

The extent to which this city will move forward tomorrow, indeed, the extent to which our country will move forward depends upon today's children. We must not neglect our duty to them.

Mayor Washington has stated that the quality of the teacher is the key to good education. I suggest that, if the Mayor wants quality teachers and excellence in the local educational program, he should take a long look at the percent of the local budget which is allotted to the school system. For many years the District of Columbia Education Association has maintained that the public schools do not receive their fair share of the budget.

Passage of H.R. 15747, with a minimum of \$7000 and a scale for the career teacher which should begin to keep more of them in the classrooms, could have the effect of pointing out to citizens everywhere the seriousness of the situation in the teaching profession. If education is to serve the nation as it should, there must be excellence in it; there will be excellence only if we attract to and retain in our classrooms the most highly qualified teachers. Surely, our children deserve no less.

Mr. Dowdy. Mr. McLin, how about your statement?

Mr. McLIN. Mr. Chairman, the National Education Association would be happy to file its statement in the interest of economy of time and to indulge just 30 seconds longer, I may—

Mr. Dowdy. We will not have time for further oral presentations. The House is already in session.

Mr. McLIN. I just wanted to call Mr. Broyhill's attention to page 2 of our statement which has a paragraph in there dealing with the plight of the experienced teacher.

**STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. McLIN, SENIOR CONSULTANT,
OFFICE OF LEGISLATION AND FEDERAL RELATIONS, NATIONAL
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

Mr. McLIN. Mr. Chairman, my name is William H. McLin. I am Senior Consultant in the Office of Legislation and Federal Relations of the National Education Association.

The National Education Association has long contended that the basic element in the strengthening and the improvement of schools is the establishment and maintenance of adequate salaries for teachers. Its latest policy statement on the subject is found in the Resolutions adopted by its Representative Assembly in Minneapolis in July, 1967. For the sake of the record, the entire text is quoted, as follows:

PROFESSIONAL SALARIES

The National Education Association commends those state and local legislative bodies and boards of education that have recognized the importance of higher teacher salaries as a means of promoting improved competence and performance in teaching. Still greater efforts are needed to increase teachers' salaries to levels which will retain competent teachers in the schools and attract persons of outstanding ability to the profession.

The Association believes that teachers' salaries should compare favorably with income in other professions and occupations requiring comparable preparation. Starting salaries for qualified degree teachers should be at least \$8,000, and salaries for experienced teachers with a