



Bibliographic Control of Federal, State and Local Documents

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ONE OF THE DIFFICULTIES in the problem of the bibliographical control of Federal documents is the constant and never-ending need to determine when and by what act the agencies were and are being established, and which are currently instrumentalities of the Federal government.

The Federal Government seems to be constantly in the process of evolution. For instance, on 9 November, 1965, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development appeared as the eleventh executive department, created by Public Law 174, 89th Congress, which was approved 9 September, 1965.¹ In this instance, the law states that the Congress hereby declares that the general welfare and security of the nation and the health and living standards of our people require, as a matter of national purpose, sound development of the nation's communities and metropolitan areas in which the vast majority of its people live and work. The declaration of purpose, in Section 2, says in part: "To carry out such purpose, and in recognition of the increasing importance of housing and urban development in our national life, the Congress finds that establishment of an executive department is desirable to achieve the best administration of the principal programs of the Federal Government which provide assistance for housing and for the development of the Nation's communities. . . ." By Section 5 of the law, the functions, powers and duties of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, of the Federal Housing Administration, of the Public Housing Administration, and of the Federal National Mortgage Administration are transferred to the new Department of Housing and Urban Development. Upon study of other housing and urban development functions and programs within the government, the President shall provide to Congress his

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findings and recommendations as to the transfer of such functions and programs to or from the new Department under the Reorganization Act of 1949² as amended, or by specific statute.

When publications first appear in the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* from the new Department or any of its changed agencies, an appropriate note is made of the creation or change. Such practice has long since become embedded in the bibliographical procedure of the Public Documents Division, and is represented in the *Monthly Catalog*, in the biennial *Document Catalog* through the final volume 25, 1939-40, and in the *Checklist of U.S. Public Documents, 1789-1909*. In the annual *United States Government Organization Manual*,³ not only is the statement of the basic facts about the creation of agencies with any changes a most constant and important feature, but there is a substantial appendix regularly of "Executive Agencies and Functions of the Federal Government Abolished, Transferred, or Terminated Subsequent to March 4, 1933." As the governmental picture has become complicated, precise information of such changes becomes more and more necessary for the development of library catalogs as well as for an aid and guide to the library users of Federal government publications.

Faced with the intricate and seemingly ever more complicated picture of Federal documents, it may be helpful to have a few comments on the coverage for the period from 1789 to the present.⁴ First, General A. W. Greely's *Public Documents of the First Fourteen Congresses, 1789-1817; Papers Relating to Early Congressional Documents*⁵ with its supplement in the *Annual Report* of the American Historical Association for 1903⁶ is arranged by Congress, Session, and House, and devotes no attention to departmental publications as such. J. H. Powell's *The Books of a New Nation; United States Government Publications, 1774-1814*,⁷ devotes some very searching remarks to most of the period covered by Greely. For the First Congress, First Session, the present author has published two studies in *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*. The first was "The Story of the United States Senate Documents, 1st Congress, 1st Session, New York, 1789," and the second "'Disappeared in the Wings of Oblivion,' The Story of the United States House of Representatives Printed Documents at the First Session of the First Congress, New York, 1789."⁸ These two studies show abundant need for further work in the field by searching for all orders to print as well as examining all printing invoices and other pertinent evidence.

Benjamin Perley Poore's *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Government Publications of the United States, September 5, 1774–March 4, 1881*⁹ seems mainly devoted to Congressional documents in sessional arrangement, and scarcely takes into account the increasing quantity of departmental publications. The pressure that aroused the need and secured the authorization for Poore's work seems to have been caused in considerable part by the increasing provision for the deposit in selected libraries of United States official publications, beginning with the original Joint Resolution of 17 December 1813. This early act was introduced in the House of Representatives by Timothy Pickering, a Member of Congress from Massachusetts. The provision for corporate author entry appears initially in the first edition (1876) of the *Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalog* by Charles Ammi Cutter,¹⁰ also from Massachusetts, as a practical treatment for handling the increasing load of the depository distribution to libraries.

John G. Ames' *Comprehensive Index to the Publications of the United States Government, 1881–1893*¹¹ replaced his work for 1889–1893, which appeared in 1894,¹² but also scarcely took into account the rising tide of departmental printing. Two specific works printed during the period and not included in Ames are the following:

Journey through the Yellowstone National Park and Northwestern Wyoming. [August 5–September 1], 1883. *Photos of Party and Scenery Along the Route Traveled, and Copies of the Associated Press Dispatches Sent Whilst en Route. The Party: Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States. Robert T. Lincoln, Secretary of War. Philip H. Sheridan, Lieutenant-General. George G. Vest, United States Senator.* Washington, Government Printing Office, [1883]. *U.S. Mississippi River Commission. Proceedings, . . . vol. 1, 1879–84+.* [Vicksburg], M.R.C., print.

