

Southeastern Law Librarian

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF A.A.L.L.
Volume 4, number 4, n.s. June 1979

E D I T O R I A L

I strongly believe that data should be collected before the AALL takes a new position on commercial sponsorship of our convention. For example, questions like these must be asked:

- A) What percentage of the membership attend the convention?
- B) Of those who attend, how many get their expenses paid by their employer?
- C) What percentage of their expenses is paid by their employer?
- D) Of those who attend, what is the break down by type of library: University bar, private or governmental?
- E) What percentage of people attend one convention and never attend again?
- F) Is cost or distance from home city or attractiveness of the convention city the key factor in convention going?
- G) How many people would go back to Rochester even if their entire expenses were paid by another party?
- H) How many people start their annual vacation at the convention city?
- I) What percentage of non-attendees would go if the convention cost was reduced by say \$200.00?
- J) Of the total advertising budget of the book publishers and dealers involved, what percentage does the convention sponsorship represent?

Is it right for AALL to make a profit on the convention? The 1977 annual report (70 Law Library Journal 424-425) indicates the \$18,094.26 was the net proceeds of conventions and institutes after expenses. Perhaps the registration fee should be lowered or abolished completely.

Do those who win a scholarship to the convention feel an everlasting obligation to the sponsor? Do Matthew Bender scholarship winners, who year after year are taken to dinner, feel especially loyal to Bender? (Being a winner in 1966, I do have a soft spot for Bender, however, like Marian Boner, I don't buy multiple copies of their sets because I once received their largess). Also, I feel that I was awarded a scholarship by the AALL and it just so happened that Matthew Bender picked up the tab. The big spenders are wined and dined by the book dealers and publishers who want their business. Perhaps there are too many private parties going on. It is the "Assistant Law Librarians" who never get invitations to these functions. Probably they benefit the most by commercial sponsorship of the convention.

G.T.

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

It won't be long before summer will be here which means two exciting meetings: A.A.L.L. in San Francisco, July 1st - 4th, and Southeastern Chapter in Biloxi, August 12th-14th. Hope everyone is planning to attend both.

First, a note on the San Francisco meeting. Traditionally the Chapter has had a combination business/breakfast meeting. Given the overall expense of the A.A.L.L. meeting, the Executive Board has decided to forego the breakfast and to have the business meeting alone. We felt that the costs were too great to bear for either our members or a sponsor. (There will be the traditional coffee and danish, complimentary of the convention, available in the hotel.) So, please "breakfast" on your own and come to the meeting Tuesday morning, 8:30 am in the HUNT ROOM, Fairmont Hotel.

On a positive note, our program chairperson, Robin Mills, and her committee, Lance Dickson and Anne Slaughter, have been working diligently to plan an interesting and informative institute in Biloxi, with such timely topics as Developments in Energy Law, AACR2, and workshops on Becoming a Government Depository, Law Book Conservation and Indexing Legal Memoranda. Also, Mike Beard is coming up with some great "local arrangements." So, mark your calendars.

I look forward to seeing you in San Francisco and Biloxi.

Anne H. Butler
President, Southeastern/ A.A.L.L.



The Association of Student International Law Societies in their Journal, A.S.I.L.S. International Law Journal, volume 2, (winter 1978) at pages 53-87, published its draft on Rules 3 (International Tribunals) and 5 (League of Nations) of a Comprehensive and Uniform System of Citations for International Materials. They invite comments on it.

Besides serving as an adjunct to the famous Harvard Citator, this detailed draft can be used as an accession tool to discover which sets you should have in your law library to have an adequate international law section.

city codes

Most of us have at least one state code per state. However, few have a large collection of municipal ordinances. Usually, we have a city code only for our home city. A great deal of current litigation is over municipal codes. Below is listed the bibliographic information for the codes of fourteen (14) of the largest American cities.

G.T.

Atlanta, Georgia
Charter & Code of Ordinances
\$138.00 initial cost. Upkeep is about \$36.00 per year.
Public Research and Management, Inc.
157 Luckie Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Boston, Massachusetts
City of Boston Code
\$30.00 per copy. Upkeep is about \$8.00 per year.
Alison Chalmers
Law Department - City of Boston
City Hall
Boston, Massachusetts 02201
Check should be made payable to "City of Boston"

Chicago, Illinois
City of Chicago Ordinances
\$92.50 initial volume. Upkeep cost is about \$14.00 per year.
Index Publishing Corporation
308 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dallas, Texas
Revised Code of Civil & Criminal Ordinances of the City of Dallas
\$70.54 for the initial 2 volumes, plus \$18.00 for loose leaf
binder for the Code. Upkeep cost is not known at present.
City Secretary
City Hall
Dallas, Texas 75201
Check should be made payable to "City of Dallas"

Los Angeles, California
Los Angeles Municipal Code
\$200.00 for a 5 volume set. Upkeep cost is about \$75.00 per year.
Parker & Sons, Inc.
6500 Flotilla Street
Los Angeles, California 90022

Miami, Florida
Miami City Code & Charter
Being republished. Will be available in late July.

Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minneapolis Code of Ordinances
\$130.00 for 2 volumes. Cost of update (2 supplements per year)
not available until produced.
Assistant City Clerk
Room 313 - City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

New Orleans, Louisiana
Code of the City of New Orleans
\$50.00 is the initial cost. Upkeep cost is \$10.00 per year.
Clerk of Council
Room 1E04 - City Hall
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
Check should be made payable to "City of New Orleans" to be
mailed with your order.

New York City, New York
Never received an answer to my letter.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Philadelphia Code
\$70.50 is the initial cost for 2 volumes. Upkeep cost is
about \$5.00 per year.
Procurement Department
Room 1340 - M.S.B.
15th and J.F.K. Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107
Attn: Dottie Turner
Check should be made payable to "City of Philadelphia".

Portland, Oregon
City Code Book
\$100.00 is the initial cost for 2 volumes. Upkeep cost is
about \$10.00 per year.
City Auditor
202 City Hall
Portland, Oregon 97204

St. Louis, Missouri
Currently being revised. They hope to produce the most
thorough municipal code ever.

San Francisco, California

San Francisco Codes are available from 3 sources:

1. Building News Inc.
P.O.Box 3031, Terminal Annex,
Los Angeles, California 90051
2. Those not published by Building News available from:
San Francisco Purchasing Department
Room 270 - City Hall
San Francisco, California 94102
3. Uncodified Ordinances and amendments to Purchasing
Dept. Codes available:
Clerk of Board of Supervisors
Room 235 - City Hall
San Francisco, California 94102

Seattle, Washington

Is in the process of being revised.

It will be available in the Spring of 1980 from:

Book Publishing Co.
2518 Western Avenue
Seattle, Washington, 98121.



SELL MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: INFORMATION: Does anyone have on his/her shelves the "STATUTES IN FORCE" Official Revised Edition (4th)? It is published by the British Statutory Publications Office in loose leaf format. It is supposed to be in the course of publication. See D. Raistrick LAWYERS' LAW BOOKS at page 440 and M. Banks USING A LAW LIBRARY at page 45. I have not seen any advertisements on it. If you know the whereabouts of said set, please send me the details. I will print it in the next issue of the SOUTH EASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN.

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Kathleen Price, Law Librarian at Duke University, reports that the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health looked at 22,000 working men and women and discovered that librarians have the most tranquil jobs and the university professors have the sixth least stressful jobs. Believe it or not.

jobs, jobs

According to the April 20th AALL Placement listing, the following positions are still open.

- FLORIDA. Law Librarian. M.L.S. degree preferable. Minimum of five years of experience in law firm library environment. Ability to assist in research. CONTACT: Edwin S. Corwin,
Director of Administration
Carlton, Fields, Ward, Emmanuel, Smith & Cutler.
P.O. Box 3239
Tampa, Florida 33601.
- GEORGIA. Serials/acquisitions librarian. Minimum of two years of library experience and background in LC classification, serials cataloging, OCLC, Reading knowledge of German and French desirable. CONTACT: Prof. Adrien Hinze
Law Librarian
Emory Law Library
Cambrell Hall
Atlanta, Georgia 30322.
- LOUISIANA. Government documents/ microforms librarian. M.L.S. degree required. Prior documents experience, an undergraduate major in a social science and a good reading knowledge of French or Spanish desirable.
CONTACT: Prof. David A. Combe
Law Librarian
Tulane University
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118.
- LOUISIANA. Documents librarian. M.L.S. degree required. Two years of professional academic library experience and previous cataloging or serials experience. Working knowledge of AACR, LC, SuDoc and OCLC highly desirable. Loyola Univ.

Circulation librarian. M.L.S. degree required. Two years of professional academic library experience. Prefer experience in circulation or reference departments. Loyola University.

For the above two positions, CONTACT: Prof. Win-Shin S. Chiang
Law Librarian
Loyola University Law Library
6363 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, La. 70118.
- MARYLAND. Public Service/Acquisitions. M.L.S. degree required.
CONTACT: Prof. Emily Greenberg
University of Baltimore Law Library
1420 Maryland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21201.
- TENNESSEE. Documents/Assistant Reference Librarian. M.L.S. degree required. Experience preferred. CONTACT: Peter Carland
Appointments Committee
Vanderbilt University Law Library
Nashville, Tenn. 37203.

