

Nixon Nominates Woman To Highest Education Post

By JOHN HERBERS

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WASHINGTON, April 18 — President Nixon nominated a college official today as the first woman to be the Government's highest education officer.

The post, Assistant Secretary for Education in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, is to go to Dr. Virginia Y. Trotter, vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska.

Mr. Nixon also named Terrell H. Bell of Salt Lake City to be Commissioner of Education, the chief executive officer for the Office of Education, which is under the post to which Dr. Trotter was appointed.

Mr. Bell will succeed John R. Ottina, who has been appointed Assistant Secretary of H.E.W. for Administration.

The \$38,000-a-year post that Dr. Trotter will occupy, subject to Senate confirmation, has been vacant since last November when Sidney P. Marland Jr. resigned to become president of the College Entrance Examination Board.

No reason was given for the delay in filling the position. But the White House wanted to name a woman and considered a number of persons before choosing Dr. Trotter.

Home Economics Training

Dr. Trotter is 52 years old and a native of Boise, Idaho, and her background is in home economics. She received her master's degree from Kansas State University and her doctorate from Ohio State University. She has been vice chancellor at Nebraska since 1972.

Dr. Trotter will head the Division of Education in H.E.W. with authority over the Office of Education and the new National Institute of Education, established to conduct and coordinate research.

Her appointment and that of Mr. Bell are expected to meet the approval of much of the education community. Dr. Ottina, who had seen the highest government education official since Dr. Marland left, had been controversial because his background was in administration, not education.

Mr. Bell is now superintendent of the Granite School District in Salt Lake City and formerly served as associate commissioner in the United States Office of Education, in charge of regional offices. He is also 52 and a native of Lava Hot Springs, Idaho.

Earlier today, President Nixon received a warm wel-

come from about 4,000 women in Constitution Hall when he addressed the 83d Continental Congress of the Daughters of The American Revolution.

Returning to a theme he had stressed in the past but had not mentioned for many months, Mr. Nixon said the United States, like Rome and Greece, faced a danger of collapse.

"You find that those civilizations came down not because they were poor, and not when they were poor, but when they were very rich, not because they were weak materially," he said, but because "they had lost something within. They had lost their sense of mission, their sense of destiny, their sense of character. They turned inward."

Problems of Wealth

As this nation approaches its 200th anniversary, he said, there is a "danger of going downward because it is rich, of becoming weak because it is rich, of tearing itself apart with internal strife because of its wealth."

He added, however, that the United States could renew its "sense of destiny" by maintaining a world leadership role and thus leave "a legacy of peace for all mankind."

This was in keeping with the President's continuing campaign to remain in office by suggesting that his leadership in world affairs is essential.

Mr. Nixon also reaffirmed his opposition to granting amnesty to Americans who fled the country rather than fight in the Vietnam war.

"I would only suggest at a time when so much attention is directed to those who deserted America, let's give honor to the two and one-half million who served in Vietnam," he said to applause.

Even before Mr. Nixon spoke he was greeted with cheers and a standing ovation. Mrs. Donald Spicer, the D.A.R. president, welcomed the embattled President by saying that his presence afforded the opportunity for the patriotic organization to demonstrate "how firm our support is."

Mr. Nixon seemed pleased by the reception and promised to turn the White House over to the delegates tomorrow.

"We are opening up not only the public floors, the ground floor and the first floor, but the whole second floor where the family lives," he said. "Just don't take anything that is nailed down, that is all we ask."