Systematic official recording of documents began with the establishment of the Office of the Superintendent of Documents, in the Government Printing Office, by terms of the Printing Act of 12 January 1895, in the *Monthly Catalog* beginning January 1895 and in the biennial *Document Catalog* 1893/95 (ceased with vol. 25, 1939–40). From 1893/95 to 1939–40, the biennial *Document Catalog* in dictionary form was the basic final record of the period; it was actually entitled *Catalog of the Public Documents of the . . . Congress and of All Departments of the Government of the United States for the Period . . . (No. . . . of the Comprehensive Index Provided for by the Act of January 12, 1895).*

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From 1941 to date, the *Monthly Catalog* with various changes has been considered the basic record. The alphabetically classed arrangement (of the bureaus and subordinate units under the executive departments and independent agencies) gave way to an alphabetical arrangement by significant word of issuing bodies beginning with September, 1947. From July 1945 to date, there have been monthly indexes, except for December, when the annual indexes appeared. Because of the disappearance of the *Document Catalog*, a *Decennial Cumulative Index, 1941-1950* was printed in 1953 and may yet be followed by one for 1951-1960.

Beginning with July 1945, a semiannual listing of periodicals, periodic releases, serials and statistical statements was included in the January and July issues; with July 1950, the listings were brought together in appendices to January and July. In 1953, the semiannual appendices were shifted to February and August; in February 1962, the listing became annual as "Directory of United States Government Periodicals and Subscription Publications," with alphabetical listing more simplified, the appendix for August 1961 not having appeared.¹⁸ Since January 1963, personal authors have been indexed.

Each entry is accompanied by a symbol showing whether it is sold by the Superintendent of Documents (with price), whether it is for sale by the Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, Springfield, Va., whether it is distributed by the issuing office, and whether it is sent to depository libraries in the United States.

Individual bills introduced in each House of Congress are listed only by number. These constitute an important and necessary supplement to the *Congressional Record* and to the *Journals*. Information on the complicated nature of these is contained in the article "Printing of Congressional Bills" by John H. Thaxter in *Library Resources & Technical Services*.¹⁴ Individual patent specifications, although usually likely to be of considerable interest in science and industry, are handled by the Patent Office, recorded in its *Official Gazette*, and made available through the annual *Index of Patents*, but are not included in the *Monthly Catalog*. Likewise, in more recent years, the individual sheet maps and charts are recorded officially only in the sales catalogs of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, Geological Survey, Naval Oceanographic Office, and the other map-issuing agencies.

The overall view of documents through 1909 furnished by the third edition of the *Checklist of United States Public Documents, 1789-*

1909 printed in 1911 has never been continued beyond volume 1, containing the "Lists of Congressional and Departmental Publications." While the work has some deficiencies in regard to Congressional Committee hearings and Senate Confidential Executive Documents and Reports which are no longer classified, it is still a valuable tool, well meriting the new offset print edition.

Another difficult facet in bibliographical control, now apparent in these remarks, has become particularly evident within the past generation as printing and reproduction facilities have been set up in various agencies, especially under control of the Congressional Joint Committee on Printing, to meet urgent or special needs of the agencies. Their demands have exceeded the capacity of the Government Printing Office, which has led to a considerable amount of commercial contract printing. Mimeographed and multilithed reproduction, under the general designation of "processed," had by the mid-1930's, become so noticeable and important that more and more documents thus produced have been recorded in the *Monthly Catalog*.

Departmental plants and field plants authorized by the Congressional Joint Committee on Printing have reached a considerable total.¹⁵ The exceedingly detailed 441-page record of the publications of the Office of Price Administration for 1940-47¹⁶ furnished one of the finest examples of the problem. Formal official recognition of the situation is contained in the first section of the Depository Library Act of 1962 as follows:¹⁷

Each component of the Government shall furnish the Superintendent of Documents a list of publications, except those required for official use only or those required for strictly administrative or operational purposes which have no public interest or educational value and publications classified for reasons of national security, which it issued during the previous month that were obtained from sources other than the Government Printing Office.

In Section 4, there are other stipulations:

copies of publications which are furnished the Superintendent of Documents for distribution . . . shall not include so-called co-operative publications which must necessarily be sold in order to be self-sustaining.

