Government Publications

JAMES B. CHILDS

Before proceeding to a statement about existing national catalogs or bibliographies of official publications, a few thoughts about their objectives may be in order. These will serve firstly to encourage their improvement in any way possible, secondly to attempt setting useful standards for those beginning in the future, and thirdly and particularly to help the user.

As a first point, an experience of some twenty-five years or so ago may be mentioned. One day a political economist from academic life serving for the time being the United States Treasury Department in some special advisory capacity asked my assistance in locating the following official publication of the Paymaster General of Great Britain:

“Control and Audit of Public Receipts and Expenditures.” Printed for His Majesty’s Stationery Office, London (1907).

This he had found in the standard work, The System of Financial Administration of Great Britain, by William F. Willoughby, Westel W. Willoughby and Samuel McCune Lindsay (New York and London, D. Appleton and Company, for the Institute for Government Research, 1917) on page 149, described as “a pamphlet issued by the Government descriptive of the financial machinery of the Government.” This the political economist needed in a study being made for the Secretary of the Treasury. No card was found for the title in the main catalog of the Library of Congress, nor was the title in the annual cumulations of the Quarterly List of Official Publications . . . issued by H. M. Stationery Office or even in the indexes to the Parliamentary Papers. Neither could the title be located elsewhere. Dr. W. F. Willoughby, the main author of the work, told me that he had once had a copy, and remembered the publication very distinctly from his visits to the office of the Paymaster General in London. Eventually from the

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office of the Paymaster General came word that the publication in question apparently had been deemed by the H.M. Stationery Office to have no potential sales value, had not been included in the Quarterly List, and had probably been printed only in a relatively small edition for use by H.M. Paymaster General and related offices. After the First World War, changes had been introduced into the practices. The publication was therefore obsolete, and no copies could be located.

Recently, another inquiry to H.M. Paymaster General, Russell Square, London, W.C. 1, now after the Second War, revealed that the publication could not even be traced. Only in 1966, through the keen interest of G. H. Spinney, Superintendent, State Paper Room, Department of Printed Books, British Museum, was it possible to locate a copy of the 57-page publication in an administrative library in London. Thus, there is a need to define the scope of inclusion as regards the possible overall output of a government, to satisfy potential research needs as well as practical purposes.

Introducing the next point, mention may be made of a story from Washington, D.C., in the New York Times of 24 January 1966, with the caption “President Finds Structure of Government Too Tangled for His Programs.” The report cites the recent State of the Union Message of President Johnson with its promise of a Commission “to develop a creative federalism.” It explains that “Jurisdictions of Federal agencies have grown up in a haphazard manner,” and adds that “Government officials are still defining the scope of the administrative problem they face.”

Individuals of the highest acumen and experience in political and governmental affairs feel the situation “too tangled,” even with the ever-presence of the annual United States Government Organization Manual with its full statement of the present organization as well as its concise statement of agencies “abolished, transferred or terminated subsequent to March 4, 1933.” How tangled and bewildered the most acute, alert, and nimble librarian, research worker, and would-be user of official publications must feel when faced with not one jurisdiction but possibly several in a likely kaleidoscopic fashion. And the issuing body with its setting and background is one haven to anchor to. Official publications are usually a reflection, statutory or otherwise, of agencies and their functions in the haphazard, tangled maze of government, prepared and issued in carrying out the governmental functions with only the title and/or the name of the agency to identify it, unlike a work in the book trade with emphasis on at-
tracting readers and buyers. Thus, there may well be a need to be able to identify agencies precisely, especially when changes have occurred.

A further point is introduced by the readiness of the press and other means of mass communication to snatch at names such as a "blue book" or a "white book" on something or other, which do little to clarify the reference. At times a supposed author such as Daniel P. Moynihan, who does not appear on a title page and scarcely on a publication itself (except as hidden in the bibliography) is the imprecise citation. The entry is actually "The Case for National Action, Negro family, Office of Policy Planning and Research, United States Department of Labor, March 1965. For official use only." The entry in the *Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications* for November 1965 (p. 83, item 18392) contains no mention of Daniel P. Moynihan, who was assistant secretary for policy planning and research of the U.S. Department of Labor, nor is there any reference to item 18392 under Moynihan in the annual index for 1965, despite there having been noticeable citations in the press to Moynihan as author. In Great Britain "Hansard," from the former English Parliamentary printer, now has become a catchword for parliamentary debates, even those at no time printed by the Hansards. Even in France, "Barodet" has become the catchword for the *Recueil des Textes Authentiques des Programmes et Engagements Electoraux des Députés Proclamés Élus à la Suite des Élections Générales*, a reminder of the original promoter and a member of the Chamber of Deputies. This explanation is furnished by the late Jacques de Dampierre in the preliminary and only part of the proposed *Inventaire Général des Publications Officielles* published in Paris in 1940 for the Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. How widely and how far some such apparently unconnectable nicknames and catchwords have become part and parcel of the consciousness in other jurisdictions remains to be seen. Certainly an increasingly serious problem is presented to the current national bibliography of official publications, if it is to find any solution.

Not only have the national governments tended to become increasingly complex, but the number has continued to increase, especially since the Second World War. Now, there are 122 member states in the United Nations with a few more to attain national status as well as a few additional non-U.N. members. For some of the more recently independent governments, Julian W. Witherell in a report of *A Pub-
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Publication Survey Trip to Equatorial and East Africa, France and Belgium for the Library of Congress, issued for limited circulation in 1965, mentions rather generally the lack of printing equipment and the mimeographing of publications by issuing agencies. Indeed such jurisdictions may have little or no bibliographic service, let alone control and record of official publications. One likely way of coverage is in the mimeographed bimonthly "New Acquisitions in the UNECA Library," reflecting the interests of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, at least so far as African jurisdictions for the most part are concerned.

Turning back to 1927, when my Account of Government Document Bibliography in the United States and Elsewhere was first issued by the Library of Congress, the foreign record was so insufficient in comparison with the potential need that it helped to spark national action setting into motion the first periodical bibliography of current official publications in continental Europe. The Monatliches Verzeichnis der reichsdeutschen amtlichen Druckschriften was edited by the Deutsche Bücherei at Leipzig beginning with 1928, continuing until March/June 1944.

On the other side of the world, in Japan, the Cabinet Printing Office even preceded this with a quarterly official publications catalog beginning with January/March 1927 and continuing through December 1943, and since resumed in different form.

In the Netherlands, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek at The Hague began with an annual catalog Nederlandsche overheidsuitgaven for 1929 and has continued it since that time.

With a first number for 1931/33 in 1934, the Library of the Swedish Riksdag began to publish the Arsbibliografi över Sveriges Offentliga Publikationer.

The progress thus made before the Second World War has been continued and expanded in various ways slowly but steadily, with the stimulus of UNESCO through A Study of Current Bibliographies of National Official Publications edited by Jean Meyriat (Paris, 1959), now being reedited for a second edition. The title scarcely conveys that under each national government there is, aside from the statement about any and all lists and catalogs, information about official printing and publishing, and the descriptions of the types of official publications. With the development of governmental functions, it has become more and more necessary to understand the main types and the increasingly specialized purposes served by them. Meyriat's clari-
fying inventory, based so far as possible on sources in each jurisdiction, and edited with the assistance of various experts marks a very great step in pinpointing an approach to a most thorny field.

The need to define what are agencies of a government and what are official publications of a government particularly has been sharpened as a consideration in government document bibliography by my three studies. They were issued by the Library of Congress in a very small number of copies, for limited reference circulation, and are generally available only in microfilm and Xerox form:


——— *Spanish Government Publications after July 17, 1936.* 1965- , Vol. 1-

As a matter of practical utility, as well as of research need, the usual innate unawareness of government structure should so far as possible be dispelled, by recourse to adequate government manuals wherever such exist, at times by reference to the somewhat complicated and forbidding budget documents, and in their absence by the painful and painstaking process of assembling summary administrative history information from statutory and other basic sources.

Indeed, Friedrich Facius, now of the Staatsarchiv, Ludwigsburg, German Federal Republic, in an article “Amtliche Drucksachen” printed in *Der Archivar, Mitteilungsblatt für deutsches Archivwesen* (July 1955, VIII Jahrgang, columns 209-226), uses the subtitle “Ein Grenzgebiet zwischen Archiven und Bibliotheken.” Thus he expresses the idea of national archives arranged by agencies of the government, drawing in a wide range of government publications, essential in understanding and using the records and representing with their complexity a greater and more accessible collection than often is to be found in national libraries. With 1956, the Bundesarchiv at Koblenz began to publish as a detailed government administrative manual for the complicated agencies of the West German zonal period Walter Vogel’s *West Deutschland 1945-1950: Der Aufbau von Verfassungs- und Verwaltungseinrichtungen über den Ländern der drei westlichen Besatzungszonen*, (Schriften des Bundesarchivs 6), published the second part in 1964 (as Schriften . . . 12), and apparently has the third
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part in preparation. In the United States, such a concept has been followed even on the state level in Maryland by the Hall of Records, including with its biennial Maryland Manual a biennial listing of official publications following the detailed listing of agencies, thus facilitating research use. That patterns for government organization often do not follow patterns for library classification has been recognized to a modest extent in Class J of the Library of Congress Classification in the table for arrangement of “Official Documents” and in the table for arrangement of Spanish American administrative documents.

