

Washington Report

By CONGRESSMAN JAMES T. BROWNE

ANTIBUSING MEASURE

In response to growing public opposition to the busing of students from one school district to another, the House of Representatives recently approved a series of amendments to an omnibus education bill demonstrating the intent of Congress to bar the federal government from pressuring or requiring school districts to expand local, state, or federal money on busing as a means to desegregate schools.

In recent weeks, members of Congress have been receiving an increasing volume of mail on this subject as student busing plans have been implemented in cities all over the nation. Southern school districts were the early targets of both Department of Health, Education and Welfare and court-ordered plans of this type. The expansion of this practice to other parts of the country has added a chorus of voices to those of us who have continually expressed our concern about the long-range impact of busing on the educational system.

One amendment approved in the House would have the effect of delaying court-ordered busing plans until all local appeals have been exhausted. In many school districts such as Charlotte and Winston-Salem, the courts required that busing plans be implemented even while appeals were pending. Requiring local districts to adopt remedies before the completion of the judicial process appears to jeopardize the right of total review of individual cases.

This action by the House is a beginning by the legislative branch to clarify some of the legal snarls which have developed in the process of desegregating our schools. Public policy, developed in recent laws and court decisions, states that school assignments should be non-discriminatory and without regard to race. School boards in following this policy have long since departed from the questionable practice of operating dual school systems. School districts in our area of North Carolina have done a good job over the past few years of assuring that all students within a school district are assigned on a non-discriminatory basis.

Recent court decisions have caused confusion and uncertainty which have added to the already difficult task of peacefully meeting the national public policy of desegregating our schools. The prac-

tical source of information that members may be informed of state and local regulations that may or may not apply to their own facilities; (4) to support and strengthen individual efforts through cooperation; (5) to support all efforts in the interest of children.

Represented at the formation of this association were seven facilities concerned with early childhood education. They were: Through-the-Week School, Mother Goose Day Care Center, Elder Playschool, Britain Villa Day Care Center, McPhearson Day Care Center, Humphrey-Dumpty Day Nursery, Westview Baptist Church Kindergarten. Other early childhood educational facilities are invited to attend the next meeting on Thursday, December 9th, 7:30 p. m. at Union Trust Co. in Shilo. Interested facilities not present at Thursday night's meeting may contact one of the officers for more information.



GARDEN TIME
m. e. gardner
n. c. state college

N. C. State University Apollo and Portrait are the two All-America award winning roses for 1972.

Apollo is a magnificent soft yellow hybrid tea variety on a strong, sturdy stem. The classic blooms of delicate sunrise yellow, suffused with shadings of red, are quite large, often five to six inches across, and hold their color throughout the life of the bloom. The beautifully formed buds will develop 30 to 40 petals produced on long stems, perfect for cutting.

The fragrance is unusually pleasant, resembling that of the "old-fashioned" tea rose. The fragrance intensifies as the flower opens.

Portrait will prove to be a rose for all gardeners. It produces a strong, well formed plant with attractive fully double flowers. The flowers are two-toned pink, fragrant and very attractive. This variety could very well become a focal point of interest in your rose garden. It is reported to have more than ordinary disease resistance.

The urn shaped, deep pink buds soon to give a striking combination of rich pink outer petals and a creamy, shrimp pink center. Occasionally, gold tones wash the open bloom and add to its glowing warmth with the whole flower set off by a deep clear pink reverse.

The blooms, perfumed with a penetrating old rose fragrance, are made up of more than 50 petals which roll back in a pleasing informal style. The plant is a strong grower, well branched with a solid mantle of deep green, disease resistant foliage. This variety provides added interest to the rose grower as it is the first All-America rose selection developed by an amateur hybridizer in the 32 year history of AARS.

Portrait was developed by Mr. Carl Meyer, Cleves, Ohio, who is a pipe fitter by trade. If you are an amateur rose breeder, keep trying; as you, too, may develop a winner.

Early Childhood Group Formed

Action was taken Thursday night, November 11, to organize Cleveland County Early Childhood Education Association. There were fourteen present for the meeting, representing seven facilities in the area. Officers elected were Mrs. Bill Elder, director of Elder Playschool, president; Mrs. Pearl Wesson, director of Children's Day Care Center, vice president; Mrs. Alice Byrd, director of Britain Village Day Care Secretary and treasurer.

The purpose of the meeting was to organize an association here in Cleveland County of kindergarten and child care facilities, and improved standards of operation among the facilities in Cleveland County. Through organization the following specific objectives will be sought: (1) to create a spirit of goodwill among the members; (2) to encourage members to study to gain functional knowledge and skill in the application of new practices and techniques; (3) to provide a cen-

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the of forced busing has distracted from the real goal of providing quality education for all students. Congressional guidance is needed to clear up some of this confusion. I have supported legislative efforts to clarify congressional intent. It is much too early to tell if the action taken by the House will be successful, but at least a beginning has been made and Congress is ready to assert itself in this area, after remaining quiet for too long.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The Higher Education Act was extended by the House and amendments were added to strengthen and improve the various programs of Federal assistance available to colleges and universities throughout the country. In addition to continuing the present grant-in-aid programs to these institutions, student assistance programs were expanded to provide increased financial help for students of low and middle-income families. Also, the "ambition approach" which passes aid on the basis of students enrolled in the program was adapted as a means of providing increased aid to institutions of higher education. In addition to the Federal money which these institutions already receive.

In recent years, both Federal and state governments have increased their financial support of educational institutions. Despite this fact and despite a general rise in tuition costs, many of our colleges and universities are experiencing severe financial difficulties. Since World War II, college enrollments have skyrocketed. In 1960 the total college enrollment was only 1.5 million. In 1969 the number of students in colleges and universities had risen to 7.3 million. Increasing enrollments, rising costs of construction, and the need for new curricula to meet the demands of a rapidly changing society have all been factors contributing to the higher cost of education.

The bill passed the House recognizes the need to continue programs which have helped colleges and universities meet their increasing financial needs. Revisions in this bill will provide additional assistance to small colleges which have suffered the most in the middle-class family which has had to bear the high cost of having several children in school at the same time.

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