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NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT AMENDMENT AND SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

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BEFORE THE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

UNITED STATES SENATE

AND THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND MEMORIALS
OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

S. 209

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE CONSTRUCTION OF MUSEUM
SUPPORT AND DEPOSITORY FACILITIES BY THE
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

S. 706

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE APPOINTMENT OF ADDI-
TIONAL CITIZEN REGENTS TO THE SMITHSONIAN
INSTITUTION BOARD OF REGENTS

AND

S. 704 and H.R. 13791

BILLS TO AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE NATIONAL
MUSEUM ACT

SEPTEMBER 23, 1969

Printed for the use of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration
and the Committee on House Administration

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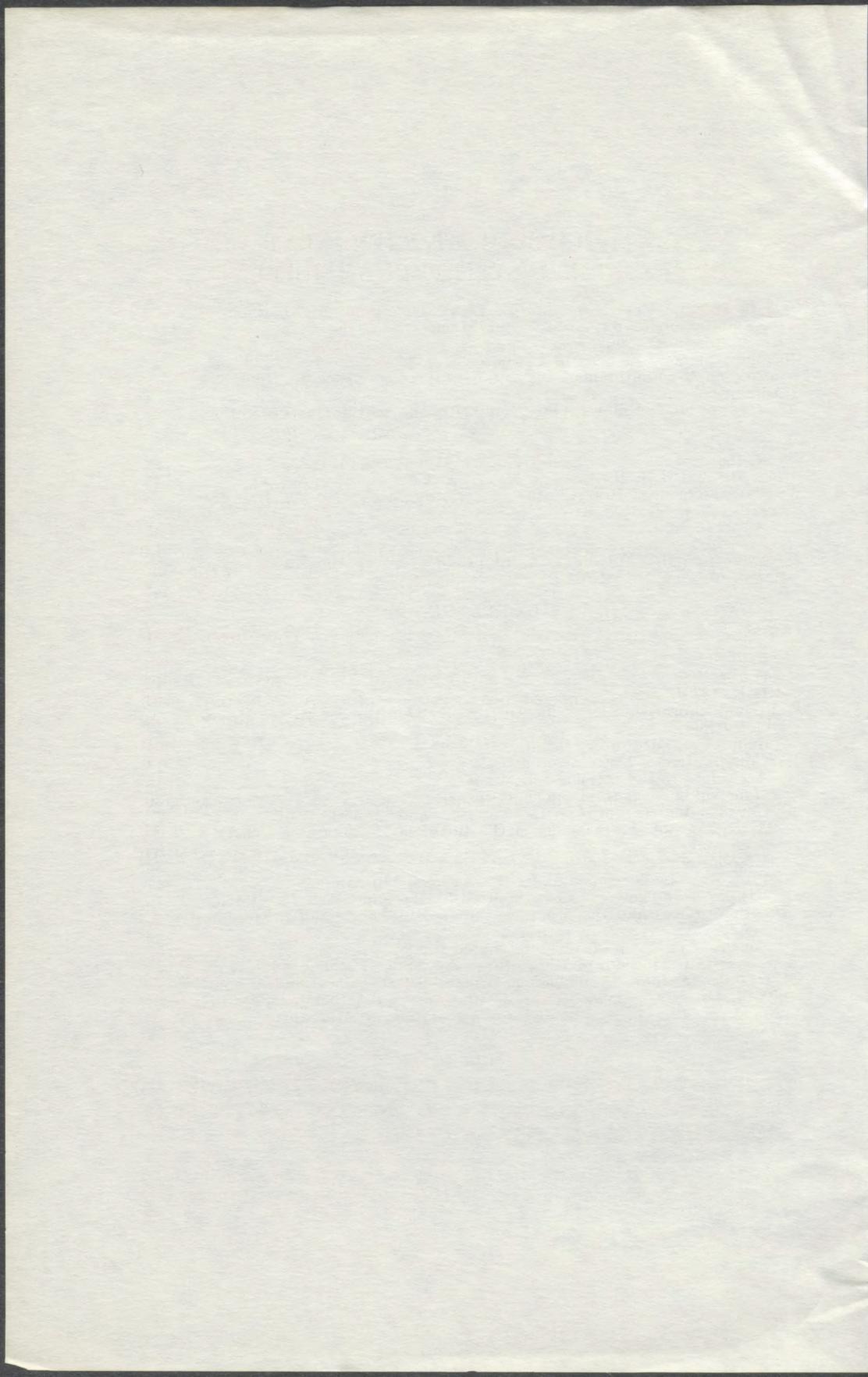
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NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT AMENDMENT AND SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1969

U.S. SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND MEMORIALS,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D.C.

The joint meeting convened, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room H-227, the Capitol, Hon. Frank Thompson, Jr., chairman of the Subcommittee on Library and Memorials of the Committee on House Administration, presiding.

Present: Senator Claiborne Pell; Representatives Thompson, Brademas, Schwengel, and Harvey.

Also present: William H. Young, professional staff member, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration; John C. d'Amecourt, staff director, Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, Committee on House Administration; and William R. Haley, legislative assistant to Senator Cooper.

OPENING STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE FRANK THOMPSON, JR., CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND MEMORIALS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THOMPSON. The joint meeting will be in order.

Before starting, I might point out that these joint meetings are, in the opinion of Senator Pell and myself, very valuable. I am sure you will realize they are quite unusual. I think there have been only several in recent memory, and most of those have been conducted by Senator Pell and myself on the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities, and we will do so in the future to the extent possible on the business of the Smithsonian Institution.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Senator PELL. This is a joint hearing, as the chairman has pointed out, of the Subcommittee on the Smithsonian Institution of the Senate

Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Subcommittee on Library and Memorials of the Committee on House Administration.

As the chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on the Smithsonian Institution, I would like first to express my pleasure at this cooperative legislative effort to the House Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, and to thank Representative Thompson, chairman of the House subcommittee, for his cooperation, especially for making arrangements for the use of this hearing room.

Since he is the host for the meeting today and it is on the House side, I am very glad, indeed, that he has consented to serve as chairman of this joint hearing.

I would also like to add that I think Mr. Thompson and I are enthused at the idea of joint hearings. To my mind it is an excellent idea and saves a lot of wear and tear on the executive branch in going through the same subject matter twice. Joint hearings also bring us to a more common understanding of problems and hopefully can lead toward legislation that requires less unraveling if we go to conference on any of these bills.

Mr. THOMPSON. We have three bills on the agenda this morning. The first is S. 209, by Senators Anderson, Fulbright, and Scott, "To amend the act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), so as to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan and construct museum support and depository facilities."

At this point, without objection, I will insert into the record the text of S. 209.

(The text of S. 209 follows:)

91ST CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 209

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 15 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1969

Mr. ANDERSON (for himself, Mr. FULBRIGHT, and Mr. SCOTT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To amend the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), so as to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to plan and construct museum support and depository facilities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 “SEC. 2. Appropriations are hereby authorized to the
6 Board of Regents for the maintenance of the Astrophysical
7 Observatory and the making of solar observations at high
8 altitudes; for repairs and alterations of buildings and grounds
9 occupied by the Smithsonian Institution in the District of

1 Columbia and elsewhere; and for preparation of manuscripts,
2 drawings, and illustrations for publications; and further,
3 appropriations are hereby authorized to plan and construct
4 museum support and depository facilities, and these appro-
5 priations shall remain available until expended.”

Mr. THOMPSON. At this point, without objection, I will insert into the record the prepared statement of Senator Anderson on S. 209. (The prepared statement of Senator Anderson follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. CLINTON P. ANDERSON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ON S. 209

Mr. Chairman, on January 15, Senator Fulbright, Senator Scott, and I introduced S. 209 in order to authorize appropriations for the planning and construction of museum support and depository facilities for the Smithsonian Institution.

This proposal was approved by the Smithsonian Board of Regents on May 8, 1968, and subsequently cleared by the Bureau of the Budget. It permits the Smithsonian Institution to plan and construct expansion facilities which are long overdue. The fact that Smithsonian collections now increase at a rate of almost 1 million items annually speaks for itself. Concomitant with this tremendous influx of items is a need for storage space, study space, retrieval facilities, research facilities, examination areas, and restoration areas. If the many collections of the Smithsonian are to continue to be handled effectively, funds must be authorized and appropriated for support and depository facilities as soon as is reasonably possible.

Mr. Chairman, I recommend that S. 209 be favorably acted upon by this committee.

Mr. THOMPSON. Dr. Ripley, would you like to proceed?

STATEMENT OF DR. S. DILLON RIPLEY, SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES BRADLEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY; FRANK A. TAYLOR, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MUSEUMS; DR. CHARLES BLITZER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY (HISTORY AND ART); AND PETER G. POWERS, GENERAL COUNSEL

Dr. RIPLEY. Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce to the committee those with me this morning.

This is Mr. Bradley, the Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian, on my right.

This is Mr. Taylor, in charge of our museum's activities, on my left.

Beyond him at the end is Mr. Peter Powers, General Counsel of the Institution.

I would like to commence by saying, sir, if I may, what a pleasure and indeed a privilege it is to be here this morning before you and your subcommittee. I feel in these difficult times it is particularly an honor for the Smithsonian to be able to appear in this way before you both.

Our activities, while hoary with tradition, are, in terms of the overall expressed priorities of the Government, apparently so minuscule that it is particularly a pleasure to be here.

I often worry about these priorities, but I am sure they are in good hands in the hands of the Government, both the legislative and the executive branches.

It is our duty to appear in this connection, because everything which we bring before you, as you know, has been brought up through and handed on by the Regents in the traditional and appropriate manner,

and these bills have been introduced by Regents of the Institution representing Members of both Houses of the Congress.

In connection with the first bill, I have a prepared statement which I would like to enter into the record, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. Without objection, your prepared statement will be entered in full, and you may proceed as you wish to summarize it.

(The prepared statement of Dr. Ripley follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF DR. S. DILLON RIPLEY, SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ON S. 209

Mr. Chairman and members of the Joint Committee: It is a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to appear before you today and recommend your favorable consideration of S. 209, to authorize the Smithsonian Institution to plan and construct museum support and depository facilities.

The Act of August 22, 1949, authorizes repairs and alterations of buildings and grounds occupied by the Smithsonian Institution in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, in addition to other duties. That Act does not include authorization, however, to provide museum support and depository facilities for acquisitions to the National Collections. S. 209 would, if enacted, amend the Act for this necessary purpose.

As the Nation grows and expands, so grows its collection of historically important artifacts, mementos, memorabilia, and the tangible results of scientific endeavors. These are irreplaceable collections of objects of art, historical treasures, and scientific specimens. The present rate of accessions to the National Collection of nearly 1,000,000 items annually has remained steady over the past ten years, and the total collection now numbers more than 60,000,000 items. The various objects range from small insects and gems to an increasing number of large, historic spacecraft.

Almost every part of the Institution is concerned with the collections. Among the larger collections are:

Anthropology	1, 042, 804
Botany	3, 338, 483
Entomology	18, 252, 017
Invertebrate zoology.....	12, 428, 140
Mineral science.....	472, 814
Paleobiology	13, 456, 690
Vertebrate zoology.....	3, 170, 444
Ceramics, glass, textiles, and graphic arts.....	110, 000
Philately and postal history.....	11, 658, 056
Numismatics	327, 121

Even though accessions are carefully screened for scientific, artistic, and historical importance, the actual rate of increase is almost beyond the control of the Institution, and certainly beyond the limitations of our present holdings. The Institution believes it should accept, subject to a high standard of selectivity, valuable collections donated to the people of the United States, gifts from foreign dignitaries or governments to the United States, objects collected during important scientific expeditions, and other art and historic objects offered by individuals or estates, as they become available. To do otherwise means the objects would not be available for the visitors' interested inspection or the scholars' thoughtful study.

Although the problem of space for collections has always been with us, interim solutions have been realized in the past by constructing new public exhibit buildings on the Mall and including depository areas within. Additional space has been provided also by constructing additions to existing buildings.

As opportunities for new exhibit buildings in the prime tourist areas decrease—and after the National Air and Space Museum is constructed only one site will remain on the Mall, between 3rd and 4th Streets, Independence Avenue and Jefferson Drive—other solutions are needed to house the expanding collections and support activities. To serve the increasing numbers of visitors and to fulfill the expanding educational opportunities we are convinced that prime real estate on the Mall should be used to the maximum extent for public exhibitions, and for professional staff and visiting scholars. Depository areas for collections should to a far greater extent be provided off the Mall, releasing space in the Mall Building for freedom of use by people.

For this reason the Smithsonian Institution has, for the past fifteen years, improved and gradually developed approximately 20 acres of Government-owned land at Silver Hill, Maryland, as a general depository and shop area to supplement the limited space available in buildings on the Mall. Temporary prefabricated metal buildings have been erected as funds permitted and needs dictated. As these small buildings become crowded, however, they in effect become bulk storage warehouses and thus become inadequate for the needs of the Institution. Rather than be placed in dead storage, objects should be accessible to curators for examination, classification, and restoration. They should be readily available to historians, students, writers, researchers, and collectors for study and examination. The real benefit of the collections to our citizens is their use in research and education. Their use will be enhanced directly in proportion to availability.

To serve these needs of the Institution and in accordance with long-range planning, the Institution proposes to plan and construct permanent depository and support buildings as needed. Construction could be accomplished initially on land now owned and subsequently any other land which may become available in the future. One readily feasible possibility is to redevelop the presently-owned Silver Hill site by progressively removing the temporary metal buildings and constructing permanent, multi-story, specially designed buildings over a period of years which will provide modern depository and retrieval systems for the variety of items now in the National Collections. New buildings would be designed as modular units and constructed in increments over a ten-year period, or longer if necessary.

New facilities must be planned to incorporate the best methods and devices for deposit, materials handling, inventory control, retrieval, examination, conservation and research. Conservation and craft shops would be provided as needed for preservation and restoration of objects. The collective facilities would serve as an effective, efficient backup and support center for the Institution's exhibit and educational activities on the Mall and for scientific research conducted there and elsewhere.

There exists also an opportunity for increasing the amount of land now available to the Smithsonian at Silver Hill. The General Services Administration is now studying the need and future development of the Suitland-Silver Hill Government reservation. Increased needs of the Smithsonian are being considered as part of that study. Opportunities elsewhere for use of Government-owned land as a storage center are also being studied pending approval of this requested authorization.

Mr. Chairman, we urge your sympathetic consideration of the Bill before you and ask the support of this Joint Committee for a vigorous effort now toward a long-term solution to the urgent problems of providing museum support and depository facilities for the National Collections.

Dr. RIPLEY. May I say that the intent of this bill is to seek authorization to plan rather than immediately to construct facilities, auxiliary or ancillary, to our principal storage, and study facilities on the Mall.

Ever since the commencement of the Institution, it has been appropriate, and so approved by the Congress, to consider that the Smithsonian represents the official depository of objects presented to the Government of the United States or objects collected by official expeditions of the U.S. Government or objects presented to the Smithsonian itself in the name of the Government of the United States by personages in this country and abroad.

The value of these objects over the years comes to be a curious, somewhat nebulous figure, and the numbers of the objects themselves becomes staggering.

In the past century, we gave many of these objects and collections away to help start museums in other parts of the country. In more recent times we have tended to keep most of the objects, feeling in an intuitive sense they provide a kind of data bank, not so much for the present, exactly, as for the future.

As the times change in the world and the environment significantly declines, it is inevitable that many of the natural objects represent species or associations of species which will not be seen in future years.

These, then, represent both a kind of fundamental testament to the past conditions in nature and also a method of assaying the rate of decline of the environment for the future.

In regard to the art objects, our principles traditionally have been to help exhibit these for public instruction, and therefore we must have, in this day and age of changing scenes, changing exhibits.

Of course, many of the objects that have been given to us have been given in terms of perpetuity, so it is impossible for us to give them away or exchange them.

Inevitably, over the years the mass of these objects has created several real problems. In the first place, we cannot store all of them in our traditional houses on the Mall. In the second place, ancillary storage must not be dead storage but in terms of the preservation of these objects and the study of them, as I mentioned, as a kind of data bank, we must have what I would call sophisticated storage.

The facilities to be thought of that are off the Mall have to be built and constructed in such a way that scholars can get at the materials most efficiently in terms of time, and thereby saving money, and also so we can develop a conservation facility or conservation laboratory-like activity for the preservation of much of this material for which we need sophisticated space and special personnel.

With this as background, it becomes obvious that the temporary storage facilities created initially just after World War II and held in our facilities of Government-owned labs in Silver Hill, Md., about 6 miles from here, must be brought into some kind of orderly and efficient use. As I say, the Regents have considered this and have proposed this bill. If enacted, this legislation would entail something like the following costs:

A study item of \$80,000 in fiscal year 1971; and, projected on through fiscal year 1975, an annual increased increment of construction reaching a final figure in 1975 of \$2 million.

It is not anticipated under present procedures that the level of civilian employment will be increased by this bill.

I thank you.

Mr. THOMPSON. Senator Pell.

Senator PELL. In connection with the authorization for the construction of museum support and depository facilities, I have several specific questions, not in a critical vein, but on points I think should be brought out.

Do you anticipate constructing depository facilities at any site other than at the Suitland, Md., site?

