

through such steps as these that solid foundations can be laid for a durable peace.

Senator Wayne Morse (Democrat, of Oregon) has agreed to introduce such a bill soon in the Senate and there is reason to believe that this will also be done shortly in the House. The NCAG does not expect to issue an interim report this year since the annual report is issued far later than usual. It is suggested that persons, organizations or educational institutions interested in this proposal should communicate with Senator Morse.

STATE AID TO THE ARTS AND STATE ART AGENCIES

There seems to be a strong trend in Washington to channel Federal aid to the arts through State art agencies. In European countries, where very substantial financial support is given to the arts by the national Government, the fine arts officials are generally within the framework of the Ministry of Education. In West Germany each of the States is responsible for its own educational system and for its aid to the arts. In England the Arts Council of Great Britain receives a grant from Parliament and is responsible to the Minister of the Exchequer rather than Parliament for its distribution. This system would perhaps not seem the most suitable for the United States as long as every Member of Congress feels it is his own prerogative to raise an outcry or start an investigation as to the use of Federal funds for any purpose he may not approve. Furthermore, the roots of an artist extend back to the soil from which he has sprung. Therefore, the growth and flourishing of the arts in a country depend not only "upon freedom, imagination, and individual initiative" but also upon the cultural climate of the community and its attitude toward the arts. The process of solid growth is from the ground up rather than from the top down. The need to take steps to stimulate State interest in the arts is all the more evident as a result of a recent survey made by the Library of Congress.

Representative Frank Thompson, Jr., who has been an outstanding leader in forwarding Federal legislation for the arts, requested the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress to make a nationwide survey of aid given to the arts by each State. Requests for information were mailed to 50 Governors in February 1960. Replies, extremely varied as to thoroughness, were received from 47 Governors, which is quite remarkable. Only Colorado, Oregon, and South Dakota did not answer. Senator Joseph S. Clark inserted this survey in the Congressional Record on February 2, 1961, pages 1547 to 1554. It is far too lengthy to summarize. Copies could be obtained through your congressional representative. A few observations might be pertinent.

(1) Only 14 States reported the existence of a State art council, commission, or similar agency. Few of these seem to be at that time effectively organized. However, this refers to about a year ago. Michigan, for example, stated "The State of Michigan does not directly support any State, local or private organizations relating to the fine arts and cultural activities, as such." In contrast note below the development in Michigan during the past few months.

(2) State expenditures vary from Nebraska's "No such support" to a reported over \$4 million by Illinois. The latter includes, however, county fairs (from revenue from tax on horseracing bets) and is misleading.

(3) The major support in many States is for historical or library purposes. The report points out that State support for art education in schools and universities is not included since it is not separately recorded and probably is the largest item.

(4) Very few States support the kind of projects and programs envisaged by the National Cultural Development Act. In this connection see current plans for New York State below.

Space permits only two examples of progress since last year by States:

1. A Michigan Cultural Commission was established in November 1960 by Gov. G. Mennen Williams to survey the State resources in all the arts, to recommend measures for encouraging their growth, and to define the role of the State government in this process. The commission consists of about 70 representatives of the arts. Special committees operate in the various fields. Four eminent consultants from outside the State have also been appointed. The commission is at present formulating a report based on the recommendations of the individual committees. This development is enormously encouraging.

2. New York State established last year a New York State Council on the Arts to assess the status of the arts in the State and appropriated \$50,000 for administrative expenses. The council has appointed six panels of specialists in