



## National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

1717 K STREET, N.W. SUITE 601, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

### MINUTES

June 1 and 2, 1977  
New York, New York

- COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Joseph Becker (Wednesday only); Daniel Casey; Carlos Cuadra; Marian Leith; Louis Lerner (Wednesday only); John E. Velde, Jr.; William Welsh (for Dr. Boorstin); Julia Wu; Mildred Younger; and Bessie B. Moore, Presiding
- STAFF PRESENT : Alphonse F. Trezza; Douglas S. Price; Mary Alice Hedge Reszetar; Ruth L. Tighe; Carl Thompson; and Barbara K. Cranwell, Recording Secretary
- GUESTS PRESENT : John Berry, Editor, Library Journal  
Eileen Cooke, American Library Association, Washington Office  
Warren J. Haas, Columbia University  
Mary A. Huffer, U.S. Department of Interior  
John Lorenz, Association of Research Libraries  
Virginia H. Mathews, NCLIS Consultant on Library Service to American Indian People  
W. William Pelletier, Center for Research Libraries  
James Riley, Federal Library Committee  
Whitney North Seymour, Jr., National Citizens Emergency Committee to Save Our Public Libraries  
Richard H. Sullivan, Carnegie Corporation, New York  
Robert B. Taylor, Jr., DuPont Company  
Charles T. Townley, University of Michigan  
Robert Wessel, Immediate Past President, Center for Research Libraries  
Gordon R. Williams, Center for Research Libraries

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

In her opening remarks, Mrs. Moore, the Acting Chairman, expressed the Commission's pleasure and offered congratulations to Louis A. Lerner, Ambassador-Designate to Norway.

Mrs. Moore remarked about the amount and quality of the work being accomplished by the staff and expressed the Commission's appreciation.

### Approval of February Minutes

The minutes of the February 18-19, 1977, Commission meeting were approved with the following change, suggested by Daniel Casey:

Page 8, 5th line. Change the word "and subject to the 'approval' to 'recommendation.'"

Mr. Casey stated, "It should be clear that the Commission's actions are not subject to approval by the White House Conference on Library and Information Services."

It was MOVED by Joseph Becker, and seconded by Louis Lerner, that the Minutes of the February 18-19, 1977, NCLIS meeting be approved, as amended. Passed unanimously.

### Annual Report

Mr. Trezza apologized to the members of the Commission and, in particular, to Dr. Burkhardt, for the error in the Annual Report. The error, made by the Government Printing Office, was in printing only Mr. Trezza's signature in the cover letter to the President. Mr. Trezza explained that GPO was instructed to remove the signatures because Dr. Burkhardt was out of the country and his signature could not be secured. However, GPO inadvertently printed Mr. Trezza's signature. For the record, Mr. Trezza stated that it is normal Commission policy that Dr. Burkhardt's signature appear on letters addressed to the President and high officials in Congress. In the future, the Annual Report will include the Chairman's signature only. This error in the Annual Report, Mr. Trezza explained, was discussed in a telephone conversation with Dr. Burkhardt.

### Election of Vice Chairman

It was MOVED by Joseph Becker, and seconded by John E. Velde, Jr., that Mrs. Bessie B. Moore be elected to serve as Vice Chairman for 1977-78. Passed unanimously. Mrs. Moore thanked the members for the vote.

### Status of Commission Appointments

Mrs. Moore stated that she, Dr. Burkhardt, Mr. Lerner, and Mr. Trezza had recently met with Ms. Peggy Rainwater, Presidential Personnel Office, to discuss the status of Commission appointments. Mrs. Moore explained that, at present, there are two vacancies and on July 19 there will be a total of five. During the meeting with Ms. Rainwater the members of the Commission urged the White House to move on the appointments and/or reappointments as rapidly as possible. They also pointed out the need for representation from the research library, public library, minorities, women, business, educators, organized labor, and others, stressing that all of the appointees should be individuals of national stature.

Mr. Trezza stated that he had again spoken with Ms. Rainwater and that there has been no developments or progress.

Mr. Trezza further announced that Mr. Aines and Miss Scott were not in attendance because of the previous Administration's action in nominating new appointees, which negates the policy of continuing attendance by Commissioners whose term had expired.

#### First Amendment

Mr. Lerner stated that he felt the Commission should take a stand regarding the First and Fourteenth Amendment rights. Mr. Lerner submitted for the member's review draft copies of a resolution which he had prepared. The contents of the resolution were discussed at length, and several suggestions for amendment made and accepted.

