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Jurisdocs / GDSIS

JURISDOCS is a quarterly publication of the Government Documents Special Interest Section [GDSIS] of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL).

JURISDOCS seeks to provide librarians with useful and current information on government documents in the areas of law and legislation. Unless otherwise noted, the opinions expressed are not those of GDSIS or of AALL.

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MEMBERSHIP

Membership in AALL is a prerequisite to joining GDSIS. Active individual members and designated institutional members of AALL may affiliate with GDSIS upon payment to AALL of an annual fee of $5.00. For information about becoming a member of AALL contact: American Association of Law Libraries / 53 West Jackson Boulevard / Chicago, IL. 60604 (312)999-4764.

SUBSCRIPTION AND CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION ON PAGE 12

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Welcome!

The first year of the newly organized Government Documents SIS was extremely busy. Through the efforts of the immediate past chairperson, Emelyn House, the transition from committee status was completed. The following successful workshops were held at the Annual Convention in Rochester: 1) Depository Collection Management; 2) Administrative Regulations; and 3) The G.P.O. - Changes and Plans. Summary reports of the workshops will be published in Jurisdocs.

The SIS has several active committees and we are asking for your participation and ideas. The committees are:

Program (Annual Convention) - Michael Gehringer
Special projects - Colleen Pauwels
Newsletter - Larry Cheeseman, Susanne Thevenet
By-Laws - Kurt Adamson
Nominating - Malinda Allison
Stillwell Project - Emelyn House

Watch for news from the committee chairpersons. The chairpersons are now in the process of gathering ideas and people for their committees. If you are interested in working on one of the committees, drop a note to the appropriate committee chairperson or myself.

Spread the word about the Government Documents SIS!! Membership information appears on page 2 of Jurisdocs. We are looking forward to a profitable year of working in the field of government documents. By the next newsletter we should be able to report a number of projects well under way. We need everyone to support and participate in Government Documents SIS!!

Nancy P. Johnson

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE

The special Projects Committee is seeking members and suggestions for the work of the Committee. Some of the ideas already received have been:

1) Devise a suggestion form for members of AALL to communicate to GPO.
2) Support a bill for publication of slip laws in the Federal Register.
3) Input ideas into decision of Title 44 of USC.
4) Write GPO and joint Committee on Printing to get more publications sent through the depository system -- executive reports, legislative calendars.

If you are interested in working with this committee or have ideas to suggest, please contact Colleen K. Pauwels, Public Services Librarian, Law Library, Indiana University Law School, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. (812-337-9666)

STILLWELL PROJECT

Enough interest was expressed in the Stillwell Legislative History Project after the business meeting in Rochester that a request for advice and guidelines was made of the Executive Board at their post-convention meeting on June 29. The response from President Jacobstein in a letter of July 10, reports that the Executive Board decided that SIS projects in general would be handled through the appropriate standing committees of AALL and in this specific instance, we are advised to "clear" the project with the Publications Committee. It is hoped that a specific proposal can be presented to the Board at an early meeting.

Anyone who is interested in this project may contact Emelyn House, Law Library, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109.
Attention: California Librarians!

The officers of the SIS are already thinking ahead to the 1979 government documents business meeting to be held at the Annual Convention in San Francisco. We want to devote 15 minutes of the business meeting to California state documents. It is our intention to devote some time during each annual business meeting to the state documents of the convention site.

We need volunteers from California who would be willing to work on this project. Librarians from other states are interested in learning about important series, key monographs, and pertinent indexes from the state of California. Bibliographies will be an important part of the program since we can only allow a short portion of the business meeting to state documents.

If you are interested in working on a bibliography or speaking at the business meeting, please contact Nancy Johnson, University of Illinois Law Library, Champaign, Illinois 61820. It should be an excellent opportunity to exchange information on state documents.

Membership News by JUDITH GECAS


LAWRENCE G. CHEESEMAN, law librarian II at the Brooklyn Supreme Court Library, has been named to the Board of Directors of the New York Legislative Service.

JACK S. ELLENBERGER, formerly librarian at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., is now librarian at Shearman & Sterling in New York City.

MICHAEL GEHRINGER, formerly Assistant Reference Librarian at the Library of Congress Law Library, is now Assistant Librarian for Research Services at the Supreme Court of the United States Library.


This column will be a regular feature in JURISDOCS. If you know of any personal news about SIS members or new publications by SIS members, please let me know. Judith Gecas, University of Chicago Law Library. 1121 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637. (312) 753-3425.

GDSIS or GODIS?

The Government Documents Special Interest Section is seeking your thoughts and opinion on an appropriate abbreviation or acronym for our group. If you like or dislike GDSIS or GODIS or GDOIS or can think of another, please contact: Nancy P. Johnson/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Law Library/Champaign, IL 61820.

