

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Fifth Meeting
April 13-14, 1972

There were present:

Members of the Commission: Messrs. Aines, Baker (for a part of the second day), Becker, Burkhardt, Crotty (for the first day), Cuadra, Dunlap, Lerner, Lorenz (substituting for Mr. Mumford), Mrs. Moore, and Mr. Velde. Messrs. Goland, Kemeny, and Zipf, and Miss Scott did not attend.

Staff: Mr. Stevens; Mr. Swartz (newly appointed Deputy Director, who had not yet entered on duty); Mrs. Reszetar; Mrs. Dixon, Mr. Stevens' secretary; Mrs. Ulrich, of the Commission staff, for a part of the second day; and Miss Bowman, Mr. Burkhardt's secretary.

Guests: Dr. Martin Cummings and members of the staff of the National Library of Medicine, during a part of the first day.

(The meeting on April 13 was held at the National Library of Medicine; the meeting on the 14th was held in the Wilson Room at the Library of Congress.)

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m., April 13, 1972.

Minutes of Commission Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on February 17-18, 1972, which had been distributed in advance of the meeting, were approved with the following change: p. 10, fourth line from the bottom: "It was agreed . . ." to read "The Chairman expressed the view . . .".

The members of the Commission had been asked to decide whether it will be necessary in the future to have a full transcript of the proceedings made, or whether minutes written by a secretary from her notes would be adequate. The members thought the latter adequate, but Mr. Stevens said the staff found the full transcript useful and, he added, he thought it might help to avoid repetition. It was agreed that the decision should be left to Mr. Stevens. Arrangements had, however, already been made for a full transcript of the June meeting.

Staff

Mr. Stevens introduced Mr. Swartz and Mrs. Dixon. Mr. Swartz expects to come to work during the first week of May and thus, Mr. Stevens said, the staff will be complete by the time of the next meeting.

Studies Prepared for and Material Sent to the Commission Members

Mr. Stevens noted that four studies had been done:

- 1) A group at the Catholic University Library School had completed the

chart of fundamental facts about different types of libraries, which Mr. Theodore Shuchat had begun, and it will be reproduced and distributed to the Commission members shortly.

2) A report reviewing state library plans and planning had been prepared by Mrs. Dorothy Schwenz and distributed to the members.

3) Mr. Stevens had devised a chart of the "Scope of Our Work," on which he had included listings of "The NCLIS Universe in Brief" and "Problems and Areas of Concern," which he distributed at the meeting. (This had been done in response to the members' request at the February meeting that their opinions be elicited on what are the most important things for the Commission to do, in an effort to come to a common understanding of the kind and extent of the Commission's interests.)

4) ERIC summaries had been sent to Commission members with a query from Mr. Stevens as to whether they would serve the need that had been expressed for summaries of important reports and studies with which the Commission should be familiar. The answer was negative. The ERIC summaries were regarded as mainly descriptive. What is needed is a synopsis of critical observations and conclusions and recommendations for action. Mr. Stevens said that the staff would undertake to prepare the kind of summaries that are wanted.

Mr. Stevens noted that a good deal of material had been sent out by the staff to members of the Commission and said he would be glad to have instructions on the future distribution of materials. It was suggested that it would be helpful if Mr. Stevens appended notes to items sent out, indicating what their significance is.

1972-73 Meetings

It was tentatively agreed that three of the Commission's meetings during 1972-73 would be held away from Washington and that each of these meetings would, as usual, be of two days' duration, with the preceding day devoted to a public hearing. Chicago, San Francisco, and Atlanta were tentatively selected as the sites for these meetings. Mrs. Moore was asked to take charge of arrangements for the NCLIS hearings. It was tentatively agreed also that the Commission would hold one of its 1972-73 meetings at the National Science Foundation. (Further discussion of regional meeting plans took place on April 14.)

Agenda for the Meeting

The Chairman proposed that after the presentation to be made on behalf of the National Library of Medicine there ought first to be discussion of the Williams and Wilkins copyright case. Next, consideration might be given to how best to commit the sum of approximately \$54,000 which apparently will be available from fiscal '72 funds for contracts and consultantships. Then there are the state library plans to be considered, the chart of facts about libraries prepared at Catholic University should be examined, the task force recommendations of the Airlie House conference on networks should be considered, and--most importantly, the Commission should try to get its bearings on how to proceed in the future. The Chairman added that he wanted to talk on the following day about establishing sub-groups of the Commission to work on particular problems. The Commission

ought, he said, to engage in devising a national plan--or, perhaps a better way of thinking of the task, he added, was as planning on a national level. He suggested that Mr. Cuadra might prepare for the next meeting an agenda on how the Commission should proceed with pre-planning and planning during the next year.

NCLIS Budget and Funding of its Work

Mr. Burkhardt and Mr. Stevens reported that they had appeared before Senator Magnuson, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor and Health, Education, and Welfare, to discuss the Commission's budget request for the fiscal year 1973. The Chairman said he believes Senator Magnuson sees the Commission's function as advising other agencies of the government and, as also is reflected in OMB's attitude, that the Senator believes the Commission should remain a small non-operating organization and depend on other agencies to do its work.

