

Mr. Blanchette, on the other hand, maintained initially that FAH has neither the manpower nor the money to undertake the production. He offered however to provide and pay for an indexer - a key person in this enterprise - and provide also some of the typing help required. Later, his generous nature drove him to declare that while he hasn't the means to produce the record this year, he hopes his division's budget is going to be substantially enlarged next year, and if it is he might take on the whole thing.

Would the proposed new record entail higher costs, more man years, for External? Essentially, the new record would be a consolidation of present material. Hence, at first blush, it would seem that other than the cost of additional material from other departments, and minor items such as binders for the posts, extra expense should not be great.

There are, however, certain other factors to be considered. As I see it, in the beginning at least, the operation would require two key people: an intelligent, experienced and discriminating editor with a well-developed sense of history capable of selecting truly important material for the record; and secondly the indexer, already referred to. Indexing is a tedious task, but the efficient use of a record of this kind is dependent on the user being able to locate not only a single isolated item, but related items which ante-dated it. That takes patience and a long memory, as well as the ability to index items under headings or in categories where they can be found. Presumably there are people already in External whose talents qualify them for these jobs. Alternatively, Mr. Blanchette has