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Government Documents SIS are: a) to disseminate information on government documents to the AALL membership; b) to further the continuing education of law librarians in the area of government documents; to coordinate the activities of law librarians in representing their interests to public and private groups with regard to the publication, dissemination, citation, and use of government documents; and d) to work in cooperation with documents groups in other associations and organizations.
FEDERAL REGISTER SUIT REMANDED

In a case whose final outcome may have a profound effect upon the way government documents are indexed, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit has reversed the District Court of New Jersey and remanded for further consideration a case which alleges that the Office of the Federal Register (OFR) has breached its statutory duty by not preparing an adequate analytical subject index to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

The suit brought by John Cervase, a Newark N.J. attorney appearing pro se, alleges: 1) that OFR is under a statutory duty to prepare and publish an analytical subject index to CFR; 2) that OFR has breached this duty by preparing only a 164 page table of contents to the entire 120 volume Code; 3) that this breach of duty has injured Cervase and the public at large by making it impossible for them to know which Federal regulations apply to them.

The case, Cervase vs. Office of the Federal Register, was dismissed by the District Court of New Jersey on procedural grounds. The 26 page slip decision of the Third Circuit (no. 77-1392) filed on May 30, 1978 now returns the case to the lower court where, hopefully, it will be considered on its merits.

NEW GAO SALES POLICY

The United States General Accounting Office has announced that single copies of GAO reports which had previously only been available to the general public for $1.00 are now available free of charge.

Copies of GAO reports had previously only been provided without charge to Members of Congress; congressional committee staff members; officials of Federal, State and local governments; members of the press; college libraries, faculty members and students; and non-profit organizations.

Requests (except for members of Congress) for additional quantities should still be accompanied by payment of $1.00 per copy. Microfiche copies will still be sent without charge.

Orders for single copies (without charge) should be sent to: U.S. General Accounting Office/ Distribution Section, Room 1518, 441 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20548.

Request for multiple copies should be accompanied by check or money order made payable to: U.S. General Accounting Office/ P.O. Box 1020, Washington, D.C. 20013.

To order a GAO report, use the report number and date.

A subscription to Monthly List of GAO Reports which contains a summary and full ordering information for GAO Reports issued during the month is available free of charge upon request from GAO.

OMB PROPOSAL RAISES CONCERN

Concern over possible harm to the GPO Depository program and to the free distribution of copies through agency mailing lists has been expressed about the Office of Management and Budget's recently proposed Federal policy relating to dissemination of scientific and technical information which results from Federal funds.

The proposed policy which urges Federal agencies to use NTIS and to publish on a full cost recovery basis makes no mention of the depository library program (44 USC 1902) and has caused concern that agencies will deposit copies only with NTIS, a sales agency, and not provide copies for depository program or for mailing list distribution.

The text of the proposed policy along with OMB's call for public comment appears at 43 Federal Register 32204-5 (July 25, 1978).

Francis Buckley, chairperson of the Depository Library Council, has urged all concerned librarians to write "very strong and critical comments" to OMB and to anyone else who may be in a position to influence the final drafting of the proposed policy. Although the August 18th deadline has past, it is felt that responses will still continue to be persuasive.

Please send copies of your letters to Francis Buckley and to the Public Printer, Mr. John J. Boyle.
REORGANIZATION OF CFR & FEDERAL REGISTER PROPOSED

In an attempt to make Government regulations more accessible to the public, the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register is considering several proposed changes -- including one which would reorganize CFR and the Federal Register.

In compliance with President Carter's directive (E.O. 12044) to improve Government regulations, the Committee is considering reorganizing CFR so that all regulations of an agency would be brought together under a single title. The Federal Register would be organized according to issuing agency, so that all documents published by an agency on a particular day would be grouped together.

At the present time, CFR is organized to parallel the U.S. Code and the Federal Register documents are published according to whether they are Presidential documents rules, proposed rules, or notices.

The proposed changes appear at 43 Federal Register 21995-6 (May 22, 1978).

Fred J. Emery, Director of the office of the Federal Register, has indicated that he would still welcome comments even though the July 23, 1978 deadline has passed. Please address comments to: Director, Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. 20408

CONTU SUBMITS ITS FINAL REPORT

In the midst of the growing controversy between publishers and library organizations over the Copyright Act of 1976, the National Commission on New Technological Uses of Copyrighted Works (CONTU) has submitted its final report -- recommending that with the exception of a provision relating to commercial copiers who are in the business of making copies for profit the photocopying provisions of the new law are adequate at the present time to protect both the rights of creators and the public's access to their works.

The Report which was submitted to the President and Congress on July 31, 1978 was the result of over three years of collecting data and holding hearings. Among the numerous studies and reports which were funded in part by CONTU in the course of its investigations was King Research, Inc.'s Library Photocopying in the United States (GPO stock no. 052-003-00443-7, $4.50; NTIS P.B. Number 278 200/AS, $10.75 for full size copies and $3.00 for microfiche) -- the most comprehensive body of data ever collected on photocopying in the United States.

In addition to its recommendation on legislation, the Final Report also recommends that while copying from books under fair use (section 108) and the library exemption (section 108) would have "no appreciable effect on the economics of book publishing at this time or in the next few years" (p.185), the Register of Copyright should conduct a "study of the overall impact of all photoduplication practices" as part of the mandated five year review of the new law.

The Report also recommends to publishers, libraries and government agencies that they cooperate in making information about the copyright status of all published works more readily available to the public.

Among the useful features of the report are: "A Summary of the Legislative History of the Photocopy Issue" (Appendix A2) and a bibliography "Selected List of Documents Relating to Photocopying and the 1976 Copyright Act." (Appendix 12).

