

in New Jersey, Harry T. Gumaeear, director of college curriculums for teacher education, New Jersey State Department of Education, considered the school librarian shortage in New Jersey, including the needs of public and private schools, elementary and secondary schools, and predictive data about enrollment.

Mr. Gumaeear found that New Jersey alone requires more than 250 additional school librarians for each of the next 10 years if the students in New Jersey schools are to have adequate library service.

If the total needs of the 50 States are considered, it is obvious that there is a manpower crisis in school librarianship.

A similar consideration of the development of other types of libraries in this country reveals a situation just as critical.

This is even more serious when one considers that the existing accredited library schools in the United States graduate only about 3,000 new professionals each year. These schools have the capacity to increase their output, and fellowship aid to encourage graduate students to prepare for careers as librarians seems essential.

The manpower need has been identified by the American Library Association as one of its most critical concerns. The recruitment and uses of professional manpower will be the program theme for the association's annual conference in June.

The library profession speaks for all who are concerned with the progress of the Nation when it asks you to extend through 1973 the legislation that will provide the librarians so urgently needed.

And now we come to an aspect of the proposed amendments in H.R. 6232 which we believe important in intent but incorrectly placed. I refer to the proposed amendment to section 224(a) of the HEA, title II-B, providing for planning and development grants to encourage the opening of new library and information science schools or of programs intended to lead to the accreditation of such schools.

We do not question the critical need in this country for such grants for planning, establishment, or development of educational programs for library and information science. However, it is our belief that this amendment should more properly be made to section 223(a) of the act, related specifically to "grants for training in librarianship," rather than to section 224(a) related specifically to "research and demonstrations * * *" in this area.

We further question the advisability of referring in the law to programs intended to lead to the accreditation of such existing schools.

While it is assumed that improved programs will more likely meet the various accreditation standards, the complexity of accreditation agencies and procedures would seem to make this proposed part of the law difficult, if not impossible, to administer. And so we recommend that this phrase regarding accreditation not be added to the legislation.

It should be made clear, however, that grants are needed to improve and expand existing library education programs in the Nation's institutions of higher education, as well as for the purpose of supporting the establishment and development of new programs.

As a substitution for the proposed amendments to section 224(a) in H.R. 6232 and H.R. 6265 title II-B we propose that section 223(a) title II-B be amended to read: