

MEMBERSHIP
IN
THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF SCIENTISTS

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS

"The fundamental purpose of the Association is to promote effective international and domestic control of atomic energy by educating the public, by influencing legislative action, by informing fellow scientists of current developments, by studying problems of atomic energy control and proposing solutions to these problems, and by such other activities as may be agreed upon. The broad purpose of the Association is to promote the attainment and use of scientific and technological advances in the best interests of humanity."

--Preamble to the Constitution, N.C.A.S.

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We hope this booklet will tell you about the Northern California Association of Scientists in a way that will make you want to take part in the work it is trying to do.

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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SECTION I

INFORMATION ABOUT THE NCAS

HISTORY

The impact upon the world of two atomic bombs released over Japan awakened in many people a feeling of uneasiness and doubt. In some, it aroused a realization of the need and responsibility to harness this new form of energy for man's benefit rather than for his annihilation. In this country, the scientists and technologists most intimately connected with the bomb's development were also most keenly aware of its potentialities and most anxious about the future control of atomic energy. At the atomic project sites and elsewhere, they grouped together to discuss their responsibilities and what should be done about them. They issued statements to the press, and sent delegates to Washington to present their ideas and conclusions to the Administration and to Congress.

Out of these beginnings grew the Federation of American Scientists. On November 1, 1945, the four associations which had been organized at the various Manhattan Project sites formed a Federation of Atomic Scientists and established an office in Washington. It had no permanent officers, and its activities were carried on by a succession of members who left their work for a week or two at a time. Expenses were paid largely from dues and gifts collected from the members. The delegates talked with Congressmen, spoke to organizations and the press, and laid the groundwork for a more permanent program. As a part of such activities, these men became unofficial advisers on atomic energy legislation to members of the special Senate Committee.

In November and December delegates from thirteen spontaneous associations met to draft a constitution for a nationwide Federation of American Scientists. Since then it has become a sounding board for informed scientific opinion throughout the country in matters of national atomic energy legislation and proposed methods of international control. The Federation now employs a full-time secretary and carries on its activities with funds contributed by members, gifts, and royalties realized from various publications.

The Northern California Association of Scientists started as one of the spontaneous organizations that formed to direct a coordinated, collective effort toward preventing atomic warfare.

The first meeting was held December 7, 1945, when a group of about 30 academic and industrial scientists met in Berkeley to set up an organization. The statement of its aims and membership requirements were patterned after those of earlier associations and the Federation of American Scientists, which was then just coming into existence. A Steering Committee appointed at this meeting worked out the details of organization. During subsequent meetings procedures were established for forming local groups and a constitution was adopted in principle. In February the NCAS became actively and officially affiliated with the Federation of American Scientists as a member organization.

The Association now contains about 500 active members, comprising scientists and technologists in varied occupations all over the Bay Area. Its official headquarters are at the International Center (68 Post Street, San Francisco), which is supported by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

MEMBERSHIP

The NCAS is composed of individuals with training or experience equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in engineering, mathematics, or natural science. Actually, it embraces all fields of scientific endeavor from nuclear physics to medicine. Thus, the NCAS has drawn from a wide group of professional men and women who, because of their technical training, are better equipped than the average citizen to understand and explain the potentialities of atomic energy.

ORGANIZATION

The primary units of NCAS organization are compact "local groups" formed on any convenient basis, for example, geography, place of employment, or field of work. For each ten members in a local group, at least one person is chosen to represent and vote for those who cannot attend the Membership Council (general association) meetings that are held about once a month. Naturally, attendance of all members at general meetings is urged, but it has been realized that practical difficulties do not always make this possible. Often these representatives attend and report back on the weekly meetings of the Association executive body as well. The representatives and a secretary-treasurer ordinarily serve as an executive nucleus for the local group, and group meetings are held at any convenient time.

All NCAS members constitute the policy-making body, or Membership Council. Council meetings are held at various announced locations and, in general, are alternated between San Francisco and the East Bay. The purpose of these meetings is to inform the membership about current issues, to provoke discussions about various phases of atomic energy control, and to consider broad problems and pass motions defining general policy. Timely subjects are usually introduced as reports by well-informed

individuals or committees, followed by general discussion and voting. Careful thought is given in the planning and execution of these meetings to insure the maximum accomplishment consistent with the will of the members.