. . . The cost of printing and binding those publications which are distributed to depository libraries, when obtained elsewhere than

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from the Government Printing Office, shall be borne by components of the Government responsible for their issuance. . . .

In 1964, a partial list of such non-Government Printing Office publications was prepared.¹⁸

Further, Harold O. Thomen's *Checklist of Hearings before Congressional Committees through the Sixty-Seventh Congress [1921/23]*¹⁹ records over five thousand titles, many of which were previously unrecorded entirely or inadequately described, and illustrates the difficulty of attaining as complete as possible a coverage for the *Monthly Catalog*. Anyone who has had long and close contact with the situation on the Hill, knows that many Committee prints have escaped record and probably occasionally still do. Thomen's work calls attention to the fact that the more exacting practical as well as scholarly requirements of the present and future bring into focus the urgent need of a thorough revision and expansion of Greely, Poore, Ames and the *Checklist*.

For state publications, the problem of bibliographic control is the same multiplied by fifty. The Library of Congress has been able to deal with the situation in quite a useful way by its *Monthly Checklist of State Publications* beginning in 1910 (now edited in the Exchange and Gift Division) and furnishing a continuous record for over half a century. While undoubtedly some items from time to time are never furnished to the Library of Congress, it has been increasingly possible to elicit cooperation in having copies regularly sent in as issued, sometimes from a central source and sometimes from the individual agencies. More and more, there has been a movement in the states to provide at least a minimum library depository system within the state, and at times the Library of Congress is mentioned specifically. Beginning with 1963, lists of periodical publications appear in June and December, the latter being cumulative.

Prior to the *Monthly Checklist*, R. R. Bowker's *State Publications; a Provisional List of the Official Publications of the Several States of the United States from their Organization*²⁰ was published in four volumes at New York City from 1899 to 1908 with entries to about 1900, and still has not been entirely superseded. On a scale that has hardly been equaled since then, with the same embedding of information as to administrative changes as in the Document Office publications, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D.C., published from 1907 to 1922 the late Adelaide R. Hasse's *Index of Economic Material in Documents of the States of the United States*,²¹ through 1904 for

the following thirteen states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, California, Illinois, Kentucky, Delaware, Ohio, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. A fourteenth, South Carolina, was partially completed, but never published. Thus for the thirteen states, there remains an uncovered period of about six years before the beginning of the *Monthly Checklist*. For many of the other states, there is still a gap between about 1900 and 1910.

In 1935, A. F. Kuhlman, then at the University of Chicago, published an article entitled "The Need for a Comprehensive Check-list Bibliography of American State Publications."²² What he proposed was a single, overall comprehensive "practical working, bibliographical aid for American state documents."²³ A statement of bibliographies and checklists then available was included as well as a proposed set of rules, even including mention of the need for brief historical notes at the beginning of the entry for each agency. But the time was not then ripe for bringing this ambitious proposal to fruition.

The volumes of the proceedings on public documents, as presented at the annual conferences of the American Library Association for the years 1933 through 1938 and published by the American Library Association, focused on needs as well as accomplishments and generated interest in the 350-page *Manual on the Use of State Publications*, edited by Jerome K. Wilcox.²⁴ The influence, persistence and accomplishment of Wilcox here and elsewhere have done much to enliven the field and it is to be hoped that the present occasion will be marked by a revival and intensification of his interest. His work was supplemented by Gwendolyn Lloyd in her "The Status of State Document Bibliography."²⁵

Between 1936 and 1938, the Public Documents Clearing House Committee of the National Association of State Libraries published checklists of legislative journals, session laws and statutes, prepared by Grace E. Macdonald.²⁶ A supplement by Ervin H. Pollack to the session law checklist was published by the National Association of State Libraries in 1941, and a supplement by William S. Jenkins to the legislative journals checklist in 1943. In 1947, the National Association of State Libraries published at Boston William S. Jenkins' *Collected Public Documents of the States; a Check-List*.²⁷ Then, *A Check List of Legislative Journals Issued since 1937 . . .* compiled by William R. Pullen²⁸ was published by the American Library Association in 1955. Through a cooperative arrangement between the Library of Congress and the University of North Carolina, Professor Jenkins

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made a series of country-wide field trips extending over a few years, and brought together 1,876 reels of microfilm collection of early state records, manuscript as well as printed; his *Guide* was published by the Photoduplication Service of the Library of Congress in 1950 as a key to the collection, and a *Supplement* in 1951.²⁹

"Current Checklists of State Publications, as of May, 1962"³⁰ was prepared by the State Library Division of the Tennessee State Library and Archives, and revealed not only that some things have changed, but that there is continually a need to keep up-to-date. A three-page processed *Current Checklists of State Publications* had also been prepared by the New York State Legislative Reference Library as of March 15, 1962.

There follows next a brief statement for each of the individual states and territories in so far as there is anything special to be said:

Alabama. Alabama has to rely on the *Monthly Checklist of State Publications* for a listing of its current materials. For retrospective documents there is Rhoda Coleman Ellison's *Check List of Alabama Imprints, 1807-1870*,³¹ Thomas McAdory Owen's "A Bibliography of Alabama;"³² and R. R. Bowker's *State Publications*.²⁰

Alaska. With 1965, the Alaska State Library, Juneau, has begun to issue an annual mimeographed checklist entitled *State Publications Received*, thus leaving a period of years to be covered since Wickersham, which extends through 1924. (James Wickersham. *A Bibliography of Alaskan Literature. 1724-1924*. Cordova, Alaska, *Cordova Daily Times*, 1927).

American Samoa. Mr. Paul Howard, Librarian, U.S. Department of the Interior, reports that the catalog of the Department Library lists forty-three government documents regarding this territory.

Arizona. From 1915/16 through 1930/31, the State Library edited an annual *Check List of Annual Reports* . . . and continued this in its *Arizona Newsletter* for 1931/33 through 1951/52 (only 1931/33-35/36 and 1938/39 were printed, the others being typed in a very few copies.) With 1962/63, the State Department of Library and Archives, which took the place of the State Library on June 11, 1937, began issuing a mimeographed *Annual Checklist of Publications of the State of Arizona*, leaving a period of eleven years not covered.

Arkansas. The University of Arkansas Library, at Fayetteville, has been issuing a processed semiannual *Checklist of Arkansas State Publications* beginning with 1943. A ten-year gap intervened between this and the "Bibliographical Study of Arkansas State Publications"

presented by Miss Jim P. Mathews as a master's thesis at the University of Illinois in 1933.³³

California. The quarterly *California State Publications* with annual cumulations, July-September 1947 to date, published by the State Printing Division, Sacramento, and edited by the State Library continues the full record in the quarterly *News Notes of California Libraries* for 1906-1947, furnishing thus a rather close link with Hasse.

Canal Zone. Many government documents are listed in the Canal Zone Library-Museum's *Subject Catalog of the Special Panama Collection of the Canal Zone Library-Museum*. . . .³⁴

Colorado. The State Library has issued *Colorado State Publications (A Selected Check List)* (1958-1961), and *A List of Colorado State Publications*, May 1961-May 1963 (compiled by Sarah L. Judd), and from April 1940 to December 1941 a quarterly "Checklist" in its *Extension Bulletin*. In 1950, the Colorado Historical Society issued the first part of a supplement prepared by the State Archives to the 1910 *Check List*. Under legislative authority, the Division of State Archives and Records is issuing a quarterly *Checklist, Colorado Publications Received* beginning with vol. 1, no. 1, October-December, 1964. The *Check List of Colorado Public Documents* published by the State Board of Library Commissioners in 1910 was prepared in the Document Department of the Denver Public Library, and endeavored to cover the period from the earliest territorial days to September 1, 1910, and really needs an adequate continuation to 1958.

Connecticut. From Summer 1961 through Summer 1964, the State Library compiled and issued mainly for distribution within the state a processed *Quarterly Acquisitions*, with a listing of Connecticut State publications, and continued this by a quarterly *Checklist of Publications of Connecticut State Agencies* and a *Monthly List of Selected Acquisitions*, both processed and intended for distribution within the state only.

Delaware. The Public Archives Commission includes in its processed quarterly *Accessions List* (from October 1951) a section of Delaware current official publications thus leaving a considerable gap after Hasse ends in 1904.

District of Columbia. There is no current listing of District of Columbia publications other than those found in the *Monthly Checklist of State Publications*. A bi-weekly journal published by the D. C. Board of Commissioners, *The District of Columbia Register*, has been published since July 1954, and contains D. C. regulations and organ-

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ization orders. For retrospective material there is Wilhelmus Bogart Bryan's *Bibliography of the District of Columbia, Being a List of Books, Maps, and Newspapers, Including Articles in Magazines and Other Publications to 1898*.³⁵

Florida. The bi-monthly processed *Short Title Checklist of Official Florida Publications* issued by the University of Florida Libraries since July-August 1942 links closely with the unpublished master's thesis of Dorothy Gwendolyn Lloyd entitled "Official Publications of Florida, 1821-1941."³⁶

Georgia. The current mimeographed quarterly *Checklist of Official Publications of the State of Georgia* was issued irregularly from January 1948-August 1949 to March 1953-January 1954 with its *Georgia Commentary*. An attempt at a comprehensive typed "Trial Checklist of Georgia State Documents" was compiled by Ella May Thornton, state librarian, in 1940.

