

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contracts for the purchase of catalogs and magnetic tape data bases worth more than \$225,000 have recently been awarded to Xerox Bibliographics of Washington, D. C. by King County Library System, Seattle, and The Evergreen State College, Olympia. Another Xerox Bibliographics bid for a composite magnetic tape data base of the two systems holdings in the Library of Congress MARC II format was not accepted by Washington State Library.

Xerox Bibliographics submitted bids which were approximately \$480,000 lower than the nearest competitor. An invitation to bid was issued jointly in December, 1970 by King County Library System, The Evergreen State College, and Washington State Library. The joint invitation to bid was one of the first steps in a plan to develop a statewide library data bank capable of being handled by modern high-speed computers.

The contract for King County Library System calls for the provision of a multi-volume book catalog of 100,000 titles by July 15, 1971. Quarterly cumulative supplements will be issued thereafter until a completely new edition of the catalog is issued in June, 1973.

"Users of the new King County catalog will find it much easier to locate books on a particular subject than with the existing catalog," according to Herbert F. Mutschler, Director, King County Library. "This is because of the use of a vastly expanded and more specific subject index -- from the present 194 to more than 30,000 subject headings," Mutschler added.

"In addition, each entry will have much more detailed information regarding each book held, because the full Library of Congress record will be used instead of the

present abbreviated King County entry. The new catalog will also be much easier to read as the pages will be printed using the latest computer typesetting techniques via photo-composition. This will replace the block capitals printed in the existing catalog."

The contract for The Evergreen State College calls for production of a total resource catalog of 100,000 items by college opening day, September, 1971. The form of this catalog will be conventional 3 x 5 library cards, which will be printed and similar to Library of Congress cards. After production of cards for the initial catalog, Xerox Bibliographics will continue to provide both cards and processing kits to Evergreen.

"An unusual feature of Evergreen's Library is the integration of their learning resources," according to Dean of Library Services James F. Holly. "Thus our collection will range from conventional books and periodicals through films, filmstrips, audio and video tapes to realia and other three-dimensional representations," Holly added.

"In that Evergreen's collection is starting from scratch it will be able to utilize the full Library of Congress cataloging entries including subject headings. Hence it will not have some of the conversion problems now being encountered by many academic libraries as these libraries change over to Library of Congress cataloging to fully utilize the potential of the LC MARC II program."

Additional products from both the King County and Evergreen contracts will be two magnetic tapes containing full records of the items held in each system. "Both tapes are to be in an identical format and will be amalgamated at the State Library to form the nucleus of a statewide data bank of library holdings," according to State Librarian Maryan E. Reynolds. "As additional libraries in the State develop machine prepared catalogs, their holdings will be added to the State data bank, which will make it possible for a catalog of library holdings within the State of Washington to be issued," Miss Reynolds said.