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## Report of A. P. Bell, Week of March 5-8, 1962

A. P. Bell

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### Recommended Citation

Bell, A. P., "Report of A. P. Bell, Week of March 5-8, 1962" (1962). *Documents*. 203.  
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Report of: A. P. Bell

Week of: March 5-8, 1962

Date and Place	Purpose and Results of the Visit
March 5-8, 1962 Washington, D.C.	The purpose of this visit was to attend the President's Conference on Occupational Safety.

The objectives of the Conference were:  
(1) To focus national attention on the importance of occupational safety and the continued need to do something about it;  
(2) To identify and emphasize emerging problems in occupational safety; (3) To obtain consensus of views and formulate recommendations for action for appropriate groups concerned with job safety.

Through the plenary sessions the President's Conference afforded participants an opportunity to hear nationally recognized leaders discuss the problem of job safety from various points of view. In the several Workshops much of the practical work of the Conference was carried out. There were eight such sessions of a half-day each; four in the morning and four in the afternoon on the second day of the Conference. Delegates selected sessions that more greatly matched their own individual interests.

It was recognized at the Conference that the basic legal responsibilities for preventing job injuries rest upon the several states and upon employers. It sought to provide a climate for the propagation of sound safety programs and techniques. To this end it enlisted the leadership of the President; Vice-President; Secretary of Labor; and other national leaders to stimulate all interested groups toward added and more effective efforts for saving lives and limbs of American workers. The plenary sessions featured addresses by the Vice-President of the United States; the Secretary of Labor; Secretary of Defense; President of American Telephone and Telegraph Company; President of United States Steel Corporation; Vice-President of United Paper Makers and Paper Workers; A. F. L. - C. I. O.;

Date and Place	Purpose and Results of the Visit
March 5-8, 1962 (Con'td)	<p data-bbox="701 395 1564 630">Assistant Executive Secretary of the National Education Association; United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics; Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Education, Office of Education; the Governor of New Jersey; President of the National Safety Council and many others.</p> <p data-bbox="701 653 1583 1345">"What the Nation's Schools Can Do To Help Implement Safety" was the subject of one plenary session. The delegates heard Dr. Clague, United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics and Dr. Derthick, Assistant Executive-Secretary of the National Education Association discuss "The Role of the School in Worker Safety." They called the attention to the continued need of teaching safety and reported on the progress that has been made in the area of safety instruction in our schools. It was pointed out that our schools have a tremendous role in the promotion and implementation of on-the-job worker safety because of the large number of young persons with limited work experience and safety education currently entering the labor market. They called for need in safety from the early years because the rapidly changing technological advances demand a more thorough grounding in this subject.</p> <p data-bbox="701 1368 1583 1698">Workshops heard panels on such subjects as "Research in Safety and its Application"; "A Safe American Agriculture"; "Construction Safety"; "Safety in Handling Materials on Railroads and Stevedoring"; "Safeguarding the Public Employee"; "Selling Safety Through Association in Trade and Service Industries"; "Off-the-Job Safety"; and, "Safeguarding Human Worth Through Medical-Administrative Skills."</p> <p data-bbox="701 1721 1583 1956">Although papers were presented at each of the Workshops the 3,000 delegates who attended the Conference, from all walks of life and all parts of the country, at the invitation of President Kennedy had plenty of time to express themselves and to make recommendations in these Workshop sessions.</p> <p data-bbox="701 1980 1583 2050">Dr. Clague, Commissioner of Labor Statistics, in his address, prepared for a Workshop, noted</p>

Date and Place	Purpose and Results of the Visit
March 5-8, 1962 (Con'td)	<p>we have been losing ground in some sectors of public employment. He said that preliminary estimates indicate that this countries public employees experienced 238,000 disabling work injuries last year and about 1,600 were death cases compared with 149,000 work injuries and 1,100 deaths in 1950. In an address prepared for another Workshop on "Off-the-Job Safety", John V. Grimaldi, Commissioner on Safety and Plant Protection for the General Electric Company, noted that of the 93,000 accidental deaths in 1960, 79,200 occurred off-the-job. To slash this death toll he called for a four point program embracing (1) Total community responsibility; (2) Organization of the Community safety effort; (3) Stiffening of enforcement of safety laws, and regulations; and, (4) Recognition that there is no easy solution to a difficult problem.</p> <p>It was pointed up that on-the-job fatalities have been cut from 17,000 to 3,500 as of last year. It was brought out at this Conference that the annual accident toll among farm workers is the highest of any other occupation in the United States. The economic loss from farm work accidents numbers into the millions. Significant technological advancements are taking place in agriculture including farm mechanization, rapid expansion of the use of agricultural chemicals and the increase in the use of electrical power; and rural traffic patterns are increasing in complexity. These facts make it imperative that agriculture vigorously increase its safety efforts on an enlightened basis. Current farm safety programs, projects and activities have demonstrated a capacity to reduce farm work accidents. These efforts must be expanded and increased. The agricultural safety workshop of the 1962 President's Conference on Occupational Safety came up with several recommendations that will perhaps be discussed later.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p>

A. P. Bell, Associate Professor  
Agricultural Education