

try, and I think that as we look at the impressive list of book publishers that are going to appear before this committee in the next 3 or 4 days, one can't help but get the impression that these publishers will be made aware of the fact that there is a growing concern over this question of excluding the true picture of the minority groups in this country.

Certainly, I think we can all agree that our strength as a nation lies in our polyglot nature, and yet, as you look at the average history book today, you will find very little about the heterogeneous fibers of America, and it seems to me that these hearings can help focus attention on this problem.

I was happy, Mr. Commissioner, to hear you say, however, that you intend to proceed very carefully and cautiously. As commendable as these hearings are, and I want to make this clear, that I think these hearings are long overdue, they undoubtedly are opening up a Pandora's box—in showing the extent of this problem—the extent to which minority groups have been ignored—in the textbooks of America.

My own feeling and hope is that the industry, the publishing industry, the local communities, the editors themselves, are going to address themselves to this problem. I would view with serious concern any effort by your office, at this time, to start establishing any standards or criteria, other than provide the leadership for a forum for discussion of the problem.

I would hope, though, that someday I could read in an American history book, the fact that way back in 1619, the first real effort to bring equality to this country was staged by a group, a handful of immigrant Poles and Dutchmen. Captain Smith brought these people to work in the first factory down here in Jamestown, Va., the glass-works, and kept them here for 9 years, and didn't give them any right to own land, or vote in elections. Finally, the first sit-down strike in America was created by these brave immigrants, who pointed out that they were just not going to work if they didn't have the same degree of human dignity enjoyed by all the people of that colony. Captain Smith summoned a hasty meeting of the house of burgesses, and a resolution was adopted, giving these people equal rights.

I read a great deal about the present demonstrations across America, and I read about various attitudes of the various ethnic groups regarding this problem. Yet I have yet to see in a history book in this country the fact that the first institution of higher learning for the American Negro was created in this country by funds contributed from the estate of Jean Koszeiuko. You don't see these things in the history books of America. So it seems to me that these hearings do serve a good purpose.

I am hoping that they are going to give the youngsters of this country a better chance to see the neighbors with whom they are growing up. Mr. Chairman, I merely want to reemphasize that I think you have made a great contribution here by providing a forum for a discussion of this problem.

I am confident that when the book publishers, who are going to be here in the next few days, leave here, they are going to be made aware of the fact that this is a great country, a lot of people have made it great, and these people ought to get some recognition in the history