

Dr. DIX. There are two, and they are really rather different. One, in the highly developed countries, for example, the United Kingdom, in France, in West Germany, in the Scandinavian countries there are now offices which are assisting with the procurement of books on an incidental fashion, but this I hasten to point out by the way is in full and careful relationship with the organized book trade in those countries.

In other words, there is no problem there in buying books. The problem there is to take full advantage, as full as possible of the bibliographic work already being done in those countries. To be very specific, taking Britain as an example, the Library of Congress there works very closely with the British Bibliographic Office. This is a cataloging operation similar to our own. It picks up a copy there once a week, sends it to the Library of Congress where it is adapted for use.

By contact with these agencies we are getting a lot of work done that would have to be done here. We list the importance of cataloging the book only once in this country.

Actually what happens is this practice has been extended to the world as a whole, at least in model form.

Mrs. GREEN. The reason I ask is that when we placed this in the legislation, we did not see establishment of branch offices of the Library of Congress in a good many countries. Evidently from your testimony and Mr. Mumford's, this would be an expanding operation?

Dr. DIX. I hope so. Let me put it simply and crudely, we are getting much more for our money when we can get this information from Britain instead of doing it ourselves.

Let me answer the rest of your question. In the smaller countries, there is no cataloging available. This is a procurement operation to scout out and find books. This is what is happening with the office in Latin America, Africa and, hopefully, others to be established.

Mrs. GREEN. Any questions, Congressman Quie?

Mr. QUIE. No questions, but I commend you on your statement.

Mrs. GREEN. Any questions, Congressman Gibbons?

Mr. GIBBONS. No questions.

Mrs. GREEN. Congressman Esch?

Mr. ESCH. I commend you on your statement, but I wanted you to more specifically reiterate whether you think the Library of Congress might be the vehicle for expansion of our library system in this next decade.

Dr. DIX. It seems to me the Library of Congress, which is the National Library in a great many ways and has been for 50 years, and serving many functions of other libraries, including those as Library of Congress, it does seem to me that this must be recognized and the Library of Congress must have the backing, authority, and official recognition of its role, whether in the administrative or executive branch.

Mr. GIBBONS. It's not going into the executive branch if I have anything to do with it. You put it in the executive branch, and we will have to get a pass to get in there. You are the only thing we have that we are proud of.

Dr. DIX. Yes, that is true.

May I say to the chairman, I compliment Mr. Gibbons on the libraries in his State. I am attending a ceremony in Gainesville tomorrow at the new library of the University of Florida. I compliment him.