Mr. Burkhardt added that the Commission itself does not want to become a sizeable operating agency--but it had not thought the seven employees requested would be excessive. He feels that the Commission can work with a budget of \$400,000 for fiscal 1973, but he hopes the operations of that year will give evidence that it should not remain quite so monetarily small thereafter. House Appropriation Committee hearings on the Commission's budget request are scheduled to be held on April 19. Mr. Lorenz thought the point should be made at those hearings that the request has been limited to \$400,000 for fiscal '73 with the firm expectation that studies which will be needed to forward the work of the Commission will be funded by other federal agencies, which share the Commission's interests and purposes.

Mr. Cuadra, commenting that this is the time of year when government agencies are allocating funds, recommended that the Commission undertake to obtain some commitments for joint support for cooperative programs between NCLIS and other agencies. It was the general feeling of the Commission that this idea was worth pursuing.

There was discussion of the Commission's interest in the budgets of other agencies. Mr. Lorenz said that budgets are confidential until released by the President in January, and asked whether the confidentiality applies to the Commission. He felt, for example, that the Commission should, if possible, see Mr. Larkin's budget before he submits it to his superiors at the Office of Education. Mr. Stevens agreed to make inquiries on this subject at the Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Stevens reported that the Commission will receive an award known as the John R. Rowe Cash Award, given annually by the Addison-Wesley Publishing Company to an individual or group to aid or improve some aspect of librarianship or library service. It will amount to about \$1,000. He would expect to spend the money for materials or services that cannot be purchased with public funds.

Mrs. Reszetar reported that her estimates of expenditures through June 30, 1972 are as follows:

Permanent compensation	\$55,848.00
Compensation for other than permanent employees	23,342.00
Personnel benefits	6,798.79
Local transportation	614.51
Travel and <u>per diem</u>	21,386.77
Rent, Communication, and Utilities	6,587.35
Printing	272.20
Other services--government services	5,700.00
--contracts and studies	1,400.00
Mr. Stevens' move to the District of Columbia	1,700.00
Recording	5,344.23
Supplies and materials	2,168.75
Equipment, Furniture, and Furnishings	13,965.06
	<u>\$145,127.66</u>
Balance remaining, which could be used for contracts for studies	54,872.34
	<u><u>\$200,000.00</u></u>

Colonel Aines suggested that it would be useful for the members of the Commission to receive periodically a one-page summary of the status of funds. The staff agreed to supply such a statement--probably on a quarterly basis.

COSATI Panel Recommendations

Mr. Stevens reported that a COSATI panel has passed some resolutions akin to the one adopted on Mr. Baker's recommendation at the Commission's fourth meeting (see minutes of that meeting, p. 9, second paragraph). Also the Panel has recommended commitment to a national systems concept and resource sharing, and to the development of national and international schemes and techniques for bibliographical control closer to the point of origin. There are parallels here with the Commission's thinking of the Library of Congress as a bibliographical center.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The Chairman reported that the National Endowment for the Humanities has approved a "matching" grant of \$500,000 to the New York Public Library; i.e., if the Library can raise \$500,000, it will be matched by NEH. He added that the Endowment might be able also to provide some help for other libraries.

Mr. Lorenz asked how this grant, and possible additional help to libraries, related to the research tool project for which the American Council of Learned Societies has been gathering information. Mr. Durkhardt said these are entirely separate matters. The ACLS has, at the request of NEH, been gathering information

about needs for support of tool works that are requisites for scholarship in the humanities. NEH apparently intends to ask in its appropriation request for funds to support such tool works over a long-range period. The offer of matching funds to the New York Public Library is to provide direct support for an institution that serves its community but has gotten no help from the federal government.

Copyright Problems

The Chairman spoke briefly about the Williams and Wilkins case: The Commissioner of the U.S. Court of Claims had rendered a report which found that the National Library of Medicine, in making photocopies of certain copyrighted works and delivering them to scholars and researchers, and in responding to inter-library loan requests by sending photocopies of copyrighted works, had infringed the copyright of Williams and Wilkins. This is a recommendation, which awaits the opinion of the Court of Claims, but, Mr. Burkhardt said it is apparently generally expected that the Court will uphold the recommendation. Appeal could then be taken to the Supreme Court.

Presentation of the National Library of Medicine

Dr. Martin M. Cummings, Director of the National Library of Medicine, and members of his staff joined the meeting.

Dr. Cummings said that the NLM's presentation would consist of:

- (1) An overview of the Library's history, organization, and programs.
 - (2) A presentation by Dr. Charles F. Bridgman on the National Medical Audiovisual Center.
 - (3) A presentation by Mr. William Caldwell concerning computer activities.
- Then members of the Commission would have an opportunity to examine two on-line systems and to tour the Library.

