

DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

November 6, 1963

AIRMAIL SPECIAL

Miss Mary Varella  
8-1/2 Raymond Street, NW  
Atlanta 14, Georgia

Dear Miss Varella:

Please accept my apology for the delay in acknowledging your letter.

The findings of the Task Force appointed to "collect, assemble, and evaluate adult basic education materials for use in manpower development training programs" will eventually find themselves in print. However, the formal report will take several months to reach the public.

You will recall in our conversation that I stressed the need for the development of literacy materials in many areas throughout the United States. There is a woeful lack of such materials which are based on the life situations of the adults so affected. Our policy is to encourage the systematic development of such materials by competent writers and researchers.

The Office of Education can document the fact that so far we have received literacy materials from 161 commercial and other sources and the bulk of them are old, out-of-date, and unimaginative. There has not been any serious development of literacy materials in the United States since the Brown Family Series was developed by the Office of Education in 1943 under a grant from the Carnegie Foundation.

The Adult Education Branch appreciates your interest in the education of adults with low-literacy skills. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on us.

With every good wish.

Sincerely yours,



Edward W. Brice  
Director  
Adult Education Branch