The policies of the Membership Council are carried out by an elected Executive Committee of twelve to twenty members. Considerable flexibility in the size and composition of the Committee is introduced by the inclusion of standing committee chairmen as ex-officio members, and the practice of permitting substitutes to be delegated by absentee committeemen. To insure wide representation, the number of Committee members from any local group is limited to four. Executive Committee meetings are held weekly and are alternated between San Francisco and the East Bay for the convenience of those wishing to attend. Business transacted at these meetings includes: putting into effect Membership Council policy decisions, preparing agenda for future Council meetings, discussing current problems, hearing committee reports, and coordinating work of the various committees. Association members present recommendations and suggestions to the Executive Committee at these meetings.

Minutes of Executive Committee meetings, published regularly and distributed through local groups, help to keep their members informed of current problems and activities. These minutes contain announcement of the time and location of forthcoming meetings, for the benefit of those who wish to attend.

COMMITTEES

Once broad decisions have been made by the Executive Committee and membership body, the job of detail planning and action is handed over to appropriate committees. These operate on a voluntary, informal basis, meeting whenever action is required. It is in this work, perhaps, that the individual NCAS member can contribute most toward achieving the aim of effective atomic energy development and control. Because of the large variety and extremely fluid nature of committee work, there is always ample room and opportunity for those who can offer their services.

Committee functions now include: press relations, speakers bureau, membership, publications, distribution of information, liaison with other groups, and research on problems related to the development and control of atomic energy. Special committees are formed for specific purposes as the need arises. As an example, an ADA committee has been formed to promote discussion of the Atomic Development Authority described in the Baruch proposal recently presented before the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission.

A more detailed description of principal committees is given in Section III of this booklet.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

1. Education A primary NCAS objective is to increase the number of scientists, technologists, and the public who are aware of the urgency of atomic energy control. Among the general public, a surprising degree of apathy and indifference exists. Many do not realize that individuals' actions can be effective if coordinated and properly timed. Because of their technical background, NCAS members are in a privileged position to understand and explain atomic energy and its implications.
2. National Legislation Beginning in the period of the bomb's development in this country, the opinion has grown among scientists that the use of atomic energy as a weapon must be prevented by effective methods of control. The NCAS has shared the view that such control ultimately must become international to be effective. It has supported national legislation, namely, the McMahon bill, which proposes domestic control by a civilian (rather than military) commission, on the contention that (a) distrust by other nations of our motives in making international proposals will be lessened; (b) greater freedom in development of atomic energy for constructive purposes will be realized. Letters to congressmen and public officials from its members and others have been influential in shaping atomic energy legislation into its present form.
3. International Control The NCAS is devoted to the institution of a fully effective system of international control of atomic atomic energy which will free all nations from fear of atomic bombs. It has therefore endorsed the Baruch proposal submitted to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission on June 14, and is attempting to publicize and invite comment upon it. As the author of the proposal states, it is not a complete blueprint for a world control organization, but it does represent an important and constructive first step. The Atomic Development Authority which it proposes would be endowed with research and developmental functions which will attract the capable personnel who would not be drawn to a purely negative, inspection organization.

As further steps toward international control are taken, NCAS hopes to make recommendations and assist in any way possible. To this end, a committee for research on such problems has been established and is now functioning.

FINANCE

At present, the main source of NCAS operating funds is membership dues and contributions. Experience has shown that annual dues of at least five dollars per member will be required to carry on the activities of the Association.

As a member association in the Federation of American Scientists, the NCAS donates a portion of its income to Federation activities. The Federation performs an important coordinating function, and its location in Washington enables it to keep abreast of developments better than the member associations could alone.

The use and distribution of the five dollar membership dues may be itemized as follows:

A. To FAS for support and maintenance of Federation activities.....	\$2.00
B. For yearly subscription for the "Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists," published by the Chicago local section.....	1.70
C. For NCAS activities, including printing, publicity, meeting hall rental, mailing, and office expenses.....	1.30
	<hr/>
	\$5.00

The above constitutes a bare minimum for the operation of the NCAS and seriously limits its educational activities. It is hoped that private contributions may be obtained in the future to permit urgently needed expansion of the Association's activities.

GROWTH

It is apparent that NCAS can be effective only as it becomes a large yet closely knit organization. Growth in numbers and prestige are essential if its recommendations and considered opinions are to carry weight. Moreover, it is highly desirable to subject controversial matters to wide discussion, in order that the democratic will of the majority of scientists and technologists may be manifested.

Unfortunately, there is not time for development and maturity over a period of years, as most societies have grown in the past. The false sense of security in our technological superiority must be dissolved, and the distrust and suspicion among nations engendered by the atomic bomb allayed, all within a shorter space of time than was required to develop the bomb.

