



AEC SCORES IN VEGAS

The 34th Annual Educational Conference in Environmental Health, held for the first time under the banner of the National Environmental Health Association, measured its success by the quality of participation by speakers and attendees, exhibitors and hosting organizations, and by recipients of awards for outstanding contributions to the field of environmental health.

At the annual business meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada, William Broadway received the president's gavel and took over the reins of the association. Vernon Williams, Danbury, Conn., was elected to the position of second vice president in a hot contest with Al Rea, San Diego, Calif. Verne Reiersen moved up to president-elect; Charles Gillham to first vice president; and Melvin Wilkey continues as treasurer. Regional vice presidents elected are Ralph Frazier, Cincinnati, Ohio, Region 8, and Colin Calloway, Dallas, Texas, Region 5.

The Board of Directors approved a constitution and a set of bylaws for the association that includes electing officers by mail ballot beginning with those to assume office in 1972. A slate of candidates will be nominated at the 1971 annual business meeting. Other provisions of the new rules include revising the make-up of the Executive Committee to include the officers of the association and place selection of three additional members to serve for three years each in the hands of the Board of Directors. A Policy and Procedural Manual for operating the organization's business is still being prepared by a committee headed by Al Rea.

Board members present at the meeting voted to raise the dues for active and associate members to \$16, beginning with 1971 dues; however, this decision requires a two-thirds majority of all Board members, and since this number was not reached, the vote will be by mail

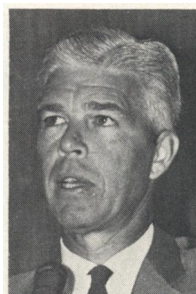
Ravenholt



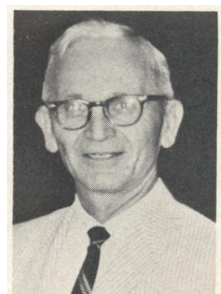
Cannon



Dominick



Williams



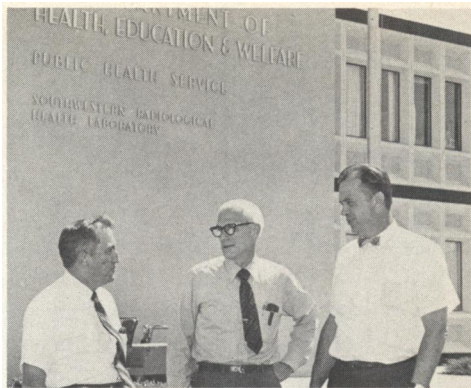
ballot. After considerable discussion, the Board concluded that a dues increase is the most effective method of obtaining enough funds to operate as a professional organization and sponsor activities dictated by such an organization.

In one of the well-received talks at the general assembly, Colorado Senator Peter H. Dominick told members and guests that the public and the legislators must be informed by professional environmentalists in order to make sane environmental decisions. Dominick's easy delivery and ready answers in panel participation won an attentive audience. His personable, easy manner during off-the-cuff sessions was just as pleasing to those who were present during the informal moments. His knowledge and perception in environmental causes made his appearance a real keynote for the conference when he said, "I'm convinced the fertile mind of man can devise ways to provide information to the public and to its representatives about effects of new technologies on our environment . . . to make better assessments of the anticipated impacts of new technologies while still in their embryonic state, and publish those findings in lay language and readable form."

Following his formal keynote address, Dominick participated in discussions on the Discovery of the Environment, which were moderated by Dr. John Hanlon, Assistant Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service. Sharing in this lively discussion were Irwin Altman, Dr. A. Harry Bliss, and James Lee.

Nevada Senator Howard W. Cannon reiterated the need for environmental control and stressed that the National Environmental Health Association should be in the forefront in this movement since its members are the most knowledgeable in the nation regarding environmental problems and solutions.

