

In addition to utilizing selection sources which contain only books of high literary quality and subject presentation, the local school systems of Tennessee involve minority group members of their professional staff in the selection of texts and library books.

Public school laws of Tennessee define the methods by which textbooks are selected, assigned, and distributed. The following sections of Public Acts of 1951, chapter 180,¹ define these methods.

Section 2 provides for the creation of a State textbook commission, qualifications of members, terms of members, secretary of commission, and chairman of commission. I will summarize these:

SECTION 2. *Be it further enacted*, That there is hereby created a State Textbook Commission composed of seven (7) members, six (6) of whom shall be appointed by the Governor prior to July 1, 1951, and after the effective date of this Act. The members of said State Textbook Commission shall be educators of high qualifications who are actually engaged in educational work in the State, and whose educational qualifications shall not be less than graduation from a four-year college with a Bachelor's Degree, and with at least five (5) years of teaching, supervisory, or administrative experience.

Two (2) members shall be appointed for a term beginning with the date of appointment of expiring June 30, 1952; two (2) members for a term beginning with the date of appointment and expiring June 30, 1954; two (2) members for a term beginning with the date of appointment and expiring June 30, 1956. The Governor shall fill any vacancy by appointment for an unexpired term.

At the expiration of the terms of the first appointees and thereafter, the terms of the members of the State Textbook Commission shall be three years.

One member of the State Textbook Commission shall be a County Superintendent of Schools; one member shall be a City Superintendent of Schools; one member shall be a school principal; one member shall be a teacher or supervisor in the lower grades (grades 1 to 3, inclusive); one member shall be a teacher or supervisor in the intermediate grades (grades 4 to 8, inclusive); and one member shall be a teacher or supervisor of upper grade subjects (grades 9 to 12, inclusive).

At least one member of said Textbook Commission shall be appointed from East Tennessee, one from Middle Tennessee and one from West Tennessee.

The State Commissioner of Education shall be ex-officio secretary of the Commission, with the right to vote, and he shall serve without additional compensation for such service. The appointed members of the State Textbook Commission shall have their organization meeting in July following the passage of this Act.

The State Commissioner of Education (Secretary of the Commission) shall notify the members of the organization meeting and fix the time and place of the meeting. They shall elect one of their members as Chairman for one year; and each year thereafter at the regular meeting in July they shall elect a Chairman for one year.

Section 6 provides for the listing of approved textbooks, authority to determine policies and standards.

SECTION 6. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the State Textbook Commission to prepare a list of approved standard editions of textbooks for use in the public schools of the State. A list of at least four books in each subject and grade shall be listed, if available and sufficient merit to warrant being listed.

Said Textbook Commission shall select and publish such a list of textbooks for use in the schools of Tennessee not later than February 1, 1952, and not later than February 1 of any subsequent year when listings are made or there are changes to be reported. Said list shall contain the title of the textbooks listed for adoption, the name of the publishers and the prices at which said books are available, as provided in this Act.

The State Textbook Commission shall have authority to determine the policies and the conditions under which textbooks may be added to the list for adoption, as provided in this Act, at any regular meeting or at a date designated at a reg-

¹ Acts of Tennessee, 1951, ch. 180, and Tennessee Code Annotated, vol. 9, 1966 replacement sections 49-2001 through 49-2022.