

book in a subject. This year we adopt a basal textbook in civil government. Does the law mean that we must have just one book for the state and the national civil government or may we have one book for the state civil government and one for the national civil government?"

In the opinion referred to by you, we said: "In our opinion the statute (Section 1190, R. C. M. 1935) means that one particular publisher's textbook shall be provided for each branch of learning, as a basal textbook in that branch, and such supplemental textbooks on the same branch of study may be chosen as the commission may determine upon. If it were the intention of the legislature to authorize the selection of co-basal textbooks on a single branch of study, it would have been a simple matter to say so rather than the use of 'supplementary textbooks'."

The language of Section 1190, R. C. M. 1935, reads: "* * * The Commission shall make contracts for textbooks in the following branches, to-wit: Reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography (elementary and advanced), language and grammar, physiology and hygiene, civil government (State and National), history of the United States (elementary and advanced) and elementary agriculture."

We think it is clear that the legislature considered the study of State and National civil government as two distinct "branches of learning," and that the Commission is authorized to adopt a basal text book for each branch.

Opinion No. 371.

**Textbooks—Basal Texts—State
Textbook Commission.**

HELD: State textbook law authorizes adoption of two separate basal textbooks for study of state and of national civil government.

November 23, 1936.

Miss Elizabeth Ireland
State Superintendent of Public
Instruction
The Capitol

In your letter of November 19th,
you ask:

"An opinion was rendered by the
office of the Attorney General on
December 7, 1934, stating that the
word 'basal textbook' means just one