Guam. Mr. Paul Howard, Librarian, U.S. Department of the Interior, reports that the catalog of the Library lists twenty-four government documents relating to the island.

Hawaii. In 1962, the Hawaiiana Section of the Hawaii Library Association prepared, and the Public Archives published, *Official Publications of the Territory of Hawaii, 1900-1959*, arranged alphabetically by agency with brief agency histories. A regular listing of official publications is included in *Current Hawaiiana*, a quarterly bibliography issued by the Hawaiian and Pacific Collection, Gregg M. Sinclair Library, University of Hawaii. An expanded document distribution program has just been provided by act of the legislature, which may include a checklist.

Idaho. A partial checklist of Idaho state publications for 1960-63 appeared in *The Idaho Librarian* of January 1964, and for 1964 in the April 1965 issue.

Illinois. Beginning with 1959, the State Library has issued a semi-annual checklist *Illinois State Publications*, continuing the listing in *Illinois Libraries* from 1939. Thus, there is a considerable gap in the Illinois record after Hasse, which ended with 1904. In 1950-51 in *Illinois Libraries* appeared "Illinois Documents: A Checklist 1812-50," by Margaret C. Norton,³⁷ based on printing records in the State Archives, showing what needs doing in many other jurisdictions.

Indiana. There is a listing of current Indiana documents by the State Library in its quarterly *Library Occurrent*, which first appeared in 1906. Thus, there is a considerable period not fully covered since Daniel Wait Howe's *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Official Publica-*

tions of the Territory and State of Indiana from 1800 to 1890, published by the Indiana Historical Society in 1890.³⁸

Iowa. Beginning with no. 1, June 1956, the Iowa State University Library has been issuing a processed quarterly checklist *Iowa Documents*. In 1904, the Iowa Library Commission issued Lavinia Steele's *Check List of the Publications of the State of Iowa*. In 1937, Helen Stewart presented a master's thesis at the University of Illinois on "Iowa State Publications."³⁹ Thus, there is a considerable period not covered in Iowa.

Kansas. In 1965, the first volume of the long-awaited *Bibliography of the Official Publications of Kansas, 1854-1958*, by Bessie E. Wilder appeared.⁴⁰ The first volume deals with legislative and departmental publications and the second, to be published, will cover the institutions and societies. The Kansas State Library at Topeka issues about twice a year a *Checklist of Official Publications of the State of Kansas*, the first having appeared in 1953.

Kentucky. The State Archives and Records Service, Frankfort, began issuing a meticulous annual *Checklist of Kentucky State Publications* in 1962. The second for 1963 includes the "State Directory." The period from the end of Hasse in 1904 to 1954 has been covered in part by *Kentucky Session Laws, Legislative Journals, Collected Documents Checklists Revised to November, 1954*.⁴¹ A graduate intern's report, "Checklist of State Publications, 1904-1962," is to be published by the Kentucky State Archives and Record Center in the near future.

Louisiana. The Department of State issues (1) a monthly mimeographed *Public Documents of Louisiana* in connection with the 1948 law for public documents depositories, and (2) a semi-annual *State of Louisiana Public Documents*. Lucy B. Foote's *Bibliography of the Official Publications of Louisiana, 1803-1934*⁴² is continued by vol. 1 of *State of Louisiana Official Publications 1935-1953* (Baton Rouge, Secretary of State, 1953); vol. 2 is a cumulation of the semi-annual lists, 1948-1953. Thus, Louisiana has a continuous record from the beginning to date.

Maine. The State Library has issued a mimeographed quarterly *Checklist of State of Maine Publications* from 1941 to date, with cumulations for 1941-44 and 1945-June 1947; for the period 1922 to 1932 current state publications were listed more or less regularly in its *Maine Library Bulletin*. Thus, some considerable periods remain uncovered since 1904, when Hasse's work concluded.