It was then MOVED by Louis Lerner, and seconded by Daniel Casey, that the NCLIS Resolution on Intellectual Freedom (First and Fourteenth Amendments) as presented and revised be accepted. Passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, the nation's libraries, information centers, and related information access institutions form a national resource; and

WHEREAS, these organizations and institutions have been urged by the National Commission to participate in the development and implementation of a nationwide network to ensure basic minimums of library and information services to meet the needs of all, and

WHEREAS, the development and maintenance of this nationwide network, and the integrity of publishers of books and other communicative materials upon which it depends, require the full and uniform protection of the Constitution as guaranteed in the First and Fourteenth Amendments, and

WHEREAS, the concept of "local community standards" has been utilized in the prosecution and conviction of persons associated with nationally distributed communicative materials, and

WHEREAS, such prosecutions under "local community standards" threaten the guarantees of the First Amendment and chill the free exercise of the rights of freedom and speech and press and freedom of access by requiring editorial content to conform to the standards of the least tolerant community, under threat of criminal sanction, and

WHEREAS, the protection of the First and Fourteenth Amendments--if they are to be meaningful--must cover materials which are critical of accepted values or otherwise unpopular,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science condemns the use of "local community standards" as a threat to the national accessibility of communicative materials through both commercial and non-commercial means, and thus as a threat to each citizen's full exercise of the rights guaranteed by the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

#### Committee on the American Indians

Mrs. Leith stated that she attended a meeting--in Mrs. Moore's stead--at the Department of the Interior. The main topic of discussion at that meeting was a draft report produced by the Interior Department and the Bureau of Indian Affairs entitled, "Bureau of Indian Affairs Plan for the Improvement of Library/Media/Information Programs." (Each Commissioner received a copy of the report prior to this meeting.) Mrs. Leith recommended that the Commission support and reinforce the BIA plan as outlined in the report.

Ms. Virginia Mathews, a guest and a Consultant to NCLIS, stated that the initiative for this study began with NCLIS hearings in 1973 at which the Commission heard of the despair of the American Indians living on or near reservations.

Mr. Charles Townley of the University of Michigan, chief architect of the plan, stated that the goals are:

- (1) To meet the expressed needs of American Indians and other native peoples for information and knowledge necessary to successful life in a multicultural society;
- (2) To provide information necessary for informed decision-making and self-determination in Indian communities; and
- (3) To assure that American Indians and other native peoples served by the Bureau of Indian Affairs attain information access at least equal to that which is recognized as basic for other American citizens.

Mr. Becker complimented the team for preparing such a well thought-out plan. He further asked, "Will there be a long-range budget and the right kind of support for such a program so that it can be realized?" Ms. Mathews responded that the plan does have Secretary level approval, which it never would have had without the Commission's steady and continuing nudging.

Mrs. Huffer asked for Commission endorsement of the plan, which she felt could be done through a resolution, and by a letter addressed to the Secretary of Interior. This would assist in encouraging continued Bureau of Indian Affairs interest in this plan, the processing of the plan in the budget cycle, and the beginning of staffing to carry out the goals and objectives contained within the plan.

Ms. Mathews reported that the White House Conference for American Indians will be organized under the auspices of the Department of the Interior. Mrs. Huffer will have responsibility for the conference; the planning deadline has been set for June, and a budget of approximately \$60,000 has been reserved.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the NCLIS Committee on the American Indians would plan a site visit to Indian reservations in New Mexico from August 14-17. Mrs. Reszetar has been asked by Mr. Trezza to serve as the staff liaison person for the site visits and the Indian project.

Mrs. Leith then presented the following resolution for adoption by the Commission:

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior has developed an excellent long-range plan for the improvement of library and information services to American Indians and other native peoples living on or near reservations, and

WHEREAS, this plan for the development of services to American Indian people living on or near reservations fits in precisely with the National Commission's overall national plan for the development of library and information services and coordinates access to existing resources, and

WHEREAS, the National Commission has expressed and acted upon its responsibility for planning the provision of services in relation to the nation's Federal Trust responsibility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the National Commission heartily endorses the plan, and commends the Department of Interior for its preparation and anticipates working with the Department to achieve its full and immediate implementation.

The resolution was MOVED by Mrs. Leith, and seconded by Mrs. Wu, and passed unanimously.

### White House Conference

Mr. Velde, Chairman of the White House Committee, reported that the first meeting of the Advisory Committee, held in March, saw 26 of the 28 appointed members and Dr. Burkhardt in attendance. At that meeting, the Advisory Committee agreed with the Commission's suggestions and adopted a number of recommendations. Minutes of that meeting have been sent to all Commissioners.