The Report is expected to be made available from GPO shortly. Individuals and organizations on the CONTU'S mailing list are now being sent a printed copy of the report.

NEW LC LAW LIBRARY REPORTS

The following reports, prepared by its legal specialists, in response to congressional requests, are now available to librarians free of charge from: The Law Library, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.


The New York State library will soon offer for sale on microfiche one of the principal sources for establishing legislative intent in New York—the Governor's Bill Jackets.

Reportedly, the price for the set—which includes about 1,200 jackets per year—will be $10,000 for the years 1905 up to (but not including) the Rockefeller administration, and $12,000 – $13,000 for the Rockefeller and Wilson administrations.

Currently, the New York Public Library in New York City is the only library outside Albany to have a set and NYPL's set is current only to 1958.

The Legislative Reference Library in Albany will also sell single jackets for about $1.00 per fiche, but these are of poor quality, and should not be expected to have the shelf life of those sold in sets.

For further information contact: New York State Library, Law & Social Sciences, Cultural Education Center, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY, (518) 474-5943. Their hours are 10-5.

MINNESOTA ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

The Minnesota Attorney General's Office has recently made available on fiche the Opinions of the Attorney General. The cost of a set of 9,650 fiche is $2,750 plus tax. Only full sets are available for purchase.

All orders must be prepaid. For further information contact: Eda Staubenmaier, Dept. of Administration, Documents Section, 140 Centennial Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155 (612)296-2874. (Source: Minnesota Association of Law Libraries Newsletter, Vol. 4, no. 2).

"GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS UPDATE"

"The first thing you should do is go out and buy a good address book." Buy it with your own money so that you can take it with you if you leave your present job.

This was just one of the practical bits of advice offered by Walter Nixon, at Columbia University GSL's' continuing education course on government documents, held on March 9, 16, and 23.

Mr. Nixon, who is Reference Librarian at Standard and Poor's Corporation, offered other advice about dealing with government agencies:

--always take a positive attitude. Be determined to win.
--never tell a patron you can't get a document as fast as he wants it. Just let him know how much it will cost to do so.
--when you are having trouble, ask the person you are calling who his boss is, and continue this approach until you are high up as you can go on the working level.
--once you find someone who helps, make a friend of him; ascertain who he is, thank him, and call for him when you have a similar problem.
--don't forget the agency's regional office, its library, its public information officer, or its press room.
--get on an agency's mailing list. Make sure to put an address block right in your letter.
--remember, phoning gets direct results. Letters tend to wander.

Mr. Nixon also spoke about some of the key sources he uses to find the right agency and the "right person". Besides such standard sources as U.S. Government Manual, or the federal information center (212-264-1234), he also finds useful the GPO publications:

Federal Information Sources and Systems
(Stock no. 020-000-0152-6) $6.75

Statistical Services of the U.S. Government
(Stock no. 041-001-00100-0) $3.40

Federal Statistical Directory
(Stock no. 041-001-00125-5) $2.50
EVENTS
by Lynn Foster

NOTE: This column will inform you of conferences, classes, meetings, etc. concerning documents. If you know of any upcoming events please notify Lynn Foster, Law Library, University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill. 61820, 217-333-2914. We need your help to make the column useful.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARIANS' TRAINING COURSE
The GPO offers a three day training course for depository librarians and library students. The course lets the librarians see the GPO in action and hear of its plans for the future. It's also a good opportunity to ask questions and offer suggestions, which the GPO encourages. Currently, the monthly classes are filled until March, 1979. However, Jim Livsey states that if there is sufficient interest by law librarians, the GPO could hold additional classes in March and April. Send inquiries to: Jim Livsey, Director, Library and Statutory Distribution Service, GPO, 5236 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, Va. 22304.

SEPT. 8: HOW TO USE THE FEDERAL REGISTER, BUFFALO, NY, WORKSHOP
Free public workshop (approximately 24 hours) which includes a brief history of the Federal Register, difference between legislation and regulations, relationship of Federal Register and CFR, important elements of a typical Federal Register document and an introduction to the finding aids of the FR/CFR system. Location: Conference Room 914, Federal Bldg., 111 W.Huron St., Buffalo, NY at 10:00 am. Contact: Federal Information Center, 716-846-4010.

SEPT. 13 and 14: HOW TO USE THE FEDERAL REGISTER, ATLANTA, GA, WORKSHOP
Free public workshop (see Sept. 8, above) Location: First Floor Conference Room, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 345 Courtland St., Atlanta, GA. Contact: Dave Conner, 404-881-4661.

SEPT. 13: UNDERSTANDING CONGRESS: A SEMINAR ON THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS
Offered by the Washington Monitor, this course is a basic guide to the often intricate path of legislation through Congress. Registrants also receive a free 200-page reference manual on Congress (which is also available separately for $25). Registration fee: $80. Contact the Washington Monitor, Inc., 499 National Press Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20045, 202-347-7757.

SEPT. 14-15: CONFERENCE ON THE RESEARCH USE AND DISPOSITION OF SENATORS' PAPERS
Participants will draft recommendations to guide senators in the effective disposition of their office files and personal papers. The conference is open to the public and there is no registration fee. Location: Caucus Room, Richard B. Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. Since seating is limited, interested persons should make reservations with the Senate Historical Office, Office of the Secretary, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510, 202-224-6900.

