

lishers Council in April 1964. At this meeting more specific book needs of schools and libraries were presented to the publishers and suggestions were made as to what kinds of cooperation might be effected between educators and publishers.

In June 1964, the institute, in cooperation with the New York State Department of Education, sponsored a 1-day conference on the preparation and utilization of instructional materials for culturally disadvantaged students and the instructional materials generally needed for the improvement of instruction for all children. Major topics were: major State programs for the disadvantaged; education for disadvantaged adults; special projects of the New York State Bureau of Guidance; the needs of education; textbooks and educational unity; adult education and the publishing industry; the role of the textbook and the role of the publisher.

In summarizing the conference, Dr. Walter Crewson, associate commissioner, New York State Department of Education, said:

... one can only conclude a historic step has been taken, although just a first step in eliminating that which is unintentional in degree, but, nevertheless, discriminatory in our curriculum and in our textbooks with respect to minority groups.

The institute entered into discussions early in 1965 with members of the National Urban League which resulted in a Joint Conference in April 1965. The theme of the meeting was "Education in a Changing Society" and the speakers discussed the school and community—today and tomorrow. There was frank discussion of the needs of the Negro child and the kinds of materials which would help him relate to the total American society.

The most recent conference which the institute organized was held in Los Angeles in November of 1965 in joint sponsorship with the Great Cities Research Council. The research council, as you may know, was organized in 1956 for the purpose of studying educational problems which were of special concern and interest to large cities.

Its membership consists of 15 of our largest cities and the primary purpose is to conduct studies of unique problems facing the great cities today.

For several years, the institute has maintained a liaison committee with the research council to discuss areas of mutual interest and the specific needs of urban schools. This liaison committee developed a set of illustrative guidelines for selection of content of instructional materials designed to meet the needs of urban youth which has been widely distributed and put great value in preparing new materials.

In addition, the committee has been active in implementing a series of recommendations made by the institute and approved by the Board of the Great Cities Research Council in November 1964. These recommendations were: (1) the establishment of a collection of urban-oriented instructional materials at the Educational Materials Center in Washington; (2) visitation by teams of publishers to each of the great cities in order to discuss particular local needs; (3) establishment of a clearinghouse for research information at the Institute; (4) joint sponsorship of a conference.

As you may know, the Educational Materials Center in the U.S. Office of Education has in fact organized a collection of materials which are specifically geared for urban schools. Mrs. Lois Watt,