

We do not send this type of material to a school without followup. We meet with the librarians, encourage them to order these materials, and then check their listings to see that these materials have been ordered and are being used in our schools. So there is a definite followup.

I have also prepared for your use the list which is a bibliography of materials for use in relation to Puerto Rican discovery today and there are many items there for purchase by schools.

Mr. BURTON. Mrs. Lloyd, at this point, if you don't mind, I will, without objection, direct the staff to see that appropriate reference is made to the many useful materials that you have recommended to us and that will eliminate the necessity of you having to detail them so that the record will be complete in that regard.

(The information supplied follows:)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,
New York, N.Y., October 9, 1962.

To publishers of text materials for the schools.

POLICY STATEMENT ON TREATMENT OF MINORITIES IN TEXTBOOKS

Since World War II, civil rights has been one of the most crucial issues of American politics. This country has supported a program aimed at an extension of those rights and the elimination of discrimination and prejudice in housing, employment, education and other areas of community life.

In all of these areas, there has been considerable, though uneven, progress in recent years. Yet, the problem of improving intergroup relations remains one of our most urgent challenges. The attacks on traditional discriminatory practices through the courts and by the activities of various protesting groups, and the persistence of discrimination in many areas of our society, indicate that the attainment of equality in civil rights is not yet a subject that can be described in the past tense in our textbooks. The Superintendent of Schools of New York City is now asking the textbook industry to consider recent criticism of Social Studies textbooks with respect to the treatment of minority groups.

Critics contend that there are few, if any, textbooks in use today which present a comprehensive and satisfactory picture of the status of minority groups in our culture. Recent studies indicate that most texts still present a largely white, Anglo-Saxon view of our society and its history, and tend to leave such groups as Indians, Negroes, Jews and citizens of Latin and Asian origin out of their accounts of the historical development of the American people.

It is true that some few textbooks indicate the pluralistic, interracial, multi-religious character of our population, but, in most cases, the current conflicts with their dramatic issues are not considered in a realistic, factual manner. For example, the gravamen of Louis Adamic's "A Nation of Nations", namely, the contributions of minority groups to American life, has not been significantly reflected in our textbooks. Nor would one ever be aware from our textbooks of the "American Dilemma" described by Gunnar Myrdal in his classic study of the American Negro.

Textbook illustrations rarely reflect the varied ethnic components of American society. The role of minorities as groups, particularly in the process of industrialization and urbanization in the 20th century, has not been adequately treated in the texts. It is not sufficient to list the contributions of a few prominent representatives of these groups to the development of American culture. The United States is, after all, a nation of minorities, and each of these groups has made significant contributions to our development. Our understanding of the role of minority groups in American history has become broader as a result of modern historical scholarship. This new knowledge has not been reflected in our textbooks. Current conflicts involving the changing status of the Negro receive scant treatment, as does the significance of the Supreme Court decision on school desegregation and the continued resistance to the implementation of that decision.

An essential part of the history of America is the history of the contributions of men in minority groups, yet little has been done to present this. For example,