Faced with this situation, NCAS is devoting considerable time and study toward becoming a larger and more effective organization. Its program calls for proficiency and techniques outside the sciences, and some of those must be learned.

The work has just begun. Your cooperation is greatly needed and earnestly solicited.

SECTION II

FORMATION AND ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL GROUPS

The local group was chosen as the primary building unit of NCAS to minimize the number of large-scale meetings required. It seemed the best way to maintain close contact between a large number of people having a community of interest but a limited amount of free time for outside activity. Circulation of literature and information and united action facilitated immensely by dealing directly with compact groups through their representatives empowered to act for them. Members' ideas may be conveyed to the general membership by their representatives, to become effective in shaping Association policies.

Local group organization is best begun by an individual or small nucleus who have become interested in the NCAS. Often those who would like to assist in starting local groups are not sure of the course to take. As a general guide, the following suggestions may be of help:

1. Inform yourself about atomic energy and the NCAS well enough to answer questions and convince others that they should support the organization.
2. Choose two or three of your associates who would be most interested and ask them to assist you in approaching others. Divide the prospective members among you and see that each is informed about and invited to support the NCAS. Use such facilities as bulletin boards, assemblies, or libraries, if they can be made available, to circulate information about NCAS and the need for action to control atomic energy.
3. As soon as you have a nucleus of five people or more, plan to meet frequently for discussions and elect a representative. If the group grows to be large, elect a local council to meet regularly.
4. Assign to each representative a particular group of members to whom he is responsible for distribution of information and notification of needed action. Provide for enough representatives to insure attendance at Membership Council and, if possible, Executive Committee meetings.
5. Schedule meetings effectively to permit a maximum of discussion without encroachment on company time. Make yourselves familiar with agenda of coming Membership Council meetings, so that your representatives can make your wishes known.

6. Maintain a complete library of pertinent literature, classified and divided into subject files which can be circulated individually. Encourage members to lend their copies of bulletins and letters to others who might become interested.

7. Address inquiries for further information about local groups and NCAS literature to the Membership Committee, care of H. A. Southworth, International Center, Suite 325, 68 Post Street, San Francisco

The Membership Committee will gladly advise and assist you in organizing a local group. Your own opinions will be crystallized and your interest stimulated by participation in Association activities.

SECTION III - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT
THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTISTS
AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

The following section has been compiled from recurrent inquiries about organization, policies, and activities of the NCAS. It is intended as a clarification of these points for prospective members, active members, and for those who wish to form local groups.

* * *

Why should all scientists be concerned with international control of atomic energy?

(1) Misuse of atomic energy threatens to destroy civilization. Every individual, whether a scientist or not, should be concerned with establishing effective control to prevent the catastrophic war that is sure to be the outcome of an atomic armament race.

(2) A future war would be fought along lines far more scientific and technical than the last. The scientist would be the "front lines", and would be the first to be called from his chosen work. His work, his ideas, and his words, would come under the strictest censorship. His efforts would be directed primarily toward wholesale destruction of cities, nations, and civilization.

(3) Because of the basic scientific nature of the problem, initiative must be taken by the scientists. The task of public education ahead is so immense that it commands the united effort of all scientists.

What can I do to promote atomic energy control?

(1) You should think out fully the need for atomic energy control. Inform yourself about its destructive and constructive possibilities, as well as the probable effects of an atomic war.

(2) You should study the solutions offered for atomic energy control by reading scientific, social, and political reports on the subject. Important among these is the International Atomic Development Authority embodied in the Baruch proposal.

(3) You should do your utmost to inform others about this problem; by discussions and letters, try to make your friends, relatives, neighbors, public officials, and Congressmen aware of the need for effective control.

(4) Combine your efforts with others.

By these means only will the general public become informed and aroused sufficiently to demand effective control of atomic energy by our legislators and statesmen.

Why should I join the NCAS? If I join, what can I do as a member that I could not do alone?

The NCAS can serve all who are interested in atomic control in various ways:

(1) It can supply authoritative information about technical aspects of the problem needed to understand and evaluate proposed control methods.

(2) It can expand and crystallize individual ideas by giving the opportunity to hear well-informed persons discuss atomic energy problems.

(3) It can make use of each person's natural interests and aptitudes, and give him a chance to increase the effectiveness of an organization having a wider range of influence than would be possible individually.

Specifically, what is meant by "active support" of the NCAS?