Deputy Surgeon General, Paul Q. Peterson, M.D., addressed the nearly 2,000 person general assembly saying that the surfacing of the word "ecology" on the rushing stream of contemporary events marks the awakening to the realities of man's relationship to nature, and



James Lee, director of Human Ecology, Environmental Health Service; Dr. Paul Q. Peterson, deputy surgeon general, U.S. P.H.S.; and Dr. Melvin W. Carter, director, Southwestern Radiological Health Laboratory, Las Vegas, chat together during a tour of the lab facilities.



Accident prevention demonstrations were popularly received at 34th educational sessions.



Nick Pohlit, NEHA executive director; Senator Peter Dominick, Dr. Melvin W. Carter, Geneva Douglas, SWRHL, and Frank Goldsmith get together at the Rad Health exhibit during convention.

Professor Monroe Morgan, East Tennessee State University; Professor Jean Marsh, Metropolitan State College, Denver, Colo.; Elizabeth Hanford, President's Committee on Consumer Affairs, and Nick Pohlit get together at Pepsi party.





Texans were proud of their large delegation to the convention.



Participants in the Housing Round Table Discussion were Carl Moline, Eric Mood, Harvey Davis, Bailus Walker, Robert Novick, and Joseph Shock.



Large number of attendees enjoy a chuckle during a general educational session.

that perhaps we are ready to recognize at last that we cannot adequately deal with the unwelcome by-products of a complex, industrialized society as though they existed outside the total structure of the society.

In a session of general public interest, Elizabeth Hanford of President Nixon's Committee on Consumer Affairs told how the federal government is acting to stem the tide of consumer swindles by asking industry to cooperate in investigating authenticity of complaints, and by legal means in cases against unscrupulous merchants. She cited the example of recalling unsafe school buses as a case in which industry cooperation resulted from action by her agency.

Dr. Otto Ravenholt, chairman of the host committee from Nevada, delivered a thought provoking talk on population

pressures in which he was pessimistic about progress in control of the environment and said that no matter what we do, with the expected growth in population, by the year 2000, we will not be ahead of where we are today. His straight forward, spontaneous presentation captured the audience. Dr. Ravenholt recently resigned as director of the Clark County Health Department to run for Nevada's only seat in the United States House of Representatives.

Round table discussions on Air Pollution, Housing, and Minority Health Problems stimulated free exchange of ideas and audience participation in three lively sessions.

A full house of exhibits added greatly to the educational conference as several new and numerous repeat exhibitors showed environmental pollution control equipment, food sanitation equipment,

educational materials and various other items in 66 outstanding displays. The Oregon Association, host of the 1971 meeting, was an active exhibitor.

Association resolutions thanked the United States Brewers Association, Pepsi Cola Company, Clow Corporation and the Host committees for contributing to the festivities of the occasion.



Food



Fun



and fellowship, make a good convention.

Further resolutions cited control of accidents as a major problem and recommended at least six credit hours in accident prevention be included in environmental health curricula in colleges and universities in order that they may be accredited. . . . Asked for federal legislation to provide assistance to state and local areas to control and eliminate lead poisoning. . . . Supported comprehensive food protection programs to include full participation of industry and consumers and upheld APHA-FDA Food Protection Conference to be held in Denver, Colo., April 1971. . . . Encouraged closer cooperation between sanitarians, engineers and allied professionals by inviting these disciplines to become members of NEHA.

A resolution and telegram praised President Richard Nixon for establishing the Environmental Protection Agency, and the President sent greetings to the convention in a letter read by Senator Dominick before the general assembly.

The association resolved to seek adequate state and federal funding of undergraduate and graduate college and university curriculums in environmental health, for student support for those in such programs, and for inservice training for essential updating of presently employed environmentalists.

The association honored Franklin Dyson Sweger, one of the founders of the California Association of Sanitarians

Associate Editor, Ida Marshall and Bernie Weintraub, Los Angeles, enjoy a laugh during Clow festivities.