How far existing sources so far as they stand for current bibliographical control of government publications may seem to meet practical demands as well as research requirements will be sketched briefly, national government by national government, in alphabetical order.


AUSTRALIA. The Australian Government Publications, edited by the National Library of Australia at Canberra, affords an annual record of the official publications of the Commonwealth, the six States, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory and Papua-New Guinea, in alphabetical order with a topical index. It supplements the annual Australian National Bibliography, and is cumulated from the monthly Australian National Bibliography (Canberra, National Library of Australia), with the omission of maps, films, separate legislative bills, and acts.

AUSTRIA. The semimonthly Oesterreichische Bibliographie; Verzeichnis der Oesterreichischen Neuerscheinungen, edited by the Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek, includes official publications without special indication in the classified arrangement of each number, and indexes to a limited extent under agency.

BELGIUM. In the monthly Bibliographie de Belgique, Belgische Bibliografie, edited by the Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique, official publications are included in the various classes and indexed under agency name, but the extent of the current representation has not been determined.

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BRAZIL. Under the title *Mostra de Livros, Comemoração do 134º Aniversário da Fundação do Estabelecimento*, the Departamento de Imprensa Nacional (Rio de Janeiro) has issued from 1941/42 to date, an annual alphabetical title list of all books, pamphlets and periodical publications printed there. The semiannual *Boletim Bibliográfico* of the Biblioteca Nacional includes also official publications issued elsewhere than at the Departamento de Imprensa Nacional, as does the current record of the Instituto Nacional do Livro in its *Revista do livro*, both appearing with some delay. Further, various administrative library accessions lists such as the *Bibliografia mensal* of the Library of the Ministério das Relações Exteriores may even here and there extend the coverage currently.

BULGARIA. The classified monthly national bibliography *B'lgarski knigopis*, published by the Narodna Biblioteka Kiril i Metodii, Sofia, is said to include all official publications, without special indication, but with special annual indexes to corporate authors and series.


In *Canadiana* (1950/51 to date), the national bibliography, edited monthly with annual cumulation, by the National Library of Canada, full entries are given in catalog card form, and include all Dominion documents, (with exception of maps), in two special sections (English and French) whether handled by the Queen’s Printer or not, as well as sections for each province. Notes as to establishment and changes in agency accompany the entries wherever appropriate and necessary, as well as notes concerning changes in titles.

CEYLON. All the Ceylon official publications are included in section two of the quarterly *Catalog of Books: Books Printed in Ceylon and Registered under the Printers and Publishers Ordinance*, prepared by the Office of the Registrar of Books and Newspapers, Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon. Not all official publications, especially those serials issued more frequently than annually, are included in the *Ceylon National Bibliography*, edited at the National Bibliography Office in the Government Archives Department, Gangodavila, Nupegoda, Ceylon.

COLOMBIA. Government publications are included in the various sections of the *Anuario bibliográfico colombiano* (1951-56 to date) published by the Instituto Caro y Cuervo, Bogotá, and are cited under agency in the index.
CUBA. The Anuario bibliográfico cubano, Bibliografía cubana edited by Fernín Peraza Sarauza, now from Gainesville, Florida, includes official publications under the heading “Cuba” with subdivisions.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Official publications are included in the various classes of both sections of the Czechoslovak national bibliography Bibliografický katalog ČSSR, without any special indication and without use of corporate entries. The first section České knihy, weekly, is edited by the Státní Knihovna, Prague, and the second Slovenské knihy, monthly, by the Matica Slovenská at Martin. The mimeographed “Verzeichnis tschechoslowakischer Amtsdruckschriften, 1965” (17 leaves) has been prepared by the Státní Knihovna, Prague, covering the official periodicals and other serials.

