to establish its own executive machinery. It should be empowered to call another National Conference at such time and place as it may deem wise, and it should be authorized to collect funds for its necessary expenses.

On account of the large field and the shortness of the time, this Committee begs to recommend further that a nominating committee of

seven members be elected this afternoon from the floor, by the conference. That this committee be instructed to nominate additional members to complete the number decided upon, and that these seven themselves shall constitute a part of the general committee. And finally, that this general committee be instructed to carry out the spirit of these resolutions as embodied in this report.

MR. O'KEEFE: I move that the report of the Secretary be adopted as the sense of this meeting.

MISS BARROWS: I second the motion.

MISS CAMPBELL: I wish to hasten the meeting a little by endorsing that, and asking if they would accept as an amendment that the present committee be kept in office as the nominating committee, instead of our going into an election or appointment from the floor, with the further suggestion that this nominating committee be empowered to include themselves in the general committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: MISS CAMPBELL'S suggestion is that the original committee should stand for the nominating committee. The report of the committee is that seven members shall be nominated here and now.

MR. O'KEEFE: I decline to accept that amendment.

MR. WEAVER: I would like to offer this as an amendment. It seems to me that we would largely widen the influence of this agitation if this would be brought under the scope and influence of the National Education Association. A section on Vocational Guidance of the National Education Association would mean more than a special organization. It would have the prestige of that organization.

I would like to amend, that when the organization committee begins its deliberations that a recommendation be made that this organization be made a branch of the National Education Association.

MR. DAVIS: I make the point of order that the report of the committee leaves the power to determine this matter entirely in the hands of the committee that we are considering. In other words, I think that ought to be a separate motion.

The original motion was then put and was carried unanimously.

MR. GRUENBERG: I beg to call the attention of the conference to the fact that the report of the committee is a blank report. The number of the proposed general committee is x members. I put twenty into the draft simply as a point of focus. You may determine that number or any other number that appears desirable, but you have not adopted a number in this motion.

MR. O'KEEFE: I move that twenty be the number of the committee.

The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

The following nominations were then made for a committee of seven:

MISS M. EDITH CAMPBELL, Cincinnati, Ohio.

MR. ELI W. WEAVER, New York City.

DR. WILLIAM WIENER, Newark, N. J.

MR. MEYER BLOOMFIELD, Boston, Mass.

MR. J. G. OLMSTEAD, New York City.

MR. JESSÉ B. DAVIS, Grand Rapids, Mich.

MR. ARTHUR D. DEAN, Albany, N. Y.

MISS BARROWS: I move that the nominations be closed.

Motion seconded.

The motion to close nominations was put and carried unanimously.

MR. O'KEEFE: I now move that these seven be deemed the regularly elected members under the resolution which has been adopted.

The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

MR. WEAVER: I move a vote of thanks to the local committee, which has done the work of organizing and bringing together this meeting.

The motion was seconded.

A DELEGATE: I would like to include in that motion a vote of thanks to all those who have spoken to us at this conference.

The mover and seconder of the original motion accepted the suggestion made.

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion is that a hearty vote of thanks be extended to the central committee for gathering the group together for discussion, and to those who have spoken to us here.

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

MR. GRUENBERG: I wish to call attention to the fact that the group of seven which is now empowered to carry out the rest of the purpose of this conference has not been provided with any means of organizing, and that it would be appropriate to name either a chairman or secretary for the purpose of its original organization.

MR. O'KEEFE: I move that MR. WEAVER act as temporary chairman of the Committee of Seven.

The motion was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN: The chair would suggest that as four of the seven members of the committee are present they get together for a moment at least.

MR. WEAVER: I call a meeting of those present to effect a temporary organization after this meeting adjourns.

On motion, duly seconded, the meeting adjourned.