

the neglected American is becoming better recognized. The State board of education in New Mexico, I feel, has not hesitated and will not hesitate to make available multiethnic instructional materials for use in the schools as they become available from the publishers and adoptions are called for.

The Scott, Foresman reading program, Diamond Edition,¹ which is multiethnic, was first offered by the publisher at an adoption held last December and was adopted as a basal reading series. We would welcome the production of more materials that are properly integrated for use in the various subjects and grades taught in schools that are representative of our multiracial society.

The only school grouping I know of that is, perhaps, based on ethnical considerations or racial lineage in New Mexico is the Indian school system, which is supported by the Federal Government.

The quantity and quality of the instructional materials found in our schools today have been made possible to a great extent by means of the funds made available through Federal legislation.

A year ago there were approximately 42,000 pupils or approximately 15 percent of the enrollment attending schools with deficient library facilities, as related to the New Mexico minimum standards. These standards are lower than the minimum of \$4 to \$6 per pupil recommended by the American Library Association; and also lower than the national spending median of \$2.25 for elementary and \$3.27 for high school.

The minimum State requirement for textbooks is at least one basic book of recent edition for each pupil for each subject and grade being taught. The textbook minimum requirement was met by all the schools; but the minimum is extremely low. Many of the schools claim that the availability of textbooks is far from being adequate to maintain the kind of educational program that is needed and desirable.

The Federal support presently being made available through which instructional materials are being obtained has been of great help and will be needed for some years to come before all of our schools become adequately supplied with the proper inventory of instructional materials needed as a start, before we can think of funds only to maintain the inventories and meet expenses of normal growth.

Thank you.

Mr. BURTON. Thank you very much, Mr. Valdez.

Mr. Brademas?

Mr. BRADEMAS. Just a couple of questions.

In your State of New Mexico you have a large number of citizens of Spanish-speaking origin; is that not correct?

Mr. VALDEZ. Yes, sir; in the State of New Mexico we have three well-recognized cultures, the Indian and the Spanish being perhaps the first settlers of New Mexico, and also the English speaking, or what is commonly, locally known as the Anglo.

Unfortunately, both the Indian and Spanish are strangers at home with respect to the language. It is difficult for the Spanish speaking as well as the Indian to learn English as a second language.

Mr. BRADEMAS. My question following those comments is, Do you in the public schools in the State of New Mexico provide courses in Spanish either mandatory or permissive for the Spanish-speaking citizens?

¹ This refers to the small diamond-shaped marking (Δ) on the spine of the text series to differentiate it from the circle (©) edition, with all white figures in the illustrations.