Dr. Cummings himself covered the first section of the presentation, tracing the history of the NLM from its establishment in 1836 in the office of the Army's first Surgeon General through the following highlighted developments:

- 1879 - establishment of Index Medicus.
- 1886 - use of the first electronic tabulator (Hollerith).
- 1957 - inter-library loan by means of photo duplication.
- 1963 - Medlars I.
- 1965 - establishment of Regional Medical Library Programs.
- 1969-72 - Medlars II.

He spoke of the broad legislative mandate of the library, explained that its governance is in the hands of the presidentially appointed Board of Regents, and showed an organization chart. The operating programs are as follows:

- (1) Library operations.
- (2) Lister Hill Center for Biomedical Communications--the research and development arm.
- (3) The National Medical Audiovisual Center.
- (4) Specialized Information Services (e.g., the toxicology program).
- (5) Extramural programs.

Dr. Cummings listed the components of the Biomedical Communications Network as:

- (1) The library component.
- (2) Specialized information services.
- (3) Specialized educational services.
- (4) Audio-visual program.
- (5) Data processing and transmission.

Dr. Bridgman described the functions and program of the National Medical Audio-visual Center in Atlanta, Georgia, of which he is Director. (For this information see pp. 23-25, The National Library of Medicine, 135th Anniversary Report, DHEW Publication No. (NIH) 72-256).

Mr. William Caldwell presented information about the Office of Computer and Engineering Services (for which see pp. 19-20 of the above mentioned Report). To this he added additional information about AIN-TWX, which uses citations from Abridged Index Medicus as a data base, and provides service to sixty institutions on an experimental basis. There are 160,000 citations in the data base. In addition he briefly described the Medline operation, which gives on-line access to the contents of 1,000 journals.

The Commission members saw a demonstration of on-line systems and toured the Library, after which there was a recess for lunch.

As lunch concluded, members of the Commission discussed various matters of interest to them with Dr. Cummings.

Dr. Cummings was asked about the cost of Medline access. He said the cost is shared, with the user paying about one-third. Except for the regional libraries, any other library hooking into Medline must provide its own terminal and pay line charges. The payment is to the telephone company; no payment is made to NLM. The cost of renting a terminal is about \$150 per month.

Dr. Cummings said that the long-range plan is to transplant Medline to universities or to commercial organizations.

In speaking of Congressional support for NLM projects, Mr. Lorenz commented that the underlying factor is that people die of diseases--they do not die for lack of other kinds of information.

Mr. Lorenz went on to say that an important topic for the Commission is regionalization. He asked whether Dr. Cummings approached this on an ad hoc basis. Dr. Cummings said it was not on an ad hoc basis; studies showed that the more efficient way to give access to biomedical information, and the way to achieve greater equalization of access was to regionalize--not to have everyone come to Bethesda. And there is too much to handle in one place. Dr. Cummings added that it was easy to implement regionalization because libraries are used to cooperation.

In answer to questions, Dr. Cummings said that the on-line data base goes back to 1969. In the Medlars total base there are 1,500,000 references since 1964.

There are 400,000 references in Medline. It is possible to go from Medline to Medlars. The intention is to retire Medlars I in December 1972. (After Dr. Cummings had left the meeting, Mr. Dunlap commented that Medlars has never covered everything and that even in a medical library it is still necessary to have reference librarians. What is covered is a small part of the current literature in a specialized field, in a user-based way.)

Mr. Cuadra asked Dr. Cummings whether what had been done at NLM could serve as a model for all libraries. Dr. Cummings said he does not think it is a good model for all libraries. Many methods and systems may be transferable to other science libraries, but it is unreasonable to suggest that every small community and public library might try to emulate NLM. Those who are interested should examine what NLM is doing and then determine what parts are transferable or potentially useful. He would not suggest that anyone try to pick up the system en bloc. Mr. Burkhardt asked whether the bibliographical access system might be most transferable. Dr. Cummings answered that the bibliographical apparatus of NLM, providing express cataloguing service, monthly reference citation service, and on-line reference retrieval is transferable to any other large library--in terms of the mechanism and in terms of the costs involved. The nation can afford to have this kind of bibliographical apparatus for mathematics, physics, agriculture, and other major disciplines.

Mr. Stevens asked how the situation might differ with greatly increased size, and about application to the humanities. Dr. Cummings answered that historical holdings never need be on-line, and that there are ways of dealing with size. As for the humanities: law, yes; in other fields the compass of course is enormous. It probably could be done, but might not be cost effective. Mr. Burkhardt commented that the system the Commission saw today is enormously successful, provided it is economically feasible. Dr. Cummings said that such questions could be resolved on a dollar and cents basis. He has no doubt that with his data base, what he is doing could never be done with human resources; i.e., it would cost more for people to respond as Medline does.