Dr. RIPLEY. Senator, this legislation does not specifically mention the site at Silver Hill. It is in this connection that I would like to say that the first amount of money requested for fiscal year 1971 includes a study of possible facilities elsewhere in the neighborhood. In other words, we are not presently firmly committed to maintaining this site but, rather, using the options the General Services Administration may suggest to us and incorporate them in the site planning.

Senator PELL. Then you would not be limited to the Suitland site?

Dr. RIPLEY. No, sir; we would prefer that we maintain open options on this, in terms of efficiency.

Senator PELL. Would there be any plan at any time to have depository facilities on the Mall?

Dr. RIPLEY. No, sir; not as such.

Senator PELL. The bill authorizes construction of museum support and depository facilities; but the justification, your letter and statement, both of which I have had an opportunity to go over earlier, deal almost entirely with the question of depository facilities.

Would you enlarge a little bit on what you mean by "museum support facilities"?

Dr. RIPLEY. The point, of course, is that as we attempt to create a sensible and efficient depository or storage area, it becomes evident that that will not be truly efficient unless we can make it thoroughly accessible.

When I speak of sophisticated storage, I mean the kind of storage which is immediately available for those scholars or for those purposes connected with scholarship.

For example, a simple minibus ride of 20 minutes or so will allow a scholar who needs to refer to a particular collection of material to get at it physically; easily. It is beautifully coordinated with our data records, and so on, so we know where everything is, and it is kept in the appropriate way and stored under optimum conditions to prevent deterioration.

The deterioration factor, of course, is obvious to everyone as being a serious one. It is in this connection I mention the need for conservation, because we should have immediately adjacent to this bulk of material probably our principal conservation laboratory, rather than have the conservation facilities scattered through other parts of the existing Institution.

(Material subsequently supplied follows:)

SUPPORT AND DEPOSITORY FACILITIES

Depository facilities for the National collection held by the Smithsonian Institution are specially designed spaces to accommodate specific items, in an environmentally controlled space and arranged to permit easy access for study and observation. The main difference between depository and storage is ease of accessibility and the need for *safe* keeping for all time rather than temporary holding in a bulk storage manner. The operation is more like a library or archives than a warehouse.

Support facilities for museum and depository facilities include conservation and restoration laboratories and workshops to repair, restore and maintain items in the collection; scientific laboratories for research and study on items in the collections; and instrument shops and exhibits production shops for designing and assembling exhibit cases, stands and accessories.

Senator PELL. This brings up another subject that I would like to pursue for a moment.

As you know, I am very much interested in the idea of the creation of a National Conservation Institute, or something of that sort. I have always thought of the Smithsonian as being the museums' museum as the Library of Congress is the libraries' library. I had thought you might, under your general umbrella, some day construct a National Institute of Conservation, which is so badly needed in the United States.

I also would have thought it preferable to have that Institute of Conservation on the Mall where scholars and curators from other museums and those who are interested in the subject would have more easy access to it, rather than away out in outlying Suitland.

Why would you want to construct the conservation center away from the center of the city?

Dr. RIPLEY. I suppose it comes down to two principal reasons. One is that the way the Smithsonian is presently constructed, we have separate buildings for separate disciplines. History is in one building. Certain kinds of history—naval history is in another, and arts, and so on, in another.

This means that at the present time we have quite a ramified system of conservation laboratories, and you have to go from one to the other to see those kinds of people who are interested in the preservation of paper, the preservation of textiles, the preservation of metals or cans or plastic materials, or the preservation of specimens of fossils, for example, and certain kinds of living animals.

To assume that one then begins to make a very sophisticated storage facility in a nearby place and one would tend gradually to shift the bulk of these collections into such a central place, subsumes, I think, that it would be very useful to make there the central laboratory for the treatment of these objects of all kinds, because you then have four or five disciplines all, as it were, operating in one building.

Senator PELL. By a national conservation institute, I think more of the conservation of works of art, not of stuffed rabbits or an airplane such as the *Spirit of Saint Louis*. Is it the idea that all of conservation facilities would be in one place?

Dr. RIPLEY. The largest laboratory would be in one place. We thought for efficiency's sake it might be very sensible to think of it in terms of this central storage facility.

I can mention in this connection that the National Gallery of Art proposed additional building will house not only scholars living and working there in connection with the history of the visual arts, but also will have a conservation lab facility. The Smithsonian is ever attentive to the possibility that we should cooperate and collaborate as closely as possible with them to include efficiency and overall surveillance of conservation principles as part of our mandate.

It is true that some of the work in conservation has to be done in farflung laboratories where various radioactive tests can be made. You are aware, of course, of the work that the Pittsburgh Mellon Institute has been doing on some of the pictures that have a need for accurate dating because of the question of attribution.

It may be that never can you get all under one roof the highest degree of consolidation of conservation facilities.

I do not see any objection, Senator, to having a conservation institute on a national scale somewhere in Washington simply to be in touch with the ramification of facilities and studies in conservation as a broad subject.

Senator PELL. But would it not be a good idea to have the painting and furniture and sculpture conserving facilities somewhere on the Mall? I am glad to hear you are cooperating with the National Gallery in this regard.

As you know, personally I regret the lack of communication in the past between the Smithsonian and the National Gallery. This improved cooperation is a very good thing.

Is there any way the institute could actually be combined in one big laboratory on the Mall, because there really is no relationship between serving first the artifacts that you are talking about and works of art.

Mr. THOMPSON. The question of the use of the Mall is particularly difficult. I think Dr. Ripley will agree. The Hirshhorn Museum is to go on the Mall. The Air Museum, if, when and as, is to go on the Mall. I wanted, as did Senator Fulbright, the Cultural Center to go on the Mall. There simply will not be room to put all these and others on the Mall.

The old Patent Office Building which is now the depository for the National Portrait Gallery, is not on the Mall. In a sense, the Smithsonian is already spread all over.

Senator PELL. They are, but they can always go underground for conservatory facilities.

In addition to that, I am not wedded to the idea of the Mall, necessarily, but it should be in the small central Federal City area, I would think, rather than 20 miles out.

Mr. THOMPSON. You might find room for it on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Dr. RIPLEY. I would be very happy, Senator, if you think this idea is a worthwhile one, to incorporate into this suggested bill a clause that we would indeed make such a study for these committees of where a National Conservation Institute could best be located and what should go into it and why.

I think we have at our fingertips, with the combined resources of the National Gallery and the rest of the Smithsonian and, indeed, perhaps the Kennedy Center—I am not sure—we have at our fingertips right here exactly what you said earlier, the Nation's museum. There is no reason that we should not help to facilitate getting such a study made.

Senator PELL. What is your own thinking? Do you think there should be a differentiation between the conservation of artifacts and organic materials as opposed to objects of art?

Dr. RIPLEY. I think one tends to get blurred and sort of flow into the other in certain particular cases. After all, the materials that were classically used for making visual plastic objects were animal skins, for example, in the case of vellum, and various kinds of animal-derived textiles in the case of wools, early canvas, and so on, were made out of animal fibers, and many early paints are related to animal or plant materials.

You do get a kind of blurred line in connection with the really sophisticated research into these materials. It runs both ways.

Senator PELL. I think this is an excellent suggestion. If the House Members thought kindly of it, we could ask the joint staff to draw up an additional sentence or two in the legislation on the idea of a National Conservatory. What would be the thought of the House Members?

Mr. THOMPSON. I would agree, provided the language did not make any suggestion as to site. The minute you make a suggestion with respect to site, you will get everybody in the District of Columbia on your neck for a variety of reasons.

Senator PELL. That is understood. At the same time, if we gave a little legislative push to the idea of a National Conservation Institute at some point, I think it might be helpful.

Mr. THOMPSON. Would a National Conservation Institute, or something called that, be appropriate to this particular bill?

Senator PELL. This was the question I raised. I would have thought it more appropriate to the National Museum Act, but the Secretary touched on the question of conservation as being one of the reasons for this depository facility. That is why it came up in the conversation now. I intended to bring it up under the other bill.

Dr. RIPLEY. In this case, it is a physical reason, essentially, but there is no hard and fast distinction between the physical and the intellectual.

Senator PELL. The Museum Act probably would be more appropriate.

Mr. THOMPSON. The language of S. 209 now reads: "and, further, appropriations are hereby authorized to plan and construct museum support and depository facilities * * *."

Without naming it as a conservation facility, it certainly would come under that language.

Senator PELL. This is how the dialog developed.

Mr. THOMPSON. If we report this as it stands now, rather than add language, we could have our report reflect the committee's desire to have Dr. Ripley and his staff come forward with some suggestion with respect to the location?

Senator PELL. If the House Members were agreeable to it, I think it might be a good idea to have a reference to it in the legislation, and maybe make reference to it in the report, because the works of art that are being lost through destruction and deterioration, far exceed the amount being produced each year.

Mr. THOMPSON. I see no objection to it.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Mr. Chairman, I have listened with interest. I would agree with the gentleman from New Jersey that we not attempt to specify a site, but let people with much more professional interest and study decide this.

On the Conservation Institute, I think such an institute is long past due. We should do something in this area. We are spending billions to go to the moon, and I have voted for all of it and I am not unsympathetic to exploration in outer space, nor am I unsympathetic to Vietnam, although I think what we are doing and the way we are doing it may be a horrible mistake.

Doing all these things while we neglect Mother Nature, which is what we are doing—the very place that gives all of us support—does not make sense.

I heartily agree on the Conservation Institute. I think it is an area where you can very well serve a great interest. This could reflect what has been policy and what has been done. I think it could have a tremendous influence. I am enthused about the prospects of this, and I will give it all the support I can.

Dr. RIPLEY. May I say to that, Mr. Schwengel, in connection with the question of conservation, the ramifications are still so much misunderstood or little understood that we have endless possibilities for research in this connection.

The Smithsonian Institution has been conducting research on the solar radiation received in the center of the Mall in Washington, D.C.,

since 1907, and a first tabulation of the succession of these figures, which are intricate and complex over the past 62 years, made in 1969, shows that the total amount of solar radiation received in the center of the Mall in the heart of our Capital City has decreased by 15 percent.

I brought this up at a trustees meeting of the National Gallery last week because in connection with planning the new wing of the National Gallery it is important to make absolutely sure that natural daylight illumination on objects of art, and so on, is at the maximum, and at the same time controllable, and so on.

It may well be that this extraordinary figure which has been uniquely produced by or solar radiation department may show it will have some effects on the construction of buildings in urban centers, model cities, whatever you will. It may also have biomedical complications.

We are attempting to study this further to find out what the ultimate significance of this factor is.

It is at least a very complex subject. It is not directly attributable to smog as such, which is the word which is in everyone's vocabulary, but there is something which I think is of real significance in connection with forward planning.

So, it is in connection with things of this sort that I would like to take a general overview of the subject of conservation and a Conservation Institute and, of course, the options as to its location, in order to produce the very best advice that we as the Nation's museum can do for the Nation.

Senator PELL. Without pursuing this subject too far, because it is perhaps a little remote from the legislation at hand, I am wondering if you can briefly indicate to us for the record what centers for conservation of objets d'art presently exist in the United States, and how many students of conservation have been graduated each year.

Dr. RIPLEY. I could say without too much fear of contradiction that there are probably basically fewer important centers of conservation in this country than there are on the fingers of one of my hands. The principal known one at this point is in New York in connection with studies undertaken by New York University.

There are also ancillary study centers at Harvard. There has been some consideration of this as a topic at Princeton. There is our own work here in Washington which is essential. Then two or three of the individual museums on the west coast and in the Middle West. There is also some commercial work being done by commercial firms to attempt to contract out their services.

I would be glad to supplement my general statement by something which we will introduce for the record, if we may. In general, this is a very poorly supported area, and it is one in which there is the greatest need. This is constantly underscored by meetings of the American Association of Museums, of the Council of Museums, and similar organizations.

Senator PELL. Would you be kind enough in that statement to include your rough estimate of the total value of the works of art that are being lost through nonconservation each year in the United States?

Dr. RIPLEY. We would be glad to hazard a guess on that, Senator. We also would include, as you suggested, the numbers of students who are being graduated in this field.

(The information referred to follows:)

CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC WORKS

To supplement the discussion of conservation facilities, the annual loss of valuable cultural objects for lack of trained conservators, and the need for a National Conservation Institute in Washington, the following is submitted.

The conservation of museum objects, including works of art, antiquities, cultural materials, and science research collections, falls far short of the requirements to preserve invaluable and unduplicable objects in museum and private collections. It is not possible to put a price on the art objects irreparably damaged because of the lack of proper care and professional conservation, but in the opinion of many museum directors the total must be shockingly large. Even this value is surpassed in significance by the loss of objects of early cultures and specimens of extinct and disappearing species of the natural world. The conservation of natural and organic substances is common to all of these fields, and conservators in different disciplines benefit greatly from the exchange of technical information.

The American Group of the International Institute for Conservation estimates the magnitude of the failure to maintain significant collections in terms of the appallingly small number of professional conservators and the handful of students training in conservation. To meet an immediate need to train 200 conservators and technician specialists each year there exists today a capability to formally train about four. Even with the modest programs presently planned, this total will be under ten a year.

A copy of a recent recommendation of the International Institute for Conservation-American Group is attached.

A study of the need and programs for a National Conservation Institute is an excellent example of a project that would be undertaken under the Museum Act in cooperation with professional associations and other museums, and the study and planning of the several types of facilities necessary could be made under the provisions of S. 209.

The Smithsonian Institution and members of its staff have encouraged the training of conservators and welcomes the opportunity to study the proposal for a National Conservation Institute. Smithsonian conservators are members of the IIC-AG and other international conservation committees. They have aided in the recent creation of a Washington Region Conservation Guild to provide rapid exchange of conservation knowledge among conservators in the Washington, Richmond, Baltimore, and Philadelphia area. An objective of the Guild is to enlist the interest of scientists in Government and industrial laboratories in research and analysis of conservation problems. These scientists are a prime resource for a strong national institute in Washington.

THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION
OF HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC WORKS,

August 8, 1969.

DEAR MEMBER: The twelve recommendations appended are submitted by the Committee to Study National Conservation Requirements. These recommendations were reviewed at the Tenth Annual Business Meeting by the Committee Chairman, Dr. Robert Feller, and are enclosed for your convenient study.

The Executive Committee met June 1 prior to the Business Meeting for discussion on these matters and Miss Kate Lefferts appointed chairmen for further study on reports as indicated in the various recommendations. These Chairmen were as follows:

Recommendation 2: Survey by Robert L. Feller.

Recommendations 3 & 5: Specifications by Richard D. Buck.

Recommendation 4: R. J. Gettens.

Recommendation 7: Sheldon Keck.

Recommendation 9: Lawrence J. Majewski.

The Executive Committee felt that these Chairmen cannot be expected to do all the work, that suggestions from the membership will be appreciated, and that further appointments to each committee will be made shortly by the individual chairmen according to interest expressed. Any comments you wish to make on any recommendation may be addressed to the chairmen concerned or to Dr. Robert Feller.

Sincerely yours,

CLEMENTS L. ROBERTSON,
Secretary, IIC-AG.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE IIC-AG COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL NEEDS FOR
CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC AND ARTISTIC WORKS

1. The recommendation is made that attention be concentrated more immediately on the establishment of facilities and training in conservation.
2. The Committee recommends that a survey of existing analytical-research facilities be made and it be determined how far the existing facilities can be mobilized for the common good.
3. It is recommended that specifications be drawn up from literature and reference sources already available, and as a result of new deliberations if necessary, regarding the *minimum analytical services and equipment that a conservation workshop needs*.
4. With help of AAM, some attempt should be made to estimate the number of objects in public and private collections that need treatment now.

NEED FOR CONSERVATION FACILITIES

Large museums and universities are generally able to take care of their own needs, but the multitude of smaller museums and historical societies must turn to some kind of available agency for help. Properly staffed and equipped regional centers such as the Intermuseum Conservation Association (Oberlin) could fill this need.

There is no room for incompetent centers if the common cause is to be furthered. For this reason, the Committee supports the establishment of regional centers with some reservation. These centers should be encouraged, but they must evolve organically in response to need and in accordance with the availability of trained personnel. An ill conceived "crash program" in the creation of laboratories and workshops could be a disaster, not merely for the profession of conservation, but for the collections we value.

The Nation will be well served if the various centers concentrate in the repair of different types of objects. For example, one facility should be encouraged to concentrate in the repair of furniture, another in textiles, another in paintings, another in paper, etc. This is not to say that more than every laboratory should "specialize" but that the museum profession should encourage the specialization of at least one facility in each of the areas that require major understanding and experience in conservation.

5. It would be helpful to American museums if specifications were drawn up for the *minimum of workshop facilities* that each type of museum should have.

TYPE OF PERSONS TO BE TRAINED

There are about 350 members of IIC-AG and perhaps many more privately engaged restorers in America who are not members of IIC, yet there is little question that training of both *new* and *experienced* personnel is needed to provide the best care of museum collections.

The needed personnel can be divided into two main classes: (a) *professional conservators* and (b) *craftsman-specialists*. The former should be college trained, the latter, need not be. Training at both levels will take time, hence there is a need to begin as soon as possible. Persons to be trained should seem to have the right combination of manual dexterity, inventive skill, basic sciences, interest in objects and some familiarity with historic background: a "crash program" of training would not satisfy the needs of this special field.

6. It is recommended that the profession concentrate on the training of the professional conservator, for he can later contribute to the training of the craftsman-specialists. Yet there are few standards for such a person.