Mr. Velde reported that a work session/interview process for the White House Conference staff was set up by Mr. Trezza and proved to be very productive. As a result of the 2-1/2 day session, held in May, some useful initial planning documents were developed. Mrs. Moore and Mr. Velde were also in attendance. Five persons from that work session were selected as staff for the White House Conference, after extensive discussion among the staff and Commissioners Moore and Velde, and job offers will be made to them.

### American Library Association--Detroit Conference

Mr. Casey urged the Commissioners and staff to attend the "Workshop on Planning and Conducting a Pre-White House Conference." This workshop will be held at the June ALA meeting in Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. Moore and Mr. Casey will be the speakers at the workshop.

Other meetings/briefing sessions to be held at ALA include a review of current NCLIS activities by Mr. Trezza during an open 1-1/2 hour session; a presentation by NCLIS and LC Network Advisory Group to provide an update on our cooperative activity; and a presentation by Mr. Velde before a discussion group of the American Libraries Trustees Association.

### White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals

Staff (Doug Price, Mary Alice Hedge Reszetar, and Ruth Tighe) attended some sessions of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. It was the general consensus that the Conference had many problems--an excessive number of recommendations (3,500), delegate dissatisfaction; parliamentary difficulties, etc. Eighty-five percent of the delegates were handicapped, thus also presenting difficult logistics problems.

Mr. Trezza urged that the Members and staff begin now to think of how to handle and control the volume of informational materials to be received from the states in preparation for their state conferences. Ms. Tighe has been assigned the responsibility of looking into the possibility of acquiring an automated system to help alleviate this problem.

IFLA

Mrs. Moore, Mr. Velde, Mr. Welsh and Mr. Trezza will attend the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) meeting held in Brussels September 3 to 10.

Mr. Trezza will also attend an IFLA Committee meeting scheduled in London during July. Mr. Trezza's expenses will be borne by IFLA.

Another out-of-the-country meeting sponsored by ASLIB will be held during the week of September 18. Dr. Cuadra will attend the meeting (at the University of Lancaster, Lancaster, England) to present a paper on "on-line systems," and Mr. Trezza will speak on national planning and the NCLIS program document.

UNESCO

Mr. Welsh reported that in an attempt to represent the needs of libraries and persons in the information science community, Mr. Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director of ALA, has established an ad hoc steering committee. This small group will present the U.S. position to the State Department on matters relating to UNESCO. It will be the first time that libraries have had an important role in this area. Seventeen organizations are members and there are two at-large organizations (of which NCLIS is one). This could dovetail with the Commission's plan for a Task Force on International Relations.

Florence Agreement

Mr. Trezza presented a resolution on the Florence Agreement for official adoption by the Commission:

WHEREAS, the Florence Agreement (Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials) has been of great benefit to libraries and information systems in the United States and 65 other countries through the elimination of import duties on publications and certain other educational, scientific and cultural materials, and

WHEREAS, a Protocol (or supplement) to the Florence Agreement was approved by the General Conference of UNESCO in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 1976, and

WHEREAS, this Protocol in Annex C1 extends duty free import status to audio, visual, and microform materials on the same basis as printed materials and confers additional special benefits on libraries, and

WHEREAS, the Protocol was officially opened for acceptance by the Secretary General of the United Nations in March 1977;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science recommend to the President of the United States that he, at an early date, submit the Protocol to the Senate of the United States, including the more liberal optional provisions in Annex C1, and Parts II and III; and that the National Commission urge the Senate of the United States to approve the Protocol as an international multilateral treaty, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That following the approval of the Protocol by the Senate, the Secretary of State promptly submit a draft bill to the Congress to implement the Protocol by making the required changes in U.S. tariff laws, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States; to the Secretary of State; to the Assistant Secretary of State for Cultural Affairs; to the Librarian of Congress; to the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate; to the Chairman of the Committee on International Relations of the U.S. House of Representatives; to the Chairman of the Committee on Finance of the U.S. Senate; to the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives; and to the Chairman of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

It was *MOVED* by Joseph Becker, and seconded by William Welsh, that the resolution on Protocol to the Florence Agreement be accepted as presented. Passed unanimously.