Mr. Cuadra asked Dr. Cummings whether he thinks there can be a national system and, if so, what it would take to bring it about. Dr. Cummings answered that, yes, there could be a national library system. It would take enormous executive powers to force it, remarkable Congressional interest to support it, and a kind of inter-library cooperation that is only now beginning to emerge. He ended by saying that there should be a national library system, but he doesn't think it is possible to have it within the decade. There are too many disparities, and great risks if an attempt is made to force it; i.e., some constituencies that support libraries might be lost. Dr. Cummings added that it is unlikely that even the connections that would satisfy us can take place soon because everyone is traveling at a different pace. There is need to spend more time studying what other people are doing and have done, rather than to start de novo.

Mr. Lorenz asked about the future of satellite communication. Dr. Cummings does not think satellite communication is important for library service. It

has a more timely utility for more important message passing. It should be thought of as supplementary rather than as replacing other means of communication.

Colonel Aines commented that little concern has been given to ways of reducing costs of data transmission.

Dr. Cummings, talking of the building of national and international data bases, said he does not support United Nations sponsored international information banks. Lesser developed countries have different needs, he said. But, he added, we ought at least to concern ourselves with developing efficient national systems and then with means of information passing--sending by voice, or in any other efficient way.

Dr. Cummings said he hopes the Commission will become an influence on the directions that both federal and private sectors take. How it becomes an important influence will depend on its style and the way of articulating what it thinks is in the best interest of the country. He thinks if the Commission makes recommendations through reports that are timely and realistic in terms of what can be done now, it will gain credibility and prestige. If it should try to hammer everyone over the head it will be frustrated in accomplishing what it was set up to do. There is good will among the various elements toward the Commission, but everyone is looking for the first production. Mr. Burkhardt said he is worried that the expectations are too large to respond to realistically.

Dr. Cummings left the meeting at this point, and some discussion of his presentation followed.

Mr. Becker spoke of the way the NLM has communicated with its constituents--a limited constituency. The system is user-oriented and the constituency has been in on building it. Not only is the constituency definable, but there is a definable set of information. Also, he added, the regional geographical development has been very important in getting support. Dr. Cummings had noted that 90% of their requests are for 10% of the literature.

Colonel Aines predicted that as NLM becomes more successful, it is going to find the new information industry wanting to take over its product and market it. The many data banks are a new industry being born. Mr. Becker noted that there is conflict of opinion about whether federally developed systems should remain in the public domain. All this is far from clear at the present time, he said, and is an area with which the Commission should be concerned. Colonel Aines mentioned too the international growth potential of the kind of data banks being discussed.

The Chairman, referring to a visit Mr. Dunlap had made to NLM in 1965, asked whether Medline was predictable at that time; i.e., how much can be forecast? Mr. Cuadra answered that what the Commission had seen today was predictable in 1965.

Mr. Lorenz asked whether Medline was developed as a compromise because of economy, etc., or whether it had first been learned that the user wanted selection. Mr. Cuadra said it was an economic compromise.

Copyright Problems

Mr. Stevens brought up the matter of copyright, as it had come to the fore in the Williams and Wilkins case (see p. 5 of these minutes). He hoped the Commission could agree on a position, which he suggested should recognize the Commission's interest in the Williams and Wilkins opinion, recognize that there is a problem of fair use, and that legislation is required to protect libraries, librarians, and particularly users.

Mr. Becker gave an encouraging report of a meeting that had been held on April 4, 1972, attended by library organization and publishers representatives, representatives of scientific societies, the Authors League, etc., at which all appeared well on the way toward an agreed solution via the legislative route. In view of this, some question was raised whether the Commission should pursue the matter. However, Mr. Stevens was asked to prepare a draft statement, which the Commission could discuss at its meeting on April 14. He did so, and after revision during the course of the following day's meeting, the following statement was agreed upon:

The National Commission on Libraries and Information Science notes the report of Commissioner James F. Davis to the U. S. Court of Claims in the copyright infringement suit of Williams and Wilkins vs. The United States.

Since the facts and opinions of the case are still before the Court, this Commission does not wish to comment upon the possible findings or actions. We recognize, however, that the findings in this case may have profound impact on the public's access to information.

The Commission believes that the necessary legal framework for resolving the issue of "fair use" by libraries and library users must be sought through legislation. To this end the Commission strongly recommends that Congress enact a revision of the Copyright Act as soon as possible.

It was agreed that Mr. Stevens would discuss this statement with appropriate Congressional staff members, indicating that the Commission feels it has a responsibility in this matter which it wants to exercise.

Commission Resolutions

There had been discussion, during the redrafting of the copyright statement, about the advisability of the Commission's adopting resolutions as a form of expression (with Colonel Aines expressing his opposition) and about the

efficacy of this procedure (with Mr. Cuadra and the Chairman doubting that rhetoric has much effect). Mr. Lerner said that, with respect to the statement on CATV agreed upon at the last Commission meeting (see p. 7 of the minutes of that meeting), the rules were all written and ready to go at the time, so it was too late for the Commission's statement to have any impact. The Chairman said he did not want to ask for the adoption of a policy on the issuance of statements or resolutions, but preferred to leave the Commission free to act according to the circumstances of a particular problem with which it concerned itself.

