

lecturers of the University of Michigan so that our students can have access to them, too.

This is a small example, a single case of the sort of thing which nationally can be done, I believe, by such planning. I believe it will have tremendous impact on higher education.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Thank you very much indeed, Dr. Miller. Your statement is most helpful.

I have just two or three questions, and one observation at the outset. One, I am glad to see both of you place as much stress as you do and as Professor Meaney did on the importance of the software side of this thing. I grow very apprehensive about the prospect that we are so preoccupied with the mechanics of it that we lose sight of the purpose of developing a network. The title in the bill reads, "Networks for Knowledge," which is a catch-phrase, but also a very significant one if one reflects on it.

Is Educom confined to medicine?

Dr. MILLER. No. It happened to be started by deans and vice presidents of medicine of several universities simply because they as individuals first got interested. I happen to be a physician. As soon as these deans took the question to their presidents without exception the presidents said, "But this applies across the board, not just to health science." We were aware of that. It just seemed like a big bite to start with. So we dropped the phrase "health sciences" out of the organization's name before it was incorporated. It is across the board and at the present time our board of trustees represents all disciplines in the university.

Mr. BRADEMAs. So that in effect the planning of the kind which earlier in our discussion other witnesses and I expressed the hope would take place in this whole area has already been going on in the United States.

Mr. BECKER. It is considerable, and it is outlined extensively in this document.

Dr. MILLER. This document has lists of software now available. Of course, once the universities are interconnected they will develop software for use by each other and share their resources. The interdisciplinary notion is fundamental to this proposal. When the question was raised by the Office of Science and Technology to what government agency the primary cognizance, of this proposal should go, it was not sent to the medical part of the Government, to NIH or Public Health Service but rather the Office of Education.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I appreciated also your concern about the problem of compatibility. I made reference earlier to the conference of a couple of years ago that I attended at Oxford University and one of the common problems about which all of the librarians and the computer experts there were expressing their concern was the development of common languages for their tapes.

What you really want in effect is some kind of Esperanto so that everybody is talking the same language. We don't want to develop in this world of computers a kind of Belgian language problem all over the country.

How do you prevent that?

Dr. MILLER. Educom has received a small grant from the Office of Naval Research for the purpose of studying what we call the author