7. An IIC-AG Committee should be appointed immediately to establish standards for training, both for the professional conservator and the craftsman-specialist.

PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF MANPOWER NEEDS IN CONSERVATION

It has been said that there are 6000 museums in the United States; let us double this to include major historical societies and archives: 12,000 establishments. How many trained technicians and conservators would be needed? There is always "work to be done" in proper care and, if we may take a number, let us project a needed figure of one experienced person for every ten collections: about 1200 persons: perhaps 950 specialists in the repair of specific materials, 200 professional conservators, and 40 scientists analysts.

This analysis indicates that the greatest need is in the training of those who will be skilled and experienced in actual work of repair. With respect to the needs of professional conservators, perhaps we have the immediate need to train 200, taking into consideration that many colleagues now practicing will consider that they wish to have further training. If the training of all of these shall be *started* in ten years' time, the intention would be to train an average of 95 technician-specialists, 20 conservators, and perhaps 2 scientists per year.

8. A realistic projection calls for the training in the next decade of about 100-200 professional conservators to provide minimum service to museums and collections in America.

PRESENT FACILITIES FOR TRAINING

New York University is currently graduating about 4 well-trained professional conservators a year. Modest programs presently planned at Cooperstown and a few other locations may provide no more than 10 additional persons a year.

The membership of IIC-AG is about 350; perhaps 50 in this group could find the time and the facilities to provide on-the-job training to apprentices of either type (conservator or specialist-in-repair). If they each can train two people a year, there is the *possibility* of 100 conservator trainees being trained on-the-job per year. But this cannot achieve success without financial support, the establishment of standards, and professional encouragement.

There is considerable need for programs of continued training of conservators already in practice. *A considerable gap exists between the present capacity of less than ten persons formally trained per year and a projected minimum of 200 per year.*

9. A survey should be made of existing and planned training centers in U.S.A. and abroad, since the existing centers will have to start the work; they must produce the leaders.

SUPPLEMENTARY NEEDS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT TRAINING

In order to support on-the-job training or in-service training, it will be necessary to make it attractive for practicing conservators and museum conservation laboratories to take on trainees; a person in training on-the-job does not fully pay his own way and the laboratory-workshop that provides such training must get some financial support for their trouble.

To provide the very best training, there is a need for travel and working abroad. To implement a program of on-the-job training, museums must supply objects to be worked on; there is the matter of paying for costs of handling, shipment and supplies if not the actual salaries to be met (in the advanced stages of training, the apprentice is expected to pay his own way in large measure).

Since the number of formal schools and lecture courses is likely to be limited, and the number of people in the museum profession who should be exposed to this subject matter is very large and varied, there is a need for expressly written books, conferences, short courses and specialized laboratory-lecture programs for advanced training.

To recruit suitable personnel for the field, wider attention must be called to it, particularly among the undergraduate training programs in colleges and universities.

NEED FOR STANDARD BUDGET FOR CONSERVATION

10. It would be profitable to establish a rule-of-thumb policy for budgets in conservation.

If a full-time staff member required about \$20,000 a year, all costs included, this would amount to 2% a year for a museum with an annual expenditure of \$1 million.

Based on the figures of the Belmont Report, a small museum of art may have a budget of \$50 to \$100,000 a year; medium-sized museums, \$300 to \$500,000 a year; and large museums from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

It may be seen, therefore, that a figure of 2% may be a practical working minimum. A recent survey by IIC-AG showed that an average of 17 institutions spent about 4.8% of their total budget on conservation [S. Keck, *Bulletin of American Group-IIC*, 9, No. 1 (1968), 2-7].

NEED TO MAKE CURATORIAL AND ASSOCIATED PERSONNEL AWARE

11. While a program of development in conservation is going forth, conscious effort must be made to educate and inform the ultimate and eventual users of the service. This can be done through (a) articles, (b) public lectures, (c) "short courses", and (d) perhaps the most important of all: incorporation of technical studies in the normal courses of instruction in art, museology, and archeology.

Proper reception and utilization of the conservation staff cannot be achieved without understanding on the part of curators, directors, collectors, and patrons of the arts. Activities, (a), (b), and (c) need not detract seriously from the principle effort in training conservators and need not require extensive funds and personnel engaged in the training program for conservators. The committee points out, nevertheless, that a vital portion of the overall attention must be devoted to this matter.

Apparently there is a very real need to convince museums to spend more funds in the future for conservation if attractive jobs are to be found for trained technicians and conservators.

Mr. R. J. Gettens, as President of IIC, will lead off a campaign of improved public awareness by preparing an article for *Museum News* describing the history and activities of IIC and IIC-AG.

12. It would be helpful if a brochure was prepared that would help faculty and undergraduates to appreciate the needs for training in preparation for work in conservation.

Senator PELL. One final query on this subject. I apologize for the diversion here.

Why is it that schools of artistic excellence look down their noses a little bit at conservation? I know I have very high regard for our own Rhode Island School of Design in my State, from which my son just graduated. I think their feeling is that it is not a creative art. While they are willing to have departments of ceramics, photography, sculpture and painting, they do not want one of conservation.

Is there any good argument to try to change their attitude, because true conservation is also a creative art.

Dr. RIPLEY. I quite agree. Perhaps this is part of our mentality that we feel this way about things. We are rather snobbish or we are concerned as industrialists with production rather than conservation. It is easier to buy a new car than to get your present car appropriately repaired.

There is something to our psychology in all of this. It is a travesty, for example, that in connection with the disaster in Florence, the floods, so little actual conservation work could be produced by the American team that went about assembling money for CRIA.

Senator PELL. I was chairman of the spending portion of that. That was more enjoyable than the raising of the fund.

Getting back to the problem we have here, the need for the building is justified largely on the basis of rapid growth of the Smithsonian's collection. Are additions to your collection really screened for historical value? Could you give us an idea of how you screen your present collection?

If I die and leave you the contents of my house, 90 percent of which should not belong in your collection, how do you go about screening it?

Dr. RIPLEY. We depend in this case very heavily upon the advice of our curators. Our curatorial staff, to the extent that we are able to employ them, cover a wide range of expertise in these fields. Working with assessors of a professional nature, they are able in almost every case to come up with a judgment about the potential value of materials rather than the actual value, and whether or not then they should be kept by us.

Senator PELL. Do you refuse more than you accept?

Dr. RIPLEY. I would hazard the guess that we do. I would have to produce some statistics for you. If I may, I would like to insert them in the record. (*See Accessions to the National Collections*, p. 19.)

Mr. SCHWENDEL. I know a little about the operation there, and also of the Library of Congress and Archives. These people are pretty alert, Senator. They have their eyes on these things away ahead of time and know what they want and make their connections and proper associations. What is really valuable and can fit in well and would be desirable is known ahead of time, oftentimes, before a man is even in the mood of giving.

I think we have testimony that the last collection which will be on the Mall, somebody in your organization—I guess it was you—helped to develop that and led Hirshhorn into it. Taking that into consideration, the percentage of acceptance is pretty high.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I think that is the euphemism of the week, I may say to my colleague.

Dr. Ripley, could I ask you with respect to the purpose of this bill, if my understanding is correct that you contemplate that the bill would authorize construction on land at Silver Hill of permanent, specially designed buildings to be used for museum support and for depository space, is that correct?

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes, sir, but we have specified we would like to keep our options open in this connection. In conjunction with the GSA, we have been looking over not only the site at Silver Hill shown on this map here near the Suitland Parkway, but also alternative options, both here and in Patuxent, Md.

We are anxious to do this for the sake of efficiency and because the present buildings are of temporary nature, like Quonset huts. We would not be sacrificing to a material extent if the result of our surveys showed we should in fact try somewhere else.

There are obviously zoning restrictions and other elements in the general design situation here which might turn out to be more inhibiting than not, over a period of time.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Do I understand you to be saying you could use more than one site? When you say alternatives, you do not mean necessarily one or the other, but perhaps both?

Dr. RIPLEY. We would prefer to concentrate on one site.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Dr. Ripley, can you give us any judgment, based upon your experience in collecting over some fixed period of time, on just how much space you would need over a 50 or 75 or 100 year period? In other words, have you any kind of projection to offer on what would be required in the way of space and money?

Dr. RIPLEY. As regards this specific bill, we contemplate that we could easily use some 600,000 square feet of space, and this square footage to be constructed would overall average out at a figure of something like \$20 million. That would include everything.

We have, in addition, made surveys within our different departments of the Institution on how to try to project the future inflow in plants, geological specimens, paleontology, animal specimens, in art work, in archival material. It is extremely difficult to produce a general, smoothed-out average figure from this, because certain needs are greater than others. In some cases it may be that collections are thought

to be relatively static and there is no great incremental increase contemplated. In other collections, it may be that there are significant gaps in whole groups of organisms of some sort which should be filled in.

In entomology, for example, where the national collections are large in number, numbering millions of specimens of insects, we are incredibly deficient in whole groups of insects, largely because by history we have failed to find specialists or employ specialists who were able to work on these. So, in connection with insects, I could immediately say we need to quadruple our collection, but I would not want to terrify this committee by implying this needed more than another 2,000 or 3,000 square feet of space for such collections.

We would be glad to attempt to produce for the Congress a figure of what we assume our normal accretion to be for the next 10 or 15 years.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I should think that would be very helpful, indeed, to you as well as to us.

Dr. RIPLEY. We do it constantly, but we are always confused by the difficulty of smoothing out the curves, as it were.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Thank you.

(The information referred to previously follows:)

ACCESSIONS TO THE NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

Smithsonian curators carefully screen the materials added to the collections. They plan acquisition to the collections and acquire them through sometimes tedious searches or carefully executed field collecting expeditions to fill gaps in the collections. They add only those items that are required for exhibition or to complete research reference series. Occasionally collections are taken with the understanding that only those objects which are selected by careful study will be retained. Many more of the objects offered as unsolicited gifts are turned down than are accepted. Natural science specimens are exchanged with research museums around the world.

At present there are ad hoc committees studying several categories of collections, including numismatics and minerals, for the purpose of determining the optimal size of collections for research, preservation, and exhibition.

The attached table shows the increases in three of the largest Smithsonian collections during the past five years. Based on a total of 58,763,708 specimens in these collections at the end of 1964, these figures indicate an average accretion rate of about two per cent a year. Since this calculation includes several really major acquisitions during this period, it would appear unlikely that this rate of growth for the National collections would be exceeded during the next ten to fifteen years.

INCREASE IN COLLECTIONS (NMNH AND NMHT) AND NASM FISCAL YEARS 1965-69

	NMNH	NMHT	NASM
1969.....	754,921	89,508	476
1968.....	937,039	² 1,515,107	636
1967.....	978,188	253,399	215
1966.....	¹ 1,281,062	131,217	223
1965.....	529,689	164,566	324
Total.....	4,480,899	2,153,797	1,874

¹ Department of Entomology increased 500,000 specimens.

² Department of Civil History (Philately) increased by approximately 1,500,000 specimens.

Senator PELL. Are the present collections that you have periodically reviewed and culled, and is material you do not want discarded?

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes, they are. We do a great deal of exchanging with other museums. In fact, we have had a number of ad hoc committee site visits to the Institution in the past 5 years, attempting in particular departments, such as numismatics, for example, to determine exactly what our needs are and how they should be projected and how, if necessary, we can cull and get rid of various parts of the collection.

Senator PELL. Would you submit for the record a description of the material that has been discarded and culled out of the Smithsonian on an annual basis for the last 5 years?

Dr. RIPLEY. We will be very happy to try, Senator Pell.

Senator PELL. Are there any statistics on the number of items removed from the collection presently available?

Dr. RIPLEY. I believe we can readily produce these from our annual reports.

(The information referred to follows:)

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM THE COLLECTIONS

The Smithsonian Institution disposes of objects and specimens through exchange and condemnation procedures that have been in existence for decades. In the past five years these transactions have eliminated 182,364 individual specimens and several collections of organic materials totaling an additional 3 to 4 thousand items. Smithsonian manuals from an early date have carried safeguards and directions for the condemnation of collections.

The objects disposed of are generally of a minimal scientific or historical value. Very seldom are works of art disposed of as they are even more rigorously selected in the acquisition process which involves selection by art commissions and committees.

Senator PELL. The reason I bring this point up is that I notice in news stories when 300 firearms were stolen from the Smithsonian, the Smithsonian later pointed out to the press these weapons had no historical or scientific value.

If that is the case, what were they doing in the Smithsonian?

Dr. RIPLEY. May I answer that this is one of my reasons for the institution of the ad hoc site committee visit by outside specialists, to enhance our overview of the importance of the collections.

Senator PELL. As you know, colloquially you are referred to as the attic of the United States. You are trying to make a living museum out of it. Unless you keep the quality high by culling out, that will not happen.

This is one of my reservations about this bill to provide huge barns or attics in which to store material that might well be better eliminated and not under Government ownership. I am worried, if we go ahead with this, that we will encourage you to retain material like these arms which you believe are of no historical or scientific value.

Dr. RIPLEY. May I say, Senator, we are aware of this problem, and one of the reasons for our request for these facilities is for what I call sophisticated storage. By that I mean that the present pressures on our storage facilities are so great because some of it is unsophisticated. It is not easily get-at-able. To be sophisticated, to maintain our collections in such a way that they are a ready reference and accessible in all ways to scholars, both the Library of Congress and ourselves must constantly study the problem of how to maintain these materials accessible rather than in bulk storage. This is what we are trying to get away from.

Senator PELL. Will the new buildings actually free existing Mall space for other uses, or just provide room for new acquisitions? In

other words, what will you do with the space which is made available?

Dr. RIPLEY. A great deal of the space problem will be ameliorated by these new storage facilities. We will have more room to get at the materials we already have. It is not so much that we will have vast areas of vacant space created as that we will be able to get more effectively at what we already possess.

This is a hard problem to discuss, but I think everybody realizes from their own attics at home that you often wish that you had some way of opening up and rearranging all the contents of a trunk, for example, on a series of shelves, because when you have them out so you know how to get at the ones in the bottom, then you are more likely to make two decisions—either to keep the ones that were on the bottom of the trunk or to use them, to refer to them, and to be able to exploit what you already have.

Senator PELL. Will scholars have full and free access to the storage facilities?

Dr. RIPLEY. Under such terms of security as we will develop.

Senator PELL. What portion, on a square footage basis, of your collection will be housed in these storage facilities as opposed to those that are on public display and exhibition? Half and half, one-third—two-thirds? What would be the ratio?

Dr. RIPLEY. Our present status on the percentage of the net storage facilities is 866,214 square feet. This would be, then, additional hope at the present time for 600,000 square feet.

Senator PELL. 1,400,000.

Dr. RIPLEY. Right.

Senator PELL. How many square feet of exhibition space do you have?

Dr. RIPLEY. Our net percentage at the present time, total existing square footage, is 30.6 percent. In other words, approximately one-third of our total square footage is now occupied with exhibit space. The actual figure is 761,000 square feet.

Senator PELL. So, as of now, it is about half and half. With space added, it would be roughly one-third and two-thirds.

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes. This, of course, also gets into the question of sophisticated exhibits, because nowadays, with the occurrence of the multimedia kinds of exhibits, with television in everyone's home, and so on, the old traditional static exhibit is no more able to lure the younger generation as well as the more sophisticated older person. We must therefore have changing exhibits in large areas of our exhibit space.

Senator PELL. What is the estimated cost per square foot of these buildings?

Dr. RIPLEY. I think the figure for the cost is around \$33 a square foot.

Mr. BRADLEY. \$33 a square foot.

Senator PELL. It costs more than an office building?

Mr. BRADLEY. Museum buildings, of course, of a much higher design, decoratively, cost easily \$60 to \$80 a square foot. This will not be a museum exhibition building. We have gone to the cost estimators, and we have described to them a utilitarian type of largely concrete building and projecting it to the future, because the cost index is always with us. This will be spread over a period of 10 years if we get it. We think this is a pretty good figure.

Senator PELL. Will these buildings be air-conditioned?

Mr. BRADLEY. This would certainly be air-conditioned, Senator, and otherwise treated, in an economical way, of course.

Senator PELL. What is the average cost for office construction?

Mr. BRADLEY. I do not have that figure, Senator. We have not built any office buildings lately.

Senator PELL. Do any of my colleagues have a rough idea? I thought it was less than \$30 a square foot.

Mr. BRADLEY. I will be glad to put that in the record.

(The information referred to, subsequently supplied, follows:)

CONSTRUCTION COST FOR MUSEUM DEPOSITORY AND SUPPORT FACILITY

Design and construction of a museum depository and support facility is expected to be a continuing effort over a period of ten years. Because the facility has not yet been designed, it is necessary to estimate construction costs on an empirical basis. Large loft areas (including racks) were estimated at 60 cents per cubic foot. The collection storage area is planned to be supported by scientific laboratories, offices, conservation shops, equipment shops, fumigation facilities and study area. The cost for this type of space will vary from \$45 per net square foot for laboratories to \$28 per net square foot for office space.¹ Included also in these cost estimates are site development, utilities, a central heating and air conditioning plant, and a mechanical system for materials handling. A further consideration in estimating has been given to the effects of continuing escalation during the construction period.

