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Electronic Inventory Control System will be one of Many Topics Covered at the Fourth Annual Procurement Conference

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to bill mckenzie, the midwest purchasing agent, cleveland

Simplified inventory control and sales analysis at the University of Dayton bookstore has resulted from the installation of an electronic system of the type that can be used in almost any business.

And the man who set up the system at the University is one of a number of persons who will be on the program of the fourth annual Procurement Conference in Dayton Oct. 7 and 8.

John Nolting, director of business systems for the University's Research Institute, will tell at the annual conference how procurement personnel can effect great methods economies through electronic data processing, the management tool that is bringing about a veritable revolution in many phases of industry.

Nolting worked with the National Cash Register Company, the University's good neighbor, in setting up the experimental system in the bookstore. Paper tape is generated by the cash register in the store, and these tapes provide any number of records and other information. Serviced at the University's computer facility, the tapes result in the bookstore manager's having at his almost immediate disposal various types of statistical reports for inventory control, sales analyses, daily balance forms, etc.

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Bookstore Manager Brother George N. Mukits points to these improvements the electronic system has brought about in the store:

1. Reduced operating costs.
2. Simplified inventory control.
3. Ability to buy more scientifically.
4. Simplified sales analysis.
5. Elimination of much clerical detail.

The bookstore installation and the University's data processing center have become "tourist attractions" for businessmen visiting in Dayton. Persons taking part in the forthcoming Procurement Conference in October will have an opportunity to tour both facilities.

Discussions of data processing are typical of those scheduled during the two-day Dayton meeting. Dr. Howard T. Lewis, professor emeritus of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, will again serve as conference director. He'll be assisted on the program by such persons as Stuart Heinritz, former editor of Purchasing magazine; Gil Riches, of the Philip Carey Manufacturing Company in Cincinnati; and Ted Thompson, buyer at Aeroproducts Operations, Allison Division, General Motors Corporation, known to national association members as chairman for professional development of N.A.P.A.'s sixth district and immediate past vice-president of the district.

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The conference, co-sponsored by the University and the Dayton Association of Purchasing Agents, is designed for "procurement and management personnel and others whose operations might benefit from a better understanding of the latest techniques, systems, procedures, and policies in industrial procurement and materials management."

Details of the seminar are being handled by the University's office of specialized educational services. Further information and registration procedure may be obtained from that source.