

Small offices to handle this work, staffed with local catalogers and usually headed by one American, have been established in London, Paris, Oslo, Wiesbaden, Vienna, and Belgrade. These offices provide bibliographic coverage of the publishing output of Sweden, Denmark, and Switzerland, as well as of the countries in which they are located.

The establishment of an office in The Hague to cover the Netherlands and Belgium is imminent. In addition, regional acquisitions offices are operating in Nairobi, Kenya; and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; to obtain materials not readily available through normal trade channels.

If additional funds become available, we plan to extend the program to the Far East and to other countries in Eastern Europe.

The early results of the program have been acclaimed by librarians in this country and abroad. I would like to quote just a sentence or two from letters received on the subject. One university librarian has stated:

The Title II-C Program and its concept of centralized cataloging for research libraries has been one of the most significant developments in the history of American libraries. It is the only solution to the irreconcilable realities of the flood of publications pouring from the presses throughout the world on one hand and the severely limited numbers of qualified librarians, especially with competence in foreign languages, to process them on the other hand.

Another librarian has said:

Title II-C has the potential of contributing more to the solution of a major problem of research libraries than any federal legislation ever passed . . . But every library and especially research libraries, will receive vital assistance, as a result, in the form of catalog cards for a higher percentage of books added. This means not only that fewer professional catalogers will be needed, but also that books can be made available on the shelves more quickly and at less cost.

The amendments before you today, would, we believe, enhance the value of this program to the college and university library.

Under the present authorization the Librarian of Congress is charged with "acquiring so far as possible, all library materials currently published throughout the world which are of value to scholarship."

The addition of the words "copies of" before "all" would enable the Library of Congress, when necessary, to purchase additional copies of a single title. The present law could be interpreted to mean more than one copy, but the legislative history of the act indicates that the acquisition of a single copy was intended.

A single copy of many publications, especially those from areas where small editions are published and books cannot readily be obtained from dealers, is not always sufficient.

Because the Library of Congress serves first the Congress, then other Government agencies, and finally the research community, the copy obtained for centralized cataloging purposes is usually required in Washington for official purposes.

A second copy for loan purposes is often needed. It would even be possible to place this copy on a deposit basis in a centrally located research library for the purpose of making it available on loan to other libraries.

The cost of this second copy would be moderate because it would not be the intent to acquire materials that are generally available through regular book trade channels, but to acquire those materials