Maryland. The *Maryland Manual*, published by the Hall of Records Commission, Annapolis, has included biennially since 1950 the record

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of Maryland state publications in the section following the state agencies, thus facilitating the work of the research worker. A selected list of Maryland state documents printed quarterly in *Maryland Libraries* keeps the *Manual* list current. For the Maryland collected documents, 1829–1920, the Hall of Records has a typewritten index, and for documents since 1920 a card index, thus serving the purpose of a comprehensive record, continuously kept up to date.

Massachusetts. From February 1962, the state library has been distributing a mimeographed monthly list of *Commonwealth of Massachusetts Publications*. Further, the mimeographed *Index of Special Reports Authorized by the General Court, 1900–1961*, prepared by the State Library and issued by the Legislative Research Bureau, serves a certain purpose in helping bridge the period since Hasse, and has been authorized by legislative directive to be printed in 1966 in revised form with coverage through 1965.

Michigan. A mimeographed quarterly checklist entitled *Michigan Documents* is issued by the State Library (beginning with no. 1, July–September 1952), and continues the selected list of state and federal documents in the State Library's quarterly *Michigan Library News*. A considerable gap exists between that and F. B. Streeter's *Michigan Bibliography* (1921).⁴³

Minnesota. Since 1957, an irregular pricelist of Minnesota documents placed on sale has been issued under the title *Minnesota State Publications*, by the Department of Administration, Division of Central Services, Documents Section. The Minnesota Historical Society edited a quarterly *Check List of Minnesota Public Documents*, July 1923, to October/December 1940, and in 1952 a consolidated *Check List of Minnesota Public Documents Issued from 1941 through 1950, Supplement 1923 through 1940*, and in 1936 Esther Jerabek's *A Bibliography of Minnesota Territorial Documents, [1849–1858]*,⁴⁴ thus leaving a long period to be covered adequately.

Mississippi. For the earliest period, Douglas C. McMurtrie in *A Bibliography of Mississippi Imprints, 1798–1830* (Beauvoir Community, 1945) includes territorial and state documents as almost half his total of two hundred and thirty items. Since that work there seems to have been no attempt to record Mississippi state publications, either retrospectively or currently. A law to establish a system of document depository libraries has been enacted in 1966.

Missouri. A *Checklist of Official Publications of the State of Missouri* has been issued biennially by the State Library beginning with 1951, being a cumulation now of the *Monthly List, Missouri State Govern-*

ment Documents. In 1941, Cerilla E. Saylor had presented a master's thesis at the University of Illinois entitled "Official Publications of the State of Missouri."⁴⁵ Thus, there is a period of about ten years not covered.

Montana. The first bibliography, current or retrospective, devoted to Montana documents is entitled *Montana State Documents; a Preliminary Bibliography*, by Lucile Speer,⁴⁶ document librarian, Montana State University, published in 1958 by the Bureau of Government Research at Missoula, covering roughly the period 1950-1958.

Nebraska. In 1935, Sylvia Coral Gilmore presented a master's thesis at the University of Illinois entitled "The Official Publications of Nebraska,"⁴⁷ covering the period 1855-1934. In 1942, a typewritten draft was prepared, but never issued, of *American Imprints Inventory*, no. 27, entitled "A Check List of Nebraska Documentary Imprints, 1847-1876." Since neither is generally accessible, further work on the whole field would be most useful.

Nevada. *List of Official Nevada Publications* (now monthly) has been issued by the Nevada State Library beginning in 1953. A *Check List of Nevada Imprints, 1859-1890* issued in 1939 as *American Imprints Inventory* no. 7 was about 80 percent official publications. There still remain more than sixty years to be covered.

New Hampshire. The biennial *Check List of New Hampshire State Department's Publications* from 1938/40 to date, appearing as the supplement to the *Biennial Report* of the New Hampshire State Library, leaves a considerable period not covered from the termination of Hasse in 1904.

New Jersey. The *Bibliography of New Jersey Official Reports, 1905-1945* by Dorothy F. Lucas, published by the State Library in 1947, continues Hasse without interruption, and a *Supplement, 1945-1960*, has been published by the State Library, thus keeping the systematic and continuous record for New Jersey almost to date.

New Mexico. Wilma L. Shelton's admirable *Checklist of New Mexico Publications, 1850-1953*,⁴⁸ was published by the University of New Mexico Press in 1954, having appeared first by installments in *The New Mexico Historical Review*. Under the title *New Mexico Official Publications*, the University of New Mexico Library issued a mimeographed accessions list for the period January 1956 to August 1960, when it was discontinued; no complete file is known to exist.

