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# NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1975

1. N.E.A. HAS BEEN A POWERFUL INFLUENCE IN EDUCATION FOR

-1-

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEEN YEARS. I AM TOLD THAT IN 1859 --

TWO

YEARS AFTER N.E.A.'S FOUNDING -- PRESIDENT BUCHANAN HOSTED THE TOTAL

MEMBERSHIP IN THE EAST ROOM -- ALL FIFTY-FIVE OF THEM.

# BY CONTRAST TODAY YOU HAVE ONE POINT SEVEN MILLION MEMBERS 45

1.7

-2-

AND THROUGH THEM REACH FORTY-FIVE MILLION SCHOOL CHILDREN.

THIS IS A RECORD OF GROWTH IN WHICH YOU CAN TAKE GREAT

PRIDE.

# 2. I HAVE TAKEN SEVERAL STEPS TO EXPAND THE DIALOGUE WITH

EDUCATORS AND WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS . . . (NOTE THAT VARIOUS

EDUCATION GROUPS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO THE TUESDAY MEETINGS AT THE

WHITE HOUSE AND THAT YOU HAVE MET OFTEN WITH H.E.W. SECRETARY

WEINBERGER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY TROTTER AND U.S. COMMISSIONER OF

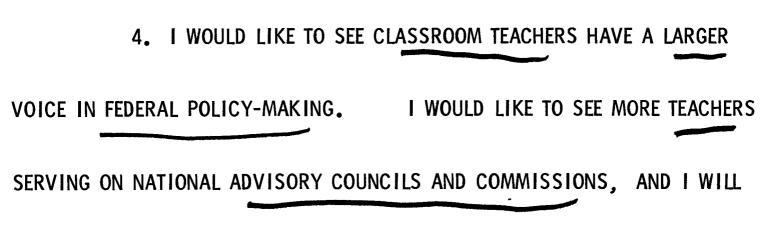
EDUCATION T. H. BELL).

#### 3. I AM PROUD OF THE FACT THAT THE FIRST BILL I SIGNED AS

PRESIDENT WAS PUBLIC LAW 93-380 . . . THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF

1974. THIS LEGISLATION SHOULD FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR EDUCATIONAL

SYSTEM -- IT RENEWS OUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION.



INSTRUCT THE U.S. COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION TO OBTAIN SOME NOMINEES

FROM YOUR ORGANIZATION FOR THESE APPOINTMENTS.

I KNOW THAT COMMISSIONER BELL HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED THIS MATTER

-6-

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4

WITH YOU. WE HAVE NOT HAD MANY OPENINGS TO THIS POINT,

BUT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER WILL BE COMING UP IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

## 5. THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO BE DONE IN THE EDUCATION

## FIELD. WITH THE DECLINING SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS OF THE PAST THREE YEARS

# AND THE PROJECTED DECLINES, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR US TO TURN OUR

# ATTENTION TO WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FOR TEACHERS.

I HAVE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND EDUCATION OF

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

ADDITIONALLY, APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-FIVE

PERCENT OF THE REVENUE SHARING FUNDS SENT TO STATE AND LOCAL

GOVERNMENTS HAVE GONE TO EDUCATION. WE ARE ALSO PUTTING TOGETHER

OUR PROPOSALS FOR A NEW VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BILL THAT SHOULD

STRENGTHEN THAT ASPECT OF OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

AND, AS YOU KNOW, I HAVE BEEN EMPHASIZING THE NEED TO BUILD A

STRONGER WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATION AND THE WORLD OF

WORK. I WAS PLEASED TO SEE A NEW CAREER EDUCATION LAW IN

P. L. 93-380 AND WAS PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE FIRST APPROPRIATION

FOR THAT PROGRAM.

6. ONCE WE SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF INFLATION AND RECESSION -

AND GET OUR ECONOMY MOVING AHEAD -- I HOPE TO TAKE SOME MAJOR

NEW INITIATIVES IN EDUCATION ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL.

FOR INSTANCE,

ONE OF THE GREAT NEEDS IN THE COUNTRY TODAY IS TO HAVE PARENTS WHO

UNDERSTAND HOW TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN GROW AND DEVELOP TO THEIR

FULL POTENTIAL.

MY ADMINISTRATION IS ALREADY SUPPORTING PILOT PROJECTS TO DEVELOP

AND TEST CURRICULUM MATERIALS FOR TEACHING HIGH SCHOOL YOUNGSTERS

HOW TO FOSTER INTELLECTUAL GROWTH AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT IN

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN ANTICIPATING THE DAY WHEN THEY WILL BECOME

PARENTS.

SUCH MATERIALS ARE ALSO BEING DEVELOPED FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN.

A T.V. PILOT PROGRAM SOON WILL BE DEVELOPED TO FOSTER SUCH SKILLS IN

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN. AS COURSES IN MORE EFFECTIVE PARENTING

BECOME WIDESPREAD THIS WILL, OF COURSE, MEAN MORE TEACHING JOBS.

I AM CONCERNED, AS YOU ARE, THAT WE STRENGTHEN OUR EDUCATION

SYSTEM THROUGH A BALANCED PROGRAM OF LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL

#### FUNDING. I WAS PLEASED TO SEE THE EMPHASIS IN THE NEW

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT ON FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO

STRENGTHEN STATE SCHOOL FINANCE AND STATE EQUALIZATION PROGRAMS.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COMMISSIONER BELL IS NOW PREPARING THE GUIDELINES

AND STANDARDS FOR THIS PROGRAM. THE NEW LAW TOUCHES THE

IMPACT AID FORMULA AS WELL AS PROVIDING ANOTHER SECTION TO ENCOURAGE

AND SUPPORT STUDIES OF SCHOOL FINANCE FORMULAS IN ALL FIFTY STATES.

# 7. MY RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1976 FOR

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PURPOSES IS APPROXIMATELY

FIFTY PERCENT HIGHER THAN WAS THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET OF PRESIDENT

JOHNSON IN FISCAL YEAR 1969 (HIS LAST BUDGET WHILE HE WAS PRESIDENT).

# 8. WE WANT TO WORK WITH THE N.E.A. YOUR ADVICE AND

ASSISTANCE WILL BE WELCOME. I CAME HERE AS A FIRST STEP IN

ESTABLISHING CLOSER TIES BETWEEN N.E.A. AND MY ADMINISTRATION.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN AND IMPROVE AMERICAN EDUCATION.

END OF TEXT