FROM THE DIRECTORS OFFICE

Long Range Planning: We have felt the need for ways to take a broad look at the program of the Station - past, present and future - for some time. This need is reinforced continually by comments and queries from outside, in the form of questions like: What are our priorities? Are we keeping up with the times in terms of our research efforts? What adjustments have we made? In the meantime such developments as PPD, CRIS, and the "National Plan of Agricultural Research" raise the issue of what we relate to agricultural research going on elsewhere, in the State Stations, USDA and industry.

To make a start toward this taking of a long look, this year, we have appointed a committee which has been asked to analyze the mission of the Station, and in relation to the mission, to examine our present program, and areas of needed future emphasis, and make recommendations concerning these. This committee was not chosen to be representative of departments, but rather discipline areas. Its membership is as follows: Earl Raun, Chairman, Francis Haskins, Pauline Paul, Michael Turner, Thomas Thompson, Walter Woods and Cal Ward.

Howard W. Ottoson

A NATIONAL ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS?

In a keynote talk in Washington D. C. October 14, Dean Harold Myers, College of Agriculture, University of Arizona, analyzed the agricultural leadership situation in the United States and emphasized the need for a National Academy of Agricultural Scientists. His talk was delivered at the annual banquet of the Agricultural Research Institute which is affiliated with the Agricultural Board of the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences.

According to Dean Myers, agricultural sciences, encompassing many disciplines of biological, chemical, physical and social sciences, form the basis for agricultural development at home and abroad. The importance of U. S. leadership and the existing attitude toward the profession of agriculture suggests a need for emphasizing national recognition of agricultural scientists and technologists. To underscore and use the great potential leadership exhibited by our agricultural scientists, Dean Myers suggests the organization of a National Academy of Agricultural Scientists (N.A.A.S.).

Such a group would function far beyond the boundaries of honorary membership. Dean Myers foresees that N.A.A.S. would serve agricultural interests in a similar way that the National Academy of Sciences serves the pure science disciplines. When called, the membership could act as an official advisor to the federal government on questions relating to agriculture. "Agricultural scientists representing a healthy combination of applied and basic research, has for over a century charted a course of service to agriculture which has ... given us our agricultural system of today", reports Dean Myers. "What better way can we make (over)
use of the intellectual power of these great minds than to combine them in one forceful society such as the National Academy of Agricultural Science?"

Also, to consider the complex situation with respect to establishment of N.A.A.S., the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, Division of Agriculture, has a special committee working under the Chairmanship of Dean Bentley of Illinois. There are many serious aspects of the question of whether or not to "splinter" from the National Academy of Sciences. Much more time and effort will go into this before anything hatches, if, indeed, incubation is judged desirable.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS
Florence F. Goldfarb - Instructor in Agricultural Education
Gary G. Long - Horticulture and Forestry - Resignation
Leroy D. Luft - Instructor in Agricultural Economics
Paul C. Peterson - Entomology - Resignation
Allen Skorr - Instructor in Agricultural Economics
John Joseph Sulek - Agricultural Engineering, sick leave.
Jason Webster, Manager of the Northwest Agr. Lab. and Asst. Prof. of Agron.

NEW GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS
Clanton, D. C. - North Platte Station - Farmland Industries, Inc., 4,000
O'Keefe, R. B. - Hort. & For. - Potato Development Div. 5,000
Penas, E. & Robison, L. R. - Agronomy - TVA 4,170
Penas, E. & Robison, L. R. - Agronomy - TVA 3,950
Schuster, M. L. - Plant Pathology - Green Giant Foundation 2,200
Sorenson, R. C. - Agronomy - The Sulphur Institute 3,500
Trotter, V. - Home Economics - DHSEW 39,872

GENERAL NOTES
1. Experiment Station Workers Conference November 20 and 21. Dr. Young and his committee have developed a fine program. We will look forward to seeing you at the sessions and at the banquet Thursday evening (Note - Ladies welcome and "extra time" between assembling for the banquet and serving time.)

2. Hunting at the Field Laboratory will be permitted starting November 29 if the harvesting proceeds as expected.

3. The Entomology department underwent a comprehensive review of their research program by a distinguished five-man team during the week of October 21. The review, as such usually are, was beneficial in many respects. Many compliments by the team included particular mention of excellent cooperative relationships with other departments and organizations.

4. Two nearly serious fires in Experiment Station buildings lately cause urging a check for hazards as you enter the heating season.

5. October 22 and 23 a group of Experiment Station staff met at Sidney with ARS, SCS and local representatives to develop conservation programing concepts for the High Plains Agricultural Laboratory; a very productive session headed by Professors Fenster and Axthelm of the Scottsbluff Station.

6. The annual Station Superintendents meeting was held October 9 in Scottsbluff under the gracious hosting of Superintendent and Mrs. Harris and their colleagues.

7. Happy Thanksgiving - better start thinking about Christmas shopping.

R. W. Kleis
JOURNAL ARTICLES APPROVED IN OCTOBER


