

The establishment of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts would serve notice to the world that the arts, as well as the sciences, are of inestimable concern to our people. The image of America must not be projected only as a mechanistic facade. The other peoples of the world must see us as we truly are, a nation of deep abiding faith, with souls sensitive to beauty, and proud of the manifestations of our own cultural development. We must not forget that a large part of our misunderstandings with other nations stems from the mistaken idea that we as a nation are solely devoted to material things.

Even our tremendous expenditures for foreign aid have not served wholly to dispel this unfortunate picture, for other nations often view this with the suspicion that somehow there must be "something in it" for us. What we must do is to present another image of America abroad—an image of a country which devotes a substantial portion of its time and financial resources in pursuit of the arts, a country which has an eye and an ear for the things of timeless beauty, as well as engineering know-how.

We have expended over \$12 million in the last 7 years to send cultural presentations abroad. This was a wise investment and has earned large dividends of good will and understanding in many parts of the world. Can we not now call upon the Federal Government to give official recognition to the arts on our own shores?

We believe that the proposed Advisory Council on the Arts, as constituted through the provisions of this bill, will gain increased respect for our cultural maturity on the part of other nations, and that it will be a bold step forward for our indigenous fine arts, particularly if implemented by the program of matching grants to the States.

In conclusion, we should like to quote a resolution passed by the National Music Council on January 5, 1961:

That whereas it is generally agreed that the creative arts and the humanities are a highly important part of the cultural and spiritual atmosphere of a country, and although the Federal Government has recognized this importance in its cultural exchange programs, the contribution of the Federal Government to the creative arts in the United States has developed slowly, and

That if the United States is to maintain and improve its world leadership, to increase its prestige in international relations, and most important, to improve the cultural opportunities for our own people, it seems clear that the Federal Government must assume a greater interest in and a greater responsibility for the further development of the creative arts and the humanities

Mr. THOMPSON. Doctor, thank you very much for this splendid statement.

I note that you represent and are speaking for 255 leading schools of music and departments of music of colleges and universities. Is it your feeling that almost unanimously these schools and colleges favor this type of legislation?

Dr. GORTON. Yes, sir; it is. We have had many discussions of the idea of a Federal Advisory Council on the Arts in our annual meetings and the sentiment seems to be overwhelmingly in favor of this proposal.

Mr. THOMPSON. I assume that you are a member of the National Music Council; are you not?

Dr. GORTON. Yes, we are.