

## SHELF LISTS OF U.S. PUBLIC DOCUMENTS LIBRARY OFFERED IN DUAL-MEDIA FORMAT

By special arrangement with United States Public Printer, A. N. Spencer, the U.S. Historical Documents Institute in Washington, D. C., is offering a "Dual Media" edition of active and inactive shelf lists of the Superintendent of Documents Public Documents Library.

Entitled *Checklist of United States Public Documents, 1789-1970*, or "*Checklist '70*," the microfilm segment of the collection includes approximately 1.2 million cards arranged in SuDocs classification order, and containing references to almost 2 million government documents. Four computer generated indexes are offered in full size book format as guides to the huge microfilm collection, and an automatic updating service will be available on a subscription basis which will accumulate entries for all items received by the Library after October 1970.

The Public Documents Library, as the only library directed by law to retain copies of everything published by the U. S. Government, is considered to have the most complete single collection of U. S. Government publications in existence.

As stated by Carper W. Buckley, U. S. Superintendent of Documents from 1953 until his retirement in 1970, "*Checklist '70* provides librarians with the most comprehensive single source of published information about United States Government documents. It lists all titles which appear in the shelf lists of the Public Documents Library of the U. S. Government Printing Office, covering the period 1861 through October 1970. Also included are the publications listed in the *Checklist of U. S. Public Documents, 1789-1909*, the *Monthly Catalog* and Mary Elizabeth Poole's *Documents Office Classification to 1966*."

In addition to updating and integrating these and other basic reference tools for government publications, *Checklist '70* also contains entries for documents which originally were withheld from bibliographies because of security classifications but which have since been declassified and added to the Documents Library collection.

Of the standard reference tools updated by *Checklist '70*, one of the most important is the so-called "1909 Checklist" which covered the period from 1789-1909. As explained by William Buchanan, President and co-founder of the Institute, "Boyd and Rips, in their standard reference book *U. S. Government Publications*, pointed out the need for a fourth edition updating the 1909 Checklist and stated that it would be 'the aid to government publications most needed by librarians.' We believe that *Checklist '70* not only meets this need but also offers important additional bibliographic advantages through the use of its full size indexes."

The four indexes were prepared by Daniel Lester, Associate Director for Systems and Automation at Mankato State College and his wife, Marilyn, Library Technician, Government Publications Division also at Mankato State. *Index One* is arranged by author in SuDocs class order and is, in effect, a Table of Contents for the microfilm portion. *Index Two* is arranged in alphabetical order by some 3000 individual government authors. *Index Three* is an alphabetical listing of cabinet level departments and major agencies subdivided by their agencies and bureaus. *Index Four* is an alphabetical listing of some 18,000 Government Series titles. All index entries show SDC and microfilm reel numbers. A guide to using *Checklist '70*, written by the Lesters and an explanation of the Superintendent of Documents Classification System will also be included with the indexes.

The dual media edition of *Checklist of U. S. Public Documents, 1789-1970* is priced at \$2,550 until April 1, 1971, and a 1971 subscription to the *Cumulative Updating Service* is \$275.

Write to Library Services, U. S. Historical Documents Institute, 1647 Wisconsin Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. 20007, for more information and a descriptive brochure.

## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued)

are taking the lead in our state's "Right to Read" effort. You will be hearing more about this later, particularly through the various news media. Your president and the association's liaison with the National Reading Council, Mell Busbin, are being involved in the planning effort.

About one hundred librarians, library educators, and employers participated in a Library Education Conference at Pinehurst, February 13 and 14. Dr. Lester Asheim of ALA and Dr. Richard Darling, Dean of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, were the consultants. You will be able to read a full account of this conference in the next issue of NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES. We wish to commend Helen Hagan and her

committee for their exceptionally fine work in planning and implementing this conference.

I am sure that all of you are much concerned and are keeping up with the actions of the General Assembly. Some sections and individuals are being active in promoting legislation favorably to libraries, and several agencies with which the association is affiliated are doing the same. Our executive secretary, Mrs. Evalyn Allen, is working with a legislative committee. If anyone needs to get in touch with her during the period of the legislative sessions, you may write her at P. O. Box 7161, Legislative Bldg., or telephone 829-7940.

Best wishes for a satisfying and productive year!