DENMARK. Beginning with 1948, Denmark’s Institut for International Udveksling has edited the annual record of official publications Impressa publica Regni Danici: Bibliografi over Danmarks offentlige publikationer. The Parliament is followed by the Ministries (each with their subordinate agencies) in alphabetical order. Publications of Copenhagen and Arhus as well as doctoral dissertations are included. There is an index by personal name as well as one by topic. While some official publications are included in the alphabetical lists of Danish current publications appearing weekly in Det danske bokmarked, (Copenhagen 1854-) these are not distinguished in any way, and there is no use of corporate entries.

EGYPT. See United Arab Republic.

FINLAND. With a number for 1961, the Eduskunnan Kirjasto (Parliamentary Library) at Helsinki began to issue an annual catalog of Finnish official publications entitled Valtion virallisjulkaisut—Statens officiella publikationer—Government publications in Finland. The arrangement is alphabetical by the Finnish name of the agency, references being given from the Swedish names. There are name indexes for authors, committee chairmen and secretaries, and further separate topic indexes in Finnish, Swedish and English.

FRANCE. Supplement F, “Publications Officielles,” which began with 1950, to the Bibliographie de la France, the weekly classified (U.D.C.) national bibliography appearing with a subtitle the Journal . . . de la librairie, furnishes a record of French official publications, with references to items listed in the main section and in the other supplements, such as those for periodicals and maps. Official publications are marked by an asterisk. Supplement F is paralleled by the
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Bibliographie Sélective des Publications Officielles Françaises published semimonthly (monthly in July and August) by Documentation Française. The first section contains citations to many parliamentary and other documents of more than usual current interest likely otherwise to escape notice. Its second section contains contents of various official periodicals.

The third edition of the Répertoire de la Presse et des Publications Périodiques Françaises, 1963, prepared under the direction of H. F. Raux, edited by the Département des Périodiques of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and published by Documentation Française, 1964, has a section "Administration," and has an indexing by "collectivités," including ministries and other official bodies.

Information about government agencies and their organization is available in the following:

3. Encyclopédie permanente de l’administration française.

In addition, precise information rather more detailed than that given in the above, for a great variety of business enterprises owned entirely or in good part by the Government, not the subject of annual appropriations, is furnished regularly by the following:

Nomenclature des entreprises nationales à caractère industriel ou commercial et des sociétés d’économie mixte d’intérêt national . . . .

Furnished annually to parliament under Act 194 (§ I, a.) of Ordinance No. 58-1374, 30 December 1958, it was formerly entitled:


Beginning with 1962, in connection with the Budget, there is issued biennially the Liste des associations régies par la Loi du 1er juillet 1901 ayant reçu directement sur le plan national au cours de . . . 1960, une subvention à quelque titre que ce soit, which indicates the extent to which a modern government may extend its activities.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC. While the Deutsche Bücherei, Leipzig, which edited the Monatliches Verzeichnis der reichs-
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den deutschen amtlichen Druckschriften from 1928 through March/June 1944, has never been able to resume this special publication, it does endeavor to index official bodies in both Reihe A and Reihe B of the Deutsche Nationalbibliographie (Leipzig, Verlag für Buch- und Bibliothekswesen). Thus, while the entries for official publications not having personal authors are usually under the first substantives of the titles, the "Register der Korporativen Verfasser" would enable one to locate the official publications.

GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC. Through support of the Federal Government, the Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt am Main, has edited the following in parts for 1957-1958, 1959-1960, and beginning with 1961-1962 with the ultimate intention now of publishing it through the Buchhändler-Vereinigung GMBH on a biennial rather than on the originally projected annual basis:


The first part for each period is devoted to the Bund (Federal level), followed by the Länder (State level), then cities over 100,000, and finally by church bodies. Under each part and subpart, the arrangement is alphabetical. The indexes are by agency, place, title and catchword, and personal names.

In the current Deutsche Bibliographie, A 1 (6 January) of 1966 contains some prefatory remarks indicating that it is now appearing as an automated bibliography and that in accordance with recommendations of the International Conference on Cataloging Principles, Paris, 1961, "sie erkennt Körperschaften aller Art, einschliesslich der Gebietskörperschaften, als Urheber, Herausgeber, Bearbeiter usw. von Veröffentlichungen an und berücksichtigt sie bei der Titelaufnahme (Korporative Verfasser)." Such changes may not become fully effective until 1971. It may be remembered that Section A includes material in the booktrade and Section B material not in the booktrade. What the relation of the current listings will be to the biennial catalog of official publications remains to be seen.