The architectural consultant's preliminary design for a depository and support center contemplates 600,000 net square feet of floor space with an estimated cost of \$16,097,000 at today's prices. The gross area is 750,000 square feet.² By adding cost escalation at the rate of increase we have experienced during the past ten years, the future cost is estimated at \$19,980,000 (a composite projected cost of \$33 per net square foot or \$26.66 per gross square foot). The building construction cost index as reported by the *Engineering-News-Record* (an index based on 1913=100) shows an index for September 1959 of 555 and an index for September 1969 at 795 (a total increase of 43% in that ten-year period). The increase from December 1968 to December 1969 is estimated at 9%.

In the following tabulation the 1969 cost estimates have been projected over the anticipated construction period of ten years at the average of the past ten years, i.e., 4.3% annually.

Year	Item	1969 cost estimates	Future cost estimates
1	Planning.....	\$80,000	\$80,000
2	Design and construction.....	957,000	1,000,000
3	do.....	1,190,000	1,300,000
4	do.....	1,420,000	1,600,000
5	do.....	1,700,000	2,000,000
6	} Construction during remaining 5-year period.....	10,750,000	14,000,000
7			
8			
9			
10			
Total, design and construction.....		16,097,000	19,980,000

The Public Buildings Service of the General Services Administration advises that the estimated cost of a proposed office building in Southwest Washington, D.C., with a gross floor area of 876,000 square feet, is expected to cost approximately \$45 per gross square foot. This is an exceptional condition due to the special characteristics required for a monumental area. A recent cost study for Federal office buildings, prepared by the General Services Administration, indi-

¹ Net square feet refers to the area that is assignable to an occupant for his office, laboratory, or collection. It excludes corridors, rest rooms, mechanical equipment rooms, stairways, and other areas not assignable to individuals.

² Gross square feet refers to the total area of the building, both assignable to occupants and not assignable.

cates that standard office buildings are currently costing between \$28 and \$32 per gross square foot. Another estimate obtained from our architectural consultant is in the amount of \$35 per gross square foot for an office building, with partitions and air conditioning. Please note that the amounts given above for the construction of the museum support and depository facilities are given at both current costs and projected costs.

Mr. SCHWENDEL. Somewhere around \$27, I think.

Senator PELL. Why should storage space cost as much as office space?

Mr. BRADLEY. Senator, I can only say this figure was supplied to us by the consulting engineer, Geo. M. Ewing Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., as the proper cost to use before this committee.

Senator PELL. I think this is worthy of further examination, because I think we would all appear quite foolish, indeed, if we authorized a storage house which cost more than an average office building to construct.

You made reference in your opening statement to modern retrieval systems. Is this a general reassurance that the new facility will not be a dumping ground? Putting it another way, what specifically do you have in mind? Will it be your own computer and your own library or bank?

Dr. RIPLEY. We do not contemplate a library, necessarily, but we definitely would have our own automatic data processing.

Senator PELL. I meant a library of records.

Dr. RIPLEY. Of course, we would have an important aspect of the Registrar's office there, and we are shifting gradually, and I think very effectively, over to automatic data processing. We would undoubtedly be tied in, in one way or another, with our computer center.

Senator PELL. What is the site used for now?

Dr. RIPLEY. It is used for storage. There are some basic conservation facilities for the Air and Space Museum there. Large objects like airplanes, and so on, have been of necessity stored there since the end of World War II and the assumption of a program of acquisition which was incorporated in the act setting up the Air and Space Museum.

Senator PELL. The authorization that you would like for this bill is an open-ended authorization, is that not correct?

Dr. RIPLEY. I assume so, Senator, yes. I am not sure what an open-ended authorization is. It is not set by time?

Senator PELL. It is something Congress has an aversion to. There are no specific dollars.

Dr. RIPLEY. This is, of course, dependent on the appropriations process.

Senator PELL. It does not say in the bill.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I think Dr. Ripley gave the \$20 million figure in response to my question as to how much money he estimated would be required to be spent to meet the purposes of the bill. No dollar figure is stated in the bill, however.

Dr. RIPLEY. The dollar figures that we have for the next 5 years I can supply, if you would care to have it for the record.

Senator PELL. Would there be any objection on the part of the Smithsonian to putting in both a time and a dollar limit?

Dr. RIPLEY. No, I do not believe so.

Mr. SCHWENDEL. I think Dr. Ripley has offered specific figures for the record.

Senator PELL. For the record, but we have not yet made up our mind whether we want them incorporated in the bill.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. We should have something in the record as an estimate of cost, not necessarily in the bill.

Senator PELL. It is being taken down in the record now.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. He said he could furnish the figures, which he does not have.

Dr. RIPLEY. I have the estimated figures for the next 5 years beginning with fiscal 1971.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. I did not realize that.

Dr. RIPLEY. They are not in my testimony, but I will be glad to provide them.

Senator PELL. Then you are correct.

Dr. RIPLEY. They are in the record, I beg your pardon.

(The information referred to may be found on p. 8.)

Mr. BRADEMAs. Linger on the last point, Mr. Chairman, as one who I think Dr. Ripley knows is very sympathetic to his efforts, as are we all on this subcommittee, I would nonetheless feel it helpful if we could get some fairly specific professional judgment from you, not only for the next 5 years, which you say you already have in hand, but also where we are going down the road, 10, 20, 30 years, because this is a national resource and because of the fact, as you have suggested, that the needs in one collection are rather different from the needs in others. We ought to have the blend, to use your word, of your judgment on what these various matters cost so we are not floating around in some ethereal haze on this matter in view of the fact that we are the ones who will be called upon to defend this bill, and the questions we are putting to you are precisely the kinds of questions that will be asked on the floor and, I dare say, you will be asked in the appropriations subcommittees. That is why I think this exercise would be most valuable.

Senator PELL. I can see the question coming up as to why should it cost more to build a storehouse than an office building. We should have a better answer than we have been able to get in the hearing so far.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. I have no other questions. I am enthused about the project here.

I have one other comment. I get these booklets. I think it is a great report. I read it with avid interest. I put it on a bookshelf and I find it fits with nothing.

Would you tell your people in all these areas who write reports to give us some standard size that we can put on our library shelves? I do not know why this odd size. Both political parties had a great program this year, but you are invited to throw it away. Why not have a standard size?

Mr. BRADEMAs. We like to have a little diversity and pluralism, even under a Republican administration.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. If that is what we want and that is the way to get it, all right, but I would like to have it so it would fit on my shelf.

Senator PELL. Congressman Harvey?

Mr. HARVEY. Is this authorization for planning only, or for planning and construction?

Dr. RIPLEY. The present authorization is for planning and construction, of course all figures to be determined eventually through the appropriation process.

Mr. HARVEY. Is it intended to build on the Silver Hill property, or is that just one of the alternative sites?

Dr. RIPLEY. We would like, in the first instance, to make an appropriate study, on which we have hopes the General Services Administration will cooperate to the full with us, on possible options in the vicinity of Washington, just to make the whole study more efficient.

Mr. HARVEY. Would it involve the acquisition of further land?

Dr. RIPLEY. It could. It would all be Government land, of course, which would be released to us by GSA.

Mr. HARVEY. I have no further questions.

Mr. BRADEMAS. I have a question I would simply voice rhetorically and would do so even if you were representing some other institution, Dr. Ripley. I refer to the matter of obtaining some construction funds. That is the general problem of rapidly inflating costs of acquisition of land and of building facilities. I should have thought, Mr. Chairman, that if a compelling case for such authorization can be made, we ought to move fairly expeditiously, if there is indeed a pressing and urgent need, to start building before prices run up still further.

Senator PELL. I think this completes the record on this particular bill. The record will stay open for about a week for submission of the information requested.

Senator PELL. If we can, I would like to move to the third item on the agenda, in the hope that Congressman Thompson will be back for the second item.

The third item is S. 706, a bill to provide for additional members of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. At this point, if there is no objection, I will insert in the record the text of S. 706.

(The text of S. 706 follows:)

91ST CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 706

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1969

Mr. ANDERSON (for himself, Mr. FULBRIGHT, and Mr. SCOTT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To amend the Act of August 10, 1846, as amended, to provide for additional members of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the first sentence of section 3 of the Act of August 10,
4 1846, as amended (9 Stat. 103; 20 U.S.C. 42), is further
5 amended by—

6 (1) deleting “six” and inserting in lieu thereof
7 “nine”, and

8 (2) deleting “four” and inserting in lieu thereof
9 “seven”,

10 so as to read as follows:

II

1 “SEC. 3. The business of the Institution shall be con-
2 ducted at the city of Washington by a Board of Regents,
3 named the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, to be com-
4 posed of the Vice President, the Chief Justice of the United
5 States, and three Members of the Senate and three Members
6 of the House of Representatives; together with nine other
7 persons, other than Members of Congress, two of whom shall
8 be resident in the city of Washington; and the other seven
9 shall be inhabitants of some State, but no two of them of the
10 same State.”.

11 SEC. 2. Section 3 of the Act of August 10, 1846, as
12 amended (9 Stat. 103; 20 U.S.C. 43), is further amended
13 by—

14 (1) in the second sentence thereof, deleting “six”
15 and inserting in lieu thereof “nine”, so as to read as
16 follows: “The Board of Regents shall be appointed as
17 follows: The Members of the Senate by the President
18 thereof; the Members of the House by the Speaker
19 thereof; and the nine other persons by joint resolution
20 of the Senate and House of Representatives.”; and

21 (2) in the sixth sentence thereof, deleting “six”
22 immediately after “term of service for the other” and
23 before “members” and inserting in lieu thereof “nine”,

1 so as to read as follows: "The regular term of service
2 for the other nine members shall be six years; and new
3 elections thereof shall be made by joint resolutions of
4 Congress."

Senator PELL. Again, we have had an opportunity to read your letter and the excellent statement that you submitted, Dr. Ripley.

Without objection, your statement will be inserted in the record at this point.

(The prepared statement of Dr. Ripley follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF DR. S. DILLON RIPLEY, SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ON S. 706

I am delighted, Mr. Chairman, to appear the committee on behalf of S. 706, a bill to provide for additional members of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

As established by the Act of August 10, 1846, and its subsequent amendments, the Smithsonian's governing body, the Board of Regents, consists of fourteen members.

There are eight public members: the Vice President; the Chief Justice; three members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and, three members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker.

In addition to these eight public members, there are six private citizen members of the Board, who are appointed on the recommendation of the Regents by the Congress by Joint Resolution. Of these, the statute provides that two must be residents of the City of Washington while the other four must come from four different states.

The legislation before you would increase the number of citizen Regents from six to nine. In addition to two Regents from the City of Washington, there would then be seven Regents representing the rest of the Nation.

This proposal is a simple one, Mr. Chairman, but we consider it important for several reasons. We believe that the Board of Regents should adequately reflect the recent growth of the Smithsonian Institution's responsibilities, the national character of the Institution, and the Institution's interest in gaining greater support from private sources in the Nation.

Mr. Chairman, in describing the recent growth of the Smithsonian and its activities, I believe the following will illustrate our growth in the past few years:

Since 1955, the Smithsonian's staff has increased from 500 to more than 2,000 and our operating appropriations from \$3 million to \$26 million—almost ninefold.

The number of visitors to the Smithsonian has increased from eight million in 1957 to an estimated nineteen million in 1970.

Our buildings for the preservation of the national collections and for their exhibition have grown from 1.4 million square feet to 3.3 million square feet.

And, as you know, Congress in the past few years has substantially broadened the diversified programs of the Institution, among them:

The National Museum of History and Technology (Public Law 106, 1955);

The National Portrait Gallery (Public Law 87-443, 1962);

The National Air and Space Museum (Public Law 89-509, 1966);

The Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum (Public Law 89-788, 1966); and,

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (Public Law 90-637, 1968).

In the face of such growth, the importance of adding new members and their additional knowledge and leadership to our Board of Regents is, I think, beyond dispute.

A larger membership would free our Regents—now rather hard pressed to keep up with events in our growing organization—to concentrate more deeply and to focus more effectively upon problems facing the Institution. With a larger membership sharing responsibility for the leadership of the Institution, for example, one member might feel free—as he now really cannot—to examine the Institution's management procedures and offer valuable advice; another might devote himself to building national interest and support for the Institution and its programs.

But there are other reasons, beyond mere institutional growth for the expansion of our Board.

The Smithsonian, which exists for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men," has a national and even international mandate. We are a national establishment chartered by the Congress; our museums are *national* institutions which open their doors to all who would enter; and, our research programs,

traveling exhibitions, publications, and exchanges with other museums and scholarly institutions literally embrace the globe.

It is incongruous, I think, that an Institution whose scope is so wide should have a Board whose geographical and numerical scope is so narrow.

And in an age of change, when new demands are being made upon educational institutions to be more responsive, to be more open, to be more democratic, it is well for us to demonstrate our willingness to broaden the leadership of the Smithsonian.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we are mindful that the Smithsonian is a special sort of establishment, at once public and private, authorized by the Congress to seek and accept support from private sources.

We believe that a more broadly based Board of Regents, representing more effectively the entire country, will materially help us in our efforts to gain support for the Smithsonian from individuals, families, foundations, and business concerns.

I might add that for reasons similar to the ones I have stated, many of our sister institutions—universities and other centers of research and education—find it useful to operate with sizable boards, broadly based and geographically representative.

In the Nation's Capitol, for example, the George Washington University has 43 Trustees.

Harvard's Board of Overseers numbers thirty; Princeton's Board of Trustees thirty-four. Our sister institution, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, is governed by a board of twenty-one.

And even tiny Vassar's board is nearly double the size of the Smithsonian's Board of Regents.

In fact, I can think of no comparable institution which has such a restrictive charter for its board membership.

In summary, Mr. Chairman, I can only say that we are operating under a handicap which should be removed. By this legislation, the Congress would be authorized to appoint three additional citizen Regents for the customary term of six years. We have an opportunity to make the leadership of a great national establishment more truly national; to add not only numbers but knowledge to the board of our growing institution.

I am happy, on behalf of the present Regents, to commend S. 706 to the committee, and to urge most respectfully its speedy enactment.

Thank you.

Senator PELL. You may proceed as you will.

Dr. RIPLEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am delighted to be able to testify in connection with this bill, which has, of course, been drawn up by the Regents and passed on, introduced by two of our senatorial Regents, as S. 706.

It has been hoped for some time by the Regents as a group that there might be a further expansion of concern and interest in the Smithsonian Institution around the country. One of the Regents of the Smithsonian, now retired, Senator Saltonstall, was always particularly keen to emphasize the need for the Institution to make its activities better known throughout the country in order to build up more popular support.

There was a move in the 1920's by my predecessor, Secretary Walker, aided by the Regents at the time to develop a kind of affiliated organization within the Smithsonian. Only recently was further action taken on this initial move to create the Associates of the Smithsonian.

Out of this procedure of developing the Associates, it has been hoped by the Regents that it would be possible to advance on this front of creating more popular support for the Institution.

As Senator Saltonstall rather pungently said at one of the meetings, I remember, in regard to Federal support for the Institution in view of the aspect of setting of priorities throughout the Nation by the legislative branch of the Government, "They are spreading the butter mighty thin."

In this connection, as the butter becomes thinner, the small segments reserved for possible expansion and development of Smithsonian programs become more adulterated and thinner.

Consequently, popular support in a number of aspects would not only be vital to increasing the support for the Institution's program in a fiscal sense, but also, perhaps, in this day and age it is particularly vital in a reciprocal sense in connection with education of the public themselves.

So, the Regents feel that in this connection it is highly appropriate, in fact overdue, in comparison with equivalent boards of trustees of institutions, both in the District of Columbia and nationally, that some small increment to the body be considered.

MR. THOMPSON. It is certainly not an unreasonably sized board. It is 14 now.

Senator PELL. As I understand it, you have now a 14-member Board, and five members constitute a quorum. This is a very small number for a quorum. It seems to stretch things almost as much as we do in the Senate.

Do you think the number required for a quorum should be increased if the Board is increased in size?

Dr. RIPLEY. The Regents have not specifically considered this problem, but I assume they would in due course, if the bill were passed.

Senator PELL. The justification you advanced is a very good one, indeed. We want national support for the Nation's museum, but I am wondering whether you are going to broaden it geographically or with other economic and social groups.

Is it thought that these new regents would be representatives of the poor, the culturally deprived, the black, the young, or is it thought that they will be—all of them are great friends of mine—pillars of the establishment?

Dr. RIPLEY. I think the thought is to broaden the base.

Senator PELL. You mean you would have the pillars from a wider area?

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes.

Senator PELL. For example, the appointment of Mr. Watson as a regent was not broadening the base?

Dr. RIPLEY. Mr. Watson has been approved now as a regent of the Smithsonian, and very specifically because of his willingness as a private citizen to head up the National Associates. He has demonstrated his particular interest in the Institution over the past 20 years.

Senator PELL. Would it not be a good idea to give thought to one of these regents not being a pillar of the establishment, but being maybe a poor, intelligent black man?

Dr. RIPLEY. I think it would be an excellent idea.

Senator PELL. I would hope this kind of thinking might be considered by the regents if we move ahead and approve the bill. Have you ever had a woman regent?

Dr. RIPLEY. No.

Senator PELL. Well, that might be a nice idea, too. Have you ever had a black regent?

Dr. RIPLEY. No.

Senator PELL. I think both of these points should be considered.

Have you ever had a poor regent?

Dr. RIPLEY. I assume we have. We have not gone into complete financial disclosure, either now or in the past.

Senator PELL. Would one effect of the bill be to dilute congressional representation on the Board of Regents?

