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News and Notes

Gary E. Downs Iowa Department of Public Instruction

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teachers, the traditional separation of content and methodology should be eliminated. "Professional education" is truly professional when it involves the practice of teaching the content of physics and chemistry.

An overhaul of our pre-service teacher education programs in physical science is long overdue. We owe our students who plan to teach in this area a program that is educationally sound, realistically careeroriented, and tailored for the present and the future.

In 1969 the Physical Science Group of Newton, Massachusetts, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a new four-year program to prepare high school teachers of chemistry and physics. This program is described in the *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*, December, 1972, pp. 14 and 15, by K. E. Borst of Rhode Island College, one of the pilot schools. The first group of five students to complete the program graduated from Southwest Minnesota State College in June, 1973. Whether this program is the final word remains to be seen. At any rate it appears to be a step in the right direction.

NEWS AND NOTES

Gary E. Downs Science Consultant Department of Public Instruction

Wow! Here it is near the end of winter already.

I would like to share with you a few of the activities I have been involved in throughout this academic year. This past fall and winter I have spent a considerable amount of time working with teachers who have adopted a "new" science curriculum. I have taught implementation inservice courses at South Tama, Ankeny, and Ames community school districts. I am presently teaching a course at Council Bluffs which has a major emphasis on the S-APA program.

Mr. Doug Baker, sales representative for ISCS, and I sponsored an ISCS Awareness Workshop in Des Meines on February 14, 1974. There were 140 participants who attended. It was rewarding to see so many different school districts evaluating the curriculum offerings at the junior high (grades 7-9) level.

In the coming weeks there will be many opportunities for you to attend local, state, and national meetings. Science education is on the move in Iowa. I trust that you will give some of your time and talents to help determine the direction we go.