

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
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*National Education Association*  
OF THE UNITED STATES

**ADDRESSES  
AND  
PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE ONE-HUNDRED-AND-THIRD  
ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT  
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though in many places the level that has been attained does not reach what we consider an acceptable standard.

I think our own profession is an excellent illustration of a level of educational achievement. Never before have so many teachers been so well prepared.

But one of the problems facing our society and our profession is that we have not gone far enough to create a system of education which does provide the opportunity for every American to be educated to the fullest extent of his interest and ability, and we cannot have a great and a complete system of education unless we have a great and strong teaching profession.

If you elect me to this highest office in education in our land, I will ask you to make a commitment of your time and your energy and your intellect to the building of the greatest autonomous and independent teaching profession that the world has ever known.

And I do this with a deep sense of urgency. I believe that the wheel of history has turned so that we are presented with an opportunity which, if not seized now, will not come again for a long, long time.

Will you accept the challenge to participate in the shaping of our destiny as we work together in the National Education Association? (Applause)

*President Edinger:* Thank you, *Miss Applegate*.

That concludes the nominations of officers and the responses of the candidates. I want to express my appreciation to the candidates, to those who have nominated and seconded the nominations here on the platform, and to all of you who are delegates to this convention.

I believe I can safely say that during the presentation of the candidates, there was almost no movement about the hall. You were in your places and you were attentive, and I am grateful to you, and I express the appreciation of those who have been nominated for your careful consideration of their qualifications for these important offices they seek. Now, you will be given a number of opportunities during the remainder of this week to meet the candidates and to talk with them, and I am sure you will avail yourselves of these opportunities.

Everyone on the platform this afternoon has been presented, I believe, with the exception of perhaps one or two people, and I would like just to present them to you now.

Our executive secretary, *William G. Carr*, who will be presented this evening for his address. (Applause)

Also on the platform and seated for the first time since this convention started to get under way is *Lois Rogers*, our convention coordinator, and I would like to recognize her with our appreciation. (Applause)

Then over here to my left are the people who keep us all straight, at least as far as the record is concerned, after everything we have said has been recorded for posterity, *Mrs. Oglebay* and *Miss Fialkow*, and our very efficient stenotypist, *Harold Young*, who doesn't dare take his fingers off that machine for fear I will say something he ought to put down. They will be here with us all week. (Applause)

I shall call now for any new business. Are there any matters of new business to come before the Assembly this afternoon?

Seeing no one at microphones, I assume that we have transacted most of our business. Will you please remember that a number of you do have state delegation meetings this afternoon at 5 P.M.

I thank you for your attention, and I now declare this session recessed. The First Business Session was recessed at 4:20 P.M.

FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AND  
SECOND BUSINESS SESSION

*Tuesday Evening, June 29, 1965*

THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY and Second Business Session was convened at 8:10 P.M. by *President Lois V. Edinger*.

*President Edinger:* The First General Assembly and Second Business Session of the National Education Association Representative Assembly will come to order.

We are indeed fortunate to have with us this evening the Manhattan Singers under the direction of *Hugh Ross*. *Mr. Ross* has been the conductor of the Schola Cantorum since 1929. During that time numerous honors have come to him and to his group. We welcome to our platform and to our convention *Mr. Ross* and the Manhattan Singers. (Applause) (Musical selections by the Manhattan Singers.)

*President Edinger:* We certainly wish to express our appreciation to *Mr. Ross* and the Manhattan Singers for this lovely, lovely program, and we join with all of the others who have heaped appreciation upon them. (Applause)

At this time I wish to take the privilege of adding a short item to our program, for I think it is exceedingly fitting that we take this moment to join with others in commemorating a Minute for Peace. I have asked to be with us on the platform this evening *John McConnell*, who is public relations director and the initiator of the Minute for Peace Project in the City of San Francisco. I would like to present to you at this time *John McConnell*. (Applause)

*John McConnell:* Thank you, Madam President.

Today we see our planet, a tiny ball of rock and water, going through the depths of space in search of destiny. While our world is a world of love and hope it is also, unfortunately, a world of clashing thoughts and feelings. The energies of conflict and destruction now threaten the life of our planet. If our world is to survive and find its destiny, new ways of achieving harmony must be found.

Minute for Peace is one way to accomplish this purpose. Briefly, I would like to explain what this is. The idea of Minute for Peace is to have people join together for a minute's observance of conscience and goodwill in unison around the world each day. Minute for Peace will be a time and a way to make the energies of understanding, accord, and cooperation more powerful than the present energies of discord and hostility. It will be something every person can participate in.

It is hoped that Minute for Peace can attract the cooperation of radio, television, and press until a network of communications is established which most everyone in the world will trust.

A fourth-grade student wrote, "I hope the next time they announce a war nobody on either side will come." As we announce this new way to world peace, a way by which we can link each man's conscience to the conscience of all men, I hope everybody comes.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are most honored and privileged to have the Secretary General of the United Nations, *Mr. U Thant*, provide us now with his Minute for Peace message, which was broadcast by major networks and carried overseas by Radio New York World Wide. May we stand as we join our cause with his during the following taped message of Minute for Peace?

(The audience arose during the taped message.)

*President Edinger:* Thank you, *Mr. McConnell*, for helping to intensify the theme I have chosen for this year in such a beautiful manner.

A Moment of Remembrance will be conducted by our distinguished past president, *Robert H. Wyatt*, who has returned this year to his position as executive secretary of the Indiana State Teachers Association; and I hear they are awfully glad to have him back. *Mr. Wyatt*. (Applause)