#### Education Commission of the States

Mrs. Moore reported that she had had an opportunity to talk to Mr. Warren Hill, Executive Director of the Education Commission of the States, about the work of NCLIS at a meeting they both attended in Arkansas. As a result of that meeting, Mr. Hill invited Mrs. Moore to Denver, where ECS is located, to further discuss interaction between the two organizations. A meeting has been tentatively scheduled for July, which Mrs. Moore, Messrs. Becker and Trezza, Mrs. Reszetar, and Ms. Tighe will attend.

Hopefully, Mrs. Moore stated, this will mark the beginning of work with similar organizations in order to obtain broader support for our efforts.

### LC Network Advisory Group

This group was formed by the Librarian of Congress to advise the Library of Congress on the national bibliographic component of a nationwide network. The advisory group works with the Library of Congress' Network Development Office. One of the subcommittees is the Network Technical Architecture Group, which is charged with developing and implementing the design of the library bibliographic component of a nationwide network. In appreciation for the endeavor and hard work of this group, it was:

MOVED by John E. Velde, Jr., and seconded by Daniel Casey, that the Commission endorse the leadership efforts of the Library of Congress in developing the bibliographic component of the national library and information service network; and go on record as in full support of a continuing effort by the Library of Congress toward achievement of this significant part of the NCLIS "full service network." And, further, that the Commission express its appreciation to Mrs. Henriette Avram, Director of the Network Development Office, Library of Congress, for her invaluable contribution to this endeavor. Passed unanimously.

### Z-39

Mr. Becker reported that a committee appointed by the National Science Foundation, the Council on Library Resources, and NCLIS has been called together to reexamine the mission and function of Z-39. Numerous suggestions have been made that its scope be enlarged to take into account some of the newer activities and interests brought about by technology. As a consequence, a group of 20 persons have been assembled to consider alternatives to the present organizational structure. This group has met and discussed the domain of activity in depth; considered a new mission statement which would broaden the responsibility; discussed organization and funding, which has been a problem in the past; considered alternative methods of support; and discussed the ways in which a standard would be issued. Conclusions are now being organized by Mr. Eugene Palmour, NCLIS staff member to the task force. The next meeting of the task force will be held in June at which time, hopefully, the report will be presented and adopted. This project is being jointly funded--1/2 NCLIS funds and approximately 2/3's NSF funds. Mr. Becker is serving as Chairman of the Task Force.

### Task Force on a National Periodicals System

NCLIS appointed a Task Force on a National Periodicals System in November 1975 to prepare a plan for a National Periodicals Program. Commissioners Becker and Cuadra serve as members to this Task Force. The Task Force work began in January 1976, and a final draft report was completed in February 1977.

Just prior to the 18-19 February 1977 meeting of the NCLIS, Mr. Robert H. Wessel, Chairman, Board of Directors, Center for Research Libraries (CRL), sent a mailgram to Dr. Burkhardt suggesting that the Task Force had not adequately considered the role of CRL in the proposed program. The mailgram asked that the Commission defer endorsing the specific details of any "general program for library services to the nation that appears not to include maximum utilization of CRL's resources until the possibility for such use has been carefully and fully examined." As a result, it was decided at that Commission meeting to appoint a small committee to visit CRL and reexamine its capabilities as part of the proposed National Periodicals System. Dr. Burkhardt appointed Mr. Lerner as Chairman, with other members being Mr. Trezza, Mr. Welsh, Mr. Fred Croxton of the Library of Congress, Mr. Warren Haas of Columbia University, and Mr. Eugene Palmour.

Mr. Lerner reported that the committee visited the CRL and reviewed their operation and resources. As a result of the visit and after careful deliberation, the committee recommends to the Commission that the National Periodicals System report be accepted and endorsed as it stands. The committee concluded that the Task Force did not underestimate the role of CRL in the proposed National Periodicals System.

The Commission heard from Mr. Robert Wessel, Immediate Past President, CRL. Mr. Wessell spoke on behalf of the CRL and, in summary, he stated, "If a national library can be formed, CRL will turn over its collection of periodicals and monographs and, in effect, go out of business and turn over to such a library all of these working assets, which would be relevant in any way. This does not mean that we are willing just to immediately quit. We think there are certain conditions which are very important. One provision is: Because the national lending library must be responsible to the needs of the nation for the effective access of publications through its library, it is imperative that it be governed and operated so as to assure that research libraries and their users will have an effective voice in formulating policy and in monitoring performance. To accomplish this, further attention to the form of governance seems required."

The Commission also heard statements from Messrs. S. William Pelletier, CRL; Warren Haas, Columbia University; John Lorenz, ARL; and Richard Sullivan, Carnegie Corporation.

