

Only once in this century have we seen an economy so sluggish as it is today. Only the depression of the 1930s

During the depression, education had to take a back seat to other areas of the general economy. Survival was the name of the game, and education was not the top priority in most families.

Not many people held steady jobs, wealthy people became paupers overnight, the crime rate ran high, the poor survived only by pulling together and pooling their meager resources. Many of them did not survive, and died early. Sound familiar?

Today it appears that we are heading in the same direction. Education has seldom received its fair share of the economic pie. When cuts are mentioned in budget matters, the educational systems are the first to be told to cut back. Cut out this and cut out that, until finally the educational programs have been cut so low that children are made to suffer. Class sizes increase and, concomitantly, more discipline problems crop up. As a result of these problems, there is more teacher burnout, bringing about less teaching, ergo less learning by children.

All of this may seem to indicate that teachers are not interested in teaching, but in getting a larger share of the economic pie. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Teachers are traditionally the lowest paid of the professions, and work more hours than most people in professions with similar training.

The work of a teacher does not end at 3 or 4 o'clock when the last bell rings. As a matter of fact, this is the beginning of a new work period for the teacher. There is planning for the next day, papers to be graded, worksheets to be prepared, reports to be prepared, and many other things to be done in order to be prepared for the next day's work. No wonder there is so much teacher

One has only to look into any daily paper to find criticisms of our educational systems. Not one of these eloquent and convincing writers has ever stopped to think of what their mighty pens do to the self-concept of one of the hardest working groups in existence today. No one likes to work hard every day trying his/her best to impart knowledge and provide learning activities for so many, only to have their efforts shot down by some "investigative reporter" who has never spent one day facing a room full of children from many different homes, with many different personalities, with many different parents, with many different abilities, etc. We think that if these writers would spend one month in classrooms with children their understanding of problems of teachers would be much enhanced.

This is not to say that there are no poor teachers. Just as there are poor attorneys, poor doctors, poor engineers poor journalists, etc., there are some people within the teaching profession who should not be there. Every effort should be made to weed out the misfits and the deadbeats. However, the majority of teachers are hard-working, dedicated individuals who work hard in their profession.

An argument frequently advanced in some circles is that teachers are paid from public monies, therefore the public (each individual that makes up the public), has a right to tell the teacher what to do and how it should be done. Just imagine having sixty bosses trying to tell us what to do. Imagine the chaos.

Just remember how you learned to read. Wasn't it a teacher who taught you? That teacher may have been a sister, brother, parent, or a teacher in school. Regardless of whom it was, that person was a teacher.

Greater The Votes, Greater The Power

Nevada NASW Conference At Sundance

The Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers will hold its 1982 Annual Conference at the Sundance Hotel on Oct. 21-22. The theme of this year's con-ference is "RX for Human Services in an Era of Scarcity and Skepticism." The conference will feature a Nevada faculty presenting a variety of workshops on counseling alternatives, case management, politi-cal action of seniors, treatment techniques for youth and families, and the future of public and private agencies.

C. Annette Maxey, Ex-ecutive Director of the 90,000 members of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) will be the luncheon speaker on Oct. 22. NASW is the world's largest organization of professional social workers. Maxey is the first woman to hold this post. As executive director, she is responsible for management and direction of the association and its 55 chapters.

The conference is open to the public and is said to be of particular interest to workers, social counselors, psychologists and allied health profes-

What Black **Americans** should know about cancer.

Every American needs to know about cancer. It's a disease that has an impact on most of us in some way.

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National Cancer Institute,
U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.



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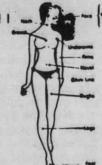
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IT ALL ADDS UP TO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. AND HARRY REID HAS IT.

He brings a history of civic involvement from the Cub Scouts and the PTA to the Cancer Society and March of Dimes that gives him the personal capability to understand and represent the people of Nevada.

As former Chairman of the Board of Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital, as an Assemblyman, Henderson City Attorney and Lieutenant Governor under Mike O'Callaghan, and as Chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission, Harry Reid knows that protecting and promoting tourism in Washington, is really protecting jobs for Nevadans, now and in the years ahead.

For Job Security. And a plan of action for our state's future. **Elect Harry Reid** U.S. Congress.

That's Nevada Know-How!

