

of \$4.30 per elementary school student, \$5.60 per secondary school student.) These expenditure estimates were taken from the 1965-66 Cost of Education Index (see *SM*, Jan. '66) and are based primarily on budget estimates prepared in the spring of 1965. At that time, federal aid to education was a good possibility—but not a reality.

Federal aid was a reality when *SM*'s textbook survey went out in December. As a result, districts were asked to indicate how much they now expect to spend on elementary and high school text and library books this year. The results were startling.

Although the full effects of federal aid have not yet been felt, there has already been a 16% increase in spending for elementary school textbooks and a 10% increase on the secondary level.

Although the figures gained in the two surveys are not completely comparable, the trend they indicate is obviously a real one. The textbook survey figures were obtained by dividing the dollars being spent for elementary school textbooks by the number of elementary school students and the dollars being spent for secondary textbooks by the number of secondary students. (The CEI figures were obtained by dividing all district textbook expenditures by all Expenditure Pupil Units, a somewhat more accurate reflection of district spending policy.)

According to the textbook survey, the median district nationally is now spending \$4.97 per elementary school pupil on elementary school textbooks. One quarter of the districts are spending at least \$7.12 per pupil on elementary textbooks, and one in 10 has expenditures of \$10.00 or more.

Spending for secondary school textbooks is somewhat higher all along the line with \$6.15 per pupil being spent by the median district, \$8.65 or more by one quarter of the districts and at least \$11.73 by the top 10% of the nation's districts.

If your district is spending less than \$3.38 per elementary school student on elementary textbooks—or less than \$3.88 for every secondary school student on high school texts—you are in the bottom quarter of the nation in textbook spending. (To see how you rate on a regional basis, see the material starting on page 14.)

Library spending

Administrators were also asked to provide figures on the amount of money being spent for library books. These, too, were computed by dividing monies spent for elementary school library books by elementary school children and monies spent for high school library books by the number of high school students. On this basis, the median district nationally spends \$2.25 per pupil for elementary school library books, \$3.27 for high school books. These figures are both far below the minimum standards recommended by the American Library Association. This body suggests that schools with 250 or more students should spend from four to six dollars per student on library books. Using these ALA guidelines the median district must double its allocations for library books to fulfill *minimum* needs.

At the present time, not even the top 25% of the nation's districts are meeting these minimums. The top quarter among the nation's districts are spending \$3.33 per pupil for elementary school

How much are we spending for elementary textbooks?				How much are we spending for secondary textbooks?			
Nation	Average	High Quarter	Top Tenth	Nation	Average	High Quarter	Top Tenth
	\$4.97	\$7.12	\$10.00		\$6.15	\$8.65	\$11.73
Region 1	6.10	7.08	8.96	Region 1	7.52	9.52	12.00
2	5.00	6.87	8.03	2	6.85	9.13	10.94
3	5.52	8.60	10.59	3	6.21	8.70	11.67
4	5.57	8.92	11.49	4	6.70	8.97	12.70
5	3.70	4.39	5.03	5	4.81	6.10	8.24
6	2.50	3.62	4.44	6	2.50	3.81	5.18
7	.85	4.00	4.76	7	.09	1.26	4.17
8	6.65	8.11	10.92	8	6.21	8.15	10.26
9	4.46	6.81	9.21	9	6.07	8.00	10.06

HOW DO WE FIND OUR REGION?

REGION 1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut.
 REGION 2: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.
 REGION 3: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin.
 REGION 4: Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas.
 REGION 5: Delaware, Maryland, Dist. of Columbia, Virginia, West Vir-

ginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida.
 REGION 6: Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi.
 REGION 7: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas.
 REGION 8: Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada.
 REGION 9: Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii.