OCT. 9-11: DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL
The Depository Library Council is made up of librarians appointed by the Public Printer. They meet twice a year and give advice and suggestions to the GPO. Their meetings are open, and depository librarians are encouraged to attend. The October meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn in downtown Alexandria, Va. For more information contact Carl LaBarre, Assistant Public Printer, 202-275-3345, or William J. Barrett, Deputy Assistant, 202-275-3347.

OCT. 10-13: GOING TO THE SOURCE: AN INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH IN ARCHIVES
Sponsored by the National Archives and Records Service Education Division, this conference is aimed at professionals and graduate students in the areas of history, social science, and library science. It will concentrate on primary sources available at NARS. Registration fee: $50. Enrollment is limited to 25. This course is offered four times per year by NARS. Contact Elsie Freivogel, National Archives and Records Service, NEE-Room 6-11, Washington, D.C. 20408, 202-532-3080.

OCT. 12-13: 4TH ANNUAL LIBRARY MICROFICHE CONFERENCE
"A program of seminars and workshops for the interested and knowledgeable librarian. Subject matter has pertinence for both specialists and administrators." Sessions of note: "The micropublisher and the GPO Microfiche Program" and "Microforms in the Law, Special and Public Library." Registration Fee: $60 ($75 at the door). Reduced rates for some. Contact Microform Review, Inc., 520 Riverside Ave., Westport Conn. 06880, 203-226-6967.

NOV. 13-16: ACCESSING STATISTICAL RESOURCES FROM THE CENSUS BUREAU
The Data User Services Division of the Census Bureau will offer this course which is aimed at librarians who frequently use census data. The seminar is limited to 36 registrants. Location: Washington, D.C. Call 301-763-5483.
GDSIS Events

Depository Collection Management

Moderator: NANCY JOHNSON, University of Illinois Law Library, Champaign, IL
Speakers: JANE HAMMOND, Cornell University Law Library, Ithaca, NY
CAROL BOAST, University of Illinois Law Library, Champaign, IL

PROGRAM

Public Law 95-261 permits the library of a law school "accredited by a nationally accrediting agency or association approved by the Commissioner of Education for such purpose or accredited by the highest appellate court of the state in which the law school is located" to be designated as a depository library as of October 1, 1978. This workshop on depository collection management was intended to prepare law librarians for administering and using a depository collection.

Most of the people that attended the workshop were interested in receiving practical advice on administering a new depository. Both Jane Hammond and Carol Boast fulfilled the information needs of the workshop participants. As Carol said, "Jane told the audience how to put the documents on the shelf and I'm going to tell you how to take them off."

Jane covered many of the technical aspects of a depository collection. Once a library makes the decision to seek designation as a depository under the depository law (P.L. 95-261) several decisions concerning selection, space, arrangement, and staff must be made.

Jane urged all new depository librarians to be very selective in choosing their item numbers. The Guidelines for the Depository Library System 4-5 simply suggests that libraries choose 25% of the available item numbers, however, it is not mandatory in any way. The initial selection of item numbers will be time-consuming, so one must allow time for it. Jane advised not to cancel any subscriptions until you see the publication arrive in the depository box. Also, delivery will begin with current publications; thus, the IRS looseleaf transmittals will arrive, but not the basic set into which the transmittals are to be filed.

At present, the microfiche program is still evolving. No final decision on which titles will be converted to fiche has been made as of the summer. Librarians should keep abreast of the program as it progresses.

The question of separate vs. integrated collection is a controversy which, according to Jane, will never be settled. You must make the decision according to the size of the collection, staff, space, and clientele.

Jane suggested reading Harleston, Administration of Government Documents Collections, Chapters 6, 7, & Appendix B for information on processing depository shipments. Jane referred to Section 7 of the Guidelines as giving good suggestions for staffing.

For a more detailed description of Jane's comments, read her succinct outline, "Administering a New G.P.O. Depository Library: Technical Processes."

Carol's topic, the public service aspects of a documents collection, presents a challenge to all librarians dealing with documents. Public service needs are difficult to define and easy to ignore. Carol urged all librarians to set high standards for public services and make sure they are met.

The basic message of Carol's speech was that documents "must be made available for free use of the general public" (44 U.S.C. 1171). Carol presented many ideas on how to make documents available and very accessible to everyone.

Carol covered the entire spectrum of providing access to documents. She discussed closed stacks vs. open and circulation vs. non-circulating collections. According to Carol, the ideal documents collection would be fully cataloged and arranged by SuDoc classification numbers in an open stacks area located near the reference desk. Of course, few libraries have the privilege of working in an ideal situation, so everyone must do the most with what they have.

Carol believes that there should not be a separate documents reference service. Since so many of the questions in a law library can be answered with federal documents, the entire reference staff should be well educated in the documents field. Carol suggested many ways to educate the staff, as well as the patrons. The staff must make a conscious effort to keep current by reading document literature. Carol's easy to implement ideas on educating the patrons are enumerated in her paper.

