

NOTE - Anglo Am conf

National Association for the Teaching of English

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Hon. Chairman:
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14th June, 1965

Dear Mr. Caws,

I believe that Professor Boris Ford has told you that I have now taken over from him as Chairman of the National Association for the Teaching of English.

I am writing now to inform you of our whole-hearted support for the proposals outlined in a letter to you from Professor A. R. Kitzhaber, dated 19th May, 1965, concerning a projected international conference on the teaching of English to be held in the United States of America during the summer of 1966.

During the past fortnight I have consulted the members of our Executive Committee about these proposals, and there has been a very strong welcome indeed for them. Full formal approval for these proposals on behalf of N.A.T.E. must await the next meeting of our Council, which is to be held on Saturday, 26th June next, but I have no doubt in my own mind that this will be readily forthcoming. I am writing now to let you know that we of N.A.T.E. would wish to be associated with any request from N.C.T.E. and M.L.A. seeking a grant to support the 1966 conference.

We consider that the present time is an exceptionally propitious one for a meeting of highly qualified people to consider at some length the "many unanswered problems about the nature and content of the English curriculum, and about the teaching of that curriculum at various levels of education". Our own Association, though young and still weak financially, has in its two years of existence made a start at addressing itself to these problems, and there is in this country a widespread readiness to re-think many of the issues involved, as evidenced by the Schools Council's recent authorisation of a large scale research Project to be entitled "Project English". We believe that from such a conference there would result immense benefits for the teaching of English in both Great Britain and North America.

P. J. Caws, Esq.,
Carnegie Corporation of New York.

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I shall be happy to answer any questions you might wish to put to our Association, particularly when our Council has had time to discuss the matter. In the meantime I think you may take it as certain that we are in general support of the proposals in the terms elaborated by Professor Kitzhaber.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Whitehead

Chairman

Copy for information to:

Professor Kitzhaber, Oregon Curriculum Center.