

collects and makes available the sort of library books, journals, and documents which are important but which need not be held by every local college or university library.

If it could obtain a second set of the foreign books now being procured by the Library of Congress under title II-C it could supplement the resources of the National Library in an important way.

2. These foreign offices of the Library of Congress in areas where national bibliography and the book trade are poorly developed could serve another very useful function.

The problem is that in many less-developed countries there is no way to get a book unless you are there nor indeed any way to know that the book exists, for there are as yet no booksellers there capable of handling so complex an operation as international book trade.

If title II-C were amended to permit these Library of Congress offices to act as agents for other libraries in this country, a great step toward solving this problem would be taken.

The individual libraries would, of course, pay for the books, and the staff costs of ordering a few extra copies of a book already being selected and purchased would be nominal.

3. Finally we proposed that the bibliographic information gathered through this and other programs of the Library of Congress be made available not only through the original legislation, but also through other means, such as the distribution of printed bibliographies.

Current bibliography, the accurate recording, and the prompt distribution of information about what is being published around the world, is of the greatest importance.

It is the key to the free flow of ideas across the oceans of the world, and ideas are the basis of economic development as well as international understanding.

As a librarian I am tempted to claim too much for the importance of bibliography, but it does seem to be a fact that there is an almost exact correlation around the world between the state of bibliographic development in a country and its economic development.

These three proposals are covered by section 232 of H.R. 6232, amending the Higher Education Act of 1965. On behalf of the Association of Research Libraries, I urge the passage of this legislation.

We disagree with H.R. 6232 in one respect. In section 231 the original act is amended by authorizing "such sums as may be necessary for the next 2 fiscal years."

We respectfully urge that appropriations be authorized for the next 5 years as is proposed for part A of this title. Quite complex internal administrative arrangements must be made in each library to utilize effectively this new and essential flow of catalog information from the Library of Congress.

To have this aid held out to us and then withdrawn would lead to tremendous waste and inefficiency. We need as much assurance of continuation as possible.

Madam Chairman, in concluding let me thank you and the members of this subcommittee once again for your imagination as well as your courtesy. In sponsoring title II, part C, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and in watching over it until it becomes law, you have helped demonstrate once again how Federal assistance of a relatively modest