

# From Inside the DLSEF

By DR. KATHERINE M. STOKES

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It's statistics time again! I know you're all hoping to see *Library Statistics of Colleges and Universities, 1967-68; Data for Individual Institutions* at midwinter ALA the week of January 26 here in Washington. Mr. Joel Williams of the National Center for Educational Statistics is hoping even harder that the report will be ready for you, in the new olive green covers that have been designed for all NCES publications in the Library Series.

The scheduling of this report had some very strict deadlines which had to be stringently enforced, if the publication were to be issued on time. Although the form contained the notation that it was to be completed and returned by October 1, only 700 out of a possible total of 2,500 had been returned by that date. Duplicate forms stamped "Second Request" were sent to nonresponding librarians on October 3, and another set of forms stamped "Third Request" went to nonrespondents in mid-October. By November 4, the total of forms received had climbed to 2,000, or 80 per cent.

However, each form required complex processing. It was carefully examined for errors and inconsistencies. Since October 1, the staff of NCES has written about 300 letters and probably made about 150 telephone calls to librarians in order to clear up problems. Thereafter, the statistics were keypunched and examined again, for errors and inconsistencies—this time on the computer. Naturally, this series of checks can result in the exclusion of numerous reports from the institutional listing.

NCES has made a valiant effort to include as many institutions as possible in order to present a widespread representation of academic libraries. By November 26, the deadline for this phase of the project, statistics for about 1,880 libraries (nearly 75 per cent of the 2,500

forms sent out) had been edited and keypunched.

What of the remaining reports? NCES will certainly use them. The staff is interested in a complete response from all academic libraries because it intends to publish an *Analytic Report* in the spring. This report will represent the totality of libraries and will present national summary tables.

When the NCES distributed the *Preliminary Report on Academic Libraries, 1966-67* last January, it promised you a complete report on individual institutional data by June. You must be wondering what happened. As you may remember, the original report included data on only 395 libraries. The complete report has been in the computer area for some time. Although the report has been given top priority by the Center, there have been unavoidable delays in the tabulating process. The data processing group, which is outside the Center, has reassured Mrs. Dorothy M. Gilford, the new Assistant Commissioner for Educational Statistics, that it is taking steps to expedite future publications through the use of contractual services, as has been done with the 1967-68 report.

Since Mrs. Gilford's arrival in May, she has placed an increased emphasis on the production of library statistics by the establishment of a new branch and the recruitment of a librarian staff member.

If you wish to discuss your library's statistics as they appear in *Data for Institutional Libraries*, call on Mrs. Doris Holladay or Dr. Bronson Price while you're in Washington. Mrs. Holladay is in room 1010 at 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, and Dr. Price is across the hall in room 1013. His phone number is 962-7443 and Mrs. Holladay's is 963-7708. And if you were one of those librarians who didn't make the October 1 deadline, do give the NCES staff a word of thanks for being patient with you. ■■

## MOVING

If you are changing your mailing address, please be sure to let ALA know *at least* six weeks in advance.

*Important:* Please send ALA both your old and new addresses plus the date you would like the change made. (A copy of your address label clipped to your notice would help.)

**Membership Records  
American Library Association  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611**

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*The New York University List of Books in Education*, has now been published. It is an annotated, subject-arranged bibliography of more than 2,800 titles recommended by the faculty of the School of Education, and has been published by Citation Press in New York. For further details see *Library Journal* for November 15, 1968.

*Barbara Marks, Chairman  
Education and Behavioral  
Science Subsection* ■■

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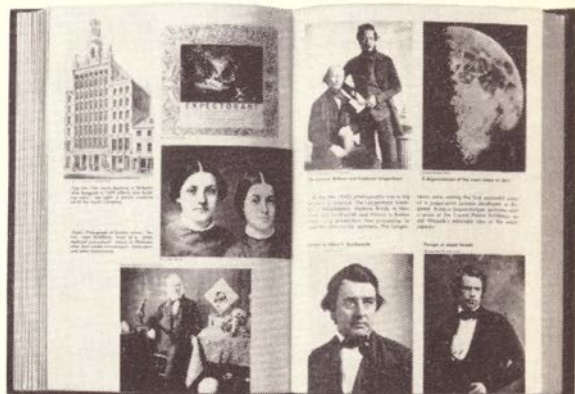