Carol's excellent paper, "Putting Documents to Work: A Public Service Perspective on Depository Status for Law School Libraries" is intended to be used as a reference guide. Her other work, "Federal Depository Documents of Interest to Law School Libraries - An Annotated List" provides informative annotations titles that appear in the List of Classes. (Cont'd)
Both Jane's and Carol's speeches radiated an enthusiasm for documents that is experienced by librarians who work with the publications. There are numerous advantages of maintaining a depository collection, but the responsibilities of insuring that the documents are accessible to all is a demanding one.

Now Available

An information packet for depository libraries, put together for and distributed at the AALL Convention workshop is available for those who did not receive one or need additional copies through the Special Projects Committee of the Government Documents SIS. Included are:

1) Administering a New GPO Depository Library: Technical process, by Jane Hammond.
2) Putting Documents to Work: A Public Service Perspective on Depository Status, by Carol Boast.
3) Federal Depository Documents of Interest to Law Libraries: an annotated list, by Carol Boast.
4) Administration of Depository Documents Collections: annotated bibliography of sources.
5) Two procedures manuals (U of Illinois and U of Chicago)

The material is available for $5.00, which covers photocopying and postage. Make checks payable to AALL and send requests to Colleen K. Pauwels, Public Services Librarian, Law Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.

Professional Reading

ONLINE, The Magazine of Online Information Systems began a new series on “Document Delivery with Vol. 2 no. 1 (January 1978). The column attempts to provide up to date information on where and how to obtain source documents. Prepared by the staff of Information Unlimited in Berkeley, CA.

Part of each of the first three columns (January, April, and July) have dealt with suppliers of federal and/or international government documents. Each list includes: suppliers' name, address, phone number, services provided, charges, contact person, and average turn around time.

SERIALS LIBRARIAN regularly features Joe Morehead's "Into the Hopper:"


Jurisdocs

Cover designed by LYNN FOSTER. Name "Jurisdocs" suggested by JUDY GECAS.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Francis Buckley, Pat Evans, Emelyn House, Nancy Johnson, Walter Wixson, Colleen K. Pauwels, John Henry Richter and the officers and staff of the Government Documents Special Interest Section and of Jurisdocs.
New York's GPO Bookstore by Lucy Corel

While not equipped to replace GPO's mail-order business or to be a "miniature GPO", the local GPO Bookstore still offers services which every law librarian should be aware of and know how to use.

In order to find out how to take advantage of these services, I interviewed Ms. Fran Gottlieb, manager of the New York GPO Bookstore, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10007 (212) 264-3825 info 264-3826.

INTERVIEW

Q. What are the store hours?
A. Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm.

Q. What is the best time to call the store?
A. There is no best time, the store is busy 8 to 4, but is least busy 8 to 9.

Q. Will the store check the Public Reference File (PRF) over the phone for price, availability and stock number of GPO items?
A. Yes. The store will search two--three items over the phone on PRF. More than three items will be checked if the patron sends in a well detailed list.

Q. How often do you receive PRF?
A. Weekly.

Q. What is the best way to find out if the store has an item--stock number or title?
A. Title is the best approach to the store as it is organized by subject. Stock numbers are used as verification. Remember that orders to Washington must have the stock number. Patrons can order from the store by title. Stairs system, a subject/title data base of GPO publications will be available soon in the bookstores.

Q. Will the bookstore reserve or order items for libraries?
A. If the New York store has an item we will send it out or hold it for the patron. Mail orders from the New York store are processed within a week of receipt. Orders are sent to Washington for items the New York store does not have in stock. All mail goes out on Friday. The store will reserve material for a patron, but material that is in great demand is on a first come first serve basis.

Q. Can items picked-up at the store be charged against GPO deposit accounts?
A. There is a problem with deposit accounts, the store will not accept deposit account orders over the phone, but will take them by mail or in person.

Q. How do you select items for the bookstore?
A. We use the depository library shipping lists and the Monthly catalog. The New York store orders Department of Commerce publications dealing with all aspects of business from securities to small business and law enforcement materials. New Yorkers also like how-to and gardening books. Of course, we get a limited number of Department of Agriculture material. Standard reference books are always stocked.

Q. What is the New York store's sales volume?
A. We average about $1,000--a day. We sell mostly to Downtown business and metropolitan area people who know about the store. The GPO has advertised on radio and TV.

Q. Are there any plans for future improvements?
A. The New York store will be getting more floor space in 26 Federal Plaza, so we will be able to increase our stock. We hope to put in a separate phone reference/patron information center and put the PRF there away from the cash register to avoid confusion. This should improve phone service as someone will be on the phone desk at all times rather than taking care of the register and phone at the same time. The expansion should take place during the summer when we are getting additional staff.

Q. What can users--librarians in particular--do to help you help us?
A. Be patient. The New York store is very limited. We can do only quick searches. If the store does not have an item we will order it from Washington for the patron, but we can accept standing orders. We are careful to look out for new or anticipated material that we know to be of interest in New York. Congressional reports and other one time items are better ordered from Washington directly. Large orders over $500--five cartons are considered special orders and the New York store can order the material directly from Washington for the patron. The patron must pick the order up at the bookstore.
CHICAGO'S GPO BOOKSTORE by Margaret Tucker

The Chicago bookstore was the first GPO bookstore established. It is located in Room 1463, Dirksen Federal Building, 219 Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60604 (telephone: 312-353-5134)

The store's manager, Ms. Vivian Searles, was really pleased to talk with me about the store and its services.