Dr. RIPLEY. The Congressional members of the Board do not presently feel this would be true. They are all more based in Washington, of course, and therefore it is easier for them to get to the meetings.

(Off the record.)

Senator PELL. Would you give us an example of how the lack of adequate representation from the country as a whole has hampered your work? What arose that makes you feel you have to have three more regents?

Dr. RIPLEY. In the selection of the six private persons, as I pointed out in the testimony, two must be residents of the District of Columbia, and there are only four others. Those four regents often are continued for term after term, and some of them become quite elderly.

The result of this has been a decline in the amount of force, potential at least, which the private regents have been able to put into the meetings and the activities of the Institution.

Senator PELL. I have two specific questions with regard to this legislation, and I would be interested in your reaction.

One is the question of the quorum, which is actually not to be decided by the regents of the Smithsonian but decided by legislation. Would you recommend that we enlarge the quorum in the same bill, or leave it as it is?

Dr. RIPLEY. I would have to consult on that, Mr. Chairman. I really do not know the wording of the original act. "Five shall constitute a quorum to do business." I understand now.

I would say the regents would be happy to be given the option at least to recommend—I could poll them and submit their response for the record, if you like—whether they would like to have the quorum enlarged; or, if you feel it would be more appropriate to have the committee add this to the act without polling the regents, I would be happy that you do that.

Senator PELL. If it goes up to 17 persons, I would say that a quorum of five is really too small. I would think we ought to enlarge the quorum, but this can be discussed among ourselves, and if we want further reactions from the Smithsonian, we will ask for them.

Mr. BRADEMAS. Just a couple of quick questions, Dr. Ripley.

Do you vote proxies on the regents?

Dr. RIPLEY. No. We have occasional mail voting, in which we have a mailing to the regents and ask first for their approval in a mail ballot, and then a mail ballot.

Mr. BRADEMAS. The reason I ask is that, with the present quorum of five, three people can decide for 17, if my arithmetic is correct. I do not think that is a very good idea.

My second question is this: How many meetings of the regents do you have a year?

Dr. RIPLEY. At present we have two. We are just now proposing to add a third and have three meetings. For many years there was only one meeting.

Mr. BRADEMAS. I shall offer one other question, then, Mr. Chairman.

You make a very persuasive case, Dr. Ripley, for the addition of more regents, but in all candor, the logic that is used to justify the addition of three to make a Board of Regents numbering 17 rather than 14, considering the fact that you have a very healthy representation from Congress written into the statute, seems to me to point in the direction of a far larger number of regents if you are really serious about developing a broader base of national support.

You mentioned several comparable institutions here and the number of members of their governing bodies—Harvard 30, Princeton 34, and Carnegie 21, which is a much smaller enterprise than yours is, I am sure.

DR. RIPLEY. Not so very much smaller. Their endowment is very considerably larger than ours, for example, and they have a highly sophisticated and diversified staff in a number of locations around the country.

MR. BRADEMÁS. True, but they do not depend upon the public in quite the same way that you do.

DR. RIPLEY. True.

MR. BRADEMÁS. What puzzles me, Mr. Chairman, therefore, is why the bill before us would add only three more regents. If you have the Vice President and the Chief Justice and six Members of Congress, with six private members now and only nine private members contemplated in this bill, my principal objection, unless I can be persuaded otherwise, is that this is just going through the motions, if we are really serious about developing a national base for the Smithsonian.

I linger on this point for one more minute because when we talk about increasing the number of regents of the Smithsonian in the year 1969, we do so not in a vacuum, but at a time when we are considering institutional and structural changes in all kinds of institutions in this country, in colleges and universities, trade unions, political parties, even in the House of Representatives.

I should have thought, therefore, Dr. Ripley, that you ought to ask yourself whether it would not be far wiser, looking down the road, to take a longer run view of the situation and not just, as I say, go through the motions but, rather, use this bill as an opportunity to make a substantial broadening of the support of the Smithsonian across the Nation.

I put my case somewhat rhetorically to induce a response.

MR. SCHWENDEL. On this point, I would like first to ask a question and comment on your suggestion.

In the case of Senate and House Members, if they do not attend, may they send a representative from their office?

DR. RIPLEY. To attend, but not to take part in the discussion.

MR. SCHWENDEL. Just as observers.

Second, I raise the same question the gentleman from Indiana raised about the number. Why increase it by three? Why not by six or nine or more?

DR. RIPLEY. This was the consensus of the Regents.

MR. BRADEMÁS. I can understand why the Regents do not want any more. That is a difficult problem, even for the gentleman from Indiana to appreciate. I am frank to say I have a very difficult time defending this modest increase in numbers however. That the Regents propose three more is not a very compelling argument in all candor, Dr. Ripley.

I am not asking whether the Regents think it is a good idea, although I am interested in what they think. I am interested in this instance what you might think, professionally, is a good idea in terms of the growth of the Smithsonian Institution as a great national resource in a country which by the year 2000 will have 300 million people in it.

Dr. RIPLEY. I would hope, Mr. Brademas, that this context which you introduce of the national importance and national scope of the Smithsonian Institution, could be recognized over the years in more public as well as more executive and legislative recognition.

The Smithsonian Institution is starved for funds at the present time to attempt to carry out the kinds of programs which you, I am sure, are consciously intimating. It seems inconceivable to me that we should not be nearer the forefront of environmental studies, for example, or that curious interstitial area where our environmental concerns meet and overlap with our cultural concerns.

All we can do is talk about it at this stage. We have nowhere near the funds or the support, under the unique system of priorities organized by this Government, to undertake such long term and perhaps demonstrably vital studies for the Nation.

It is my personal estimate that in 25 years, somewhere between 75 and 80 percent of all the species of living animals will be extinct. We have no recourse at present as far as our total budgeting, either private or governmental, is concerned, to attempt to set the stage for appropriate studies and appropriate warning to the U.S. people.

Senator PELL. In how many years?

Dr. RIPLEY. 25 years.

In this connection, whatever we can do to attempt to enlarge the body of the Regents is an asset, because we must find—I am sure the Regents certainly spoke strongly of this—we must find people around the country who will help to enhance the national concern about the programs of the Institution.

Mr. BRADEMAS. You have made a very compelling case, in my view, Dr. Ripley, for considerably expanding the number of the Regents, if for no other reason than to develop stronger and more effective public support for the kinds of enterprises of which you speak.

Mr. THOMPSON. Dr. Ripley, what would be your personal view toward adding more than three new Regents?

Dr. RIPLEY. Under the administration of the Smithsonian, I think I personally should waive having any particular opinion about it. I would say, however, that I have mixed feelings, having served myself on the board of trustees of a variety of institutions ranging from universities on through conservation organizations and banks and other organizations. I have always an equivocal feeling. There are times when six men can do the work of 35. There are other times when, if you have six less efficient men, you wish you had 35. You cannot always tell.

The number of the troops seems not to bear a direct ratio to the amount of efficient work produced.

So, I must say that initially it would be my hope that we could start with this step, and in effect try to decide.

Mr. BRADEMAS. I hope you will not mind if I quarrel a little with what you have just said, but I think your analogy is misleading. The Regents do not administer the Smithsonian. You do not have them on the Board for the purpose of efficiency.

Dr. RIPLEY. Under the law, they do.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I obviously am ignorant of the way that you operate, but I find it very difficult in commonsense terms to see the Vice President and the Chief Justice and three U.S. Senators and three Congressmen running the Smithsonian Institution on a day-to-day basis. That's what I mean.

Dr. RIPLEY. Characteristically, they feel that they do.

Mr. THOMPSON. This is a very narrow piece of legislation, but it has led to a broader discussion which is of importance. I think the House subcommittee and probably the subcommittee on the Senate side, in exercising its oversight responsibilities, might at some time have hearings which would bring out the problems of the Smithsonian and what it is doing and how it is being done, with a view perhaps to modernizing the Institution where necessary and funding it at the proper level.

The Regents say they want three more members, but I do not know that three will be any better than the present number or worse than an even larger number.

Personally, I think the idea of having a statutory requirement that two regents be from the District of Columbia is absurd. The District itself is not that involved with the Smithsonian, other than with its location here.

Dr. RIPLEY. We are in effect proposing to the committees that you approve or authorize the changing of an organic act which has not been amended in this connection since 1846.

Senator PELL. I wonder if it would be helpful if you submitted for the record—I am not asking for the names but just numbers of Regents in physical attendance at the past 10 meetings.

Dr. RIPLEY. I would be delighted to furnish that.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Would it not be helpful, Mr. Chairman, if such information exists, as I am sure it does, for us to get some document saying just what the Regents are supposed to do. What is the role of the Regents, both in statutory terms and as they in public addresses or in hearings have conceived it to be.

Dr. RIPLEY. I would be happy to supply that, Mr. Brademas.

May I query Senator Pell and ask if by this you refer to the private regents alone, or would you like the total attendance?

Senator PELL. The total. Maybe you could break that down by private regents and Government regents.

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes, we can make different columns.

Senator PELL. Frankly, I would take a sympathetic view but would want to check with my Senate colleagues. I think the quorum probably should be increased.

Dr. RIPLEY. I feel sure the Regents would not object to this. They are just as sensitive as you are to having a quorum.

(The information referred to, subsequently supplied, follows:)

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AT THE LAST 10 MEETINGS

Regents	Jan. 28, 1965	May 19, 1965	Jan. 27, 1966	May 17, 1966	Jan. 25, 1967	May 24, 1967	Jan. 25, 1968	May 8, 1968	Jan. 15, 1969	May 21, 1969
Public.....	3	7	5	4	6	5	6	5	8	6
Private.....	4	5	5	6	5	6	15	15	124	123

¹ Death of Robert V. Fleming on Nov. 28, 1967, to be replaced by joint resolution of Congress.

² Retirement of Jerome C. Hunsaker. Replaced by Thomas J. Watson, Jr., on June 17, 1969.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

The responsibilities of the Board of Regents as contained in the Founding Act, in pertinent part, are quoted as follows:

“§ 42. *Regents*

“The business of the institution shall be conducted at the city of Washington by a Board of Regents, named the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, to be composed of the Vice President, the Chief Justice of the United States, and three members of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives; together with six other persons, other than members of Congress, two of whom shall be resident in the city of Washington; and the other four shall be inhabitants of some State, but no two of them of the same State.

“§ 43. *Same; appointment; terms of office; vacancies*

“The Board of Regents shall be appointed as follows: The Members of the Senate by the President thereof; the Members of the House by the Speaker thereof; and the six other persons by joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives. The Members of the House so appointed shall serve for the term of two years; and on every alternate fourth Wednesday of December a like number shall be appointed in the same manner to serve until the fourth Wednesday in December in the second year succeeding their appointment. The Senators so appointed shall serve during the term for which they shall hold, without reelection, their office as Senators. Vacancies, occasioned by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled as vacancies in committees are filled. The regular term of service for the other six members shall be six years; and new elections thereof shall be made by joint resolutions of Congress. Vacancies occasioned by death, resignation, or otherwise may be filled in like manner by joint resolution of Congress.

“§ 44. *Same; organization*

“The Board of Regents shall meet in the city of Washington and elect one of their number as chancellor, who shall be the presiding officer of the Board of Regents, and called the chancellor of the Smithsonian Institution, and a suitable person as secretary of the institution, who shall also be the secretary of the Board of Regents. The Board shall also elect three of their own body as an executive committee, and shall fix the time for the regular meetings of the board; and, on application of any three of the Regents to the secretary of the institution, it shall be his duty to appoint a special meeting of the Board of Regents, of which he shall give notice, by letter, to each of the members; and, at any meeting of the board, five shall constitute a quorum to do business. Each member of the board shall be paid his necessary traveling and other actual expenses in attending meetings of the board, which shall be audited by the executive committee, and recorded by the secretary of the board; but his service as Regent shall be gratuitous.

“§ 46. *Duties of secretary*

“The secretary of the Board of Regents shall take charge of the building and property of the institution, and shall, under their direction, make a fair and accurate record of all their proceedings, to be preserved in the institution until no longer needed in conducting current business; and shall also discharge the duties of librarian and of keeper of the museum, and may, with the consent of the Board of Regents, employ assistants.

“§ 48. *Removal of secretary and assistants*

“The secretary and his assistants shall be removable by the Board of Regents whenever, in their judgment, the interests of the institution require such removal. R.S. § 5584.

“§ 50. *Reception and arrangement of specimens and objects of art*

“Whenever suitable arrangements can be made from time to time for their reception, all objects of art and of foreign and curious research, and all objects of natural history, plants, and geological and mineralogical specimens belonging to the United States, which may be in the city of Washington, in whosoever custody they may be, shall be delivered to such persons as may be authorized by the Board of Regents to receive them, and shall be so arranged and classified in the building erected for the institution as best to facilitate the examination and study of them;

and whenever new specimens in natural history, geology, or mineralogy are obtained for the museum of the institution, by exchanges of duplicate specimens, which the Regents may in their discretion make, or by donation, which they may receive, or otherwise, the Regents shall cause such new specimens to be appropriately classed and arranged. The minerals, books, manuscripts, and other property of James Smithson, which have been received by the Government of the United States, shall be preserved separate and apart from other property of the institution.

“§ 51. *Library*

“The Regents shall make, from the interest of the fund, an appropriation, not exceeding an average of \$25,000 annually, for the gradual formation of a library composed of valuable works pertaining to all departments of human knowledge.

“§ 52. *Evidence of title to site and buildings*

“The site and lands selected for buildings for the Smithsonian Institution shall be deemed appropriated to the institution, and the record of the description of such site and lands, or a copy thereof, certified by the chancellor and secretary of the Board of Regents, shall be received as evidence in all courts of the extent and boundaries of the lands appropriated to the institution.

“§ 55. *Acceptance of other sums*

“The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to receive into the Treasury, on the same terms as the original bequest of James Smithson, such sums as the Regents may, from time to time, see fit to deposit, not exceeding, with the original bequest, the sum of \$1,000,000. This shall not operate as a limitation on the power of the Smithsonian Institution to receive money or other property by gift, bequest, or devise, and to hold and dispose of the same in promotion of the purposes thereof.

“§ 56. *Disposal of unappropriated money*

“The Regents are authorized to make such disposal of any other moneys which have accrued, or shall hereafter accrue, as interest upon the Smithsonian fund, not herein appropriated, or not required for the purposes herein provided, as they shall deem best suited for the promotion of the purpose of the testator.

“§ 57. *Disbursements*

“Whenever money is required for the payment of the debts or performance of the contracts of the institution, incurred or entered into in conformity with the provisions of sections 41-46, 48, 50, 51-53, 54-57, and 67 of this title, or for making the purchases and executing the objects authorized by said sections, the Board of Regents, or the executive committee thereof, may certify to the chancellor and secretary of the board that such sum of money is required, whereupon they shall examine the same, and, if they shall approve thereof, shall certify the same to the proper officer of the Treasury for payment. The board shall submit to Congress, at each session thereof, a report of the operations, expenditures, and condition of the institution.

“§ 72. *Same; establishment; Board of Trustees [National Gallery of Art]*

“(b) The general trustees first taking office shall be chosen by the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, subject to the approval of the donor, and shall have terms expiring one each on July 1 of 1939, 1941, 1943, 1945, and 1947, as designated by the Board of Regents. A successor shall be chosen by a majority vote of the general trustees and shall have a term expiring ten years from the date of the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was chosen, except that a successor chosen to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of such term shall be chosen only for the remainder of such term.

“§ 73. *Same; acceptance of gift from A. W. Mellon*

“Upon completion of the National Gallery of Art, the board shall accept for the Smithsonian Institution as a gift from the donor a collection of works of art which shall be housed and exhibited in the National Gallery of Art.

“§ 76a. *Creation of Commission; personnel; compensation; powers; termination*

“(a) A Commission, to be called the Smithsonian Gallery of Art Commission (hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”), comprising a member to be designated by the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; a member to be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury; the Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission; the Chairman of

the Commission of Fine Arts; the Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library; the Chairman of the Committee on the Library of the House; and the Chairman of the Art Commission of the Smithsonian Institution, is created and authorized to make all preliminary investigations and to secure appropriate designs, by competition or otherwise, preferably by competition, for a building to be constructed in the site above described, said building to be so designed as to permit of future expansion, parking arrangements, and for landscaping its surroundings. The Commission shall choose a Chairman from its own membership.

"(b) The members of the Commission shall serve as such members without compensation and the Commission shall terminate upon the submission to and approval by the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (hereinafter referred to as the "Regents") of the said design for the building and grounds.

"§ 76b. Solicitation of construction funds by Regents; construction, name, and maintenance of building

"(a) The Regents are authorized to solicit and receive subscriptions of funds from private sources for the purposes specified in this subsection. Funds so received shall be placed in a special deposit account with the Treasurer of the United States, and may be expended by the Regents to meet the cost of construction of the building, including furnishings and equipment thereof, to obtain necessary drawings and specifications, make necessary surveys and estimates of cost, defray necessary administrative expenses and secure other needful services.

"(b) The Regents may, subject to the approval of the President, authorize the preparation of the site and the construction of the building, including approaches and landscaping of the grounds: *Provided*, That the Administrator of General Services shall supervise the preparation of the plans and specifications, make all necessary contracts, and supervise construction.