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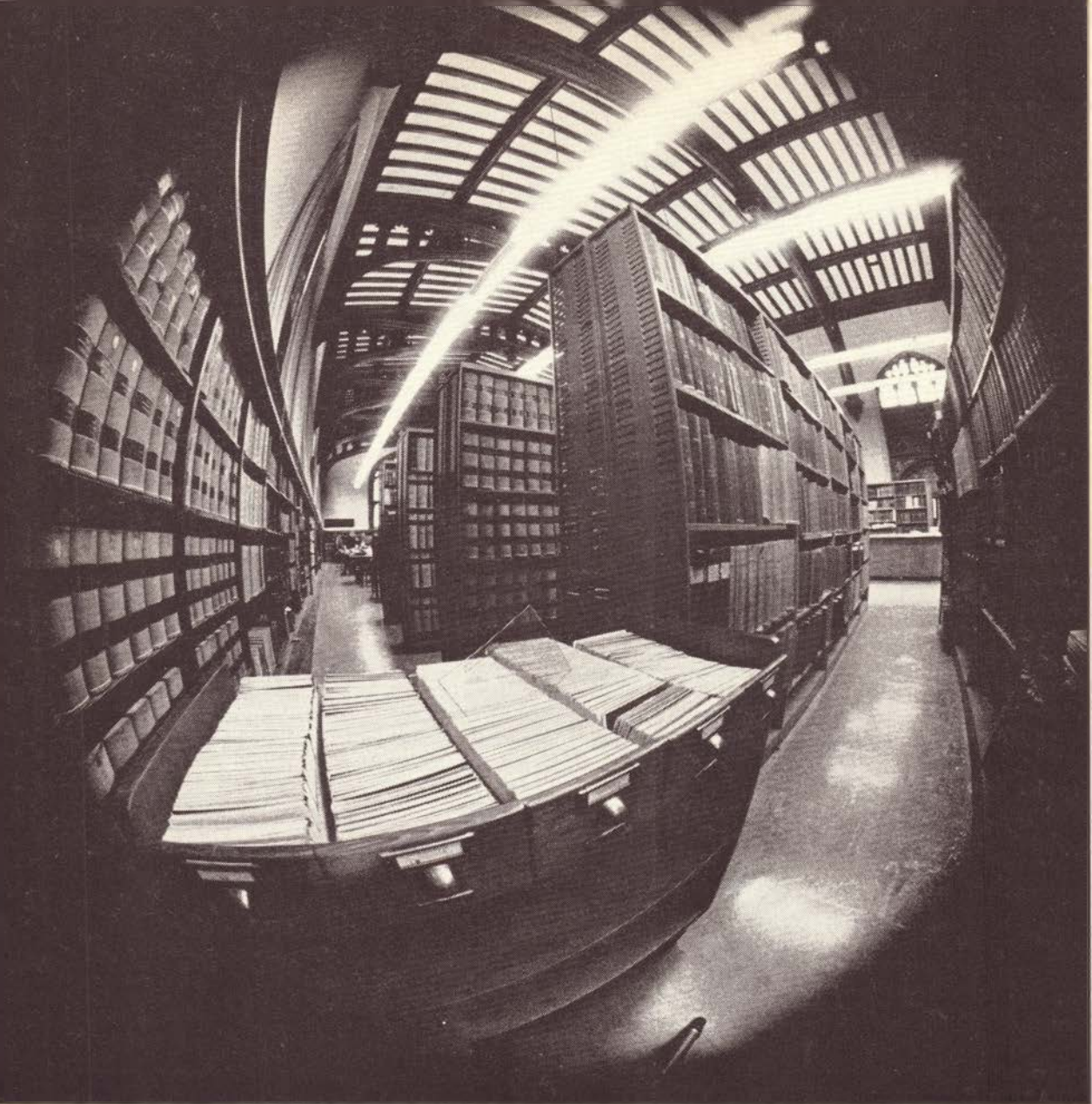
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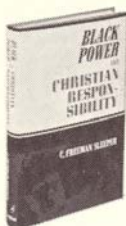
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*Please indicate whether you are interested in attending a UMF Seminar to be conducted in your area in 1969.*

# SUBJECT MATTER ON SUBJECTS THAT MATTER

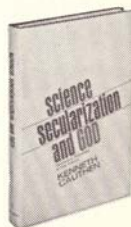


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