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paying for information as it is needed and used. It will also mean that we won't be buying as much cellulose to mark, park, circulate, repair, and reformat.

It is tempting to contemplate the thought that the current fiscal crisis produced by collecting of name-brand print serials will go away, if we began buying just the information we need. However, I am not sanguine about this possibility. Publishers will seek to maintain their revenue streams, and we are likely to pay just as much as in the past. Hopefully, however, we will get more of the right information than at the present.

Our business is giving people the information they need to meet their intellectual content needs. We have up until now been in the book and serial collecting business, and we will continue to buy mountains of seldom-used printed information. We just can't afford to let our past fixation with this familiar and comfortable format cloud our vision of what our mission needs to be, both now and in the future.