One or more of the following means constitutes active support:

(1) Financial aid, which will also bring you informative literature about atomic energy and its control.

(2) Distribution and discussion of subject material among your friends.

(3) Active participation in the meetings and work of your local group, if you belong to one.

(4) Attendance at Membership Council meetings, taking part in discussions and voting.

(5) Activity in committee work that interests you, devoting whatever time you can spare. NCAS committees are discussed in the next section.

What are the active committees of the NCAS in which I could be of assistance? What is the function of each committee?

(1) Liaison: Maintains and expands contacts with scientific bodies and other organizations.

(2) Correspondence: Handles correspondence with local groups in outlying areas mainly for organizational purposes. This committee handles correspondence with F.A.S. and other groups.

(3) Distribution: Distributes literature such as minutes of meetings, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, etc.

(4) Legislation: Studies and makes recommendations on action to be taken on current legislation; keeps a record and publicizes views of congressmen and candidates for public office.

(5) Membership: Promotes the expansion of the NCAS and maintains files of personnel information.

(6) Publicity: Releases press items and maintains personal contact with local newspapers.

(7) Research: Investigates social and economic problems connected with atomic energy.

(8) Speakers Bureau: Provides speakers and furnishes slides and motion pictures for scientific and other groups.

(9) Radio: Develops the use of radio for increasing public knowledge about atomic energy and its implications.

(10) Atomic Development Authority: Analyzes the Acheson-Lilienthal Report, the Baruch proposal, and other plans for the international control of atomic energy, abstracting the subject matter and publicizing their recommendations by all possible means.

Chairman of these committees may be reached by addressing a postcard to Suite 325, 68 Post St., San Francisco

What educational facilities can the NCAS make available to community organizations and other groups?

The principal program materials now available through the NCAS are:

- (1) Speakers on the various phases of atomic energy, its control and applications.
- (2) Motion pictures and slides showing the atomic bomb in action and its effects.
- (3) Transcriptions of important national broadcasts on the subject of atomic energy.

More detailed information about any of these features or arrangements for programs may be secured by contacting a member of the Executive Committee or any local group representative.

What literature is readily available on the subject of atomic energy and its control? Every person should read:

(1) "One World or None", best seller report by scientists and others on the full meaning of the atomic bomb. Available at book stores at \$1.00.

(2) "The Atomic Bomb, Facts and Implications", a booklet by scientists of the Manhattan Project, obtainable from the National Committee on Atomic Information.

(3) "A Report on the International Control of Atomic Energy" issued by the State Department as Publication 2498 and obtainable from the Government Printing Office for 20¢ or from the National Committee on Atomic Information.

There are other important informative publications on this subject, such as the Smyth Report "Atomic Energy for Military Use", the biweekly "Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists of Chicago", and "Atomic Information" published periodically by the National Committee on Atomic Information. This and similar literature is available at NCAS Membership Council meetings.

Who may be a member of the NCAS?

Any resident of Northern California with training or experience equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in engineering, mathematics, or natural science is eligible.

Why is NCAS membership so broad as to include all branches of technology and natural science?

The task of informing the public about atomic energy and its implications is a fundamental part of the NCAS program. Naturally, the help of every qualified individual is required to achieve this objective.

The base on which all scientific training rests is broad enough so that anyone with a sound technical background can understand and explain the rudiments of nuclear physics necessary for this work. Some familiarity with technical language and an interest in natural phenomena are the only educational requirements.

Furthermore, the possible applications of atomic energy are varied enough to invade almost every scientific field. Atomic energy control is rightly the concern of all science and technology.

The atomic energy control problem has important social aspects. How can social scientists be useful in the NCAS?

After much deliberation and discussion, it was decided that membership in the NCAS should be limited to individuals in engineering and the natural sciences. The founders intended that its members should be, first of all, technical advisers to the public on atomic energy problems. Another reason was that affiliation with the Federation of American Scientists, which was highly desirable, required this limitation.

It is fully recognized, however, that problems connected with atomic energy control are of great social, economic, and political importance. Therefore, the NCAS is seeking cooperation with groups and individuals with training in these fields. Indeed, effective international control cannot be achieved unless social and scientific problems are solved simultaneously. It is sincerely hoped that more social scientists will enter into NCAS activities as contributory members and thereby increase its effectiveness.

Does membership in the NCAS constitute violation of the Federal Hatch Act or the State "Little Hatch Act," limiting the political activity of Federal or State employees?

