HIGHER L.C. CARD COSTS THREATENED

Hearings before the House Committee on Appropriations for the Library of Congress budget requests begin Monday, May 23, 1949, at 1:45 p.m.

An important phase of these hearings as far as library costs are concerned is continuation of the policy established by the committee which compels the Library to include cataloging costs in the price charged for L.C. cards.

The increase in cost of L.C. cards which occurred as a result of this policy has brought a decline in sales of approximately 1½ million cards for fiscal year 1949. By projecting the sales through next year and prorating cataloging costs (including pay increases) it is estimated that the policy, if maintained, will force an added increase of 20%-25% in the cost of L.C. cards.

This will take an additional $200,000 out of library budgets even with the reduced sales of the cards.

Please protest! All librarians interested are urged to write both to their congressmen and members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees protesting this discrimination against libraries.

Letters and wires should stress that all other government publications sell for the cost of reproduction and distribution and that editorial, research, and original printing costs are not included in the sales price.

The House committee will take several days before reporting the bill, after which it will be voted on in the House. Then it will go to the Senate.

Members of the appropriations subcommittees for the Library of Congress are given on the attached sheet.

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Senate Appropriations Committee
(Library of Congress Subcommittee)

Democrats
Allan J. Ellender, La., Chairman
Kenneth McKellar, Tennessee
Dennis Chavez, New Mexico
Harley M. Kilgore, West Virginia

Republicans
Styles Bridges, New Hampshire
Leverett Saltonstall, Mass.
Milton R. Young, North Dakota

House Appropriations Committee
(Library of Congress Subcommittee)

Democrats
W. F. Norrell, Arkansas, Chairman
Albert Gore, Tennessee
George W. Andrews, Alabama

Republicans
Karl Stefan, Nebraska
Erret P. Scrivner, Kansas