BASIC ISSUES

in Camping and Outdoor Education

1. What is the place of outdoor and camping experiences in American education?

2. How can camping and outdoor education be integrated into teacher education?

3. How can public support for camping and outdoor education be developed so it can be extended to more American youth?

The values of camping and outdoor education have been recognized by leading American educators. But mere recognition does not bring these values to American youth. School administrators and teachers must learn the methods whereby this type of education can be implemented. The public generally must come to realize these basic values so that adequate support will be forthcoming.

National Camp was established in 1940 as an educational center where mature persons interested in the welfare of American youth could study camping and outdoor education and develop plans for setting such programs into operation in their own institutions, agencies, and communities.

The growing interest in this type of education calls for intelligent and skilled leadership both locally and nationally. Because of this need, a group of leading educators were invited to National Camp last summer to discuss the three basic issues outlined above. Among the group that assembled were representatives from the U. S. Office of Education, state departments of education, universities, local school systems and National Camp.

Under the general chairmanship of Dr. Walter D. Cocking, members of this conference divided into three working committees and developed this report. These outlines were considered by the conference as a whole and upon recommendation of this body are now published so they can have the wide distribution they deserve.

E. D. P.