Federal and State employees may participate in activities which are not specifically identified with any national or state political party or candidate. In addition, they must not attempt to influence the result of an election except by their personal vote.

It is unlikely that such a broad issue as atomic energy control will become the platform of a particular political party or group.

Why are local groups necessary?

The diversity of NCAS membership tends to create a loosely knit organization. Frequent meetings of all members are impractical, and there is a premium on discussion time when general meetings are held. The local groups are convenient units for information distribution, discussion and crystallization of opinion, as well as for quick action on legislative issues when required. Operational problems and contacts are simplified by dealing with groups rather than with each member individually.

How often should local group meetings be held?

The frequency depends on the time available, and, to some extent, the size of the local group. Preceding every Membership Council meeting, each local group should consider the agenda and have at least one meeting to discuss important points and crystallize opinions which the representatives may be asked to present. If possible, a follow-up meeting should be held after the Council meeting to allow representatives to report back on action taken.

Special local group meetings to present unusual educational features, discuss methods of expansion, and consider special problems will also be desirable from time to time.

How may effective member contacts be made within the local group?

Carefully chosen representatives may be made responsible for distribution of literature and information to their constituents. Where regular group meetings are not feasible, representatives should ascertain their constituents' opinions before Membership Council meetings.

These informed representatives provide the most effective contact with both active and prospective group members.

How may ideas be exchanged between local groups?

A Local Group Council is being established to fulfill this function. Each local group will be asked to send one member to the meetings of this Council, which will be held as regularly as possible. Besides exchanging ideas and discussing local group problems, this body will catalogue the interests and abilities of NCAS members and work toward extending participation in committee and special work.

What is the best way to join the NCAS so that I can be assured of receiving literature and notices of meetings?

It is very simple. Speak to the person who gave you this booklet or any representative of a local group. They will see that you fill out a membership card, which will become part of the NCAS files and put you on the mailing list. Or address a postcard direct to the Membership Committee, Suite 325, 68 Post St., San Francisco, giving your telephone number and address, and you will be contacted personally.

Why was a new organization of scientists formed to promote effective international control of atomic energy?

Most existing professional societies are concerned primarily with the exchange of technical information and the welfare of their members, within a relatively narrow scientific field. Since the problem of atomic energy control in one way or another involves all scientists, a new organization was formed to help coordinate their efforts. This organization, the NCAS, naturally must enlist the aid and cooperation of existing societies to the fullest possible extent.

What did the NCAS gain by affiliation with the FAS? *

The NCAS is one of many similar organizations in the U.S.; the FAS is a control center and clearing house for all these groups. By virtue of its location in Washington, D.C., it is able to keep in close touch with legislative activities concerned with atomic energy. Also, it can present the views of the member societies with maximum effectiveness.

How are the FAS and its member Associations, such as the NCAS, interrelated?

The NCAS and the FAS have very similar programs. The actual relationship may be summarized as follows:

Finance: As a Federation member, the NCAS helps to support the national organization, as do the other member Associations. Disposition of its own funds is handled independently by each organization.

Policy: The FAS may make policy recommendations to the NCAS and other member Associations, but the Associations are free to make their own decisions about issuing statements or adopting resolutions. The NCAS and other member Associations are able to influence Federation policy through their delegates on the FAS Council and representatives sent to special conferences.

Administration: The policy of the membership of each organization is essentially independent of the others. However, exchange of ideas for making action more effective is encouraged.

How are the NCAS and FAS financed?

The following sources provide income to meet operating expenses of the NCAS:

(1) Dues and contributions from members and interested persons. A portion of this money is given to help support the FAS. (See Finance, Section I.)

(2) Supplementary contributions from philanthropic individuals or groups. A program to stimulate contributions is now in progress.

The FAS is supported by member Associations' contributions, and royalties from various publications.

How does the FAS function? How are its officers elected?

The broad policies of the FAS are set by an Administrative Council of five members elected by the member Associations (including the NCAS). At least three of these members are full-time administrators in Washington, and are paid for their services. In addition, the Federation employs a full-time secretary.

Administrative Council members are chosen by ballot from a list of nominees recommended by the affiliated Associations. Each voting member of the NCAS and other FAS affiliates is entitled to cast a ballot through representatives.

What is the relationship of the NCAS to other groups, for example, the Atomic Age Forum, Americans United for World Government, the National Committee on Atomic Information?

Actually, the groups named are only a few of some 75 or more organizations in this country that have taken a similar stand in favor of atomic energy control.