The meeting recessed at 4 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 a.m., April 14, 1972.

Proposals for NCLIS Studies to be Financed with Fiscal '72 Funds

The April 14 session opened with the presentation by Mr. Stevens of a proposal the Association of Research Libraries had submitted to the National Science Foundation for a study of the feasibility of establishing a national periodicals resources center. NSF had informed ARL that it was giving priority to another project--for cooperation between the libraries of several California institutions--and the ARL request was withdrawn. Mr. Stevens felt that the proposal was rather routinely set up--providing for interviews at some twenty-five libraries, for visits to Boston Spa (a periodical bank in England), and for looking at alternative possibilities. He thought the objective might better be achieved by bringing some librarians together at a meeting. He saw it as a planning job rather than as an investigating one. Mr. Stevens added that, if the Commission wished to support this effort, he thought he and Mr. Stephen McCarthy of the Association of Research Libraries could get together and plan a suitable project to determine whether the Center is feasible. If the Commission gave authorization now to proceed, Mr. Stevens thought the work could be done within ten to twelve months. It was mentioned too that the question of copyright would have to be addressed in connection with the proposed periodicals center.

Mr. Dunlap said this matter is close to his heart, and he hoped the Commission would support the proposed study but he wanted to call attention to the fact that, in a paper he had prepared for the Commission, he had been concerned also with the problem of book depositories.

Colonel Aines said it is mandatory at a time when the question of survival is facing libraries to find ways of sharing resources in terms of material and apparatus, but, he added, there are risks in plans like the setting up of a periodicals bank. He suspects that one of the reasons NSF did not support the ARL proposal was because it lacked provision for the protection of the rights of other groups; i.e., those who would suffer if there were fewer purchasers of periodicals. The Commission must, he believes, view such matters broadly

and has a requirement to act so as to have the respect of the entire community. Mr. Burkhardt responded to this by saying that he understands a "feasibility" study as one that would look into all the consequences of the proposed plan.

Colonel Aines said he would prefer spending the Commission's funds on national planning rather than on the study of a current problem. He gave the following as his list of priorities for action:

- (1) National policy (plans, laws, funding, etc.)
- (2) Increasing population - reducing funds.
- (3) Effect of technology on knowledge-handling community.
- (4) Assessment of needs - preparation of statistics.
- (5) Development of standards.
- (6) Establishment of networks and consortia.
- (7) Role of federal agencies.
- (8) Integration of public-private (including commercial) sectors.
- (9) Education and training of information and lay people.
- (10) Annual Report--initial planning and preparation (content, format, preparatory studies).

Discussion continued on the comparative advisability of spending the remaining 1972 funds (approximately \$54,000.) on (1) the study of a concrete problem (and the periodical bank feasibility study was the only one given serious consideration), or on (2) national planning.

Mr. Burkhardt asked Mr. Cuadra if he could, as had been suggested on the previous day, prepare for the next Commission meeting a full-dress agenda for discussion of the national plan, so that the members could determine how to proceed toward it and, as Mrs. Moore put it, have orderly thoughts on the subject. Mr. Cuadra agreed to try to do this and presented the charts shown on pages 11-a and 11-b of these minutes, detailing steps he thought should be taken for national planning. He added that he believes it is just as easy to start defining needs as it is to undertake the study of some concrete problem.

He went on to say that he views libraries and information centers, abstracting and indexing, etc., as potential components of a system. In some sense, information is flowing among and between them. Objectives the system is to serve must be set. Then one must inquire what it will take in resources to achieve the objectives, what are the administrative concerns, and what are the constraints. Then, in view of the objectives, the available resources, and the constraints, what are the alternatives? He emphasized that the first task is defining objectives and that only after that is done can alternatives be examined. The Commission needs a systematic approach and a framework for discussion of what it thinks should be done, he said; and added that the final document could be its report for the year.

Mr. Lorenz said that we need to get national planning under way, but he has difficulty seeing how the Commission can make an intelligent application of \$54,000 to this effort within the next six weeks. He wondered whether the problem could be rationalized in this way: We need the experience of going through the steps Mr. Cuadra has outlined. Could we take a segment of the totality

Assess
 Information
 Needs
 (Preliminary)

