

Mr. HOWE. We would like to look at this, Mr. Thompson, in relation to several features of NDEA, the loan forgiveness feature, and what gets involved here? We would be happy to try to think through the whole matter in more detail.

Mr. THOMPSON. I am particularly pleased with the suggestion relating to title II with reference to the Library facilities. There is an exciting prospect for some years in the future with respect to international cataloging which the Library of Congress is interested in and which I understand is to be done by a private enterprise, but for the fact, well, it is to be the largest cataloging undertaking in history probably and will be very useful but some years in coming.

I serve on the Joint Committee on the Library.

With respect to title III of the Higher Education Act in developing institutions, do you feel that your request could not be enlarged to gain greater support for them, for the developing institutions? It seems to me, it is a very modest effort, a sound but modest effort on their behalf.

Secretary GARDNER. It is modest. This, as I said in response to an earlier question, is a kind of decision we had to make in the context of a great many other decisions, as to how we were to allocate our resources. It would be very hard to go back and trace the kinds of tradeoffs that led us to this exact figure, but we felt this was an appropriate sum in view of the constraints under which we operated.

Mr. THOMPSON. I have no further questions except I have a comment. In looking over your statements, which I think are splendidly prepared and your proposed revisions of the act, which I think also you are on the right track, but it is just too bad we don't have infinitely more money to put into the whole program.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. GREEN. Congressman Esch.

Mr. ESCH. Thank you.

I regret I did not hear the testimony but have been perusing it. I would like to discuss vocational education in relationship to the need for teachers in this area. I think part (d) of title V suggests the emphasis might be in a new section in terms of improving teachers in vocational education.

There has recently been great discussion about a teacher corps and the need to fill a given area with a unique program. I wondered what thoughts you had in terms of the needs for providing for vocational education personnel such as teachers and to what degree is that a significant problem generally?

Secretary GARDNER. This vocational educational personnel would be included under the Education Professions Act. In my own view, it would have a very high priority. I believe that there are few things in education today that need more urgent attention and a new burst of effort, than this vocational education. It is going to have to be accompanied by a lot of effective recruitment and training of new personnel.

Would you like to comment, Mr. Howe?

Mr. HOWE. Just to put some numbers to what the Secretary said, there are about 2 million youngsters leaving high school every year. Of those about 1 million graduate and another 1 million leave somewhere before graduation. Of that number of 2 million, about 500,000—and these are rough figures—have some program of vocational training which suits them for entry into jobs and indeed they get those jobs.