

cooperation can be worked out so that one school kit can be produced and distributed to do the job for both purposes. The distribution of two kits -- especially if they are not clearly related to one another -- could weaken the effect of both. Incidentally, if there is no insurmountable obstacle to assembling these kits in Ottawa, or at some central point in the U.S.A., and shipping the assembled kits to the consulates, this would likely save these posts time, trouble, and collating space.

The contents of Information Division school kits should be reviewed. More thought should be given to the exact grade level(s) for which the contents are intended. The material should be examined by teachers familiar with the reading levels involved, to be sure that the vocabulary is of appropriate difficulty, and also to be sure that the presentation of the material is such that it will really interest the age-group. One cautionary note here: I was told by a supervisor in a U.S. city school system that the average reading level of what he called "ghetto" groups is two years below the norms for other urban pupils. This should be taken into account in any review and revision of the material.

Still on the subject of contents, it is recommended that Canadian Neighbour be withdrawn from circulation and that it be replaced by a new publication. I obtained detailed evaluations of this publication from leading American authorities. These form the grounds for this recommendation and have already been conveyed to Mr. Roger of the Information Division in a letter written from Washington.

Surely, all of the material required for kits and other use need not and should not be written or published within the Information Division or, for that matter, within the government. There is likely to be at least one commercial publisher that specializes in every field of interest to the Division and there is no reason why these firms and their specialized writing teams could not be invited to tender for commissions to produce the publications required. Copies could be purchased for Information Division use,