Identify
 Overall
 Available
 Potential
 Resources

Define Overall
 Goals/Objectives
 of Library -
 Information Science

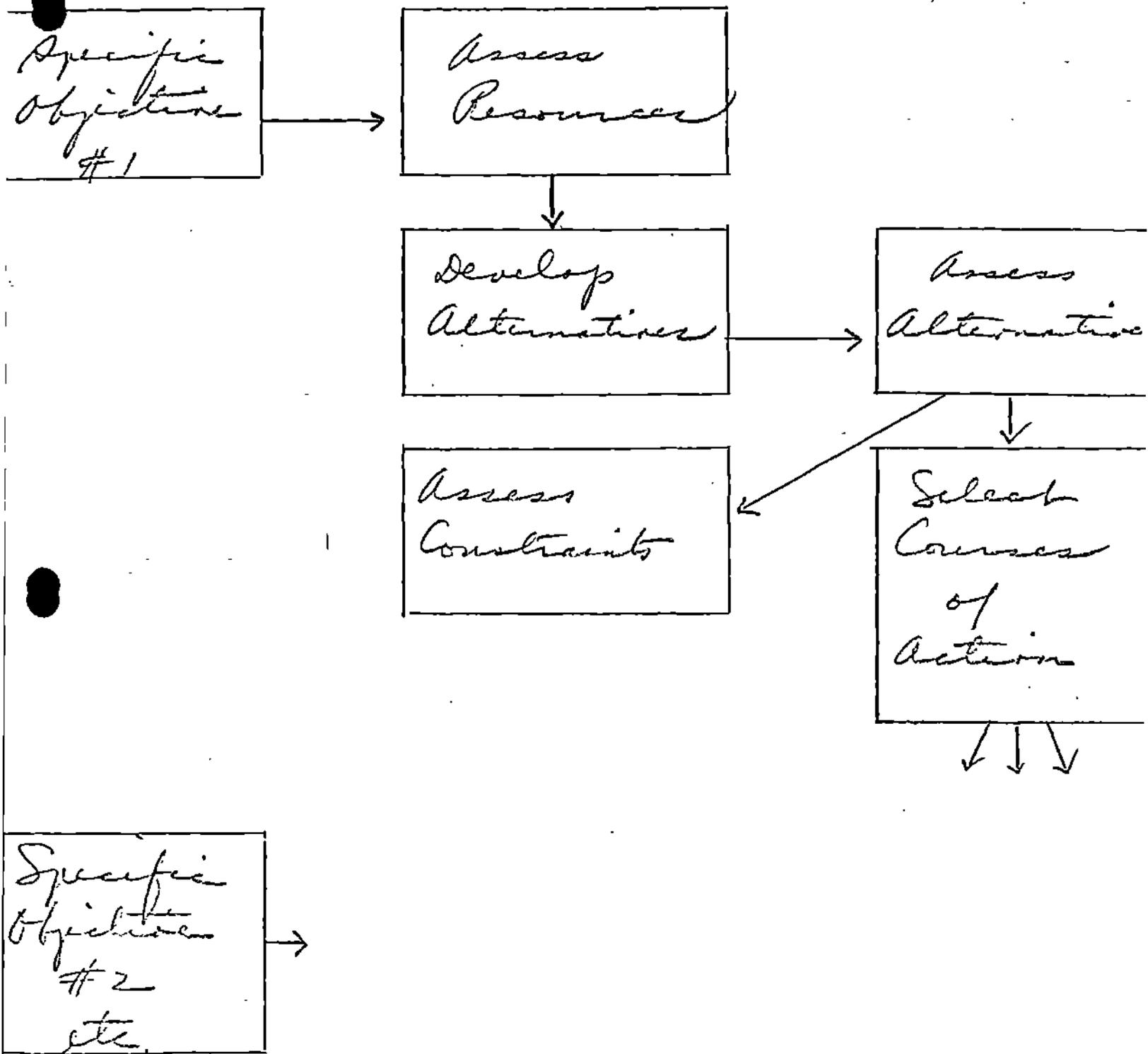
Define
 Specific
 Long-Range
 Objectives

Assess
 Adequacy/
 Deficiencies

Define
 Specific
 Short-Range
 Objectives

Identify
 Overall
 Existing
 Potential
 Constraints





--a problem that is known to exist (e.g., instead of equal access, we might look at one part we know about, i.e., equal access to periodical literature)? We could gain the experience of running through the steps that have been outlined without committing ourselves that this will be a part of an ultimate totality. Mrs. Moore and Mr. Velde supported Mr. Lorenz's suggestion; and the Chairman expressed his continuing doubts that specifications for a national planning document could be gotten together in time for commitment of 1972 funds before June 30.

Mr. Becker said he appreciates Mr. Lorenz's rationalization, but if we undertake a project it should be one of interest and concern to as many of our constituents as possible. Periodicals are largely of concern to the research library community. At a meeting Mr. Becker had attended recently in Detroit, the primary topic was community information services and what the public library ought to be doing, and whether the role of the librarian should change. Mr. Lorenz commented that, for example, Wayne State University in Detroit and the Detroit Public Library would have access to the kind of bank we have been talking about. Mr. Stevens asked whether it could be shown that the creation of a periodical bank system available to the Detroit Public Library and the Wayne State University Library would relieve the librarians so they could address themselves to local problems. Wouldn't something be done for all libraries by the proposed feasibility study? Mr. Becker agreed that that would occur eventually, but as people talked at the meeting he had attended, they were speaking of an immediate kind of thing. He, Mrs. Moore, and Mr. Swartz thought "the people" would not think of a periodical bank as something that helps them. But, Mrs. Moore added, given the situation of money available at the close of the budget year, she could vote for the feasibility study and then try to explain to her constituents why she had done so. It is, she said, a question of what we can do--not what might be most desirable.

