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No Further Action on Higher Education Act

\$75 million Asked For LSCA In Senate Hearings

The HEW Appropriations Bill (H.R. 7765), passed by the House May 4, including \$55 million for the Library Services and Construction Act, is now at the hearings stage in the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee. The Director of the ALA Washington Office testified in behalf of the Association June 11, requesting a \$20 million increase in fiscal 1966 funds to carry on programs under LSCA.

As evidence of the need for the additional \$10 million sought for each program -- a total of \$35 million for services (Title I) and \$40 million for construction (Title II) -- the testimony highlighted current accomplishments under LSCA and actual expenditures contrasted with estimated minimum needs based on ALA standards and State plans.

Florence Agreement

On June 1, Rep. Wilbur Mills (D-Ark.) introduced a bill to implement the Florence Agreement of 1950 (H.R. 8664). If approved, the legislation would eliminate the present U.S. tariffs on educational, scientific and cultural materials published in foreign countries. The bill has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, chaired by Mr. Mills, and it is hoped that hearings will be held by mid-July at which time ALA will file a statement urging favorable action on the bill.

On the same day, President Lyndon B. Johnson sent a letter to the Congress, urging prompt approval of the legislation implementing the Florence Agreement. His letter to the Vice President and Speaker of the House reads in part:

"The Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials, commonly known as the Florence Agreement, was opened for signature at Lake Success, New York, on November 27, 1950. This Agreement is now in force in forty-seven countries.

"The United States participated in the negotiation of the Florence Agreement. It was signed on behalf of the United States on June 24, 1959, and the Senate gave its advice and consent to its ratification on February 23, 1960. It now remains for the Congress to approve the legislation to permit the United States to implement this important Agreement..."

Arts and Humanities

S. 1483, the bill to establish a National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities, was passed by the Senate June 10, two days after being approved by the Labor and Public Welfare Committee (S. Rept. 300). It is expected that the companion House bill (H.R. 6050) will also be reported and passed shortly, including provisions to enrich school resources and teaching in these areas.

No specific mention of libraries has been made in this bill to develop and promote support for the arts and humanities, although ALA filed statements with both House and Senate Committees in mid-March, urging that provisions for library resources and services in these fields be included. Many other witnesses likewise stressed the essentiality of libraries to scholars in the humanities. Reference is made in the bill to strengthening the research potential of the U.S. in the humanities fields.

However, there is an excellent opportunity for school libraries to participate under section 12 of the bill which would provide funds for strengthening instruction in the arts and humanities. Provisions similar to Titles III and XI of the National Defense Education Act would authorize:

\$500,000 for fiscal years 1966 through 1968 for the USOE to make payments to State educational agencies for printed and published materials (excluding textbooks), for equipment and for minor remodeling related to arts and humanities instruction;

\$500,000 for fiscal years 1966 through 1968 for the USOE to finance training institutes to develop teachers of arts and humanities courses, including study in the use of new materials.

The Foundation itself would be administered by a Federal Council coordinating two separate National Endowment programs with supervisory National Councils - one on the arts, the other on the humanities.

Funds for LC, Depository Libraries and P.L. 480

Hearings on the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill for fiscal 1966 (H.R. 8775) are now under way in the Senate Appropriations Legislative Subcommittee.

The bill was first passed by the House June 8, following its approval by the House Appropriations Committee (H. Rept. 442) and included: \$25,502,300 for the Library of Congress -- \$1,142,500 below the amount requested; \$1,417,000 in U.S.-owned foreign currency and \$124,500 in American dollars for the P.L. 480 program (to operate centers for book acquisition in India, Pakistan, the United Arab Republic, Indonesia, Israel and Burma) -- \$737,500 less than requested to extend the program to Poland, Yugoslavia and Brazil; and \$5,329,000 for the Office of the Superintendent of Documents, which also covers the operation of the depository library program. Included, too, is an estimate of \$59,465 specified by the Superintendent in House hearings as the amount needed to continue the limited, experimental program of distributing publications printed outside the Government Printing Office.

ALA has filed a statement on H.R. 8775, urging favorable action on requested appropriations for library programs.

Juvenile Delinquency

Within a few weeks of each other, both House and Senate Education Committees reported bills to extend and amend the Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Offenses Control Act of 1961 (P.L. 87-274), which is due to expire June 30, 1966.

The Senate bill (S. 1566 - Rept. 318) would extend the Act until June 30, 1968 with an authorization of \$6.5 million for fiscal 1966 and \$8.3 million for each of the two succeeding years.

The House bill (H.R. 8131 - Rept. 363) would extend the Act for only one more year - until June 30, 1967 with a \$6.5 million authorization for fiscal 1966 and \$10 million for the following year.

In addition to extending the Act in order to complete pending demonstration projects, renewed emphasis is being given to: the development of new projects dealing with salvaging juvenile delinquents; training programs for professional and subprofessional youth workers; and development, collection and dissemination of information in this field.

Libraries and librarians would be eligible to participate in these special training and community demonstration projects administered by the Office of Juvenile Delinquency. Those interested in this area of national concern should obtain copies of the two reports from the House and Senate Documents Room, U.S. Capitol, and study them with this in view.

Funds For National Historical Publications

H.R. 7997, the appropriation bill to finance programs under Independent Offices for fiscal 1966, passed May 11 by the House, includes \$350,000 for the historical publications grants program to collect, reproduce and publish source materials significant to U.S. history. Funds for this program, begun last year by Public Law 88-383, are supplemented by sizeable contributions from private sources, according to the Committee report on the bill (H. Rept. 320).

The Independent Offices Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, under the chairmanship of Senator Magnuson (D-Wash.), is currently holding hearings on this measure.

Technical Information Services

The Senate Commerce Committee held three days of hearings on S. 949, introduced by Sen. Magnuson (D-Wash.) to support State and regional science and research information centers, to be cited as the State Technical Services Act of 1965. John P. McGowan, Director of the Franklin Institute Library, testified on June 10 in support of the bill, which is designed to facilitate the flow of information between the centers and American enterprise.

One of the qualifications necessary for participation in the program is that the institution be one of higher learning with a program leading to degrees in engineering or business administration, accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency, or association.

This legislation, which has also been proposed in the House by Rep. Oren Harris of Arkansas (H.R. 3420), would permit States individually and in cooperation with each other to establish and maintain technical services programs to encourage more effective industrial use of science and technology.