As regards the brief administrative histories of the various Federal agencies, recourse would need to be had to the annual Bundeshaushaltsplan (Bundesministerium der Finanzen), since the ordinarily
used directory *Die Bundesrepublik* (Cologne, etc., Carl Heymann) does not contain such details.

GHANA. The first issue of the *National Bibliography of Ghana* prepared by the Padmore Research Library, Ghana Library Board, Accra, is scheduled to begin with the listing of all 1965 publications. For government publications, the Government Printer, Accra, issues an occasional current *Publications Price List*.

GREAT BRITAIN. H.M. Stationery Office issues a mimeographed daily list, a monthly catalogue entitled *Government Publications*, with a brief descriptive *H.M.S.O. Monthly Selection* and an annual *Catalogue of Government Publications*, as well as printed catalog cards. These include only the publications *placed on sale*, and do not include:

1. Statutory Instruments (formerly Statutory Rules and Orders), which are included in the daily list, and of which a special monthly list is issued January to May and July to November, a semiannual list January to June, and an annual list,


3. Admiralty charts, of which a separate catalogue is issued by the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty,

4. Ordnance Survey maps, of which the Ordnance Survey, Chessington, Surbiton, Surrey issues a monthly publication report (likewise with the Geological Survey maps),

5. Private parliamentary bills, and

6. Other publications distributed by the issuing agency, which may at times be recorded in periodical accession lists of the administrative libraries.

Only a very select number of H.M.S.O. publications seem to be entered in the *British National Bibliography*.

As regards administrative histories, Sir Hilary Jenkinson says in *A Manual of Archive Administration* that "Even in the case of the more important public or semi-public Administrations in England, there is practically no summary work, and detailed ones, mostly in the form of Articles, are scattered over Reviews, Transactions of Societies and Introductions to Texts." On the same point, in *An Introduction to British Government Publications*, James G. Ollé has only the following to say, tucked away as a footnote:
“Changes in the names and functions of government departments have been frequent since the last war. The Ministry of Works became the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works, the Ministry of Aviation succeeded to the Ministry of Supply, the Office of the Minister for Science was created and was later merged with the Ministry of Education, the three Service Departments have been brought under control of a unified Ministry of Defense and the Colonial Office is to be merged with the Commonwealth Relations Office. This, however, is not the full story of post-war changes. Further information will be found in the files of the O. & M. Bulletin [London, Organization and Methods Division of H.M. Treasury] and Public Administration (the quarterly journal of the Royal Institute of Public Administration [London]).”

The British Imperial Calendar and Civil Service List (London, H.M. Stationery Office) does not contain such information.

HUNGARY. The fortnightly classified (U.D.C.) national bibliography entitled the Magyar Nemzeti Bibliográfia; Bibliographia Hungarica, prepared by Országos Széchényi Könyvtár (National Széchényi Library), Budapest, includes (without special designation) official monographic publications, together with yearbooks and similar serials, with a few understandable exceptions such as “brochures d'importance mineure” and “imprimés d'ordre administratif et commercial.” Here as elsewhere in national bibliographies, a precise understanding of the official cataloging rules would aid one in using the national bibliography to help determine the current coverage of official publications.

ICELAND. The Árbók of the Landsbókasafn, Reykjavik, Iceland, includes the list of publications printed in Iceland each year, the official publications being entered under title or personal author.

INDIA. Part 2 of the monthly Indian National Bibliography, edited by the Central Reference Library of the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs, at the National Library, Calcutta, is devoted to government publications, both national and state, arranged in classified order.


The monthly Accessions list: India (with annual index) edited by the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, New Delhi, begin-
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ning in July 1962 as a part of the Library of Congress Public Law 480 Project, includes official publications, both national and state.

INDONESIA. Official publications are included in the alphabetical arrangement of the quarterly national bibliography, Bibliografi nasional Indonesia edited by the Kantor Bibliografi Nasional. Corporate entries are used. Also official publications are included in the Accessions list: Indonesia issued irregularly beginning July 1964 by the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, Djakarta, under the Library of Congress Public Law 480 Project. Here the serial publications are included separately at the end of each number.