Mr. Cuadra said that what would appeal to him would be some project addressing itself to ways in which resources could be expanded, and Mr. Lorenz added to this that the Commission could do nothing worse than to give the impression that contraction is inevitable. He went on to say that there is general recognition that more resources are needed and asked what it is that one might get more resources for. He answered this himself by suggesting that more resources might be available if there were real evidence of cooperation and joint use. Perhaps the periodical bank study would provide such evidence.

At Mr. Cuadra's suggestion it was agreed that approximately \$25,000 be committed for each of two activities: (1) a feasibility study of a regional lending library for periodicals and monographs (with details of the study to be worked out by Mr. Stevens and officers of the Association of Research Libraries); and (2) a start on national planning work. It was understood that there would be some flexibility allowed for amounts to be spent in each area. With respect to the second activity, the Chairman asked Messrs. Becker and Cuadra to serve as a planning sub-group, working closely with Mr. Stevens and co-opting other members of the Commission if they wished, to develop a planning position to present at the next Commission meeting. It was contemplated that for the activity numbered (2) above, funds would be used for extra days of work by Commission members, for commitments to contractors, and for consultants' fees.

The possibility of conflict of interest for certain members of the Commission with respect to the national planning project was discussed, and Mr. Stevens was asked to confer with counsel in the Office of Education or the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to clarify this issue.

Colonel Aines suggested, and the Commission agreed, that the approximately \$4,000 not committed for the two proposed studies should be available to Mr. Stevens for such consultant or contract assistance as might help him with his tasks.

Mr. Lerner said that a specific project that would provide a good deal of useful information would be to investigate what public sources of funds there are for libraries. There are, he said, many different governmental agencies that give assistance to some libraries, and other libraries that might be eligible for similar help do not know of it. This task, he thinks, could be done by a single consultant, who would, of course, determine at the start what information the Office of Education already has gathered on federal funding. It was agreed that this subject should be discussed at the Commission's next meeting.

The meeting was recessed for lunch.

Regional Meetings

After lunch discussion turned to the regional meetings planned to be held in 1972-73. It was tentatively agreed to meet in San Francisco in September and in Chicago in November or December [these locations were subsequently reversed], and in Atlanta in the spring.

Mrs. Moore led the discussion about regional meetings, and there was general agreement on the following points:

The meetings should be held in a neutral place, such as a federal building--not in a particular kind of library.

It would be advisable to have at least five Commission members present at each hearing--and they should represent a variety of interests, i.e., libraries, information science, public concerns, etc. The members of the Commission were asked to consider which of the hearings they could attend. The Chairman and Mr. Stevens agreed to be at all of the meetings.

All of the library community and the interested public should be heard. The Commission should be willing to take a written statement anyone wished to file. The time allowed for a presentation could be limited if necessary. Certain persons could be invited to prepare papers in advance.

It was agreed that the hearings should be recorded, both because of the good impression that makes and because the experience of the National Advisory Commission on Libraries had been that the record is quite valuable.

State Library Plans

The Commission had before it a review of state library plans, which had been prepared by Mrs. Dorothy Schwenz. It was, Mr. Stevens said, an analysis from throughout the fifty states--particularly of network plans. He added that his office will attempt to keep current on the development of state plans. The "Highlights" of Mrs. Schwenz's report, which the Commission members had received and which is on file in the Commission office, were reviewed.

Mr. Burkhardt said the state plans report had impressed him as a document that might usefully be sent to the Office of Education. Mr. Lerner noted that so far there has been little regionalization, and, he added, he thinks the Commission might in the future want to insist on more federal efforts toward regionalization. Mr. Stevens was asked to thank Mrs. Schwenz for her work and to discuss her findings with Mr. Lamkin and his staff at the Office of Education.

Mr. Lorenz hoped that some one state plan could serve as a model. It was thought that the Hawaii plan, or preferably a condensation of it, might serve this purpose, and Mr. Stevens agreed to prepare a digest of the plan or its table of contents as an illustration of a large state plan.

Statistics

Mr. Burkhardt asked Mr. Stevens about the outcome of his meetings with Mr. Frank L. Schick, who is in charge of the gathering of statistics for the Office of Education. He asked whether Mr. Schick had indicated that there are statistics they need, but do not have. Mr. Stevens replied that nothing exists that gives a totality and that Mr. Schick would be glad to have the Commission request statistics it might want. Mr. Lorenz commented that the Commission would first need to know what statistics the Office of Education is collecting and, after digesting that, might request additional data.

Commission Liaison

At the request of the Chairman, Colonel Aines agreed to serve as liaison between NCLIS and OMB, OTP, and FCC. Mr. Stevens will continue coordinating activities between the Commission and OE, COSATI, and other related agencies.