Extensive discussions ensued. At their conclusion, Mr. Trezza presented seven recommendations on which he asked for Commission approval. Each statement was extensively discussed and approved. Item six was further refined and clarified by Mr. Richard Sullivan, and approved as restated by him:

## National Periodicals Task Force Resolution and Actions--

- (1) MOVED by Daniel Casey, and seconded by John E. Velde, Jr., that the Commission endorse the task force report and agree, within the limits of its legal responsibilities, to work with the library community toward the implementation of the report's recommendations.
- (2) MOVED by Daniel Casey, and seconded by Louis Lerner, that the suggestions and offers of assistance received from the Universal Serials and Book Exchange, the Duplicates Exchange Union, and the Center for Research Libraries' proposal for a National Central Lending Library be referred to the Library of Congress and its Advisory Committee for consideration in developing the technical design for the National Periodicals Center.
- (3) MOVED by Daniel Casey, and seconded by Julia Wu, that the Commission appoint at its September meeting an Advisory Committee of nine persons who will be responsible for the development of policy to ensure coordination among the components of the National Periodicals System, and that the Association of Research Libraries, the American Library Association, the Special Libraries Association, and other appropriate groups be asked to recommend individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee.

ACTION

- (4) MOVED by Daniel Casey, and seconded by Louis Lerner, that the Commission reiterate its previous decision and view that periodicals are only one component of a comprehensive national system of resources available for the use, not only of research institutions, but of all institutions and their constituents. And that, further, the Commission declare, as previously announced, its intention to establish a task force effective in the fall of 1977 on a National and Regional Access Program for Monographs and, further, that the Commission continue its efforts in the area of multimedia materials.

ACTION

- (5) MOVED by Louis Lerner, and seconded by Marian Leith, that the Commission authorize the NCLIS Chairman and the Executive Director to cooperate with the Librarian and Deputy Librarian of the Library of Congress in seeking funds and other sources of support in order to plan and establish the National Periodicals Center.

- (6) MOVED by Mildred Younger, and seconded by Carlos Cuadra, that the Task Force on the National Periodicals Center support the concept of Federal funding for the continuing operations for the National Periodicals Center; that the recommendation in the Task Force report relative to the Library of Congress as operator and manager of the National Periodicals Center is supported by the Commission, and is based on the firm understanding that the Library of Congress will seek funds in its fiscal year 1981 budget for the operation of the National Periodicals Center; and that this action, however, will only be undertaken if the Library of Congress is reaffirmed by the library community as the manager and operator of the Center following the initial planning and implementation stage.
- (7) MOVED by Louis Lerner, and seconded by John E. Velde, Jr., that the Commission adopt the following resolution on the issue of copyright, as it impacts on the proposed National Periodicals Center:

WHEREAS, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science recognizes that the report of its Task Force on a National Periodicals System, "Effective Access to the Periodical Literature: A National Program," leaves as an unresolved issue the impact of the Copyright Law Revision of 1976 (Public Law 94-553) on the proposed National Periodicals Center, and

WHEREAS, the Commission concurs with the Task Force that consideration of the copyright issue is beyond the assigned scope of the Task Force, and

WHEREAS, the Commission considers that this and other questions of interpretation of the Copyright Law Revision can be resolved most effectively by mutual negotiation and agreement between owners of copyrights and users of copyrighted materials, and

WHEREAS, the Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU) has offered its good offices to the interested parties in seeking a consensus on the interpretation and definition of undefined terms in Section 108 of the Act,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the NCLIS applauds the CONTU initiative in promoting a search for consensus on the interpretation and definition of terms on Section 108 and offers its full support and cooperation in this endeavor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the NCLIS request CONTU and the participants in this endeavor to consider in their discussions the impacts and interrelationships among the Law, the CONTU guidelines, and the National Periodicals System.

All motions on the National Periodicals Task Force actions were passed unanimously.

After the Commission completed its actions, Mrs. Moore asked the visitors and members for their reactions:

- Mr. Sullivan commended the Commission for moving ahead;
- Mr. Williams agreed with Mr. Sullivan; however, he stated that he still sees severe problems with governance and the nature of the collections;
- Mr. Wessel stated he hopes governance can be resolved with mechanisms established;
- Mr. Haas stated, "Move forward men, we're right behind you;"
- Mrs. Eileen Cooke, ALA Washington Office, commended the Commission for moving ahead; legislation is not the most practical approach;
- Mr. Lorenz stated that the ARL Board supports the Task Force's recommendations; and
- Mr. Lerner stated, "The Commission took its first giant step toward developing a National Periodicals System under the aegis of the Library of Congress. The first major steps were taken today."

