ARE THE WORKS IN YOUR COLLECTION IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN?

Copyright protection lasts for a limited amount of time. How long the rights last depends on the year of creation or publication. When a work's copyright term expires, it enters the public domain where anyone can copy, distribute, display, adapt, and perform the work without permission.

The following tool can help you determine the copyright status of a work based on the year of creation or publication.
http://librarycopyright.net/digitalslider/

*Please note: the slider applies to U.S. works only.

To fully verify public domain status, registration and renewal records from U.S. Copyright Office should also be checked:
http://cocatalog.loc.gov/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First