

national affiliates, meets every year to elect all officers except the secretary general who is appointed by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee consists of a president, vice president, seven members elected in rotation according to a geographical table, one member appointed by the primary teachers' federation and one by the secondary teachers' federation. It controls the administration and finances of the Confederation and prepares the agenda for the Assembly. It also submits to the Assembly reports on activities and finances and a proposed program.

WCOTP sees the problems among teachers and pupils all over the world. We do not have the solutions to all the problems but we have ideas and we know that professional associations like DAVI have more ideas. Most important, we must recognize the necessity of utilizing and adapting the educational resources in this and other countries to meet the challenges everywhere. I believe that DAVI can play a vital role in meeting this tremendous educational challenge.

### *Notes and Comment*

WCOTP may well prove to be a new landfall in DAVI's exploration of ways to participate internationally in the field of audiovisual education. One of the most telling arguments for DAVI to accept Dr. Welty's challenge is found in the fact that DAVI's parent organization, The National Education Association, is deeply interested in WCOTP. Space does not permit the many quotations expressing this interest. A case in point is William G. Carr's article in the Fall 1960 issue of *World Affairs* (reprints available from WCOTP).

To further orient oneself to the matter of DAVI-WCOTP cooperation, see "A Proposal for International Audiovisual Exchange," by Edgar Dale in *AV COMMUNICATION REVIEW* for July-August 1960 (Vol. 8, No. 4). Also pertinent are: "DAVI International?—A Convention Postscript" in *Audiovisual Instruction* for April 1960; "Project Committees Air Plans for 1960-61," *Audiovisual Instruction*, June 1960, page 178; and "International Relations," *Audiovisual Instruction*, June 1961, page 280. —D.E.S.

### *. . . against pretentious verbiage*

You have only to go to the great philosophers to see that it is possible to express with lucidity the most subtle reflections. . . . People often write obscurely because they have never taken the trouble to learn to write clearly. . . . Often you can only guess at their meaning. . . .

Another cause of obscurity is that the writer is himself not quite sure of his meaning . . . and it is natural enough that he should not find a precise expression for a confused idea. . . . But this sort of obscurity merges very easily into . . . willful obscurity that masquerades as aristocratic exclusiveness. The author wraps his meaning in mystery so that the vulgar shall not participate in it. . . . But this kind of obscurity is not only pretentious; it is short-sighted. For time plays an odd trick. If the sense is meager, time reduces it to a meaningless verbiage. . . .

From *The Summing Up*, by W. Somerset Maugham. New York: Penguin Books, Inc., 1946. p. 21-3.