INTERVIEW

Q. What are the store hours?
A. Monday to Friday 8 am to 4 pm.

Q. What is the best time to call the store?
A. Mornings are generally better than afternoons -- the earlier the better.

Q. Will the store check the Publications Reference File (PRF) over the phone for price, availability and stock numbers of a GPO item?
A. Yes. The store will accept as many as 6 or 7 per call on different subjects, slightly more if they are all the same subject.

Q. How often do you receive the Publications Reference File?
A. Weekly.

Q. What is the best way to find out if the store has an item -- stock number or title?
A. Title. We know basically what we have in stock if you ask by title. A stock number, while essential for an order from Washington, would have to be translated into a title for us to know if we have it. We have about 2,000 titles in stock.

Q. Will the bookstore order items for libraries?
A. Yes. Orders for patrons are sent daily to Washington by certified mail. Since basic processing of orders (finding stock numbers, prices etc.) are already done, this should provide somewhat faster service than the patron would get from their own mail orders. Delivery is direct to the patron and not to the store.

Q. Can items picked up at the store be charged against GPO deposit accounts?
A. Items in stock may be charged to deposit accounts -- ordered items may only be charged to accounts in Washington.

Q. How do you select items for the bookstore?
A. It's mainly a guessing game, trying to anticipate needs. Some items which come on an annual basis are sent automatically. Since we are severely overcrowded, it's hard to provide enough variety and copies to satisfy requests.

Q. What is the Chicago store's sales volume?
A. We average about $500 a day. We sell mainly to those people who already know about the store. There is little advertising of our existence.

Q. Are there any plans for future improvements?
A. No, but we really do need more space.

Q. What can users -- librarians in particular -- do to help you help us?
A. Give us your support. When you need a government publication, try us first. If you need information for a mail order (stock numbers, or price) send it to us if you can. We have a problem with both quantity and quality of the space we occupy. We are crowded and in a bad location. Plans to move us to a better space have fallen through. In order to justify a move, we need to do more business. It would also help if you wrote to the Superintendent of Documents supporting more space and a better location for us.

DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer will be held at the Holiday Inn in downtown Alexandria, VA on October 8-11, 1978. The meeting will be open to everybody, and all SIS members who can are urged to attend.

The Council which serves as a means of communication between librarians and the Government Printing Office has been very instrumental in dealing with not only the Depository Library Program but with other aspects of Federal documents. A sample of these areas include: the GPO microfiche program, improvements in the Monthly Catalog, Guidelines for the Depository Library System, and improvements in depository operations. Presently, the Council is considering a revised depository inspection form.

The Council consists of 15 members of the library community of which 5 members work full time with documents in a depository library. The meetings are held twice a year, in the spring and in the fall.

Bardie Wolf, Law Librarian, University of Tennessee, is a member of the Council and its Committee on Micrographics. All law librarians are encouraged to communicate with Bardie concerning any issues they may wish to address.
On Friday, August 9, Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd (D., W. Va.) said on the Senate Floor that unless important legislation is cleared, the Senate can forget about the October 7 adjournment date set earlier this year for the 95th Congress. Byrd added that the only way to avoid cutting into campaign time for the Senators running for re-election would be to have Saturday and late night meetings for the rest of the session. Speaker O'Neill has been even more pessimistic than Byrd in predicting a lame-duck (post election) session. Among the major issues to be considered by both houses is natural gas-energy policy legislation (already in conference for fourteen months); the Senate must consider the tax reform bill passed by the House, ERA ratification, extension and Congressional voting represent the District of Columbia. Senate filibusters have been threatened, and are likely, over the last two items. This is obviously not an all inclusive list of legislative items remaining, but is intended to give you an idea of the rocky road remaining for the 95th Congress.

Why is this good news for documents librarians? At the end of each Congress (which lasts for two years), the House and Senate Document Rooms discard all copies of all materials issued by that Congress -- all bills, resolutions, reports, other documents and public laws.

"But why do they do this?" asks the diligent documents librarian. I hope to shed some light on the "why".

If you had ever seen either document room, you would know why they do it -- neither has the physical space to retain materials from one Congress to the next.

The House Document Room (hereafter House Doc) falls under the domain of the Clerk of the House, James Malloy, and the Senate Document Room (hereafter Sen. Doc) under the domain of the Secretary of the Senate, J. Stanley Kimmitt. Each man was elected to his post by a vote of his respective House of the Congress, and serves at its pleasure. Both document rooms are staffed by patronage employees (clerks) and are open various hours -- depending upon whether the parent body is in recess (shorter hours of operation for the doc room), or adjournment (still shorter hours), or in session, in which case the document room is open until that day's adjournment. Both document rooms will fill written requests for up to six items per day of its own materials, if you provide a self addressed label. Neither document room takes telephone requests from the general public; this is a privilege reserved only for Congressional staff members.

Each document room is run independently of its counterpart, thus explaining why each supplies only its own material (it doesn't have the materials of the other body).

The daily operation of the document rooms has probably changed very little since the turn of the century. Each numbered item is kept in an old metal pull-out box, the boxes are arranged in numerical order, and are stacked from floor to ceiling (about six feet on the Senate side, and ten feet on the House side). A request is individually filled by hand, which explains why sometimes we get what we haven't ordered. No computer records are kept showing the number of copies distributed and/or the number of copies remaining. In an age of mechanization and automation, it is nice to know you are dealing with another human being.

