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TEACHERS' PAY INCREASES

Mr. MANSFIELD. Mr. President, I listened with interest to the program on "Face the Nation" yesterday, in which the chairman of the economic boards created by the President answered questions posed by reporters.

I noted that the matter of teachers' pay raises was brought up and that some encouragement was forthcoming that they would be given reconsideration.

May I say that if any group has a right to be reconsidered, it is the teachers group which, over a period of months before the August 15 wage-price-rent control freeze went into effect, had signed contracts in good faith and had looked forward to the increases in this school year.

May I say further that, overall, to the best of my knowledge, these increases in teachers pay agreed to last spring, last summer, and even last winter, were not overly high insofar as the percentage of increase was concerned, but did mark the recognition of a group which has done much to bring about a better understanding of this country. Indeed, these are people who have dedicated themselves, by and large, to a profession which offers a great deal of understanding for this Nation, its problems, and its difficulties.

So, without giving any advice whatsoever to the Wage-Price Board, I want to say that I am delighted they are going to reconsider this matter. I am hopeful that justice will be done to the teachers of this country, come Friday or Saturday next.
