

bulletin boards for the month of March were done by the team and their pupils. Many of the smiles seen in the halls are those of team members, and much credit that has come to the school has been because of accomplishments made by them.

Surely the program has affected every member of the staff. WHY? It is obvious that the children have progressed miraculously. We are all watching them grow. A smile from a little boy who has been made to feel that he is an important person in the world, a complete sentence from a little girl who refused to have anything to say when school opened, and a group of children standing erect with their heads to the sky saying the pledge to the flag—all of these indicate that the National Teacher Corps is doing much for this community.

The team realizes that any effective program must involve the parents as well as the children and make a contribution to the community. One of their first tasks was to become well acquainted with the home environment of each child and to analyze the surrounding neighborhood. Routine visits are made to the homes, and parents are invited to observe their children and to participate in their many learning experiences. In like manner, the parents are proud of the fact that team members visited the homes during the pre-planning week in order to get acquainted with them. One mother remarked to the principal, "She must be a good teacher. She came in and sat down in my house and invited me to come to see my son in the classroom." Further, parents are frequently invited to meetings at the school for the purpose of gaining new insights into ways of helping their children at home. Suggestions are given about buying books for children, health rules, and importance of family unity. Another evidence of involvement of parents is that they accompany the children on trips to help the teacher. This is good in that the parents also are learning along with the children and can understand more fully what the school is trying to do for their children. It is significant that the teachers have learned to converse with parents who have limited cultural backgrounds to the extent that the parents feel at ease and friendly around them.

The parents take pride in witnessing programs presented by their children. A little welcome address or a good-bye song thrills the heart of every parent.

The NASH-WASHINGTON area office of Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc. was a great help to the team during registration week. The office furnished the team with the names and addresses of families with children of kindergarten age. This saved much time and effort in locating pupils to be enrolled on time. This helped to increase the enrollment more than ten percent over the previous year. The E.O.A. workers also assist in securing clothing for children who need it and constantly inform the teachers of needs of those children enrolled in the program.

RECOMMENDATIONS

One of the greatest problems that has been faced in the initiation of the National Teacher Corps Program has been the unavailability of funds from the proposed budget because of the late appropriation; therefore, I recommend that the funds be allotted sufficiently early in order that the full program may be carried out. Too often members of the staff, or the school, have had to use their personal resources to finance activities, such as trips.

In conclusion, as a principal of a school in which a Teacher Corps program operates, I wish to stress that the National Teacher Corps has had a tremendous impact upon the professional growth of the teaching team and faculty in general and the cultural growth of both the kindergarten children and their parents.

It is my sincere hope that this program will not only be continued but will be greatly expanded in the future.

Dr. LETSON, Mr. Chairman, this is Mrs. Barbara Goodwin, president of the DCEI State program in the State of Georgia and also an experienced teacher in Georgia with one of these teams.

Mrs. GOODWIN. I would like to state this report represents the views and thinking of all of the five lady teachers. We have had many opportunities to meet together and have tried to make the program more or less uniform over the city adjusting it to the needs of each individual school where we were working.

The purpose of the National Teacher Corps involves strengthening the educational opportunities for the disadvantaged and also empha-