"(c) The name of the building shall be the Smithsonian Gallery of Art (hereinafter referred to as the "Gallery"), and it shall be under the supervision and control of the Regents and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

"§ 76c. Policy to foster appreciation of past and contemporary art; solicitation of donations

"(a) It shall be the policy of the Regents to maintain a worthy standard for the acceptance of art objects for exhibition in the Gallery, and to foster by public exhibitions from time to time in Washington, and other parts of the United States a growing appreciation of art, both of past and contemporary time; and the Regents are authorized to solicit and receive private donations of works of art and contributions of funds from private sources for the purchase of works of art. Funds so received shall be placed in a special deposit account with the Treasurer of the United States and may be expended by the Regents for the purchase of works of art.

"(b) In order to encourage the development of contemporary art and to effect the widest distribution and cultivation in matters of such art, the Regents are authorized to solicit and receive funds from private sources, to acquire (by purchase or otherwise) and sell contemporary works of art or copies thereof, to employ artists and other personnel, award scholarships, conduct exhibitions, and generally to do such things and have such other powers as will effectuate the purposes of this subsection. Funds received by the Regents under this subsection shall be placed in a special deposit account with the Treasurer of the United States and may be expended by the Regents for the purposes enumerated in this subsection and for no other purposes: *Provided*, That the Regents shall not incur any obligations under this subsection in excess of the funds available therefor.

"§ 76e. Housing or exhibiting objects of art possessed by Smithsonian Institution

"Such objects of art as the Government or the Smithsonian Institution now possess, or such as may hereafter be acquired, may be housed or exhibited in the Gallery, with the approval of and under such regulations as the Regents and Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution may prescribe.

"§ 76f. Appointment and duties of Director of Gallery; personnel

"The Regents may appoint and fix duties of a Director of the Gallery and may employ such other officers and employees as may be necessary for the efficient operation and administration of the Gallery.

"§ 80. National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board—Establishment; functions

"(a) There is established in the Smithsonian Institution a National Armed Forces Museum Advisory Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board), which

shall provide advice and assistance to the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution on matters concerned with the portrayal of the contributions which the Armed Forces of the United States have made to American society and culture.

"MEMBERSHIP

"(b) The Board shall be composed of eleven members, as follows:

"(1) The Secretary of Defense, who shall serve as an ex officio member;

"(2) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, who shall serve as an ex officio member;

"(3) Nine members appointed by the President, (A) three of whom shall be appointed from persons recommended by the Secretary of Defense to represent the Armed Forces, and (B) two of whom shall be appointed from among persons recommended by the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Not less than two members appointed by the President shall be from civilian life.

"§ 80b. *Selection of site; acquisition of lands and buildings; public exhibits and study collections; exhibits of military and naval operations*

"(a) The Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution is authorized and directed, with the advice and assistance of the Board, to investigate and survey lands and buildings in and near the District of Columbia suitable for the display of military collections. The Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution shall, after consulting with and seeking the advice of the Commission on Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the General Services Administration, submit recommendations to the Congress with respect to the acquisition of lands and buildings for such purpose.

"§ 81. *National Zoological Park; administration by Regents of Smithsonian Institution*

"The National Zoological Park is placed under the direction of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, who are authorized to transfer to it any living specimens, whether of animals or plants, in their charge, to accept gifts for the park at their discretion, in the name of the United States, to make exchanges of specimens, and to administer and improve the said Zoological Park for the advancement of science and the instruction and recreation of the people.

"§ 82. *Same; aid in acquisition of collections*

"The heads of executive departments of the Government are authorized and directed to cause to be rendered all necessary and practicable aid to the said Regents in the acquisition of collections for the Zoological Park."

* * * * *

The Board of Regents have not, to my knowledge, publicly expressed their views concerning the role of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. THOMPSON. Are there any more questions on this bill?

Mr. HARVEY. I just want to ask again, how long has the present 14 limit been in existence?

Dr. RIPLEY. Since 1846.

Mr. HARVEY. You have had a 14-man Board of Regents since that time?

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes. There has been no change in the act.

Mr. THOMPSON. There were only about 20 million Americans then.

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes. This is one of the things that we attempted to discuss at the meeting where the Regents voted for this. There has been a very considerable change in the American population, the number of States, for example, because it is specified in the act that no more than one private regent shall be elected from any State.

Mr. THOMPSON. I think we might have to review the whole act.

Mr. HARVEY. I would venture the opinion that the increase of three men is a reasonable increase at this time, and I think the Board could well consider after that time whether they want to go beyond that point. I personally do not feel that there is any magic number to a

board of directors. I think if you become accustomed to working with 14, suddenly to have another 14 thrust upon you could work very great difficulty in the process of education alone.

My own opinion would be that three is a reasonable number, and I think you could well come back in a few years and get another three and build it up, if that is desired.

Dr. RIPLEY. Thank you very much for that sentiment. I may say, to double the number of the Regents would hasten the early retirement of the Secretary, I feel sure.

Mr. THOMPSON. Let us proceed now with bill S. 704, by Senators Anderson, Fulbright, and Scott. In the course of it, we should also discuss the bill H.R. 13791, which I introduced and which offers a slight alternative to S. 704, as suggested by the Smithsonian.

At this point, without objection, I will insert into the record the text of S. 704 and H.R. 13791.

(The text of S. 704 and H.R. 13791 follows:)

91ST CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 704

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1969

Mr. ANDERSON (for himself, Mr. FULBRIGHT, and Mr. SCOTT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To amend the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 953; 20 U.S.C. 65a), relating to the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, so as to authorize additional appropriations to the Smithsonian Institution for carrying out the purposes of said Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 2 (b) of the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat.
4 953; 20 U.S.C. 65a) is amended to read:

5 “(b) There are hereby authorized to be appropriated
6 to the Smithsonian Institution such sums as may be necessary
7 to carry out the purposes of this Act: *Provided*, That no
8 more than \$1,000,000 shall be appropriated annually
9 through fiscal year 1974.”

91ST CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 13791

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 1969

Mr. THOMPSON of New Jersey introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To amend the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat. 953; 20 U.S.C. 65a), relating to the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, so as to authorize additional appropriations to the Smithsonian Institution for carrying out the purposes of said Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 That section 2 (b) of the Act of October 15, 1966 (80 Stat.
4 953; 20 U.S.C. 65a) is amended to read:

5 “(b) There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to
6 the Smithsonian Institution such sums as may be necessary to
7 carry out the purposes of this Act.”

Mr. THOMPSON. At this point, without objection, I will insert into the record the prepared statement of Senator Anderson on S. 704.
(The prepared statement of Senator Anderson follows:)

**PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. CLINTON P. ANDERSON, A U.S.
SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ON S. 704**

Mr. Chairman, on January 22, Senator Fulbright, Senator Scott, and I introduced S. 704, a bill authorizing additional appropriations to the Smithsonian Institution for carrying out the provisions of the National Museum Act of 1966.

The National Museum Act of 1966 directed the Smithsonian Institution to aid our Nation's museums through research in museum techniques, training in museum practices, the study of museum opportunities and problems, and the preparation of museum publications. This act did not authorize the appropriation of funds beyond fiscal year 1971 for the purposes set forth above. Since budget estimates for fiscal year 1972 will be prepared in the spring of 1970, it will be desirable to have the National Museum Act authorization amended by that time. This is why we have introduced S. 704 during this session of Congress.

Since the National Museum Act authorized a total 4-year appropriation of \$1 million, and since no funds have been appropriated as yet under this authorization, I think the \$1 million total appropriation ceiling included in S. 704 is appropriate. You will note that the limit extends through fiscal year 1974.

Mr. Chairman, I recommend that this committee act favorably upon S. 704.

Mr. THOMPSON. Dr. Ripley.

Dr. RIPLEY. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman, I have a prepared statement for the hearing this morning on bills S. 704 and H.R. 13791, which I would request the committee I could present for the record.

Mr. THOMPSON. Without objection, it will be included at this point in the record.

(The prepared statement referred to follows:)

PREPARED STATEMENT OF DR. S. DILLON RIPLEY, SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, ON S. 704 AND H.R. 13791

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear before this joint committee in support of S. 704 and H.R. 13791, bills which would authorize additional appropriations to the Smithsonian Institution for carrying out the purposes of the National Museum Act of 1966.

The National Museum Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-674) reaffirmed the Smithsonian's traditional role in providing aid to museums of the United States and abroad. The Act directed the Institution to engage in a continuing study of museum problems and opportunities, to conduct training in museum practices, to prepare museum publications, to perform research in museum techniques, and to cooperate with agencies of the Government concerned with museums.

The Act authorized to be appropriated \$200,000 for the fiscal year 1968, \$250,000 for the fiscal year 1969, \$250,000 for fiscal year 1970, and \$300,000 for fiscal year 1971. The Act states that in each subsequent fiscal year only such sums may be appropriated as the Congress may hereafter authorize by law.

No funds were appropriated by the Congress for purposes of the Act in fiscal years 1968 and 1969. The Smithsonian budget estimates for 1970 when submitted to the Congress included an amount of \$80,000 for projects under the Act. It is

planned to request \$300,000 in the budget for 1971, the last year for which the Act contains an authorization for a sum to be appropriated.

The pending legislation (S. 704 and H.R. 13791) simply provides authority for appropriations beyond fiscal year 1971. This further authorization was the procedure contemplated at the time the National Museum Act was passed in 1966.

Prior to the submission of budget estimates for fiscal year 1972, it will be necessary to have either an additional authorized limit of appropriation or the elimination of the limit. As the budget estimates will be prepared in the spring of 1970, it will be desirable to have the authorization amended by that time. To allow a safe margin of time for Congressional consideration and action it is believed that the legislation should be requested in the current session of the Congress.

It is interesting to note that both President Johnson and President Nixon have spoken strongly of the important role of American museums.

President Johnson, in the letter which led to the study that produced *America's Museums: The Belmont Report*, wrote, "America's five thousand museums are among our most precious cultural and educational resources. Their collections, their trained staffs, and their facilities contribute to the enrichment of the Nation's life and educational advancement at every level."

President Nixon in a letter to the American Association of Museums last spring wrote ". . . I have always admired your fine programs and your contributions to the preservation of our rich national heritage. And in recent years I have particularly been struck by the remarkable growth both in the number of museums and the public attendance. I am most impressed by the vast range of scientific, educational, and cultural activities you conduct. Your holdings constitute an ageless national resource. But your projects have kept pace with the times, and they attest to your willingness and enthusiasm to join other American institutions in improving the quality of life for millions of our citizens."

The Smithsonian Institution throughout the 123 years of its existence has provided consultative advice, many kinds of cooperative services, and even museum specimens to the museums of the United States and abroad. Just last month, after hurricane Camille, the chief of the Smithsonian conservation laboratory and an assistant skilled in repair and preservation responded to an urgent call for help from a storm-struck museum in Biloxi, Mississippi. Arriving in Biloxi with a hurriedly assembled kit of supplies, they assisted in the repair and preservation of historical objects, manuscripts, and records, damaged by wind and water.

Similarly, after the disastrous floods at Florence, Italy, a few years ago the Smithsonian lent supplies and equipment to the science history museum there where a number of historical instruments representing our common heritage of great scientific discoveries of the past were badly damaged by mud and water.

These are dramatic examples of aid provided in emergencies, but they are overshadowed by the volume of daily requests we receive for assistance in all respects of museum performance and planning. Within a few weeks members of our staff have been asked to read and advise on proposals for a lumbering museum in Maine, a novel museum of perception in California, and a regional museum in Texas. Next week there will open near Toronto, Canada, the Ontario Science Center, a museum upon which members of our staff have advised at many stages, reviewing building plans, recommending on the selection of a director, and advising on museum education.

The justification for developing programs under the Act derives from such increasing requests for assistance addressed to the Smithsonian by community leaders, museum personnel, museum regional organizations, and national museum groups. Cities, communities, universities, colleges, schools, historical societies, and museums continually request advice on the institutional future of museums, on museum planning and funding, as well as on the development of new techniques and programs.

In spite of the lack of appropriated support under the Museum Act, the Smithsonian has made a substantial contribution of staff time and expertise under its traditional programs to carry out the purposes contemplated in the Museum Act. Examples include:

Discussion and advice on the reorganization of the administration and facilities of museums of the Michigan State University;

Discussion and advice on where to locate a natural history museum in Louisville, Kentucky;

Training of science museum technicians at museums in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles;

Curatorial advice on historical interpretation and exhibition planning at Oakland, California;

Publication of a manual on Museum Registration Methods with the American Association of Museums;

Support of AAM studies of museum performance, standards, and accreditation;

Support of AAM conferences on the needs of museums, in cooperation with other agency members of the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities;

Support of annual meetings of the Southeastern Museums Conference at Little Rock, Arkansas, and Norfolk, Va., to provide professional consultation on basic museum problems and to publish reports;

Conduct of a Smithsonian seminar for museum directors and social scientists on increasing the effectiveness of museum communication with the public, in cooperation with the Smithsonian Office of Academic Programs;

Demonstration of the planning and preparation of museum exhibits for a group of museums at Charleston, West Virginia;

Smithsonian staff participation in two annual workshops for small museums in Texas;

Conduct of museum surveys and preparation of reports on museum questionnaires in cooperation with the Directors of Systematic Collections, the Office of Education, and the AAM;

Development and maintenance of a documentation center of museums and their programs;

Support of a committee considering the creation of cooperative regional museum laboratories to provide services to museums at cost; and,

An impressive total of Smithsonian staff effort responding to hundreds of requests for advice on conservation, historic preservation, salvage archeology at historic sites, planning and preparation of exhibits, planning of museum buildings, museum services for colleges, and research and development of museum techniques.

In their report to the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, museum directors and public members of a committee convened by the AAM, stated, "That the Museum Act be funded with an appropriation of at least \$1 million for the first year" [i.e., fiscal year 1972, the first year requiring new authorization of the amount to be appropriated].

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there would be no objection from the standpoint of the Administration's program to the submission of this report to the Congress if the language of S. 704 was simplified in the form set forth in H.R. 13791. This would simply authorize such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the Act in lieu of specifying dollar amounts of authorizations by fiscal year.

Your favorable consideration of the enactment of H.R. 13791 or S. 704, as amended, is urgently requested.

Dr. RIPLEY. I am very pleased to be here to testify, and I am very grateful to the committees of the House and Senate for having consented to hold this joint hearing and allow us to appear before it this morning.

This is a particular pleasure to us, because if I could review briefly the history of this legislation, which is recent, dating from 1966, we are indeed conscious of our prerogatives and responsibilities as the Nation's museum, as Senator Pell has termed us, and it is in this connection that the bill was introduced originally and hearings held, as I recall, particularly before the House Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, which resulted in a rather general outpouring of national interest in the concept of a National Museum Act.

This act of 1966 which is now about, we hope, to be reauthorized—and it is for this purpose that we have introduced this legislation—attempted to make patent to the Nation and to the Congress the fact that over the years the Smithsonian Institution, because of its position in Washington and because of its historic role as the keeper of the

national collections and the administrator of these collections, has continually been asked and has willingly and happily attempted to respond to questions from all over the Nation, and in more recent years from abroad as well, about how to administer museums, about how to design museums, how to create appropriate spaces for the curious interplay between public exhibition and private storage, how to develop the interplay between exhibit functions and curatorial and research functions, and how, in the end, to produce this curious intermixture which has come to be known as a museum as distinct from a university or a library.

In recent years the volume and demand of these requests has increased so greatly that there has been no question in our minds that it would be highly appropriate to attempt to institute this original act on the one hand to demonstrate to the museum field that we have a genuine sense of responsibility, and that we have a desire to be of service to them in furthering their needs and, on the other hand, to attempt to demonstrate to the Government of the United States, and more particularly to the Congress, the fact that museums are not only here to stay, are not only a potent force in our culture today, but are largely unrecognized for these purposes and are poorly funded and poorly supported by the community at large.

Museums today are in the position libraries were in 30 to 35 years ago—undernourished, undersupported, relatively unrespected by their professional colleagues, and thought of as kind of “poor relations” performing service functions.

So, it is in general with this background that we present this act to you again, gentlemen, with the hope that you will endorse the purposes of this act and that you will recommend that some specific funding be attached to it, and that this funding be substantially increased from the funding initially proposed when the act was adopted in 1966.

Mr. THOMPSON. You say “specific funding.” The Senate version of this legislation has specifically a \$1 million limit. The Bureau of the Budget prefers the House version, H.R. 13791, which would simply authorize such sums as necessary.

Would you rather have a specific sum than, in a sense, an open-ended version?

Dr. RIPLEY. We are prepared to bow to the Bureau of the Budget, naturally, in this connection, but I think in terms of the museum fraternity across the country, we would be derelict in not saying that our specific funding was suggested in the Belmont report, which was originally initiated, as you know, by the President’s request to the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities to ask for an expression of opinion and a study of the position of museums in this country.

The Belmont report, the outcome of those deliberations, produced a suggested figure of \$1 million as a base funding for the National Museum Act.

In that connection, we have a list of the projects to be developed under the act which I would be happy to submit for the record.

Mr. THOMPSON. Without objection, we will include that at this point in the record.

