

The purpose of this exhibit is to bring to the attention of all those concerned with educational materials, books that are now available to the schools. Since some of these books have just been received from the publishers, not all of those in this exhibit could possibly be in the schools at this time. However, through the concentrated efforts of the Operating Divisions, the textbook office, the principals of the schools, the Bureau of Supplies, and the educational publishers, most of these materials should be in our schools by the beginning of the next school year.

JOSEPH O. LORETAN,
Deputy Superintendent.

The following are *excerpts* from administrative circulars sent to Field Superintendents and Principals of schools within the past school year.

Special Circular, February 3, 1964, Basic Book Collections on Minority Groups for School Libraries:

"In accordance with our plans for school integration, we are developing a basic list of books on various minority groups of New York City appropriate for each school level. The attached lists are concerned with Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

"It is our recommendation that every school, regardless of its ethnic composition, have such a collection for teachers as well as for pupils. As new materials are published in these areas, supplementary lists will be issued by the Bureau of Libraries.

"Please consult the Human Relations Bibliographies in the "School Library Bulletins" for suggested readings about other minority groups. It is our hope that excellent collections will be built up in each school to give an accurate picture of the heritage and current contributions made by all Americans."

(Subsequent list distributed January 1965.)

Special Circular, February 24, 1964, Text Materials Treating the Role of Minorities: "The attention of principals and teachers is directed to the books listed below. They all offer, in varying degrees, constructive presentations in regard to the role of minorities in our history and culture, either in the text or in the illustrations. The first group consists of books (46) which have already appeared on the official list of approved textbooks. The second group consists of books (14) which are being recommended to the Board of Education for its approval."

Special Circular, October 28, 1964, Text Materials Treating the Role of Minorities: "We are glad to be able to report that many publishers have been cooperating in preparing new books which include this feature. A significant recent development in this field is that we are now able to recommend such books (38) in other curriculum areas than social studies, such as Language Arts and Science, even though the improvement may be apparent only in the illustrations."

Special Circular, February 15, 1965, Text Materials Treating the Role of Minorities:

"Last year your attention was directed to a number of books which offered constructive presentations on the role of minorities in our history and culture. We are glad to be able to report excellent cooperation on the part of many publishers in our continuing campaign for the development of such new text materials.

"Following is a list of new books (64), received since October 1964, which have been reviewed and which I am recommending to the Board of Education for its approval. Again, several curriculum areas, in addition to History and Social Studies, are represented. May I urge you to give top priority in the current ordering period to these titles."

Special Circular, January 22, 1965, Phasing Out of Obsolete Textbooks:

"Each year a number of titles are dropped from the List of Approved Textbooks at the expiration of their contracts. Many of these items have been voluntarily withdrawn by the publishers. Many others are not relisted, by action of the Board of Education, for various administrative reasons. For both these groups of books, the reasons on which the decisions were based need not necessarily affect the continued use in the schools of existing copies of these titles.

"Some titles are dropped by action of the Board for substantial causes, upon recommendation of appropriate appraisal committees. These causes may significantly affect the decisions of principals as to whether or not existing copies of these titles should continue to be used in classrooms. Among the substantial causes referred to are the following:

"1. A book may have become seriously out-of-date since its original listing, in terms of factual, historical or scientific information.