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National Science Teaching Association Conference Opens Friday

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FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

Scores of teachers will gather in Missoula Friday and Saturday to hear the latest word from experts on continuing changes in concepts of teaching science.

The Rocky Mountain Regional Conference of the National Science Teachers Association will draw educators from Utah, North and South Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Montana, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan for a two-day program featuring talks by scientists and curriculum specialists from coast to coast.

The program has been planned by co-chairmen Albert C. Finley, head of the Choteau High School Science Department, and Dr. R. A. Diettert, chairman of the Montana State University Department of Botany and Microbiology. Finley, an NSTA regional director, is vice chairman of the Montana Science Curriculum Committee. Dr. Diettert is director of the Montana Science Fair and a member of the National Science Fair Council.

John Marean of Reno, Nev., NSTA president, will greet conferees at a joint session with the Montana Education Association Friday at 2 p.m. at South Avenue Missoula County High School, and Dr. Frank C. Abbott, academic vice president of MSU, will welcome them. Dr. Winslow Hatch of the U.S. Office of Education, Washington, D.C., will give the keynote address on "Criteria of Quality." Richard Nelson of Kalispell, MEA Western District president, will preside.

Marean will speak on "Rethinking Science Teaching" at the conference banquet at 6:30 p.m. at the MSU Lodge, and Frank Salamon of the NSTA staff in Washington, D.C., will report on "Science Education Activities for Youth."

Miss Harriet E. Miller, state superintendent of public instruction, will introduce banquet guests, including M. F. Peterson, North Dakota superintendent of public instruction. James Watkins, Helena, state science and mathematics supervisor, will (more)
be toastmaster; and the Rev. Grant Moore of the First Methodist Church, Missoula, will give the invocation. Special entertainment will be provided by the MCHS Music Department.

Sectional meetings in elementary school science, biology and earth science will be in session Friday afternoon at the South Avenue school. Sectional meetings in chemistry and physics are scheduled on the MSU campus Friday evening.

Sectional meeting speakers are Mrs. Elnora A. Wright, Montana State College; Dr. Addison Lee, University of Texas; Dr. Robert Heller, University of Minnesota; Dr. Arthur H. Livermore, Reed College; Dr. J. A. Campbell, Harvey Mudd College, and Marean.

Registration will be open at the South Avenue school from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and in the MSU Liberal Arts building from 8 to 10 p.m. Special events planned for conferees Friday include tours of Missoula industrial firms and the MSU campus and a lecture by Dr. William Myers, acting chairman of the MSU Mathematics Department, at the Scheuch Planetarium at 10 p.m.

A National Aeronautics and Space Administration traveling spacemobile demonstration for conferees will be open to anyone interested, the chairmen said. NASA demonstrations will be given Friday at 3:15 p.m. and at 4:30 p.m. in room 106 of the high school. A third demonstration will be given Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in room 106 of the MSU Liberal Arts building.

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