The National Committee on Atomic Information, closely related to the FAS, is the source of much educational material on the subject of atomic energy.

The relationship of the NCAS to all these groups is general unity of purpose, without formal affiliation. Through its Liaison Committee, the NCAS seeks to exchange ideas and information, and to support nationwide educational programs.

Is the NCAS primarily a "political" organization?

The NCAS aims to inform the public and start more people thinking about the need and problems of atomic energy control. As a logical consequence, it asks its members to present their individual views to legislators and public officials, and to urge others to do so. To this extent its activities are "political".

The NCAS expects to confine itself to the control of atomic energy and other scientific developments which threaten man's survival. It is unlikely that such a broad issue will be classed as "political".

Is the NCAS a "pacifist" organization?

The term "pacifist" has acquired the connotation of "peace at any price," even to the extent of appeasement. In this sense, the NCAS is not a "pacifist" organization, since it does not believe that a peace founded on appeasement rather than constructive cooperation is sound.

The NCAS contends that the destruction of civilization in an atomic war would be so catastrophic that every effort must be made to avoid it. Fortunately, atomic energy is also a potential source of many benefits to mankind. Widespread knowledge of these facts should aid in achieving an equitable, effective system of international control which will minimize, though not entirely eliminate, the chance of another war. The cooperation necessary to solve the atomic energy control problem may serve as a practical basis for world cooperation in other fields.

Does the NCAS believe we should give atomic energy secrets to other nations?

We should not reveal our "secrets" to individual nations, but only to an effective international control organization in actual operation.

History and current events point to the futility of unilateral disarmament of the type advocated after World War I. The forms and groundwork for an effective international control system must be laid before disarmament is undertaken.

Much careful thought has been given to this problem in the Atomic Development Authority proposal of the State Department. It outlines precisely the circumstances and purposes of releasing secret information, and is worthy of thorough reading.

Remember, however, that in five years or less there will be no secrets.

What are the alternatives to effective international control of atomic energy?

The only alternative is atomic warfare.

(1) We can attempt to conquer the world now, while we still have the advantage of our atomic bomb stockpile. If we did this, we would have to maintain huge occupation forces, and would become the most hated dictatorship in the world. We would lose all that our democracy stands for.

(2) We can attempt to keep our "secret", ignore international control of atomic energy, and continue to manufacture atomic bombs. Within a short period of time, other nations will also have this weapon; since the secrets we possess are ephemeral. We could then outlaw the atomic bomb and sign peace treaties. But then it will be too late. The lessons of history are clear in showing that agreements alone do not prevent wars nor outlaw weapons. Eventually there will ensue an atomic war, causing utter destruction and ruin.

This is the inevitable conclusion reached by most scientists, historians, and statesmen.

What are the chances of attaining effective international control of atomic energy?

Once a technically sound control proposal has been worked out, the problem becomes predominantly a human one: education of enough people to the realization that there is no alternative to effective control but a catastrophic atomic war that can destroy civilization. The remarkable clarity and cold realism of the issue give the plan a better chance to succeed than past attempts to establish lasting peace.

There are already three definite indications that some progress is being made:

(1) The letters and petitions of NCAS members and many others with similar views are helping to produce the kind of national atomic energy legislation that is likely to lead to active U.S. participation in a system of international control.

(2) A technically sound plan based on an understanding of the nature of nuclear energy, developed primarily by scientists and technologists, has become the foundation of the Baruch proposal for international control.

(3) More people than ever before are writing their Congressmen and becoming acutely aware of the problem.

The greatest danger to the success of the plan is not that the peoples of the world will make the wrong decision, but that they will make no decision.

Why not expand the objective to an all out drive for World Government instead of only atomic energy control?

Atomic energy control is the essential step to establish an atmosphere of freedom from fear of an atomic war in which sovereign nations can discuss the procedure for setting up a world government.

From a successful plan for controlling atomic energy on an international scale will come knowledge and confidence for solving other problems.

The NCAS believes in an international system to make war impossible--a world government, if you choose. However, the NCAS thinks that, as an organization, it should begin by working on the immediate, specific, essential first step toward that goal. Its efforts should not be dissipated in the long-range problems of complete world government.

What type of national legislation have the NCAS and the FAS actively supported?

Several bills have been introduced in both Houses for national control of atomic energy. All of these have propounded a Federal control commission, but have differed in the degree to which civilians or the military would influence policy. The two most concrete proposals have been:

(1) The McMahon Bill (S-1717), passed by the Senate, establishing a five-man civilian commission, supplemented by a military board and Congressional committee, in an advisory capacity.

