How do automated book acquisitions systems serve libraries' needs? What are their advantages? These and other questions will be the subject of an all-day program to be given at the annual conference of the American Library Association in Chicago, Tuesday, June 27, 1978.

A state-of-the-art review of the functions of existing systems will be offered with discussion of the impact of automated systems on publishers, wholesalers and on related non-acquisitions activities. The program will address such issues as the evaluation of competing systems, the optimum size of an operation for automation to be feasible, and the determination of costs of automated systems.

A program committee of representatives from the sponsoring organizations (Association of American Publishers/ALA Resources and Technical Services Division Joint Committee and the ALA Resources Section, Bookdealer-Library Relations Committee) has met to develop the structure of the meeting, identify potential speakers, and collect data on existing acquisitions systems.

A questionnaire has been drafted for circulation to libraries that presently employ automation in all or part of their book acquisition activities in order to gain information to support the state-of-the-art portion of the program. Institutions that have such a system or persons with questions they would like the program to answer, should write for a questionnaire to: William A. Gosling, Assistant University Librarian for Technical Services, Duke University Library, Durham, NC 27706.