

1 MR. GENTRY: Is the curriculum of the schools
2 standardized to the extent that this is actually to be
3 taught or is this left up to the school and the teacher?

4 DR. ZIMMERMAN: No, we require teaching the
5 Constitution. We require it three times through the
6 grades, twice in elementary school and once as a required
7 course in the senior high school. At the elementary
8 level, you get an overriding general concept and, as you
9 go on up, you get a more thorough and specific treatment.
10 So, when you get to the senior high school, I remember,
11 if you will pardon the personal reference, when I taught
12 U. S. history, I had the youngsters go back and study
13 Madison's papers and we had a constitutional convention
14 and we all actually went through the actual procedure.
15 This is a real kind of experience for youngsters to have.
16 So, they see the great documents come into being, and
17 the youngsters got a real thrill out of coming to the
18 Pratt Library and finding the first papers.

19 Most textbook writers don't get into this
20 real fine experience. They write about it. We wanted
21 to teach it, show how it came into being, get the feel