

prices of the books are higher than they might well be if one were buying trade books as opposed to books with publishers' library bindings and then because of the physical quality of the books provided to the schools?

Mrs. RUSK. Before I answer that I would like to ask you this, Would this reflect back to the comment made the first day that because of the litigation that is going on concerning book pricing, that we would refrain from commenting in this direction?

Dr. MATTHEW. Yes, but I think we have deviated from that providing we name no specific publishers.

Mr. BURTON. Yes, that would be all right.

Mrs. RUSK. I don't know whether I am sidestepping your question or not, but I would say that school librarians typically are interested in getting the best value for our money. The purchases we have been able to make with title II funds have been within the same price considerations as the purchases that we have been able to make with other funds that were available before title II funds were available.

Dr. MATTHEW. Despite the increased purchasing?

Mrs. RUSK. I am speaking a great deal from personal experience. In my own city we always did quantity purchasing so I cannot say that any greater discounts have been reflected because of title II.

Dr. MATTHEW. Thank you.

Mr. BURTON. Thank you very much, Mrs. Rusk. We will now have Mr. Lerone Bennett. Mr. Bennett is an author and senior editor of Ebony magazine in Chicago. Please come forward.

**STATEMENT OF LERONE BENNETT, EDITOR AND AUTHOR,
JOHNSON PUBLISHING CO., CHICAGO, ILL.**

Mr. BURTON. It is good to have you with us.

Mr. BENNETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to say first of all I have been specializing in the writing of books and feature articles on the history of the American Negro in life and culture. I have prepared a statement and I would like to read excerpts from that statement, and then I would like to take what I consider a very average American history textbook and indicate some of the things I am talking about in my statement.

Mr. BURTON. Without objection, the statement will appear in the record.

STATEMENT OF LERONE BENNETT, JR., AUTHOR AND SENIOR EDITOR, EBONY MAGAZINE

America's current domestic crisis is a reflection of the failure of our schools to perform their basic function of preparing youths to live productive and mature lives in a multiracial society.

This failure is rooted in an ensemble of factors, including the serious distortions and omissions in textbooks and teaching materials. And it is my opinion, and the opinion of many writers and scholars in this field, that segregated textbooks—the segregated and segregating use of words, symbols, and ideas—are as dangerous to the internal peace of America as segregated schools and residential areas. In a very real sense, segregated schools and residential areas are external reflections of segregated minds moulded by distorted teaching tools in a white-oriented educational framework. If we integrated all our schools and all our residential areas tomorrow and if we continued to use the same textbooks, then all our schools and all our residential areas would soon be segregated again.

It should be apparent by now to most Americans that education cannot solve the race problem because education is a part of the problem. That fact was