(2) The May-Johnson Bill, which would set up a predominantly military commission.

The NCAS and the FAS have urged civilian control essentially as proposed by the McMahon Bill, and have supported that legislation.

Why do the NCAS and the FAS favor civilian control of atomic energy in the United States?

(1) As long as "atomic energy" means "atomic bombs," its beneficial applications will remain secondary. This concept is more apt to be propagated under military supervision than under civilian control; the trend has been apparent since the end of the war. A shift of emphasis to peace-time uses of atomic energy seems most probable under civilian control. The close liaison with the military required by the McMahon Bill should allay the fears of those who feel that civilian control will endanger our national security.

(2) The conclusion is inescapable that there can be no final solution to the problem of atomic energy until effective international control is established. Proposals made by the United States will certainly be greeted with less distrust and suspicion by other nations if domestic control is in civilian hands.

Has the NCAS taken any action concerning the National Science (Kilgore-Magnuson) Bill?

This bill provides funds for support of research in all fields of natural science, and is more properly the concern of other scientific groups which are already giving the problem careful consideration.

Will this Association's activity cease as soon as current problems have been settled?

Definitely not; attainment of the objective of effective national and international control of atomic energy will require our combined efforts to keep the public informed and shape national policy perhaps for years to come.

Development of other scientific methods of destruction, such as biological warfare, may create similar problems which will require the special consideration of scientists. The goal of the NCAS is the use of science for the benefit of man rather than for his destruction.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
SCIENTISTS

2 I. Preamble The fundamental purpose of the Association is to
3 promote effective international and domestic control of atomic
4 energy by educating the public, by influencing legislative ac-
5 tion, by informing fellow scientists of current developments,
6 by studying the problems of atomic energy control and propos-
7 ing solutions to these problems, and by such other activities
8 as may be agreed upon. The broad purpose of the Association is
9 to promote the attainment and use of scientific and technologi-
cal advances in the best interests of humanity.

10 II. Governing Bodies To accomplish these aims, the members
11 of the NCAS shall constitute a Membership Council. This Coun-
12 cil of all members shall formulate all policies of the Associa-
13 tion. An Executive Committee shall be formed to carry out the
14 policies of the Membership Council.

15 III. Individual Members Any individual with training or ex-
16 perience equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in one of the fields
17 of engineering, technology, mathematics, or one of the natural
18 sciences is eligible for voting membership if he resides in, or
19 is employed within, California Congressional Districts 1 to 9,
20 inclusive, of northern California. Other individuals may join
21 as contributory members who may attend meetings and enjoy cer-
22 tain other privileges, but who may not vote or hold office.
23 Annual dues shall be collected of all members to help carry
24 on the activities of the NCAS and the Federation of American
25 Scientists, with which we are affiliated. The annual dues should
26 be on a contributory basis as determined by the Executive Commit-
27 tee.

28 All members shall be on the Association mailing list to re-
29 ceive all information sent out. Each individual member shall
30 have one vote at all membership council meetings.

31 IV. Local Groups Any group of more than five members may join
32 together on the basis of place of employment, residence, type
33 of employment, or any other reasonable or convenient basis ap-
34 proved by the Membership Committee, to form a local group which
35 shall choose one or more representatives and alternates. A re-
36 presentative of each local group shall be expected to attend all
37 Membership Council meetings to present the ideas of those indi-
38 viduals who do not attend and to represent non-attending members
39 of his group. After the Council meeting the representative
40 shall give a report of his actions to those members whom he re-
41 presented. The representative may not vote for those individual
42 members of his local group who personally attend the Membership
43 Council, but only for those members who are absent at the Member-
44 ship Council meeting. It is advisable to keep local groups small
45 in number, but if a large group is more convenient, it shall be
46 expected to send more than one official representative so that
no representative has more than ten votes. A local group will

47 decide the procedure to be used in electing its representa-
48 tives as well as in recalling its representatives. All in-
49 dividual members are to be informed by the Executive Commit-
50 tee of the actions of their representatives in the Council
51 meetings.

52 It is suggested that the local groups choose treasurers
53 and secretaries as well as representatives, but any reason-
54 able form of organization of a local group shall be accept-
55 able.

56 The local group representatives and their alternates
57 will be expected to circulate petitions, and other material
58 which require rapid distribution, to the members of their
59 local group.

