

We think that this is desirable and necessary if networks are to provide facilities for the transmission of the text of parts of books and other library materials in bound form.

Existing equipment accepts only flat sheets. Book material must first be copied onto sheets and then transmitted. The process is slow, cumbersome, and the transmitted text is poor.

The necessary improvements in the equipment and its adaptation for use in materials in book form we believe will not come about unless funds are provided for experimentation and research.

It is for this reason that we make this recommendation.

Thank you very much.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you very much, Mr. McCarthy.

Under title I of the Facilities Act, the construction of libraries will be hurt as much as other construction on college campuses.

What is your judgment about starting new programs when we have such drastic cuts?

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Chairman, speaking for myself, and I believe I would be speaking for the association but I am not sure, it would seem to me desirable to adopt forward-looking legislation with very modest sums for planning.

I believe that the networks for knowledge, for example, will take a great deal of planning.

It seems to me that it would be desirable to get this underway with modest planning funds.

Mrs. GREEN. Do you agree with that, Mr. Low?

Mr. Low. I believe I would. I have not thought this point through very carefully. I think that is the way new programs are usually gotten underway.

It seems that we are always in need of funds. If you do not start new programs, we never get to the point where they are started. There will forever be great needs in existing programs. So I would agree with Mr. McCarthy's statement.

Mrs. GREEN. I am advised that amount is \$8 million for the networks for knowledge. It obviously would not be divided equally between the 2,300 colleges and universities throughout the country, but if it were, it certainly does not amount to much money per institution.

I am wondering again, is it really wise to start a new program with great publicity and high expectation and to stimulate a lot of applications, requiring a lot of time of staff and then to provide a very small amount of money?

Mr. Low. I do think that at least 2,000 of these 2,300 would not want to submit programs initially. It seems to me, the networks for knowledge would have its first impact on the quite large institutions with large resources such as Dr. McCarthy's former institution at Cornell, and as it was perfected would become significant for the smaller institutions.

Mrs. GREEN. Even if 1,800 or 2,000 made application, they would get such a small amount.

Mr. Low. It seems to me not meaningful if you tried to divide it in that way. I had not anticipated it would be divided in that way.

Mrs. GREEN. No, it would not, I grant you that, but they might make an application and spend an awful lot of time and effort.