Frank Sweger, center, gets applause from Bill Broadway, Nick Pohlit, Dick Roberts and John McHugh.

in 1930, forerunner of the National Association of Sanitarians, by presenting him with a bronze plaque and honorary life membership in the National Environmental Health Association.

They also acted to request congressional consideration to raise Comprehensive Health Planning to the level of Assistant Secretary for Comprehensive Health Planning in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, that policies, procedures, and guides might be established to insure that adequate funding and program emphasis is provided for environmental health, and that federal requirements provide for balanced staff and council, and that each state or area-wide agency should have the services of an Environmental Health Planner.

Superb press and electronic media coverage was obtained through an excellent press room manned by Bob Hahn, Denver Public Relations man who has been working for several months on publicity of the convention. A total of 275 inches of newspaper space devoted to the convention have been compiled in a publicity scrapbook. If further clippings have been saved, the headquarters office would like to obtain copies to include in the scrapbook. We believe this is the best press coverage one of our meetings has received. Several television interviews were granted by participants, officers, and speakers.



Mark Nottingham gave plaques to past presidents to complete the roster he began last year.

Todd Is Mangold Winner

John Todd, Dr. P.H., who has served on the National Association's Executive Committee for four years, the last two as chairman, received the Walter S. Mangold Award in presentation ceremonies during the 34th Annual Educational Conference of the National Environmental Health Association, June 25, 1970, in Las Vegas, Nev. He was cited for his dedication to environmental health and his untiring efforts as a sanitarian in the state of Ohio and in the Indian Health Service, U. S. Public Health Service; as well as for his dedication to the National Association of Sanitarians, of which he was president in 1965-66, and for his strength and his generosity to his fellow men.



Dave Cleveland, Oklahoma City, congratulates John Todd on winning Mangold Award. Cleveland's group made Todd's nomination.

During his term as president, the association newsletter, first called the Beacon and then the Environmental Health Newsletter, was planned; several of the association's professional brochures were drafted and designed; a dues increase was proposed; as was the association name change. In a word, he was an instigator . . . and his efforts in behalf of the association and the professional environmentalist have not waned.

Todd's nomination was submitted by the Oklahoma Association, and recom-

mendations were received from Jerrold Michael, former chairman of the Mangold Award committee; Carruth J. Wagner, M.D., formerly director of the Bureau of Health Services, U. S. Public Health Service; Wilson D. Steen, Ph.D., Associate Dean, University of Oklahoma Medical Center; Jack C. Robertson, M.D., Director, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service; E. S. Rabeau, M.D., Associate Director, Indian Health Service, Tucson, Ariz.; Thomas A. Ford, Sanitarian Director, USPHS.

Todd recognized his wife, Marilee, as a strong influence in his quest for excellence in his work — further testimony of his generosity and integrity. The National Environmental Health Association salutes the Todds for their contribution to mankind.

Resident Honored

Harold Lehman, first environmental health resident in the program conducted by the U.S. Public Health Service at New Orleans, in cooperation with Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, received a certificate of excellence from the residency board for his academic achievement during studies toward his master's degree. He achieved a straight "A" record. Dr. William Cherry worked closely with Lehman during his residency and was instrumental in the success of the program.



Stuart Clark, chief personnel officer, U. S. department of HEW (left) and Dr. William Cherry, USPHS Hospital, New Orleans (right) present Harold Lehman certificate recognizing his outstanding accomplishments while a resident in environmental health at the hospital.

Nicholas Pohlit, executive director, National Environmental Health Association, received the Past President's Award for his exemplary achievements in making the organization a professional one and for his efforts in raising the professional status of its members.

