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## **California State Library Launches New Online Catalog**

Sacramento -- Stacey A. Aldrich, State Librarian of California, has announced the April 5 launch of a new, web-based catalog that significantly improves access to the rich historical, legal, pictorial, document, and general collections of the California State Library. The new user-friendly catalog represents a final phase in the multi-year project to enhance access to collections and services offered by the State Library.

For the first time, access to photographs and historical images from the State Library's collections will be combined with the catalog of books, documents, legal materials, magazines, journals, manuscripts, maps, and videos, giving users the ability to find photographs and a rich variety of materials on a topic in a single online search.

"California citizens, libraries, state officials and employees will be presented with a new look and additional ways to discover the materials available in the collections of the State Library," Aldrich stated.

Launch of the new online catalog is part of the implementation of the new Aleph Integrated Library System developed by Ex Libris LTD, a recognized leader in library automation. MetaLib, the Ex Libris software that allows users to search multiple State Library databases at one time, will be implemented soon. The ability to search multiple databases is a new feature previously unavailable to authorized users.

**About the California State Library:** Founded in 1850, The California State Library is the main reference and research library for the Governor's office, legislature, statewide elected and appointed officials, state employees, and the general public. It supports California's public libraries by administering federal and state grants for programs in historical preservation, library construction, broadband connectivity, civil liberties education, literacy and volunteering. For more information, visit [www.library.ca.gov](http://www.library.ca.gov).

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