

FOR RELEASE AFTER 12 NOON
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Office of the Press Secretary
to Mrs. Johnson

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXCERPTS FROM MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON'S NOTES AT CANADA
TOWNSHIP SCHOOL - TUCKASEEGGEE, NORTH CAROLINA

A visitor to Canada is touched by the beauty of these hills: the pine trees, laurel and rhododendron climbing up the mountain; Big Bear lake, smooth and peaceful, reflecting the trees and the sky. Before your eyes is the parade of seasons. Winter lays bare the strength of this region and its people.

Canada -- like many other communities -- has problems which a visitor can miss: problems which only education can solve.

Like the curious bear, in the rhyme, I've come over the mountain to see what I can see -- to see how dedicated teachers are working to brighten the hope of Canada -- and our whole country. I hope that someday, when you young people graduate from Canada, you'll go down the mountain to see what you can see -- go down the mountain to high school and perhaps to college. For there is no more important journey you can take than your daily journey into the classroom. There is no more useful or profitable work you can do than the work of learning.

Because your community, your Government and your President feel strongly about the work of learning, the Teacher Corps has come to Canada -- and I have come to see the Teacher Corps and you. For Canada shows, in a special way, the purpose and promise which the Teacher Corps holds for the Nation.

Last year Canada School had four teachers -- four heroic teachers to serve 100 students in eight grades. This year, because of the Teacher Corps, Canada has doubled its teaching staff to eight. And for the first time, men are teaching in Canada School.

And as a souvenir of our meeting, and of the President's interest in this hopeful venture, I have brought some "apples for teacher" -- golden apples, symbolizing their membership in the Teacher Corps.

But the real story of this day is not that a great many reporters and officials from Washington came to visit Canada -- for we can stay only an hour or two. The real story is that these dedicated teachers have come to Canada -- and they can stay for many hours, many days and weeks. Their work is helping to change America's future.

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