Each document room keeps only the most current version of a bill. In other words, when a bill is changed by committee, or by House or Senate action, the proper document room will receive copies of the newly printed version, reflecting the changes, and will discard the now obsolete version. Obviously, one must pay particularly close attention to the Daily Digest section of the Congressional Record to know by whom and when a bill has been changed, so you can obtain the latest version.

Unfortunately, once the supply of an item has been exhausted by the document room, it is not usually reprinted, and you must seek it from other sources. Except that earlier in demand, for example, the supply of the committee (Kays and Meane) report on the recently passed tax reform bill, H.R. 13211, was exhausted within a week of issuance, and is being reprinted. (cont'd)
Washington Sources (cont'd)

How should one best go about attempting to obtain a copy of an out of print document? You can begin by writing to the committee which considered the legislation and to the chief sponsor of the bill, and hope that one of them has extra copies of what you need. However, having worked on Capitol Hill for many years, I speak from experience in cautioning you that you stand the greatest chance of success in seeking fairly current material (the immediate past Congress). Congressional staff also houseclean regularly, and often keep only one copy of an item for their files. And, if the chief sponsor has retired, you stand virtually no chance of getting an item from him, as he is in one place, and his papers are probably in a Federal Records Center.

I am sure most of us use a simple form letter, reproduced in great quantity, to request items (Dear Sirs: Please send me one copy of the following). Remember to attach your mailing label to your request, and to request no more than six items on any single day. Should two letters from you arrive on the same day, one will be filled, and one will be mailed back, unfilled. I have found my requests to be promptly filled, usually on the day received.

CHECKLIST

BUSINESS SERIALS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT (16 pages, paper), edited by Richard King, is now available for $2.50 from American Library Association, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Highly selective, but well annotated. Useful as a selection tool and as an aid in locating sources of specific kinds of economic data.

The Fall 1976 issue of the Consumer Information Catalog (paper, 16p.) can be obtained free of charge by sending a postcard to: Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81009.

Catalog of more than 200 free or low-cost Federal consumer publications.

The 1978 DIRECTORY OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT COLLECTIONS AND LIBRARIANS (paper, 544p.) is now available for $22.50 from Congressional Information Services, Inc., 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 900A, Washington, D.C. 20014.

The "who's who" and "what's where" in government documents--federal, state, local, foreign and international.


FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION, as part of its voluntary compliance with 15 U.S.C. 1201, has published a list of the general subject matter of reports expected to be made public within the next 6 months at 43 Federal Register 34,354-5 (8-3-78).


Guide prepared by Marybeth Peters to train staff at the Copyright Office. Includes: a list of "official source materials on Copyright Revision", a "Chart Comparing the Act of 1909 with the Act of 1976", and an "Overview of the Law in Outline Form". Belongs in every library.
GUIDE TO THE PUBLIC SEARCH FACILITIES OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (pamphlet, 8p.) is available free of charge from: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

A useful handy guide which describes what is available at the Public Search Facilities, and how to use it -- including how to conduct a patent search. Also includes information on how to obtain copies of U.S. patents, foreign patents and the publications of the Patent & Trademark Office.


Illustrated guide offers an extensive survey of the Law Library's 1.4 million volume collection, the services it offers and its history.

The Spring 1978 edition of LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PUBLICATIONS IN PRINT (paper, 60p.) is now available free upon request from: Library of Congress, Central Services Division, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Lists LC publications available not only from LC and GPO, but also from private publishers. Many useful free items are listed. Rated: A MUST.

NTIS STATISTICAL DATA REFERENCE SERVICE is now available to help find federal statistics at low cost. To use the service, or to receive a "Data Request Form", contact the service c/o Duolabs, Suite 900, 1601 North Kent Street, Arlington, VA 22209.

On fee basis, will provide references to federal statistical sources in response to a specific data request.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS HIGHLIGHTS, the bi-monthly newsletter for librarians of the Federal Library Program, is now available to any library who requests it, from: Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Includes: the latest news from GPO, a "Monthly Catalog Corner" as well as a list of duplicate government documents offered for exchange. Another "must" for any library concerned with government documents.


Brings together in convenient pamphlet form excerpts from the Congressional debate and from the House, Senate and Conference Report on provisions of the New Copyright Law which apply especially to libraries.

SOURCE MATERIAL RELATING TO LEGISLATION IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND LEGISLATIVE INTENT (44 p.), by Ernest H. Breuer (1957), revised by Robert A. Carter (April 1977) is available free of charge from: Robert A. Carter, New York State Library, Law & Social Sciences, Cultural Education Center, Empire State Plaza, Albany, N.Y. 12230.

Bibliography on legislative intent in general as well as in New York State in general. Another "must".

THE UNITED STATES COURT OF CLAIMS: A HISTORY, Part 1: The Judges, 1855-1976 (hardbound, 235p.) is part of a project of the Federal Judiciary which was prepared at the request of the Chief Justice of the United States in commemoration of the Nation's Bicentennial of Independence. For availability, contact: Office of the Clerk, U.S. Court of Claims, 717 Madison Place, N.W., Washington, D.C 20005.
RESOURCES
by Kay Todd

An alternative to the frequently busy HOUSE BILL STATUS NUMBER (202-225-1772) is
the Senate Bill Status number (202-224-2971).