(The list follows:)

Projects To Be Developed Under the National Museum Act

Fiscal Year 1970: Increase to be requested of the Congress-----	\$80,000
To provide services required to meet the needs of museums: including the training of museum personnel, improving the information services and the review of museum plans and programs, to design pilot traveling units of collections and to publish manuals on planning programs and facilities-----	28,300
To perform research in museum techniques and practices, devise experiments and tests of museum communication and education, train museum technicians, publish plans and reports of new methods and practices-----	51,700
Fiscal Year 1971: Increase to be requested of the Congress (adds to base of \$80,000 above)-----	220,000
To train 14 museum career personnel in art, history, and science curatorial positions-----	130,000
To train 10 museum technicians in conservation, exhibition, museum education, management of collections and support of research-----	90,000
Fiscal Year 1972: Increase to be requested of Congress (adds to base of \$300,000 above)-----	700,000
Conduct of continuing studies of museum performance for increasing the effectiveness of museum programs in individual communities for enriching education and cultural development of their localities, for providing standards of performance and accreditation. One major study and two surveys-----	215,000
Conduct of a national study of methods and technology for a nation-wide catalog of the collections of American museums of history, material culture, science and industry, to aid in historical researches and to assist in coordinating cooperative programs for the circulation of collections in the service of many communities now lacking museum resources-----	225,000
Workshop demonstrations at 12 regional seminars of museum directors and staff in museum practices, such as exhibition, conservation, education, and administration-----	100,000
Support of regional museum conferences, to provide professional consultants on museum problems at annual meetings and to publish reports of the proceedings-----	50,000
Conduct a feasibility study of a system of regional cooperative museum laboratories to supply museum conservation, exhibits, and museum education materials at cost to the museums across the United States-----	30,000
Publication of museum manuals, facilities, plans and exhibition designs-----	80,000
Total increase (1972)-----	700,000
Total program (1972)-----	1,000,000

Mr. THOMPSON. It totals exactly a million dollars. I am not by any means married to the language of the House bill. I simply introduced it so we would have two versions before us.

Has the Bureau of the Budget indicated any willingness to approve up to a million dollars?

Dr. RIPLEY. Do we know that?

Mr. BRADLEY. We do not know that, Mr. Chairman.

Dr. RIPLEY. We have no firm information at the present time.

Mr. THOMPSON. It seems to me as a practical matter, if you want a million dollars, it might be well to request more than that and to authorize more than that. You realize the difficulty that we encounter in the House in particular, in getting modest sums for meritorious causes. You can get authorization for which might be up to \$4 million to extend the west front of the Capitol, and \$2 million to study it,

much easier than you can get \$1 million for a specific project such as set forth here.

Dr. RIPLEY. So far, our legislative history shows that the requests made by us under the authorizing act of 1966 have not met with any appropriation from the Appropriations Subcommittee in the House. (History of budget requests follows:)

HISTORY OF BUDGET REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THE SMITHSONIAN TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES AND THE PROGRAMS REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT

Fiscal year	Request submitted to Bureau of Budget	Request submitted to the Congress	Appropriated
1968.....	\$200,000	\$80,000	0
1969.....	250,000	70,000	0
1970.....	30,000	80,000	(¹)
1971.....	² 300,000		
1972.....	² 1,000,000		

¹ House allowed \$48,000; Senate allowed \$40,000.

² Total.

Mr. THOMPSON. You go before the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee.

Dr. RIPLEY. Interior and related agencies.

Mr. THOMPSON. Personally, having looked this over before and having perused the Belmont report, it seems to me an extraordinarily modest request. It might be better despite the view of the Bureau of the Budget to put a limit of \$1 million and to use that as a figure to compare the cost of a space capsule or an Agena IV or the landing gear on some plane that won't fly, or some other such thing as that. Or, indeed, you could compare it with the \$2 million cost which will be involved in drawing plans to extend the west front of the Capitol.

I am sure those who supported that certainly would look with favor upon this modest amount.

Dr. RIPLEY. I was able to point out, Mr. Chairman, that our total budget for the past year in salaries and expenses exactly matched the sum required to repair that submarine that sank at the dock on the west coast.

Mr. THOMPSON. The one that "watered"?

Dr. RIPLEY. The one that watered itself down.

Mr. THOMPSON. I thought that was a unique way to put it.

Are there any questions with respect to this bill?

Senator PELL. I have one or two.

Under the original National Museum Act, reports were required to be submitted to Congress. Have any reports been submitted?

Dr. RIPLEY. Consonant with our procedure in this regard, reports on the act are incorporated in our annual reports, just as reports on the Kennedy Center and on the National Gallery by statute are incorporated within our annual report.

Senator PELL. Are they incorporated in separate statements?

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes, we have a section on the National Museum in our annual report.

Senator PELL. Would you give us an idea what activities you have so far conducted under the authorization of this act, what projects have been undertaken?

Dr. RIPLEY. I would like to answer your request in two ways, Senator Pell.

First, let me say that we have been expending approximately \$50,000 a year out of various allocated funds for training purposes for museum personnel without specific authorized line item approval of the act, but we have been allocating these ongoing functions as act functions, and we have been spending approximately 4 man-years per year of effort by existing staffs in conservation laboratory work, exhibit resources work, in the office of Mr. Taylor, the Director.

Mr. Taylor is here, and he is Director of the National Museum Act activities. If you would allow us, I would like to ask him to speak to these activities more specifically.

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you very much.

Over the past few years, we have done a surprisingly large amount of consultation and advisory work on requests from museums, both museum staffs and trustees.

Senator PELL. A surprisingly large amount. Would you define that? How many requests have you received, and what have you done?

Mr. TAYLOR. We receive about 1,000 requests a year in my office, and spread over the Smithsonian Institution I would say there is another 1,000 requests that go to curators, to conservators, directly to the exhibit office staff, to the press, and to many other elements of the Smithsonian.

We respond to these by giving, for example, demonstrations on techniques in conservation right in the museum. We do this for people who come for as much as a year at a time. They move from place to place.

Occasionally we receive requests from museums—by this I mean maybe at the rate of 5 or 6 or 7 a year—to send people to museums to consult with the planners there. We did this for a museum of the Texas Institute of Technology at Lubbock, and we did it for the Oakland Museum.

Senator PELL. You did it for me once, several years ago, for which I was most appreciative.

Mr. TAYLOR. We have also done it in your State at Pawtucket.

This is a cooperative venture in that the using institution pays the transportation and expenses of the people. We continue to pay their salaries for the time required.

Senator PELL. Which of the two bills do you prefer, S. 704 or the House bill, H.R. 13791?

Dr. RIPLEY. I think for the moment we prefer the concept of the \$1 million appropriated in the act mentioned, but I am perfectly prepared to be argued out of that, Mr. Chairman. This seems to be somewhat a parliamentary matter as between discussion of the original President's message or budget, and the Appropriations subcommittees, and so on. I am not too optimistic one way or the other, frankly, that we are going to receive the kind of support which we should receive, and therefore I am uncertain.

I bow to guidance on that matter, very happily.

Senator PELL. Incidentally, I should have put in the record earlier a telegram from the American Association of Museums, Dr. William C. Steere, president. I think I had better read it into the record.

TELEGRAM FROM DR. WILLIAM C. STEERE, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS, RE S. 704

I am deeply grateful of your letter of September 17, 1969, requesting the views of the American Association of Museums on proposed legislation relating to the activities of the Smithsonian Institution. I regret the impossibility of presenting the AAM position personally at the joint hearing on September 23, but wish to state that the American Association of Museums support the recommendation published in the Belmont report that the National Museum Act be funded with an appropriation of at least \$1 million for the first year (fiscal 1970). With even greater enthusiasm AAM supports the Belmont report recommendation that grants to museums for Federal departments and agencies be sharply increased.

I would add my hope that you, Mr. Secretary, and the American Association of Museums would try to harmonize your views as much as possible because, as you are aware, there are areas of friction here, and I would think we could move ahead more easily on a lot of our problems if they could be resolved on a personal basis.

Dr. RIPLEY. May I say we do not believe that the friction will become fossilized and, therefore, a continuing problem.

Senator PELL. I realize that.

I think also, with your great skills and the resources of the Smithsonian, it should be done. My own view is that the Smithsonian should be the Nation's museum, but should not be the conduit for the funds that go to museums. I haven't quite figured out what my own view would be as to what that conduit should be. Maybe the National Endowment in Humanities, I am not sure.

Just as the Library of Congress suffered a certain amount of criticism from libraries once upon a time and is now held up on a great pedestal, I do not see why you cannot do the same thing as the Nation's museum.

Dr. RIPLEY. We have enjoyed discussing this matter to the full within the Federal Council of the Arts and Humanities, of which, as you know, I was the first chairman, and it was directly as a result of these conversations that the Belmont report was produced.

I think there is an attempt in the report to draw quite clearly the line between the kinds of special expertise which the Smithsonian has produced alone and uniquely, and the kind of basic facilities or grants funding performed, on the one hand, by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare or the National Science Foundation or, on the other hand, by the National Science Foundation and the Endowment. Questions of grants supporting individual scholars' research, for example, are quite clearly handled within the National Science Foundation and the Endowment in the Arts and Humanities. Questions of technical expertise in running museums and exhibits, and so on, quite logically fall within the Smithsonian purview.

This is recognized throughout the Federal council at the present time.

Senator PELL. I would like to note that my colleagues on the Senate side, Senators Cooper and Byrd, are most interested in this subject. Senator Cooper has a representative here. I know before moving on the legislative decisions, we will consult with them.

Mr. THOMPSON. There are many very difficult questions arising out of the complexity of the Smithsonian Institution. We were looking into one grant coming through the Department of Defense to you for

the study of bird migration out in the Pacific which came suspiciously close to being a grant to study germ warfare.

I find myself—and Mr. Brademas is going to enjoy this in the future since he now has the jurisdiction—fascinated by some of the grants of the National Foundation in the Arts and Humanities. Some of our colleagues do not quite understand the importance of a great number of them. The study of comic books, for instance, or cartoons, are very controversial grants.

May I simply restate, before asking others if they have questions, that I have no pride of authorship at all in the House version of this bill. My experience has shown me that the Bureau of the Budget has what I consider to be an excessive influence on the legislative process.

My inclination would be to prefer the Senate bill simply because the Bureau of the Budget approves of my bill, but I want to get something done and to get some money for you. We will have to find the best way.

Senator PELL. I wonder if this does not bring up the problem of the general funding of the Smithsonian, where you have the original private fund left by Mr. Smithson moved around very often within the Smithsonian, and this is really the only Government agency that does not have an authorization that requires renewal. It is an open-end authorization which the Bureau of the Budget is always for because they like to keep the strings downtown. We in the Congress, on the other hand, sometimes prefer limited authorizations.

Dr. RIPLEY. May I interject, Mr. Chairman, that we would be happy if we had been able to maintain the original endowment left by Mr. Smithson. Under the assiduous care of the Congress, that was lost.

Senator PELL. You mean all the funds you are getting now are new funds?

Dr. RIPLEY. The original endowment left by Mr. Smithson was dissipated in investments on the order of the House in bonds of Missouri, Arkansas, and Frontier States at the time. So, the amount that actually remained out of the original investment, thanks to the assiduous care of the Congress, is very small.

Senator PELL. Where do your present funds come from?

Dr. RIPLEY. That was an acknowledgment by the Government of the United States that the U.S. Government owed a permanent debt to the Smithsonian Institution for in effect having lost the money and, therefore, we have a permanent debt from the Treasury, recognized, of \$1 million at 6 percent interest.

So, our total income at the present time out of the remainder of the Smithsonian fund is \$60,000 a year.

Mr. THOMPSON. Can your Regents invest that money?

Dr. RIPLEY. Unfortunately not, under the law.

Mr. THOMPSON. In short-term Treasury bonds, for example?

Dr. RIPLEY. We would be very happy if there were some possibility of flexibility of this sort.

Senator PELL. What is your total private capital now?

Dr. RIPLEY. The private funds, which are annually reported upon in great detail in our annual report, consist entirely of funds which have been left to us in the form of bequests or gifts or grants, wills, and so on, and have gradually developed, through pretty careful stewardship, to a present market value of slightly in excess of \$30

million, which yields at present rates an income of close to \$2 million a year. That is the figure to which you were referring, I think, Senator.

These funds are largely earmarked, unfortunately, so we are unable to undertake any sinister shifting around of the funds to outwit the Bureau of the Budget, if we might like. Being allocated funds, they are specifically under the law—we have accepted the legal interpretation of the will, and so on—for such purposes as the Freer Gallery, for example, or for acquisition of minerals or for collections in other fields.

I wish we had a large block of unallocated and free endowment income. Unfortunately, we have virtually none.

Senator PELL. I should know this, but what portion of the \$30 million is unallocated and free?

Dr. RIPLEY. I would be very happy to submit that figure for your record.

(The information referred to, subsequently submitted, follows:)

Smithsonian income from unrestricted funds

Income from unrestricted endowment funds:

Investments, consolidated fund.....	\$177, 494
Treasury at 6 percent per annum.....	53, 340
Total investment income.....	\$230, 834

Income from unrestricted current funds:

Short-term investment program:

General fund.....	48, 939
Special endowment fund.....	62, 263
Working capital account.....	33, 805

Total 145, 007

Realized gains from short-term investments..... 62, 363

Total income from current funds..... 207, 370

Total income from unrestricted funds..... 438, 204

Senator PELL. Who supervises the investment?

Dr. RIPLEY. This traditionally has been done since 1927, at the request of the Regents, who operate through a prudential committee, by investment advisers.

Senator PELL. Thank you.

Mr. HARVEY. As I understand it, no appropriations have been made pursuant to the National Museum Act of 1966; is that correct?

Dr. RIPLEY. That is correct.

Mr. HARVEY. In other words, the authorization was made, but no appropriations have followed.

Dr. RIPLEY. That is correct.

Mr. HARVEY. In view of that, Mr. Chairman, I certainly concur with your recommendation, referring to Congressman Thompson, that we report out this open-end authorization. I just do not think the House would buy it, speaking frankly here, the million dollar authorization for 1 year, Senator Pell. That is my own offhand judgment. I yield to my colleagues, but I think we would have a much better chance.

Senator PELL. You do not have the same aversion we have to open-ended authorizations?

Mr. HARVEY. I have less aversion than to a million dollars in 1 year. Senator PELL. The next one could be \$10 million.

Mr. HARVEY. I appreciate that, and I am sure my colleagues do. The gist of what I am saying is that these requests really have to be justified before the Appropriations Committee before any sums will be appropriated at all.

Obviously, that has not been done so far to the Appropriations Committee's satisfaction and to the satisfaction of the Bureau of the Budget.

Really, for us to go before the Congress at this time with a large or a seemingly large authorization after the Appropriations Committee has declined one for several years in a row, seems to me to be a little ridiculous. I would highly favor the open-end authorization for that reason, thereby almost leaving it up to the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. BRADEMAS. I have no further questions. If there is no objection I would like to insert at this point in the record a reprint of a speech I gave recently on museums to the annual meeting of the American Association of Museums in San Francisco. I hope we can get you some money for this act.

Mr. THOMPSON. Without objection, the speech will be included in the record.

(The material referred to follows:)

[From the Congressional Record, Wednesday, June 11, 1969]

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE: THE FEDERAL ROLE

Address by Congressman John Brademas, Chairman, Select Education Subcommittee, House Committee on Education and Labor

I am indeed honored to have been invited to address the 64th annual meeting of the American Association of Museums.

As I rise to speak, I recall what George Bernard Shaw once said to his British publisher to indicate his displeasure with its printing of one of his plays.

Shaw sent a copy of the American edition, which he liked, to the British firm with a note that read: "As the rooster said to the hen as he placed an ostrich egg before her, 'I am not disparaging, I am not criticizing. I merely want to bring to your attention what has been done by others.'"

You who staff and serve and support the museums of America are the custodians of "what has been done by others"—the custodians of those achievements of art and history and science that enable us better to understand what we have been and, hopefully, better to know what we may become.

Although I have never worked for a museum or sat on a museum board, I feel in some ways at home among you—for several reasons. My father is a Greek immigrant, and very early in my childhood, I learned that I was descended from Pericles, Phidias and Praxiteles, and in later years, like most of you, I experienced the joys of Athens and Lindos and Knossos.

Indeed, the first career to which I was tempted, as a sixth grader fascinated by a book on the Mayas, was that of an archaeologist.

The Prado and the Ashmolean, the Heritage and the Hagia Sofia and the Museo de Antropologia in Mexico City as well as the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian in Washington and the Northern Indiana Historical Society Museum in South Bend, Indiana are all museums which at one point or another have afforded me learning and pleasure.

And that I now serve in Congress on the committee which deals with education generally, chair the Subcommittee which handles Arts and Humanities Foundation programs and sit on the House Administration Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials, which has jurisdiction over the Smithsonian and other museum legislation, and which, by the way, is chaired by my close friend and colleague and one of the original sponsors of the Arts and Humanities legislation, Congressman Frank Thompson, Jr., of New Jersey, means further opportunities to come into touch with museums and what they mean in American life.

So I am especially glad to be here tonight in this lovely city with so many distinguished keepers and builders of the nation's treasures.

MUSEUMS AND THEIR NEEDS

I want to talk with you tonight about museums and their needs—and to do so from the perspective of a Federal legislator.

Much of what I have to say is derived from that superb analysis of American's museums—the Belmont Report—which, as you know, was prepared by a special committee of the American Association of Museums for the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities, in response to a 1967 request by President Johnson.

The opening words of the Belmont Report constitute, I think, an appropriate theme for my remarks:

"This is a report on a priceless national treasure—the works of art, the historic objects and scientific collections in the custody of American museums.