#### Senate Appropriations Subcommittee

Mr. Trezza reported that the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee has included \$7 million in its recommendations for the new Title II-C of the Higher Education Act. This title supports the Commission's recommendation to make "unique and major resource collections available nationwide."

#### Committee on the Recognition of the Commissioners

Mr. Lerner stated that scrolls have been printed for past Commissioners. These scrolls will be sent to Dr. Burkhardt for his signature and then forwarded to each former Commissioner.

#### Committee on Public Information

Mr. Lerner commended the staff for their hard work and stated that in almost every journal you read there is mention of NCLIS activities. He stated that this is good publicity, and encouraged the staff to keep the press informed on a regular basis.

The press briefing seminar for the library, educational, and selected general press on the work of the Commission and the White House Conference is to be held sometime in late fall, Mr. Lerner announced.

News releases highlighting the events of the NCLIS meetings have been drafted for each member, if they wish to use them to inform their local newspaper of their participation in NCLIS meetings. Mr. Casey has been actively informing his local newspapers of NCLIS activities and events, and it was at his suggestion that the newsreleases have been developed.

#### Task Force on the Photocopy Study Project

Mr. Price reported that the Photocopy Study is "moving along." The MINITEX part has been completed; and the survey data should be completed by June 18. A draft report should be available in July in time for a CONTU meeting. King Research, Principal Investigator of the study, is seeking additional funds from the National Science Foundation, the Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works, and NCLIS. This is a cost-plus contract. Mr. Price further stated that he feels the first draft of the report is sound and should be acceptable to the user. The section on clearinghouse mechanism and copy payment is still being developed. Messrs. Becker and Goland serve as Commission members to this study.

#### National Citizens Emergency Committee to Save Our Public Libraries

Mr. Whitney North Seymour, Jr., spoke briefly on the National Citizens Emergency Committee to Save Our Public Libraries. The Committee was organized in the spring of 1976 and sees as its primary objective communicating to those who control the future of the country the importance of our public libraries to our national welfare. "Our principal approach has simply been to gather the facts about library use and publish them as background papers for distribution to news media, public officials, and community leaders," he said. Basic facts, he said, are:

- For some of our citizens, the public library is a virtual necessity;
- Libraries stimulate, as well as relay, the flow of information;
- Costs of library operation, borne chiefly locally, have soared, resulting in radical reductions in service to the public; and
- Federal funding has been woefully inadequate.

In summarizing, Mr. Seymour stated, "The future of America's libraries depends on the success of this Commission's efforts in having a White House Conference that really deals with the issues that affect the success of the National Program, and we want to help in any way we can."

Mr. Lerner asked that Mr. North and his Committee take an active role in the state and Governor's conferences preceding the national conference. Ms. Tighe has been asked to serve as staff liaison to Mr. Seymour's committee.

#### Eileen Cooke

Mrs. Eileen Cooke, Executive Director of the American Library Association's Washington Office, spoke briefly to the Commission. In particular, she commended Mr. North and his committee on their work and their goal; explained the difficulty of obtaining additional dollars for the Library Services and Construction Act over President Carter's budget; stated that funds for renovating libraries to make them accessible to the handicapped have been added to the Bill and will be considered; urged NCLIS to contact members of the full committee for support; and stated that maximum effort will be made in the form of a supplemental budget request at the end of the year.

Mr. Casey expressed appreciation to Mrs. Cooke, on behalf of the Commission and staff, for her hard work and assistance in obtaining the \$3.5 million for the White House Conference.

#### Task Force on the Management Institute for State Librarians

Mrs. Leith reported that the second Management Institute for State Librarians was held and was a magnificent and well-done conference. A report of the two Institutes will be prepared and distributed to each Commissioner. Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Leith serve as Commission members to this project.

ATION

#### Task Force on the Project Media Base

Ms. Tighe reported that the project is in cooperation with the Association for Educational Communications and Technology. The purpose of this study is to define the functional specifications of a national data base for nonprint media. A team of authors has been formed that will provide a brief historical summary; a survey and analysis of existing nonprint media data bases for similar data elements; and a discussion of user needs; and derive from this data the kind of functions a nationwide data base of information about nonprint materials should provide. This project is scheduled for completion by late summer. Mrs. Wu serves as Commission member to this task force.