New York. A mimeographed monthly *Checklist of Official Publications of the State of New York* has been issued by the State Library

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beginning in October 1947 with annual volumes and with cumulations for volumes 1-5, 6-10, 11-12 and 13-14. A fifteen-year cumulation is currently at the printer's. The period between Hasse in 1904 and October 1947 is still in need of coverage.

North Carolina. Mary Lindsay Thornton's *Official Publications of the Colony and State of North Carolina 1749-1939; a Bibliography*⁴⁹ was published by the University of North Carolina Press in 1954, as a union catalog of the holdings of a group of the principal North Carolina libraries, and the record has been kept up to date, with some interruption, by the University of North Carolina Library first by the *Monthly Check List of Official North Carolina Publications 1940-1946*, and next by the bimonthly *Checklist of Official North Carolina Publications* August-September 1952 to date.

North Dakota. A law of March 17, 1965, provided for ten deposit libraries for state publications under the State Library Commission, and a listing is to be issued annually under the title *North Dakota State Publications*.

Ohio. A mimeographed select quarterly list entitled *Ohio State Publications* has been issued by the Documents Department of the Ohio State Library, beginning with December 1945; beginning with 1956 there has been a supplement each December entitled *Annual List of Periodicals*. In 1964 the Ohio Library Foundation issued in a limited number of copies a mimeographed *Checklist, Publications of the State of Ohio: 1803-1952*, prepared as a union list of those on file in the State Library, State University Library, Ohio Historical Society, Legislative Reference Library and Supreme Court Library. With Hasse, this furnishes a rather comprehensive coverage.

Oklahoma. The *Bulletin of the Oklahoma State Library, 1948-1954*, included checklists for the period which since then have been prepared but not printed, because of the lack of funds to continue the *Bulletin*.

Oregon. The mimeographed quarterly *Checklist of Official Publications of the State of Oregon* of the State Library began with January-March 1951. Eleanor R. Rockwood's *Oregon State Documents; a Checklist, 1843 to 1925*,⁵⁰ published at Portland in 1947 by the Oregon Historical Society, was printed first in the *Oregon Historical Review*. The period 1926 to 1950 still remains to be covered.

Pennsylvania. The mimeographed monthly *Checklist of Official Pennsylvania Publications* of the State Library began with September 1963 (for August publications) and has an annual checklist of items issued periodically. A price-list of state publications placed on sale by

the Bureau of Publications of the State Department of Property and Supplies has been issued irregularly since 1937, originally as a *List of State Publications*, more recently as a *Directory of State Publications*. Hasse's three volumes extend only to 1904.

Puerto Rico. The *Anuario bibliográfico puertorriqueño . . .* compiled by Gonzalo Velázquez from 1948 includes the Puerto Rico official publications of the year under the heading "Puerto Rico." The *Anuario* for 1948-51 was published at Rio Piedras.

Rhode Island. A mimeographed *Check-List of Departmental Publications of the State of Rhode Island, 1935-1955* was edited by the State Library; there have been supplements in 1956, 1959 and 1962, and there will probably be another in 1966. Still there is the problem of coverage between Hasse in 1904 and 1935.

South Carolina. An annual *Checklist of South Carolina State Publications* has been edited by the South Carolina Archives Department, beginning with 1950/51, and edited jointly with the State Library from 1960/61. It must be remembered that Hasse had prepared a considerable amount of copy for a South Carolina volume, which may still be extant.

South Dakota. In 1936, Ruth Caroline Krueger presented a master's thesis at the University of Illinois entitled "South Dakota State Publications."⁵¹ *The Bibliography of South Dakota State Legislative Research Council Publications July 1, 1951 through July 31, 1965* (Pierre, 1965) lists nearly three hundred titles, and may well indicate the difficulty of attaining a much-needed comprehensive coverage for South Dakota.

Tennessee. The annual *List of Tennessee State Publications*, prepared by the State Library Division of the Tennessee State Library and Archives began with no. 1, 1954. In the year 1954 the State Library Division issued *A Preliminary Check-list of Tennessee Legislative Documents* giving for the first time from the beginning a precise year-by-year statement of the session laws, legislative journals and the collected documents, thus marking an initial inroad on the uncharted past.

