

The success of this Conference, therefore, will be measured by the effect it has upon the subsequent decisions of each member. It will be a success if your experience here helps any one of you to make a wiser guess in matters which affect the lives of people involved in industry. Even the mere fact that you have become more aware of the influence of industry upon human communities is enough to affect all your future practice -- I hope, for the better.

The membership covers a very wide range of experience in every kind and branch of industry from every part of the Commonwealth and each study group is made up of the widest experience in the smallest number. The idea of this is so that discussion can take place in a free and informal way in which each individual can make his own contribution. This is of course not possible when all three hundred members are together.

At the first Conference the general theme was the human problems of industrial communities. This second Conference has a slightly different emphasis in that we shall be studying the human consequences of the changing industrial environment, but basically the main point is the same. Forget, for the time being, the techniques of industry and concentrate upon the people, their families and communities who service the whole industrial machine.

Forget about competition and research, wage negotiation and promotion prospects, piece rates and work study. Instead, spend the time discussing education for industry, technical training and the youngster in his first job. Think also about the family with both parents working and their relationship to the community in which they live. Talk about the immigrant worker,