

depositories of the country. This resulted in copying the early periods before the series were bound for exchange between the states and in filling gaps when the copies are now rare items. Terminal supplements can be added as a broader objective and may appear desirable later.

Part 1 has been arranged with less precision than the other printed series. This has been due to the fact that the materials do not lend themselves to exactness of arrangement. It is difficult to check these collections for omissions because of the variations in format and irregularities in document numbering and in pagination. In many cases the only integrity of a volume of Collected Public Documents is a loose binding thrown around a group of unnumbered reports.

From time to time states have issued companion series of collected documents. In such cases Executive Documents will be indicated by D.11 and Legislative Documents by D.12. When a companion series was printed for each house of the legislature, Senate Documents will be indicated by D.12a and House Documents by D.12b.

Location symbols in the tables of contents show that the Library of Congress, the Massachusetts State Library and the Library of the University of North Carolina, in that order, furnished most of Part 1 and that a number of State Libraries contributed for particular states. Collected Public Documents—A Check List was published by the National Association of State Libraries and prepared in conjunction with this work.

Part 2 includes the same type of material as Part 1. The plan is to reconstruct from the ephemeral issues of many separate agencies a collected documents series for a period prior to the actual binding of the material in collected form. The purpose is to arrange the sets of reports and papers of each agency on individual reels. In cases of certain long established agencies, materials will be sufficient in volume to warrant their arrangement on individual reels. In such cases, separate classification numbers are assigned to the reports of each agency: D.21, Governor's messages and proclamations; D.22, Auditor; D.23, Comptroller; and D.24, Treasurer. In order to present the record of the fiscal officers prior to the time of printed reports, original reports in manuscript and ledger account books have been copied. The reports of all other departments, boards, institutions and commissions are grouped under D.25 with a lower case letter to designate each type of agency, e.g., D.25 i for Internal Improvements. When the reports and papers of an agency are not sufficient in volume to warrant their arrangement on an individual reel, the materials of a number of such agencies may be consolidated on a reel or reels having the identification symbol D.2. In such cases, the classification for each agency will appear under the unit number, or with each individual entry if the materials of more than