IRELAND. In the semi-weekly official gazette Iris Oifigiúil (Stationery Office, Dublin), lists of government publications issued appear weekly or fortnightly, annually or less frequently in separate form as Catalogue of Government Publications and quinquennially as Consolidated List of Government Publications. Ordnance Survey maps are not included.

ISRAEL. The State Archives [formerly and Library] at Jerusalem edits a quarterly checklist entitled Israel Government Publications, both English and Hebrew. An annual cumulation for 1965 is appearing through the Publication Section of the Ministry of Defense, Tel-Aviv, and a retrospective cumulation is scheduled for 1967.

Attention may also be drawn to the monthly Accessions list: Israel (with annual index) edited by the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, Tel-Aviv, as a part of the Library of Congress Public Law 480 Project, beginning April 1964.

ITALY. The monthly Bibliografia nazionale italiana edited at the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale in Florence, though still appearing with very considerable delay, includes a considerable number of official publications in its regular classified arrangement, more titles than seem to be available in any other single current source.

The Libreria dello Stato, Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato, Rome, issues an annual Catalogo delle pubblicazione legislative ufficiale e varie, and the one for 1966 includes special sections for the parliamentary bodies, the Servizio Idrografico, and the Servizio Geologico. Each new edition incorporates the publications of the previous annual period. The 1966 Catalog includes those printed through July 1965. There is also a parallel Catalogo delle edizioni d'arte e di letteratura.

JAPAN. The Nōhon Shūhō (current publications weekly), edited by the National Diet Library, Tokyo, has from 1961 been divided into two sections, one for general publications, and the other for govern-
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ment publications. From number to number, Biblos, monthly magazine for branch libraries, executive and judicial, and other special libraries, edited by National Diet Library, Division for Interlibrary Service (mainly Japanese text), usually includes a monthly report on official publications and an agency section on selected official publications in post-war Japan.

LUXEMBURG. The annual classified national bibliography entitled Bibliographie Luxembourgeoise, edited by the Bibliothèque Nationale, Luxembourg, includes official publications, such entries being designated with +. A leaflet, entitled Publications de l'État luxembourgeois, is edited by the Office des Imprimés de l'État, also in Luxembourg-Ville, Avenue de la Côte d'Eich 17.

MADAGASCAR. The first number for 1964 of the annual current national bibliography, to include all official publications, is being compiled by the Bibliothèque Universitaire with the assistance of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and is scheduled for publication in 1966 by the Université de Madagascar at Tananarive.

MALAYSIA. The Government Printer, Kuala Lumpur, issues a quarterly Current List of Publications, each quarter the new additions being printed in italics.

MAURITIUS. The Annual Report of the Archives Department, Port Louis, includes the annual “Bibliography of Mauritius” with a section of government and semiofficial publications, continuing Auguste Tousaint's Bibliography of Mauritius, 1502-1954 (Port Louis, Mauritius, Archives Department, 1956).

NETHERLANDS. The annual Bibiliografie van in Nederland verschenen officiële en semi-officiële uitgaven prepared by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague, began with 1929. The arrangement is alphabetical by agency (taking in those subventioned or semi-official), with a section for the provinces at the end. Maps are included. This publication does not give contents for the individual documents in the Verslag van de handelingen der Staten-Generaal, leaving them to be utilized through the annual Register. There are separate indexes by persons and by topics.

Some official publications are listed under title or author in the alphabetical weekly book trade record in Nieuwsblad voor de boekhandel, but not distinguished in any way.

The Staatsuitgeverij, Christoffel Plantijnstraat, The Hague issues a Maandlijst rijksoverheidsuitgaven, being a sales list of publications appearing at the Government Printing Office (Staatsdrukkerij) during
the previous month and including some summaries or notes on the various items. Official publications appearing elsewhere than at the Government Printing Office are not included.

NEW ZEALAND. The General Assembly Library, Wellington, edits a mimeographed monthly Copyright List and a printed annual Copyright Publications, most official publications being included in the main alphabetical order under the heading New Zealand with any appropriate subdivisions. The official maps are included under the special section of maps. The Government Printing Office issues a monthly list of government publications so far as printed and for sale there.

NIGERIA. The University College Library at Ibadan in its Nigerian Publications, quarterly and annual, includes the official publications of the federal and regional governments at the end of each number.


