governmental activities. The title of this work reflects two divergent decisions made by Supreme Court judges Justice P. Meyer and Justice J.H. Sissons. In 1962, Justice Sissons labelled Yukon a “crown colony” whose “legislation and administration are controlled by the Dominion Government.” By 1986, Yukon’s political evolution had progressed so far that Justice Meyer ruled Yukon was an “infant province with most but not all the attributes of a true province.” Researchers interested in Yukon’s political evolution will find this publication a fascinating information source which appears at a time when interest in the constitutional development of the territory is particularly high.

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This reference tool is one of Yukon’s contributions to the Decentralized Program for Canadian Newspapers. The program, an initiative of the National Library of Canada, is a cooperative effort by the provinces and territories to establish bibliographic control of their newspapers, to ensure their preservation, and to improve public access to this rich body of information. The first step in achieving these aims is to identify all newspapers, past and present, within each jurisdiction, and to locate extant copies.

Yukon, a sparsely populated territory with a brief history, has had few commercially published newspapers. For many communities, news of purely local interest is captured only in amateur newsletters (often sporadic) and in the bulletins of special interest groups. The checklist includes all such ephemeral titles identified to 1987, as well as the “mainstream” territorial press. Some 120 titles are listed. Publications of special interest include the native press, school newspapers, and the newsletters of a variety of organizations — social, political, labour, athletic, and cultural.

Primary arrangement is by community of publication, with cross references from titles and names of sponsoring bodies. Most titles are held only by the Yukon Archives, but other locations are noted for major Klondike and Whitehorse newspapers. Microform titles are identified.

Response to the checklist has been positive. Not only is it proving to be a useful reference tool, but it is also serving to generate interest in preserving Yukon’s newspapers. Since publication of the checklist, Yukon Archives has received issues missing from its collection (including copies of a few hitherto unknown titles) and additional holdings information from repositories outside Yukon. Some of the information compiled for the checklist has been incorporated in the National Library’s recently published Union List of Canadian Newspapers.

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