60 Local groups which are very distant from the Bay Region,
61 such as a Sacramento group, shall be encouraged to join to-
62 gether to hold semi-autonomous Membership Councils to express
63 their ideas. Such distant groups that do organize together
64 to form a working organization should receive every aid pos-
65 sible from the Executive Committee of the NCAS including fi-
66 nancial support equal to one half of the amount sent in to the
67 Federation of American Scientists, from the dues of the mem-
68 bers of the groups.

69 V. Membership Council The Membership Council shall consist
70 of all individual members present as well as representatives,
71 or their alternates from local groups, who represent those
72 individual members not present.

73 It is expected that matters of detail will not be brought
74 before the Membership Council. This Membership Council shall
75 discuss broad problems and pass motions defining the general
76 policies to be carried out in detail by the Executive Commit-
77 tee. At each Membership Council meeting the Executive Commit-
78 tee shall report the action taken by it and its standing and
79 special committees in carrying out the policy of the Member-
80 ship Council. Membership Council meetings shall be called by
81 the Executive Committee at least every two months. Also,
82 upon petition of one quarter of the membership, the Executive
83 Committee shall call a meeting.

84 VI. Voting Procedure At a Membership Council meeting a motion
85 may be passed by a simple majority show of hands or by a majo-
86 rity of the roll call vote. A roll call vote shall be re-
87 quired if by a show of hands one fourth of the members present
88 request a roll call. The same procedure shall be used if the
89 result of a vote by show of hands is challenged. For a roll
90 call vote, the votes of the Membership Council shall be counted
91 in the following manner: Each individual member attending
92 shall have one vote and each official representative or alter-
93 nate of a local group shall have a number of votes equal to
94 the number of members from his groups who are not present. A
95 feasible method which can be used to fix the votes of repre-
96 sentatives is suggested as follows: Before a vote, a roll
97 call of the local groups shall be called to determine the num-
98 ber of individuals attending from each local group. The dif-
99 ference between the number attending and the total number of

100 qualified members of each group shall have the vote of the local
101 group representative. In no case shall a single representa-
102 tive have more than ten votes.

103 VII. Executive Committee The Executive Committee shall con-
104 sist of twelve to twenty members, not more than four of whom
105 are from any one local group. Heads of standing committees
106 shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. Mem-
107 bers of the Executive Committee may not be local group repre-
108 sentatives to the Membership Council.

109 The Executive Committee shall be formed by election of
110 fifteen members by the first Membership Council. The composi-
111 tion of the Executive Committee is expected to be quite flex-
112 ible in practice and any Executive Committee member unable to
113 attend an Executive Committee meeting may send a substitute.
114 Permanent replacements for members of the Executive Committee
115 who may resign shall be made by majority vote of the Executive
116 Committee. Also new members may be added to the Executive Com-
117 mittee upon becoming the chairmen of standing committees to the
118 maximum of twenty Executive Committee members.

119 There shall be no permanent chairman of the Executive Com-
120 mittee except possibly for parliamentary purposes. All members
121 of the Executive Committee shall be equally responsible for
122 carrying out decisions of the Executive Committee.

123 Any meeting of the Executive Committee may be attended in
124 an advisory capacity by any interested members. All actions
125 of the Executive Committee shall be subject to review by the
126 Membership Council. If the Membership Council disapproves of
127 of any actions of the Executive Committee, it may pass a mo-
128 tion criticizing the actions of the Executive Committee and re-
127 stating the policy to be followed. By a majority of the vote
128 of the Membership Council, a new election of Executive Commit-
129 tee members may be called at any time. If, at any time, such
130 such an election has not been called within the previous year,
131 a new Executive Committee shall be elected at the next Member-
132 ship Council meeting. The Membership Council shall always
133 elect fifteen Executive Committee men by roll call vote from no-
134 minations from the floor.

135 The Membership Council shall retain all constitutional pow-
136 er, but it is the purpose of this constitution to give the Exe-
137 cutive Committee freedom of action to the extent that its acti-
138 vities meet with the approval of the Membership Council. The
139 Executive Committee shall present to the Council reports of its
140 progress, and of the progress of its subcommittees, in carrying
141 out the policies of the Membership Council.

142 This charter may be amended at any time by a two-thirds
143 vote of the Membership Council or by a majority vote if the pro-
144 posed amendment had been announced at a previous meeting.

145 VIII. Officers Their permanent officers of the Association
146 shall be the corresponding secretary, recording secretary, and
147 treasurer who shall be appointed by the majority vote of the
148 of the Executive Committee.