NORWAY. Beginning with 1956, the Universitetsbibliotek, Oslo, has edited the annual bibliography of Norwegian official publications entitled Bibliografi over Norges offentlige publikasjoner, including in alphabetical agency order the official publications as well as those sub-mentioned by the Government. Maps are registered. The second section is devoted to a useful analysis of the separate documents in the Stortings Forhandlinger. There are separate indexes by persons and by subjects.

So far as the official publications are recorded currently in the Norsk bokhandeltidende, (Oslo, Norske bokhandlerforening, 1949-) they usually appear under title or personal author, not under agency.

POLAND. The weekly classified national bibliography Przewodnik bibliograficzny; Urzędowy wykaz druków wydanych w Polskiej Rzeczypospolitej Ludowej, edited by the Biblioteka Narodowa, Instytut Bibliograficzny, Warsaw, includes official publications without distinguishing entries in any way and without ordinarily using corporate headings.

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sections and in the serial section (at the end of each number), and has an annual index.


PORTUGAL. Although there is no current or other record devoted exclusively to official publications, the monthly Boletim de Bibliografia Portuguesa, edited by the Biblioteca Nacional at Lisbon, does include official publications (although not marked in any way) in its classified (U.D.C.) arrangement. The Boletim is unfortunately somewhat in arrears on its publication schedule. Official serial publications including those issued annually and irregularly are included in the volume Repertório das publicações periódicas portuguesas, 1961 (likewise classified), edited by the Biblioteca Nacional in 1964, with annual supplements from 1962 to date.

RHODESIA. The Library of the National Archives at Salisbury includes official publications in its classified annual List of Publications Deposited in the Library of the National Archives under the Printed Publications Act.

ROMANIA. The semi-monthly classified national bibliography Bibliografia Republici Populara Române: cărți, albume, hărțe, note muzicale edited by the Biblioteca Centrală de Stat in Bucharest, does include official publications, but does not distinguish them in any way.

SIERRA LEONE. The annual Sierra Leone Publications ... a List of Books and Pamphlets in English Received ... under the Publications (Amendment) Act, 1962 edited by the Sierra Leone Library Board, Freetown, beginning with 1962, includes mainly official publications of the Sierra Leone Government.

SOUTH AFRICA. Monthly, the Government Printer, Cape Town and Pretoria, inserts in the Republic of South Africa Government Gazette, Staatskoerant a list entitled “Official publications issued ... Offisiële publikasies uitgee ...” which also appears separately.

At the end of each number, Africana Nova; a quarterly bibliography of selected books published in and about the Republic of South Africa, edited by the South African Public Library, Cape Town, has included since March 1962 a listing of national and provincial official publications.

S.A.N.B., South African National Bibliography, Suid-Afrikaanse nationale bibliografie, published by the State Library (Staatsbiblioteek) Pretoria, includes national official publications in the classified se-
quence in its three quarterly issues and annual cumulation and in the future will also include those of South West Africa.

SPAIN. In the classified (U.D.C.) monthly Boletín del depósito legal de obras impresas, published by the Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas, government publications are entered under the various appropriate classes and are indexed in each number under agency so far as entered under the agency. There is no annual index to the Boletín del depósito legal . . . , but the material is cumulated annually, in the classified Bibliografía Española (Madrid, Ministerio de Educación Nacional, Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas, 1958- ) with more detailed indexing by agency and publisher as well as author.

Official publications so far as available for sale seem also to be included in the various sections of the monthly book trade bibliography El Libro español, edited by the Instituto Nacional del Libro Español, (Madrid, 1958-) but are not indexed under agency.

SWEDEN. Beginning with a combined volume for 1931-33, the Riksdagsbibliotek in Stockholm has edited regularly the Arsbibliografi över Sveriges offentliga publikationer. The arrangement is alphabetical by agencies. Documents included in the Riksdagens Protokoll are entered under agency by which prepared. There is a detailed listing of the two principal general series: Statens offentliga utredningar and Sveriges officiella statistik. There are indexes by persons and topics.

Official publications so far as included in the Svensk Bokförteckning prepared at the Royal Library (Kungl. Biblioteket) in Stockholm and appearing first in the weekly Svensk bokhandel, cumulated then monthly, quarterly, semiannually and annually, are usually entered under title or under personal author.

