



PRESENTATION TO THE PRESIDENT - James A. Harris, Co-Chairperson of the National Education Association's Bicentennial Committee, presents President Ford with a special plaque on behalf of the 1.7 million-member organization. Harris, immediate past president of NEA, made the presentation in the Oval Office in Washington recently. The professional educators' group honored President Ford for "his commitment to the celebration of the Nation's 200th birthday."

Durham's Parkwood School Featured In Japanese Publication

Parkwood Elementary School has been described to Japanese educators as "one of the finest examples of parent involvement and excellent administrative leadership" in an article prepared for a Japanese magazine by a North Carolina Central University professor.

Dr. Elinor T. Massoglia described Parkwood's programs with parents in an August, 1975, article in *Kokusai Kyoiku* (Education in World Perspective.)

She told Japanese readers that Parkwood involves more than 150 of its parents in some school activity.

Parents serve as tutors for children who need help with their studies. Twenty-five or 30 parents visit the school each week, each working with one child.

Parents with talent in the arts are on call to assist the school's art teacher with special activities and projects.

Parents plan and conduct field days, book fairs, mini-courses "to combat the

effects of 'spring fever'", and beautification projects for the school grounds. They assist with the school's office work, serve as substitute teachers, make special instructional materials, work in the library, serve as safety-patrol advisors, and participate on the school advisory committee.

One mother serves as a "school photographer", photographing special projects and events and preparing a "student of the week" bulletin board feature for each class.

Dr. Massoglia's article for the Japanese magazine quotes Bruce Benton, Parkwood's principal, as crediting the Parent-Teacher Association for the initiative in involving parents in school activities.

"Parents have been so helpful, we know that we couldn't get along without them," Benton is quoted as saying in the magazine article.

Dr. Massoglia, who is associate professor of home economics and a specialist in parent education, prepared the Parkwood article and another

on parent education and parent involvement for the magazine after discovering that the concept of direct parent involvement is almost unknown in Japanese schools. The invitation to prepare the article was given while Dr. Massoglia visited Japan last year on the invitation of several Japanese educational and cultural organizations.

Her second article for the magazine is a description of the related concepts of parent education and parent involvement in school activities.

Parent education is providing training for parents to help them serve as effective teachers of their own children. Parent involvement, according to Dr. Massoglia, requires that parents share in the decision made about their child's education.

Dr. Massoglia's textbook on parent skills and early childhood education is scheduled for publication in the fall of 1976.



INSTRUCTORS FROM 18 PREDOMINANTLY MINORITY INSTITUTIONS in North Carolina and Virginia participated in the recent Self-instructional Material Workshop at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The two-day session, sponsored by the N. C. Health Manpower Development Program, trained the instructors in the development of competency-based health sciences enrichment materials. Seated from left to right are: George H. Williams, N. C. Central University; Dr. B. P. C. Sekhara Rao, Bennett College; Dr. Augustine Okonkwo, Norfolk State University; Dr. Albert Samuel, St. Pauls College; Virginia K. Newell, Winston-Salem State University; and Bron Skinner, Health Sciences Consortium.

Local Teacher Selected For Reading Round Table

Ms. Doris Watkins and John Lennon of Durham participated in a round table discussion on the improvement of reading. Ms. Watkins is a high school teacher at Hobbton High School and Lennon is Dean of Men at N. C. Central University.

The Feb. 18-19 round table Quail Roost Conference Center near Durham was coordinated by Citizens United for the Improvement of Reading, a project of the Learning Institute of North Carolina (LINC).

More than 300 teachers from about 90 school systems in the state were nominated for the round table discussion, and 36 were selected to attend. Sponsors of the meeting are LINC, the N. C. Association of Educators, the Association of Classroom Teachers, the N. C. School Boards Association, the State Department of Public Instruction, and the N. C. Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.

Purpose of the two-day invitational meeting is to give a

representative group of classroom teachers an opportunity to meet and discuss in depth ideas on how reading can be improved in the state's schools.

"Many individuals and agencies have expressed concern to us," said John R. B. Hawes, Jr., LINC executive director, "that amid the furor about reading those least heard are the teachers who have been given major responsibility for teaching our children to read."

The Feb. 18-19 round table discussion was one in a series of invitational meetings sponsored by Citizens United and other groups. Topics for three other sessions are community resources, educational policy making, and dropouts, pushouts, and fadeouts. Reports summarizing each round table will be prepared and distributed to state and local policy makers, school administrators, school board members, college and university education departments, and others.

The Library Of Congress To Reveal Contents Of Mystery Box

It might be a pair of shoes, this package wrapped in brown paper and tied with faded tape. But it contains, the label says, the things taken from the pockets of Abraham Lincoln the night he died, April 14/15 1865. Which doctor or friend keeping vigil in the little house on Tenth Street removed them from the dying President or how they came to the Lincoln family is not known. But the box was for many years in the possession of Robert Todd Lincoln and in 1937 Robert Todd Lincoln's daughter gave them to Herbert Putnam, then Librarian of Congress. Since then the package has lain in a safe in the Library of Congress, hidden from the public gaze.

In a press conference on February 12, Daniel J. Boorstin, a distinguished historian as well as Putnam's successor as Librarian of Congress, will open the package and reveal its contents. Tradition has it that they are homely items that might have been carried by anyone at that time. Their association with the martyred President has given them special significance and interest, however, and Dr. Boorstin believes that in this bicentennial year the public should see them.

Following the press

conference they will be placed on view in the Library's Great Hall, on the first floor of the Main Building. Included in the exhibit will be Lincoln documents from the library's collections, the Gettysburg Address and the Second Inaugural Address, and a portrait of the 16th President never before exhibited. On loan from the National Portrait Gallery, which obtained it in 1973, the miniature portrait by John Henry Brown (1919-1891) is the first painting from life made of Lincoln. It was commissioned by Judge John M. Read of Philadelphia and executed in Springfield, Illinois, in five sittings from August 14 to August 25, 1860, the summer of Lincoln's first campaign for the Presidency. Lincoln wrote of it on August 27: "The miniature likeness of myself, taken by your friend, J. Henry Brown, is an excellent one, so far as I can judge. To my unpracticed eye, it is without fault."

The Lincoln Exhibit will remain on view until April 30. The Library's exhibition halls are open from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.

Univ. of Mo. Gets GE Grant

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. - trust established by the General Electric Company in 1952.

The University of Missouri-Rolla, Mo., has received \$3,750 from the General Electric Foundation for minority engineering scholarships aimed at increasing the number of minority enrollees and graduates from its engineering school.

William A. Orme, Foundation Secretary, said that the grant is part of an estimated \$1,071,000 program set up by the Foundation in 1975 to aid disadvantaged, minority youth in gaining an engineering education.

The General Electric Foundation is an independent

TURN ON



HOW LONG HAVE YOU HAD THE URGE TO BARK LIKE A DOG?

EVER SINCE I WAS A PUPPY!