"In scope and magnitude this treasure is unmatched by that of any great nation, and it has enriched the minds and lives of countless Americans. Once lost, it can never be replaced.

"Today, the institutions which have this treasure in their custody are in serious trouble. The totally unpredicted popular success of American museums has strained their financial resources to the breaking-point, has compelled them to deny service to much of the public and will require many of them, unless help comes, to close their doors.

"Museums have arrived at the point where they can no longer preserve and exhibit the national treasure without substantial national aid."

In effect, the museums of today are victims of their own extraordinary success. Thirty years ago, attendance at America's 6000 museums totalled some 50 million visits a year. That figure has now soared to over 300 million, and is rapidly climbing higher.

The pressures both of an increasing population and the rising interest of Americans of all ages and groups in seeing the works of art, historic objects and scientific collections in American museums mean for them a serious financial crisis.

MUSEUMS AS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

What I think particularly striking is the remarkable increase in demand for the services of museums as educational institutions. Hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren periodically come to our large museums. Millions of youngsters and adults attend classes at some of the major museums. To cite one nearby example, the new Oakland Museum, which we shall see tomorrow, includes a lecture hall and classrooms and will afford a variety of educational programs, including a traveling exhibit of California.

In Washington's Anacostia section, a low income, chiefly black area, the Smithsonian, responding to the emerging national consciousness of the shame of poverty in a wealthy land, has recently established a small branch museum.

Museums play an essential role, too, in serving the needs of schools engaged in research at the college and university level.

And I am sure that all of you can multiply examples from your own experience of the pressures upon museums from within the communities of which they are a part to open their doors for a variety of other purposes such as musical and theatrical performances.

These, then, are but some of the causes of the heightened demands being made upon America's museums.

FINANCIAL PRESSURES

How prepared are our museums to meet these burgeoning pressures? The Belmont Report cites case after case to illustrate the general conclusion that the operating expenses of American museums have risen sharply in the past ten years, and that annual deficits are commonplace.

Increased attendance and increased requests for services—for the kinds of reasons I have suggested—in turn mean increased costs for trained staff, guards, guides, acquisitions, exhibits, buildings, insurance.

You, better than I, are familiar with the extraordinary diversity of museums in the United States—their many sizes, shapes and purposes, as well as with the multiplicity of their bases of financial support.

Big museums, little museums, art museums and history museums, children's museums and university museums, museums supported by public funds, some by private money, many by both, some charging admission fees, others not, but nearly *all* of them, in varying degrees, faced with serious financial problems.

THE FEDERAL ROLE

No one suggests, I think it must be clear, that the Federal government should now assume the burden of supporting American museums. All of you are committed to seeking to encourage the flow of funds into your museums from private sources as well as from local and state governments.

But surely it must be obvious that the mounting demands on the museums of America have so strained their financial resources that it is now time for the Federal government to consider making a significant increase in its present contribution to the support of our museums.

The amount of Federal support to American museums today is tiny; less than one percent of their operating expenses comes from the Federal government.

Indeed, for too long, now, the Federal government has been following an ABM policy with respect to museums—"Anything But Money!"

Moreover, most of the Federal support for museums has gone for scientific ones only—and even then for research rather than for operating expenses or building—while there has been little Federal help at all for art and history museums.

The National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities have been aware of the needs of museums, but the limited funds available to the Endowments are reflected in their modest allocations to museums last year of \$500,000 in all.

Let me here interject that I think all of us and, indeed, all Americans owe a great debt of gratitude to a man whose tenacity and dedication to support of the arts and humanities, especially as a principal champion and leader of the Arts and Humanities Endowments since their inception, has been in large measure responsible for what advances have been made on this front in recent years—Roger L. Stevens.

Museums have benefitted very little from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. And museum libraries are excluded from the benefits of the Library Services and Construction Act.

And although Congress passed the National Museum Act in 1966 to support a variety of museum activities, Congress has yet to appropriate any funds under the law.

Four years from now, we shall mark the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the first American museum, in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1773. I hope we shall not have to wait for money under the National Museum Act until 1973!

GUNS AND CULTURE

It may seem passing strange to you that at a time when President Nixon has proposed slashing President Johnson's fiscal year 1970 budget for education by nearly \$400 million, . . . at a time when the new Administration is pressing for a defense budget of nearly \$80 billion . . . and urging on Congress an ABM whose cost seems mysteriously to rise daily—it may seem strange to you that in such an hour, I should be suggesting increasing Federal funds for museums.

But let me make very clear my profound disagreement with those who argue that we cannot afford to support education or the arts or humanities or museums until the Vietnam war is over.

On the contrary, I strongly agree with the view expressed by W. McNeil Lowry of the Ford Foundation in his recent report on the economic crisis in the arts. Mr. Lowry, commenting on the meager funding of the Arts and Humanities programs, noted that:

"Pressures of war and other crises have been freely cited in explanation of this action, but there is no reason to believe that any significant Federal program in the arts can be effectively argued either in Congress or in the public if its justification must be that all other great national questions are in equilibrium. Other governments—democratic, socialist or oligarchic—have proceeded without such a justification . . .

"The arts [should] not always depend upon a contest over priorities . . . There will not exist an effective public policy for the arts until they are treated as important in their own right."

This is the point—that the arts, like education—and like museums—must come to be viewed as "important in their own right".

And with this understanding, there will then become possible "an effective public policy" for museums.

FUTURE SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

In order to contribute to such an understanding and, hopefully, to the development of an effective public policy for museums, I plan to have the subcommittee of which I have the honor to be chairman, as part of its responsibility to oversee the operation of Arts and Humanities Foundation programs, conduct hearings during this Congress on the major problems facing American museums with a view toward appropriate legislative action.

I propose to invite the authors of the Belmont Report and other representatives of the American Association of Museums to testify before the subcommittee on their views on the museum situation in America today.

Such hearings should afford an opportunity for Congress, and the American people generally, to obtain a clearer picture of the kinds of problems I have been discussing with you this evening.

SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

Let me conclude my remarks by offering a number of specific proposals which seem to me must be central to any progress both in the country and in Congress in shaping a sound and intelligent public policy for the support of America's museums.

First, I believe that leaders of the museum community should begin to develop concrete legislative proposals for supporting museums to present to Congress.

This means you. We want to know what you who live with the problems of museums daily think we should do—and what we should not do.

Second, I believe Congress should provide some appropriations to make good on its commitment under the National Museum Act. The Belmont Report suggests \$1 million for the first year.

Third, Federal policy-makers should recognize that museums play an important educational role in our society, working with schools, colleges and universities. Qualified museums should, therefore, like these institutions, be recognized as eligible for direct Federal support. To achieve this goal may involve amending existing Federal legislation, such as the several Higher Education Acts, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the National Defense Education Act, and others.

This effort should include consideration of support for construction and operating costs of museums perhaps along the lines of the Library Services and Construction Act.

Fourth, there should be increased financial support for museums from those Federal departments and agencies that are already concerned with museums, specifically the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities, the U.S. Office of Education, and the National Science Foundation.

In this connection, greater attention should be given both to compensating museums more fully for their contributions to certain Federally funded programs such as Head Start and Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and others, and to more effective joint planning between schools and other educational institutions and museums as, for example, with programs provided under Title III of ESEA, which authorizes supplementary educational centers and services.

Fifth, the museum community should develop standards of accreditation against which the excellence of individual museums can be measured. Federal support should not be provided to museums which have not reached a level of quality accepted in the museum field. I therefore congratulate you of the American Association of Museums on the adoption this week of a resolution approving the principle of accreditation.

Sixth, more support should be provided for training first-class museum staff through museum internships, fellowships and training courses.

There are, I believe, several other areas of museum activity which deserve careful consideration as appropriate for Federal support, such as research, traveling exhibits, television and other mass media, conservation and restoration—and we should also look at the possibility of developing a computer network for storing and retrieving information about the resources of our museums.

I believe Congress should consider as well changes in the treatment of museums for tax purposes which would enable them to enjoy certain benefits now available to a wide variety of charitable, religious, and educational institutions.

And finally, I think we should take a careful look at the Belmont Report proposal to authorize Federal grants to museums on a matching basis to help them meet the expenses of providing regional and nationwide services.

THE NEED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

I do not suggest that this list is exhaustive or that every item in it is of equal importance. What I do suggest, however, is that these questions and others like them are the kinds of proposals for Federal support of our museums that ought to be carefully considered by Congress and the Administration. They are the kinds of questions that I plan to have discussed by the subcommittee which I chair during the 91st Congress.

I should like, however, in closing, to remind you that our capacity in Congress to make progress on such measures depends, in the final analysis, on the kind and degree of public support that people like you in this room can yourselves provide and, just as important, that you can generate and encourage across the country. This means that you must speak up, forcefully and clearly, in your own communities. In particular, it means that you must communicate your convictions about the need for adequate Federal support for education, for the arts and humanities, for museums, to your Senators and Representatives in Congress. As one of them, I can assure you that they will give respectful attention to the voices represented in this room and to other voices like yours across the country.

Ours then is a common task. For you and I know that we live in a time of immense and growing pressures—of rapid urbanization, of war, of racial and social and economic conflict.

In such a time, we need all the more, if we are to make this land what it ought to be, generously to support those institutions that elevate the character and quality of our national life.

And among those institutions surely are the museums of America and the treasures of mind and spirit and history of which they are the keepers.

Mr. HARVEY. I certainly concur in that. I hope so, too.

Mr. THOMPSON. I do, too, and we will certainly consider this very carefully in the executive session of the subcommittee.

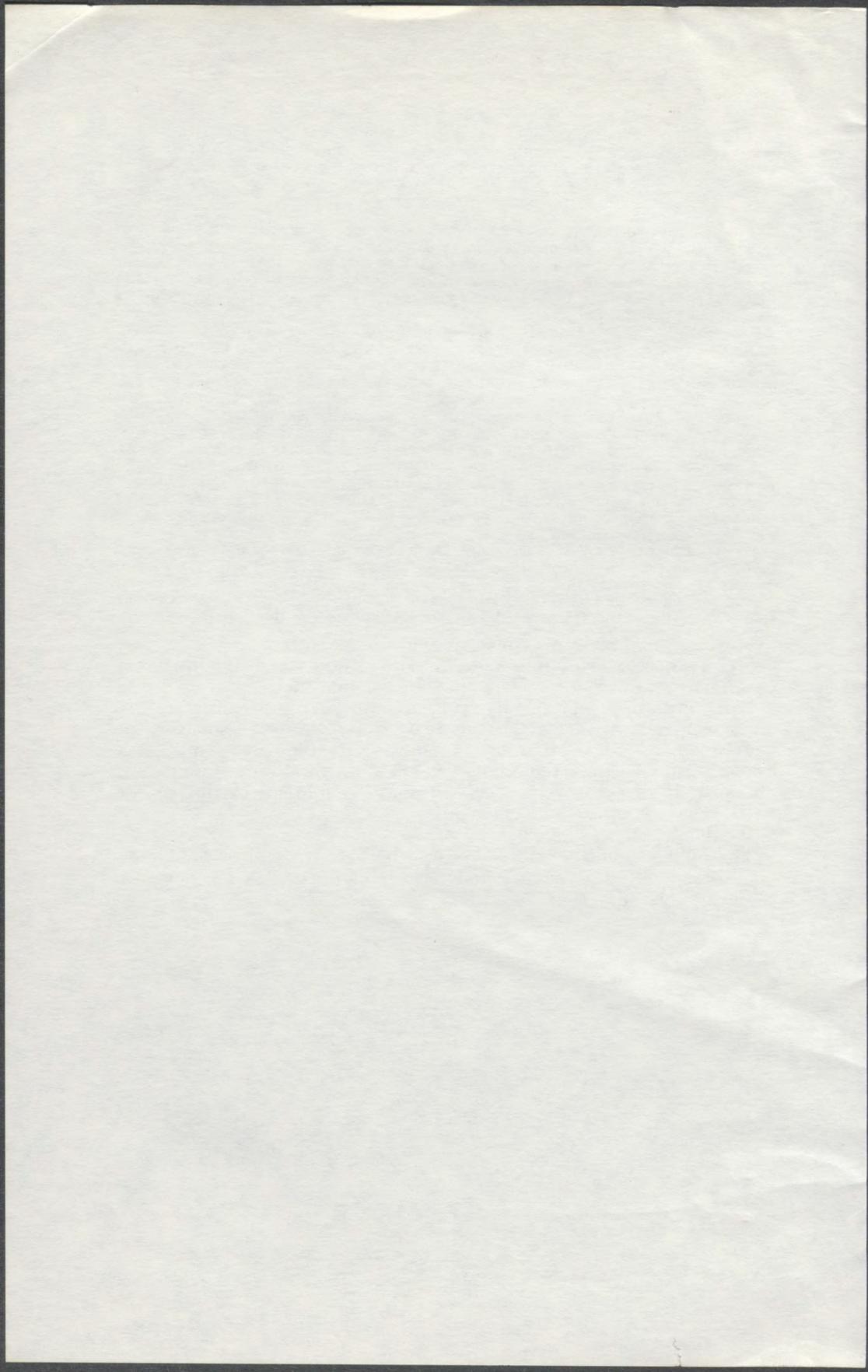
Being brandnew on the House side as chairman of the Subcommittee on Library and Memorials, the more I go into this whole matter, the more I am convinced that, at an appropriate time we should have hearings and go over the whole act affecting the Smithsonian. It is obviously in dire need of modernization, it seem to me. Until then, we will do the best we can with these bills.

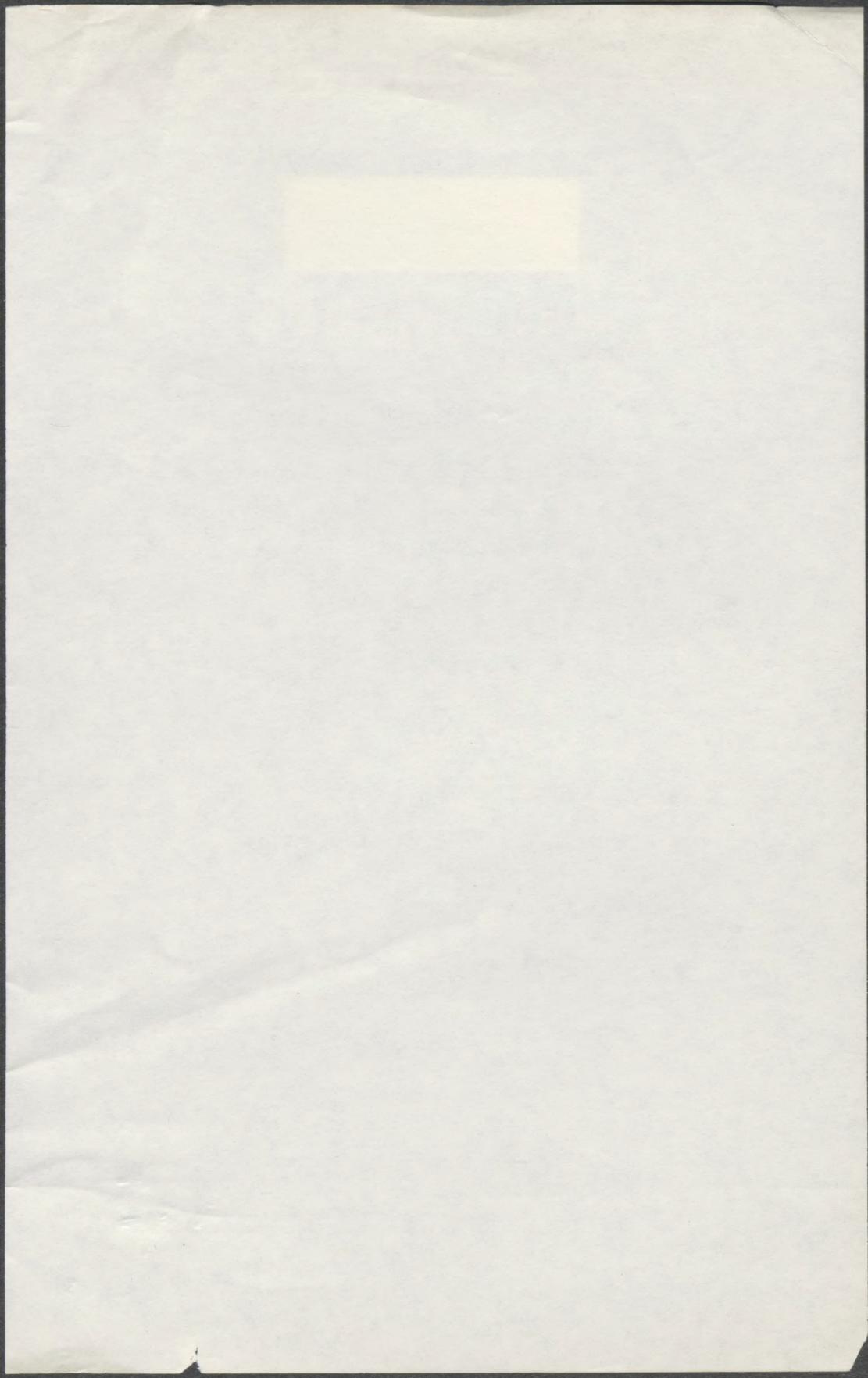
We thank you very much.

The joint committee will adjourn, subject to the call of the Chair.

(Whereupon, at 12 o'clock noon, the joint hearing was adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair.)









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