#### Task Force on Computer Protocols

The Task Force on Computer Protocols, Ms. Tighe reported, is working on the development of a high-level computer application protocol which will enable the so-called bibliographic utilities to communicate with each other using a standardized interface. This project is being done in conjunction with the National Bureau of Standards and has, as members

of its task force, not only representatives of library network organizations, but also of nonlibrary networks, and of the private sector as well. The product of the task force will be submitted to the American National Standards as a proposed standard. It is expected that the report will be ready in September, as scheduled.

#### Task Force on the LC's Role in the National Network

Ms. Tighe reported that there was a problem with the survey done on which the recommendations of this study were based and that, as mentioned in February, the contractor had been asked to send the survey data back to the institutions surveyed asking them to confirm or validate the data which has been collected. This has been a slow and painful process and there have been some complaints that the data was not very sound to begin with and that there was a problem in updating the data. Ms. Tighe reported she was not sure whether this is one particular person's biased viewpoint or not.

#### Task Force on the Authority File Project

Ms. Tighe reported that this project, funded by the Commission, will support a nationwide network and is being done through the Library of Congress. The question isn't really the role of the authority file so much as it is how one provides that function in a network setting. This is a question that not a great deal of thought has been given to, to date, and so is, in effect, breaking new ground in the area of how a "network" catalog should be organized and built. The issue is so complex that the study has been divided into two parts: the first to design the methodology for the study, and the second, to design the means for implementation. The first part has just been completed, and represents an impressive intellectual effort on the part of the "contractor" used by the Library of Congress-- Edwin Buchinski of the National Library of Canada. The report has been sent to the Library of Congress and should be available for distribution in the fall.

#### Task Force on the Role of the School Library Media Program in Networking

Mrs. Wu reported that the initial meeting of this task force was held in March. It was a well-balanced and conscientious group. Two authors have been assigned various papers and the first paper should be ready in July. The next meeting will be held on July 11 and 12 in Washington, D.C. The task force will focus its major responsibility on defining the role of school library/media centers in a national network. In effect, hopefully, we are developing a great deal of information for use in developing a nationwide full-service network for access to information for all, she said.

Friday, June 3, 1977

Commissioners' Comments

Mr. Welsh stated that he had preliminary discussions with foundation personnel and was reasonably certain of funding for the design phase of the National Periodicals Center. The Library of Congress will appoint a technical committee to work with and advise the Library of Congress on the design and operation of the National Periodicals Center. He will draw up the necessary documents for submission to the foundation requesting funds in the amount of \$75,000.

Mr. Welsh reported on the Science Information Activities Task Force of the National Science Foundation. He, along with Eileen Cooke and John Lorenz, made a presentation on library problems. The Chairman of the task force is Joe Wyatt, Vice President, Harvard University. The charge of the task force is to take a "hard look" at the National Science Foundation's responsibilities in the field of science information. The members believe NSF should go back to pure research rather than development, since this was their original purpose. The group is also concerned with the lack of appropriate and sufficient outside review of proposals. Mr. Becker is serving as a staff consultant to the project and is responsible for drafting the report.

Mr. Casey stated that he was glad to see the staff distribute the article on the agreement reached between the not-for-profit publishers of scientific journals and the U.S. Postal Service.

Mr. Casey also expressed his interest in international relations and hopes to see the implementation of a task force soon. Mr. Trezza reacted by stating that work is progressing slowly and, hopefully, Mr. Foster Mohrhardt will be designated to head the task force which will be established in late fall. Mr. Casey requested that the item be placed on the September agenda.

ACTION

Mr. Casey also expressed his interest in having the Commission produce a resolution or formal statement to establish as policy that "new information (i.e., reports, documents, etc.) that is consonant with the NCLIS Program Document but not NCLIS-generated, should be submitted to the Commissioners for consideration as an NCLIS publication prior to its publication. Mr. Trezza stated that he hoped to have a draft resolution for review at the September meeting.

ACTION

Mrs. Younger expressed her concern over the lack of educational TV/cable in urban areas for educational services and would like to see this matter called to the attention of Representative Van Deerlin's Committee. She also expressed her interest in having contractors report on the reports which they have prepared under contract to the Commission. Mr. Trezza

replied that this is generally the Commission's practice. She further expressed her concern about "fragmentation of interests" and cautioned the NCLIS to make sure its image reflects concerns of all libraries "across the board."

Mr. Velde reported that he visited the British Lending Library Division and will go to Boston Spa in August to observe the operation of the Library's periodicals responsibility.