Texas. A special supplementary edition of *Texas Libraries*, September, 1953 is entitled "Texas State Departmental Publications in the State Library 1900-1944," being a working list, and is kept up to date by the mimeographed *Checklist, Official State Publications* (Texas State Library, Archives Division, Texas Documents), which began in October 1921, with cumulations for 1944/46 (*Biennial Report*), 1946/

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48, and 1950/52 (*Biennial Report*). Before 1900, there seems to be no systematic coverage of any kind except prior to 1845 in Thomas W. Streeter's *Bibliography of Texas*,⁵² and for 1845-1876 in E. W. Winkler's *Check List of Texas Imprints, 1845-1860*⁵³ and in Winkler and Friend, *Check List of Texas Imprints, 1861-1876*.⁵⁴

Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Mr. Paul Howard, Librarian, U.S. Department of the Interior, reports that the catalog of the Library lists twenty-three government publications concerning this group.

U.S. Office of Territories. Mr. Howard reports that the Library has forty-five government documents in its card file regarding this office.

Utah. The Utah State Library issued a mimeographed *Checklist of Utah State Publications* for 1960 and 1961, but none since owing to lack of funds for the gift and exchange programs.

Vermont. There is no systematic or continuous listing from 1904 when Hasse ends.

Virgin Islands. Mr. Howard reports that the Library of the U.S. Department of the Interior contains fifty-six government documents regarding the Virgin Islands.

Virginia. The annual *Check-List of Virginia State Publications, 1926* to date, of the Virginia State Library continues vol. 2 (*Titles of the Printed Official Documents of the Commonwealth, 1776-1916*) of its *Bibliography of Virginia*, with a gap of 1917-1925, which was once planned to be filled by vol. 5.

Washington. From 1952 to date the Washington State Library has been publishing *Washington State Publications*, planned as a quarterly checklist with annual cumulations, continuing the listing beginning with 1947 in the *Library News Bulletin* of the State Library. In 1920, *A Reference List of Public Documents, 1854-1918* was issued by the State Library; there thus seems to be no coverage for 1919 to 1946.

West Virginia. A mimeographed annual *Short Title Checklist of West Virginia State Publications* has been prepared regularly from 1947/48 to date by the State Department of Archives and History, continuing part two of its *Bibliography of West Virginia* in its *Biennial Report, 1936/38*, with a gap of about ten years.

Wisconsin. *Wisconsin Public Documents, a Check-List* has been published since 1917 (quarterly since 1945) by the State Historical Society, and leaves a gap of some years not covered after the *Check List of the Journals and Public Documents of Wisconsin* published by the Free Library Commission in 1903.

Wyoming. The most complete collection is in the Wyoming State Library, Cheyenne, and in the University of Wyoming Library at Laramie. The latter can supply Xerox copies of the relevant catalog cards for about \$20.00.

Whether the above considerable but very uneven record of bibliographical control of state publications can be accelerated materially or not, attention might be called to the State Technical Services Act of 1965⁵⁵ which is "An act to promote commerce and encourage economic growth by supporting State and interstate programs to place the findings of science usefully in the hands of American enterprise." As Donald F. Hornig, Director of the Office of Science and Technology, said in Senate Report (Commerce Committee) 421 (1 July 1965), "The bill is modeled after the agricultural extension programs that have successfully placed the fruits of agricultural research in the hands of the American farmer with enormous benefits to the Nation."⁵⁶ Any acceleration that could be devised on a Federal-state program basis would seem a considerable help in making available for use the enormous body of official publications produced at great cost by the states.

To turn to the third point, bibliographical control over local government publications, the picture is very meager. Indeed it is almost as though there were an iron curtain over the vast output of local government publications, despite the never-ceasing urban sprawl.⁵⁷ The situation in many local governments is affected from time to time by such actions as the report that the incoming Mayor of New York was endeavoring to work "out legislation to consolidate the city's 99 departments and agencies."⁵⁸

The longest continuing record of current municipal publications is furnished by the monthly *Municipal Reference Library Notes* of the New York Municipal Reference Library, which is now in its thirty-ninth volume. Not only does it include New York City publications, but those of other cities and metropolitan areas so far as received there. The quarterly mimeographed *Checklist of Publications Issued by the City of Chicago*, prepared by the Chicago Municipal Reference Library, is of much more recent origin. A few other municipal reference libraries, such as Detroit's, may issue current listings in one form or other. Otherwise, only a painstaking search through the *Public Affairs Information Service* and a considerable variety of journals devoted to municipal problems, general as well as specialized (such as *American City*), and to other types of local government, would be

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needed to produce even a meager current record. There may be a gradual overall improvement in the bibliographical control of local government documents as the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development becomes fully implemented, and as the Bureau of the Census develops increased interest in these documents as research materials needed for its *City and County Data Book*.

All in all, the picture is one that requires constant alertness and awareness, and a readiness both to report whenever the control seems to be insufficient and to try to help work for its improvement.

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