

Mr. DELLENBACK. I am not talking about the level at the moment. In your testimony you talk of a minimum of \$7,000 up to \$14,000 in no more than 10 steps. My question is because of the brevity of time, do you feel there should be standard teachers salaries?

Mr. MEGEL. There should be a figure that would be within the province of gaining teachers in the teaching profession.

Mr. DELLENBACK. On a standard basis so that in such and such a State and in New York City there should be a standard salary?

Mr. MEGEL. If you have a salary schedule within those limits of \$7,000 to \$14,000 that would take care of the situation.

Mr. DELLENBACK. So you don't really feel there should be standard salaries. You are talking about a minimum.

Mr. MEGEL. I think that is what I said in my statement, yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Do you feel the determination of these standards or minima should be taken care of by the Federal Government?

Mr. MEGEL. Some kind of a standard schedule that would give some idea of the value of a teacher in the classroom, yes, sir.

Mr. DELLENBACK. You don't feel this should be left to the control of the individual States.

Mr. MEGEL. Yes, within limitations of that salary schedule or something between.

Mr. DELLENBACK. In other words, the Government should by stick or carrot bring about a minimum that all of the States must adhere to?

Mr. MEGEL. No.

Mr. DELLENBACK. The States should be left in control of their own teachers salaries?

Mr. MEGEL. The average teacher today in the United States—for all of the teachers in the United States are making a salary of \$628. We are not going to get that salary increased unless we do a job of great pressures and until the Federal Government recognizes the value of teachers in classrooms. Part of the problem is not getting a sufficient salary.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Mr. Biemiller, you get the point of my question. Recognizing what is being said about raising salaries, the question that I asked is, Should it be within the province of the Federal Government to set salaries—salary standards or should it be within the province of the State government?

Mr. BIEMILLER. I think the carrot system of establishing certain minimums would have very real value.

Mr. DELLENBACK. On the Federal level?

Mr. BIEMILLER. Yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. So this should not be left to the States?

Mr. BIEMILLER. The carrot system I emphasize however—

Mr. DELLENBACK. But the Federal carrot rather than a State?

Mr. BIEMILLER. Yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I would like to go on but I recognize the tap of the gavel was a gracious way of saying my time has run out.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Meeds.

Mr. MEEDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to join my colleague from Michigan in welcoming you gentlemen to the committee and note this is also the third time I have had the pleasure of listening to your testimony in support of education and many other things which I consider to be of interest to the people at large.