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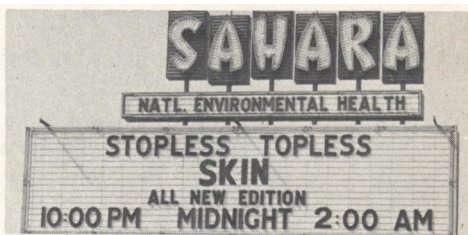
Honorary memberships were awarded to Stuart Clarke, deputy assistant secretary for personnel and training, U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Arthur E. Williamson, Cheyenne, Wyo.; and Benjamin J. Reynolds, state representative, Chester County, Pa. These men were cited for their efforts in behalf of the National Environmental Health Association and its members.



Bill Broadway makes a few remarks on becoming president of NEHA as John McHugh, outgoing president and Mrs. McHugh look on.



Mrs. John McHugh was queen for a day at the ladies' luncheon. Enjoying her company are Mrs. Nick Pohlit, Mrs. John Todd, Mrs. William Broadway, Mrs. Roger Lewis, and Mrs. Melvin Wilkey.



NEHA got top billing at the Sahara on Las Vegas' strip.

Minority Session Yields Open, Frank Discussion

Bad food, bad housing, and general bad economics are facts of life for minority groups in the United States, and in the framework of modern socioeconomic values and structure, we do not have the answer or the will to solve these problems.

This was the consensus of opinion generated by a panel of environmentalists dealing with minority health problems at the National Environmental Health Association convention. Participating on the panel were Douglas Taylor, California State Department of Health; Andrew James, director, Tufts-Delta Health Center, Mound Bayou, Miss.; John Todd, Indian Health Service; Bailus Walker, Cleveland, Ohio Department of Health and Richard Holdstock, University of California, Davis, moderator.

In a free exchange between panel members and audience, major problems of the rural South, urban ghettos, American Indians, and migrant farm workers were laid to lack of involvement by the people who are affected by politically or agency instigated programs for improvement. Andrew James said it is necessary for health professionals in minority areas to be members of the minority group in order to be successful in involving the beneficiary persons. He said myopic health professionals and other leaders set priorities which are not necessarily the priorities of the persons who receive or need to receive services for improved environment.

Bailus Walker, who has been involving members of the community in Cleveland clean-up-the-neighborhood campaigns for several years, says there is a need for better communication between health officials and recipients in order to translate needs.

A sanitarian from Los Angeles, Calif., from the audience, pointed out that stores in minority areas have been receiving rejected foods from supermarkets in middle class white neighborhoods, and another member of the audience said

this is true also for clothing and household goods. Pressure is being exerted to correct this discriminatory practice; however, discrimination continues to hamper health in minority areas across the nation, according to the participants and audience during the open discussion.

Accidental Injury Control Course Completed

A successful training course on "The Principles of Accidental Injury Control" was conducted in Las Vegas on June 18, 19, and 20. The training course was held in conjunction with the 34th Annual Educational Conference of The National Environmental Health Association. Presentations covered such subjects as epidemiology, behavioral aspects, and injury prevention program techniques dealing with burn injuries, carbon monoxide, electric hazards, glass hazards, poisonings, and retro-reflective materials for protection of pedestrians and cyclists.

Other presentations dealt with the broad topics of recreational safety, food establishment safety, and institutional safety. A highlight was an excellent discussion of the role of alcohol in accidents. Thirty-two trainees from across the nation, Florida to Alaska, California to New York, who are involved in injury control in their respective locales helped make this a productive two and a half days. Most of the trainees were sanitarians but there were health educators, public health administrators and engineers included among the participants.

In the future publications of the *Journal of Environmental Health*, the accident prevention section hopes to publish several papers of the subjects covered at this course. In this issue appears the first of these papers, "Lead Poisoning," by Ray Tyler, Accident Section of NEHA.

Similar training courses will be held Oct. 19, 20, 21, Philadelphia; Nov. 16, 17, 18, Boston; Feb. 1, 2, 3, 1971, Atlanta. These courses are being developed with a short term training grant from the Public Health Service to National Environmental Health Association. Announcements as to dates and places will be in future Journals.