

INTEGRATED SCHOOL BOOKS—A DESCRIPTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SELECTED CLASSROOM TEXTS¹

INTRODUCTION—ROY WILKINS

In compiling this bibliography, the NAACP has made available to parents, school officials and interested citizens generally a guide to "integrated" study materials which cannot be found anywhere else today. Yet, in the crucial effort to guarantee to all our children, white and black, a curriculum that makes sense in a multi-racial society, such a listing is long overdue.

Individual publishers circulate their own lists of publications, and it is good to see that these increasingly include both textbooks and supplementary reading materials in which some attempt is made to show that today's world does not consist exclusively of white, middle-class children and adults. These books vary widely in their competence and understanding, but it is only a few years since they could not be found at all.

The bibliography presented here does not include *every* book which purports to meet the need for representative text and illustrations as urged by the NAACP for many years. The list prepared by the New York City Board of Education, for example, contains somewhat more titles, but not all of these, in our judgment, merit recommendation.

Above all, this bibliography is *annotated*, which is a feature not found in any other listing of comparable scope. Each title has been read and each entry includes a brief description and evaluation. Obviously, opinions will differ, and the judgments expressed are not offered as rigid or categorical.

Although this list contains 175 titles, and represents an enormous expansion of what was available until only recently, it would be a mistake to assume that the surface has been more than scratched. The goal continues to be a supply of materials meeting every grade need, in every subject taught, and in sufficient abundance to accommodate the range of needs and tastes represented by the thousands of school districts across the country.

We believe that publication of this bibliography and its conscientious use will not only meet an immediate need in scores of communities but will help to accelerate the attainment everywhere of curriculum and materials adequate to the times.

The publications below are listed in alphabetical order by title or name of series. All are designed for use as classroom readers and textbooks for pre-school and elementary school pupils. Three additional lists are being prepared: (1) supplementary school readers for elementary and pre-school pupils (books which are intended to supplement regular classroom textbooks and readers); (2) biographies and autobiographies for elementary and secondary school students; and (3) books on the history of Negroes in America for elementary and secondary school students, including some new textbooks on American history.

Bank Street Readers, Irma Black, Senior Editor, Macmillan Company, New York: A series of basic readers with unusually beautiful and striking illustrations, in color, of multi-racial urban life. The text of each selection varied—vignettes, poems, stories, dialogues and little essays. Bank Street College of Education in New York City prepared the readers and a Teacher's Guide for each reader which includes Teaching Aids and Skills Practice Books.

In the City (preprimer level 1).

People Read (preprimer level 2).

Around the City (primary level).

Uptown, Downtown (first reader level).

New York City (second reader, part one).

Green Light, Go (second reader, part two).

Basic Social Studies Program, Scott, Foresman & Co., Chicago: The books in this series range from primary to secondary grades. A Teacher's Guide and Edition is available for each book.

At School. 1965. 96 pages. primary. An early reader; this book is about what happens in school and the people there, teachers, principal, to nurse and custodian. Very well integrated illustrations, pupils, parents, and teachers alike.

In the Neighborhood. 1965. 189 pages. middle elementary. This book consists of five separate stories about a young boy or girl, their families,

¹Published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 1st edition, Summer 1966.