Dr. Cuadra reviewed the Bell Lab tour. Of particular interest to him was the facsimile transmission; he felt some parts of the tour were not as pertinent.

Mrs. Wu shared two articles with the members. The first was an article by Arthur Ashe, the tennis pro, which encouraged Black children to visit their local libraries instead of wasting their time. The second was a flattering report on our State Aid and National Inventory studies.

Mrs. Wu also informed the Commission that there is a special award offered by the American Association of School Librarians to the school library district which has provided the best school media program. Each year there are a winner and two runner-ups. The winner and runner-ups this year were from California. Mr. Trezza offered the staff's assistance in preparing letters of congratulations in the name of the Commission.

Mrs. Leith asked for Commission guidance in accepting invitations and offers of free registration from professional associations, such as ALA. Mrs. Moore stated that caution should be exercised, in keeping with Federal Government regulations.

Mrs. Moore reported that she attended a meeting of the CLENE Board in Lansing, Michigan. There has been remarkable progress, which is beyond expectations. The Commission has been placed on the CLENE mailing list and each member should receive informational materials as it is available.

Mrs. Moore mentioned her honorary Doctorate degree from the University of Arizona, which was awarded to her for (1) the program in economic education developed in Arkansas; and (2) for fifty years of volunteer service to libraries. She said she's now a "pair of docs" (paradox), to the delight of the Commissioners and staff, who offered her a congratulatory round of applause.

#### Federal Library Committee

Mr. James Riley, Executive Director of the Federal Library Committee, presented a progress report and some background on the establishment of the Federal Library Committee. He noted that the FLC was established in 1965 by the Library of Congress and the Office of Management and Budget (then the Bureau of the Budget) for the purpose of concentrating the intellectual resources present in the Federal library and library-related information community:

To achieve better utilization of library resources and facilities.

To provide more effective planning, development, and operation of Federal libraries.

To promote an optimum expansion of experience, skill and resources.

Membership on the FLC includes representatives of the three national libraries, and all the Cabinet agency libraries. In addition, six independent agencies are elected to membership every two years; there are five official observers.

The goals of the Federal Library Automation Improvement Program are: (1) to promote maximum, effective shared use of common data bases through on-line telecommunications systems (or off-line means where applicable); (2) development of standardized library service systems oriented toward mini-computers or use of agency central processors; and (3) to improve the automation skills of both librarians and users to maximize effective growth.

#### Executive Director's Report

Sunshine Act--In response to some questions raised at the last Commission meeting concerning the Sunshine Act, Mr. Trezza stated: "Executive Sessions must be announced ahead of time, or by mail, with sufficient notice, and must be printed in the Federal Register. Transcripts must be maintained by the Executive Director, or if a topic relates to the Executive Director, the transcripts must be retained by the Chairman. The meeting can be closed if there is one week's notice, and the fact is publicly announced. The topic must also be announced."

1978 Budget--Fiscal year 1978 budget (\$563,000) has been approved by the Appropriation Committee in the House. One additional secretarial position was approved. It appears the Senate Committees will approve the budget request as submitted.

#### New Business

##### Library of Congress Authority File and Bibliographic Control Needs of American Public Libraries Projects

Mr. Trezza asked that the Executive Committee be authorized to approve the second phase of the Authority File Project, and the proposed Public Library Project once work statements have been developed, as it is necessary to commit funds before the end of the Federal fiscal year.

The Bibliographic Control Needs of American Public Libraries--This study would look at the problem of whether the bibliographic needs of public libraries are being served adequately and appropriately with the existing MARC format and bibliographic services provided by the Library of Congress. The goal of this study would be to develop a model or plan for meeting the bibliographic control needs of public libraries. Ms. Avram, Network Development Office of the Library of Congress, sees the need for this study as well, Mr. Trezza reported, and if this study shows that there is a problem, an attempt will be made to resolve it. This project is expected to take about one and a half years, have an advisory committee with Commissioners as members, and cost about \$50,000.

The second phase of the Authority File Project is of major proportion; expected to cost \$250,000; and take approximately two years to complete. NCLIS support would be \$50,000-\$60,000 in this budget year.

These two projects, Mr. Trezza said, would be our last two projects for this fiscal year and would fit nicely into our budget.

It was MOVED by John E. Velde, Jr., and seconded by William Welsh, that the Executive Committee have authority to approve the Authority File Project and the Public Library Project. Passed unanimously.

#### Next Commission Meeting

September 29 and 30, 1977, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, Illinois.