SWITZERLAND. Beginning with 1946, the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek, Bern, has been editing the annual Bibliographie der schweizerischen Amtsdruckschriften: Bibliographie des publications officielles suisses, based on the two classified series of the current Swiss national bibliography as published in Das Schweizer Buch: Le livre suisse: Il Libro svizzero, (Bibliographisches Bulletin der Schweizerischen Landes-bibliothek, Bern, 1901- ) but has the entries grouped under the agencies, including in addition to the Swiss Confederation separate sections for the cantons, cities and church bodies. In both series of Das Schweizer Buch, Swiss official publications are distinguished by the Mark “•” and publications of international organizations by the mark “▲.”

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. The Government Printing Office, Port-
Government Publications

of-Spain, usually issues an annual list of official publications for sale in the Trinidad and Tobago Gazette.

Since 1962 the Central Library, Port-of-Spain, has issued an annual mimeographed "List of books, pamphlets, etc., by Trinidadians and on Trinidad" in the West Indian Reference Collection, which includes government publications.

TURKEY. The quarterly classified national bibliography Türkiye Bibliyografyası, edited by the National Library, Millî Kütüphane, Bibliyografya Enstitüsü, Ankara, includes official publications, uses corporate headings, and distinguishes official publications by an asterisk.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS. The classified weekly national bibliography Knizhnaia letopis, edited by the Vsesoiuznaia Knizhnaia Palata, Moscow, includes official publications, without distinguishing them in any way, and apparently uses corporate headings rather sparingly, not having wide indexing by agencies. In some entries, the name of the publishing house may furnish the only clue as to the possible official character of a publication. An exact understanding of the sections of the official cataloging code devoted to corporate entries may furnish some clue as to the extent of the coverage.

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC. The monthly Accessions list: Middle East (with annual index), edited by the American Libraries Book Procurement Center, Cairo, as a part of the Library of Congress Public Law 480 Project, includes official publications of the United Arab Republic, and also, to the extent available, those of Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and of the League of Arab States.

UNITED STATES. The Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications edited by the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, has been considered since 1941 the basic record and endeavors to include all United States Government publications, printed or otherwise reproduced, whether for sale, for distribution by the issuing office, or for official use, with the exception of sheet maps and charts and of patent drawings and specifications, and of Congressional Bills. Agencies are arranged alphabetically by significant word in their names, and there are precise notes whenever changes in organization are first recorded. Further details may usually be obtained from the annual United States Government Organization Manual (since 1959 issued by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Serv-
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Personal authors were first indexed with January 1963. Periodicals, subscription publications and press releases are listed annually in a title arrangement with the February number. At the beginning of each number is a concise preview of publications in the course of being printed. The processed *Daily Depository Shipping List* with very brief entries prepared by the Library, Division of Public Documents, keeps the record more current than the *Monthly Catalog* for those items printed for depository library use. The biweekly *Selected United States Government Publications* furnishes current annotated notices of a limited number of publications printed for sale by the Superintendent of Documents. Current catalogs of map and chart issuing agencies such as the monthly *New Publications of the Geological Survey* extend substantially the coverage of the *Monthly Catalog*, as processed publications may for other current lists of agencies such as the monthly *New Publications [of the] Bureau of Mines* and the *Monthly List of Printed and Duplicated Material of the Fish and Wildlife Service*.

YUGOSLAVIA. The semimonthly classified national bibliography *Bibliografsija Jugoslavije* (1950-), edited by the Jugoslovenski Bibliografski Institut, Belgrade, includes official publications distinguished with an asterisk.

In conclusion, one can discern a rather steadily increasing appreciation of the importance of government publications, of the complications of agency and agency changes, of their frequently rather specialized character (intended for equally specialized but important use), and of the necessity for current recording in some form or other. The present overall statement undoubtedly does pinpoint the importance of various factors involved such as the following:

1. Definition of the coverage for the current recording,
2. Arrangement by agency with concise statement of agency and agency changes,
3. Awareness of any special names or catchword designations in popular, legislative, and mass communications,
4. Designation by asterisk or some other marking whenever government publications are recorded in general national bibliographies, particularly when integrated with other materials in alphabetical or classified arrangement,
5. The possibility of certain types of government publications not being recorded or controlled as, even with centralized or somewhat
centralized government printing and distribution, not infrequently changes in government programs and agency structure tend to outstrip existing facilities (such as map printing requiring separate facilities),

(6) The increasingly acute problem of current control posed by constant development of intergovernmental organizations, such as the United Nations with its various specialized agencies, agencies outside the United Nations, and bilateral organizations.

What the future holds will be conditioned by the considerable advances demonstrated above, and by the imperative call for further progress.

References