

In September CLR awarded a grant of \$23,000 to the National Library of Canada (NLC) to enable NLC to publish, in computer output microfiche (COM), bibliographic records produced in the CONSER (Conversion of Serials) project. The CONSER project is a cooperative file-building effort initiated five years ago to develop a national data base of serials records. CLR funded and managed the project using the resources of 14 North American libraries and the on-line computer facilities of OCLC, Inc, which has now assumed the management role. Production of CONSER/COM allows libraries that are not members of OCLC to have access to all the authenticated records in the CONSER file. As of June 30, 1979, NLC had received 93 subscriptions from 13 countries including Canada. In the United States, the Library of Congress will begin distribution of CONSER microfiche early in the new fiscal year. As an additional service, the Library is taking steps to make the entire machine-readable file of CONSER records available on tape at nominal cost. The file will be issued annually and will contain all CONSER records, whether authenticated or not.

Although CLR is no longer responsible for CONSER management, the Council still has active interest in the project, particularly as it relates to the overall development of national bibliographic control. In conjunction with the U.S. Office of Education (USOE), CLR has taken the initiative to organize meetings of CONSER participants and USOE grant recipients, whose projects involve retrospective conversion of union lists of serials to machine-readable form. The grants were made under Title II-C of the Higher Education Act. The anticipated result of the meetings is the assurance that these discrete projects are more closely coordinated and compatible with the development of the national data base of serials records. This work is being carried out under the guidelines of the Council's Bibliographic