Both offices use the same data base and both can provide current
information on U.S. Legislation throughout the legislative pro-
cess.

An accurate current tool which begins tracking legislation after it has been report-
ed from Committee in either the House or Senate is the HOUSE CALENDAR (full
title: Calendars of the United States House of Representatives and History of
Legislation). Compiled and accumulated daily when the House is in session,
the latest is available by sending a self-addressed mailing label with your
The Monday issue contains a subject index. (Subscriptions to the Monday issue
are available from GPO. Consult Price List 36 for latest price).

Among the House Calendar's useful features are:

--- a complete history of all action on each bill listed in
chronological order,

--- a listing of bills in conference and through conference
including the names of the conferees, the dates reports
were filed and agreed to, approval date and PL number.

--- numerical listing of public and private laws with the
corresponding bill no.

--- a handy table showing the status of major bills.

--- a calendar showing the dates and number of days the House
was in session.

Hint: the best time to reorder a House Calendar is when you
receive one. Your request letter is returned with your
order. Attach a self addressed mailing label to it. A
rubber stamp with the address of the House Document Room
makes it even easier. House Calendar are cumulative,
so you can throw out the old when you get a new one.
REMEMBER: near the end of the session, House Calendars
should be ordered more frequently to guarantee that you
get that invaluable final edition.

The MINNESOTA STATE REGISTER was established by statute in 1975. It publishes
agency rules and proposed rules, executive orders and other official notices.
The yearly subscription is $110 from the Office of the State Register, Hamm
Building, Suite 415, 408 St. Peter Street, St. Paul, MN 55102.

The latest cumulative index to the MONTHLY CATALOG published is that for 1966-70,
in two volumes, clothbound, for $25.00. Our information is from a govern-
ment document jobber (Berman), who also offers the 1961-65 (27.00) and 1951-
60 ($50.00) sets.

The revised MONTHLY CATALOG creates some problems for those who would like to bind
--- it is much larger and the height varies. Does anyone know of a microfiche
version or a compiled hardbound edition?

A source for OUT-OF-PRINT GPO Publications which are two years old or older is:
Printed Documents Division National Archives/ 415 6th Street, N.W./ Washington,
D.C. (202) 523-3371.

Ask to speak to an archivist. He can tell you if they have it,
and how much it will cost to photocopy it. A written order, with
the required exact payment, can then be mailed.
BEST BETS

DOCUMENTS TO THE PEOPLE

In terms of quantity of information alone, this bi-monthly newsletter of ALA's Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) is an incredible bargain at only $10 per year (per volume). For keeping current on developments in the field of government publications--local, state, federal, foreign and international--it is invaluable.

Here is just a sample from the June 1978 issue:

--The GPO Microform Program: Its History and Status
--Leroy Schwarzkopf's regular column, "Documents in the News", identifies and provides order information for documents which are not so carefully identified in news articles.
--Patricia Reeling's "Publications" describes publications in the document field.
--Converting to SuDocs Classification
--Jaita Heymann's report on the April 14th Micropublishing Advisory Council Meeting.

Prepayment is required. Make check payable to: ALA/GODORT, and send to: Maggie Johnson, Coordinator, Govt. Doc. Div., Missouri State Library, P.O. Box 387, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Subscriptions are accepted on a per volume (annual) basis only. Detp is distributed automatically to members of GODORT.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE CALENDARS: A Comparative Summary /prepared by Phyllis E. Christenson.

A much-needed guide to one of the most important tools used in doing U.S. legislative histories -- the legislative committee calendars.

In chart form, all standing committees, and those select committees which publish calendars are listed, and their calendars are compared as to:

--frequency of publication
--availability by mailing list, individual request, or not for public distribution
--arrangement
--whether or not it is cumulative
--indexes
--committee publications listed
--additional listings, including presidential messages, rules of committee procedure, etc.
--special features unique to each calendar.

Also listed are committee office addresses and telephone numbers. The appendix includes an index from subcommittees to parent committee, and a brief introduction explains the value of committee calendars in providing a subject approach to legislative history.

Prepared by a legal specialist at LC Law Library, in response to a Congressional request, it is now being made available free of charge from the Law Library, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540. Supply is, of course, limited.

DOING RESEARCH IN FEDERAL LABOR LAW / prepared by Jeanne M. Jageloki

Intended as an aid for law students and non-labor law practitioners beginning their research in federal labor law, this little guide will prove as helpful to librarians as to their patrons.

 Particularly useful is the brief description of labor law treatise and periodical literature, which is followed by a bibliography of basic labor law research sources.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions, comments, news items or inquiries about or for publication in JURISDOCS should be addressed to:

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or to any member of the newsletter staff listed on the verso of the title page. All contributions submitted for publication are subject to editorial review.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

JURISDOCS is sent free of charge to members of GDSIS. Subscriptions are accepted on a per volume basis only. Volume 1 is $5.00. Please make checks or money orders payable to AALL/GDSIS and send to:

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Houston, Texas 77004.

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