

nephews who represent the younger generation are almost all students or college graduates. In my travels in the U.S.S.R. I had the opportunity to meet people of different educational levels from professors and engineers to chauffeurs and peasants. Speaking the language fluently, I had the advantage of talking with them directly. I came out with the impression that they looked with horror at the past, that they are not content with the present, and they are striving for something better in the future.

He goes on and tells about his visit with his brothers and says again that he had not seen them for 47 years.

He winds up:

I have been very much impressed with the persistence and the accomplishments of the Russian people.

He is not talking about anyone but the people that he met.

Now, the things that seem to be impressive to some of us about what the Russian people are having at their disposal now at no expense, we should mention, include a rather large amateur movement which specifies that it is, as I remember, supported by what we would call the unions. These are the houses of culture for the employees. Then there are the pioneer houses or clubs for students between the age of 10 and 14 years.

We have nothing like either of those in this country because what we do have that would compare in a way in handling and achievements are entirely otherwise sponsored.

I thought that you folks here, any of you who are interested, would like to avoid having to listen to me any longer but would allow me to pass to you the copies of Miss Lawler's own personal report. The official report will, of course, come out later.

I do not know how soon that would be but this is in a way only official because it is objective and it tells the facts.

The report, of course, will be sponsored by the Department of State. It does not tell here when it will be out.

I had read this report some time ago and then read it again yesterday, and I think it is good reading for us to endure and think about because in certain ways they are beating us to it. I do not mean like the sputnik thing. This is something that will not explode all of a sudden.

One of the big steps toward putting ourselves in this picture where we belong for our own people regardless of any competition will be securing not only the passage of these two bills but also informing thoroughly all citizens who are interested in the arts in their communities and in their children.

I include at this point the text of my prepared remarks:

Chairman Thompson and members of the Select Subcommittee on Education of the Committee on Education and Labor, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Clifford V. Buttelman and I represent the Music Educators National Conference, a department of the National Education Association of the United States. Our organization is numerically the largest and probably the most highly organized of the NEA departments. The MENC has 51 organized and well developed federated music educators associations. Although our federated organization in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia operates through its officers and board of directors as an autonomous unit in most respects, our nearly 40,000 members are united in membership and in basic common purposes stemming from the objective to advance music education through the schools and higher educational institutions of the United States as a common cause in the development of the cultural aspects of the lives of our citizens. The number of boys and girls and older people who are coming under this influence represent literally millions of families.