

Mr. QUIE. Suppose it is an encyclopedia that is made available to the private school, it would be located in the library and remain there for year after year?

Mr. NICKERSON. Yes, except that there is a provision that any of these materials within an area—and we are expected to set up these areas—would be available for use by any students in this area. About 100 areas would be needed to serve the State of Maine, with its sparse population and geographical centers, and a listing of all of these materials is kept up to date.

Mr. QUIE. What are you going to do about inventory later on, checking on the condition of the material in the private schools?

Mr. NICKERSON. This is a matter we have not fully decided upon so far as procedure is concerned, but the schools have had notification that it is their responsibility to see that there is good care and reasonable use of the materials.

Mr. QUIE. The public schools have been notified that they should check on the private school materials?

Mr. NICKERSON. No. The relations between the private schools are with the State office so far as these books and materials are concerned, not with the local school system.

Mr. QUIE. In Minnesota the private school books are stamped with the name of the public school having jurisdiction over that area. But in Maine they are stamped the property of the State department of education?

Mr. NICKERSON. That's right. This was done, I think, as perhaps a more effective way because of having so many small school systems, that this perhaps could be handled through the State office better in that fashion more efficiently than otherwise on this.

It might involve perhaps less detail on reporting and collecting and so on.

Mr. QUIE. Then any check on the condition will have to be made by the State department of education with the private school?

Mr. NICKERSON. Yes.

Mr. QUIE. Did you read the interview with Commissioner Howe in the most recent U.S. News & World Report?

Mr. NICKERSON. No, I have not seen that.

Mr. QUIE. He made the statement that no material under title II was stored in nonpublic school facilities.

Mr. NICKERSON. We have them in the State of Maine, but it is on loan to them.

I think we may have a problem of keeping these lists up to date for these geographical areas of the State for use by all pupils, but that is a responsibility that we would have for both the public and the private schools.

Title III, the supplementary educational centers and service, Maine has been in the forefront here and the school officials have presented projects in considerable number which have been analyzed and have been considered to be representing the type of thinking that should be done, creative thinking and innovation.

Mr. GIBBONS. Give us some ideas of just how you are using that money. Could you tell us?