

made at the University of Michigan within the past month indicates that the cost of cataloging a book in the University of Michigan Library when the Library of Congress catalog copy is available is only one-fourth the cost if Michigan has to do the original cataloging there.

So these increases in percentage of Library of Congress catalog copy is of great benefit to all of our colleges and universities and this is a place where, as Mr. Dix made the point when this legislation was first under consideration, that a dollar spent on this program spreads out over the country.

So, we would earnestly recommend that the committee give favorable consideration to extending title II-C for 5 years, because I believe that to expect the National Advisory Commission's report to pick up this program is simply not provided in that report.

I would like now to turn my attention to networks for knowledge. I want to summarize this, but if we pick up the language of the first part of this title it is intended to stimulate colleges and universities to share through cooperative arrangements their facilities, equipment, and so forth.

The point is made that this should be done through a variety of arrangements. The Association of Research Libraries endorses this title and supports it heartily.

However, we do think that the present draft language of the title makes an unwarranted assumption. It seems to assume that whatever is to be communicated is already available and that all that is needed is a communications network.

We in University Research Libraries have to say that all of the material that is needed to be communicated is not available nor are the funds to acquire it available.

We believe, of course, libraries have been sharing their resources and facilities through perhaps rather primitive methods for a good many years.

We believe that this should go on, should be encouraged and should be developed. But we submit that no matter how generous institutions may be in making their library resources available to other institutions if the resources aren't available in any of the institutions, then communications networks and facilitating them will not serve the desired purpose.

In the Office of Education fact sheet, Commissioner Howe referred to the knowledge explosion and went on to say that it was not impossible, he said it was almost impossible, and I was reminded of Mayor Lindsay's remark when someone said New York is almost impossible to govern. The mayor responded, "What do you mean, almost?" I think that might be applicable to the Commissioner's testimony.

There is one example in this country, one outstanding example, there are other examples, of how libraries have tried to cope with this problem. The example I have chosen to cite is the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago. This is a nonprofit organization established by a group of universities to acquire and house for their joint use extensive and expensive collections of research material.

This is now a nationwide institution with 32 participating members from coast to coast. By sharing the cost of buying, cataloging, and housing research material, these libraries have been able jointly to afford more than any one of them could afford independently.