Recommendations of the Airlie Conference on Interlibrary Communications and Information Networks

The Chairman referred the Commission to the "Recommendations of Particular Interest to the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science" which appear on p. 5 of the Airlie Conference on Interlibrary Communications and Information Networks, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. (The recommendations have been numbered on the copy, for purposes of reference.)

The Chairman suggested that Mr. Becker might head a sub-group to concern itself with recommendation (1).

It was observed that the accomplishment of recommendation (3) would be a mark of the Commission's maturity.

With reference to recommendation (5), Mr. Lorenz said that Z-39 of the American National Standards Institute is already fulfilling this function. As for (6), Mr. Lorenz said the Commission might issue a statement, but that the situation will be hard to change. The Library of Congress would like to do more training, he added, if funds were available.

With respect to (7), Colonel Aines referred to UNISIST and to a number of national programs moving in the direction indicated by this recommendation. He mentioned also that an international serial data center has been established at the Bibliothèque Nationale (the Library of Congress and the other national libraries have accepted responsibility for the United States with respect to this program.)

The Commission intends to give serious consideration to the Conference recommendations.

Press Release

Mr. Lerner was asked, in the press release he would prepare concerning the meeting, to mention the presentation made by the National Library of Medicine and the Commission's plans for regional meetings.

Future Agenda Items

- (1) Report by sub-group on national planning.
- (2) Report on the status of the "Periodicals Bank" proposal.
- (3) Discussion of the proposal for a study to investigate all sources of funds for public libraries.
- (4) Consideration of the items on the chart "Scope of Our Work", which Mr. Stevens had prepared.

The Chairman said he also hoped to proceed with the setting up of sub-groups of the Commission to work on special problems. One group, for example, might concern itself with the public image of the Commission, and prepare a brochure. Another group should serve as liaison with the Library of Congress.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PARTICULAR
INTEREST TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION
ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON 2 OCTOBER 1970

That, as a matter of priority, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science devise a comprehensive plan to facilitate the coordinated development of the nation's libraries, information centers, and other knowledge resources.

Further, that action be taken as soon as possible to appoint members of the Commission and fund its activities.

order to facilitate information transfer on an international basis

That the National Commission be apprised of the discussions, conclusions, and recommendations of this Conference, and be requested to assume responsibility for promoting by all appropriate means the network objectives that have been identified.

(8) This letter was acknowledged by the White House on January 26, 1971 as follows:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 26, 1971

Dear Mr. Becker:

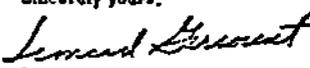
The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of January 10 in which you advise him of the results of the Conference on Interlibrary Communications and Information Networks, which you chaired last September.

I join the President in commending you and the Conference participants for the seriousness of your deliberations and for your constructive recommendations in this important and expanding field.

We will forward the recommendations for the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science to the Commission Chairman when that appointment is made.

With regards,

Sincerely yours,


Leonard Garment

Mr. Joseph Becker
Becker and Hayes, Inc.
8400 Goldsboro Road
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

In closing I wish to express my deep appreciation to Kristy Leivestad Coomes, who served as my administrative assistant. To her belong all the credit and all the kudos for a superb job of organization and planning. Another contributor behind the scenes was Kristy's secretary, Barbara Carleo. Barbara conceived many valuable ideas in the course of the project, and we greatly appreciate her contributions.

Special thanks also are due to Don Culbertson and Russell Shank for their fine support and helpful assistance, and to Kurt Cylke, Larry Papier, and Paul Janaske, who served as project monitors for the Office of Education, and to Ray Fry and other members of the Bureau of Libraries and Educational Technology.

Many thanks go also to the many individuals who gave of their time and talent so willingly — to the Advisory Board members, in particular, the Working Group chairmen and their associates, and of course, to all of the Conference participants.

Joseph Becker
Conference Director

SUPPORTING WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) That the National Commission recommend national policy with respect to network development in order to foster integrated action on local, state, and regional levels

(2) That the National Commission, as part of its annual report to the President and to Congress, describe the advances made in network development and pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of information access among different constituencies, geographic regions, and groups

(3) That the National Commission assure the financial support required for network programs by developing legislative proposals at the federal and state levels, generating a base of understanding within the library and information science professions, and providing a broad base of public understanding of the need for a national network of libraries and information centers

(4) That the National Commission coordinate its programs closely with those of the Office of Telecommunications Policy and the Federal Communications Commission in order to ensure that emerging commercial and governmental telecommunications programs will be capable of accommodating the communication requirements of a national network of libraries and information centers

(5) That the National Commission designate or recommend establishment of a national center to coordinate the creation of standard bibliographic data records for all forms of material

(6) That the National Commission support the establishment of interdisciplinary educational and training programs to equip librarians and information scientists with the technical knowledge required of them in library and information networks at all levels

(7) That the National Commission coordinate the development of national plans for a library and information network with those of other countries in