CONVENTION SPONSORSHIP - 2

The SOUTH EASTERN LAW LIBRARIAN is printing here Tom Reynolds' (University of California at Berkeley) talk, which has been condensed due to space limitations. It is published with the permission of both Tom Reynolds and the co-editors of the SWALL BULLETIN, where this speech was printed in its entirety.

We hope that you will think about and debate the concept of commercial sponsorship of our conventions at some length before a vote is taken.

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The Role of Publishing Industry Support in AALL.

by
Tom Reynolds

The role of publishing industry support in A.A.L.L. substantially consists of the matter of convention funding. This has been a cause of concern and discretely murmured interest for a number of years; although I am fairly sure this is the first instance that it has reached the stage of public discussion. What is meant by "convention funding", where does this come from and how much money - to put it baldly are we talking about? We must also bear in mind the extent, the almost permeating quality of support that is received or funnelled into our annual meetings. This is a whopping big sum and one that, incidentally, we have not always been able to control; the total figure remains imprecise because of the methods of disbursement, with many events being directly supported by an individual sponsor. The Toronto Convention cost, in funds expended \$58,500; of this to my certain knowledge some \$32,600 was contributed. Of the money spent at Toronto, if we skim the profit off the top, sponsors provided 72% of the support, or 50% if one includes the "net" to the association.

I think it's a fair guess that most of us do not realize the magnitude of this support relative to the total convention budget, nor of the actual number of events we contemplate. I speak from experience after preparing the draft budget for the San Francisco meeting. We all know that the West Publishing Company supports, i.e. picks up the check, for the annual banquet. But what about the printing costs for the program done free of charge by the Commerce Clearing House or the President's luncheon for committee chairmen which is paid for by sponsors: if we don't find a sponsor for the morning "coffee and Danish" so beloved by our exhibitors, the Association has to come up with three or four thousand dollars more.

The San Francisco meeting is going to be very expensive. Our tentative budget and this of course does not include what you folks are going to pay in personal expenses; peaks out at just a bit over \$100,000.00.

Our biggest sponsor, the West Publishing Company, an immensely rich and prosperous closely held corporation has, "since time immemorial", footed the bill for the annual banquet. I am told this cost \$13,000 at Toronto for a thousand people; (one of those dubious figures). In San Francisco, a comparable repast, including tax

and tip, is going to run at least \$28,000 for eleven hundred people; and this is predicated on a "standard gratuity" of 15% - it may well be 17% by 1979. Ten years ago West paid \$5,000 for three hundred and fifty people. Now, don't think my heart bleeds for West, it doesn't, but you can be sure that West bleeds for West. Some organizations, such as West, Carswell, Rothman, bite the bullet and quietly pay like gentlemen. Others indulge in lamentations, renting of garments, negotiations that bring to mind the more dramatic scenes of the Medea of Euripides.

In June of 1977 the then president of our association, Jack Ellenberger, implemented a policy formulated by the Executive Board some months earlier that after 1978, the A.A.L.L. would prefer contributions to the grants and scholarships program rather than whole or shared funding of specific convention social events; such sponsorship was not prohibited, but it was quite clearly discouraged. I learned of this decision just before the Toronto meeting, and shortly after fired off a ferocious letter to President Coco and sent copies around the country. The matter was agenda'd for the December A.A.L.L. Executive Board meeting. I appeared and presented the group with a number of options, none of which were wholly palatable. After considerable discussion, analysis of merits and equities and some soul searching, the Executive Board discretely backtracked and, as I understand it, returned us to the status quo ante - the old system of sponsored events, with a suggestion that it be discussed in open convention and the question be resolved at a future meeting. Alternative means of support are going to loom large in our future thinking and planning.

Where do we stand now? Let us consider a number of factors that must impel us to a reassessment of our situation as a national organization: some of these are changed circumstances of considerable degree, others are simply influences or indeed my own subjective impressions.

1) We are no longer a cozy little group of three or four hundred with a wide range of choices of city and hotel. We can expect, in the future, to have a convention attendance of never less than 1100 people, and it will most likely be more. We are severely limited in choice of city: there are not more than a dozen cities in the country that could provide hotel accommodations for us - and fewer if we worry about the ERA matter. We have the increasing prospect of being trapped into huge chain hotels with wretched standards of service and food, but a capability of housing and feeding 1200 delegates, or we must split up into two or three hotels, often blocks apart. On the other hand, as a large group with a number of social events involving open bars and sit-down meals, we have great appeal to those hostelrys that can handle us, in other words, clout.

2) The personal cost of convention attendance has soared. As we grow larger, we are limited to larger hotels - these are either older and, cheap but grim, establishments such as the Commodore in New York or new luxury convention hotels such as the Century Plaza in Los Angeles. The older hotels are meeting the fate which so justly befell the Commodore and we are left with new, expensive hotels or newly refurbished expensive older hotels. The cost is going to go up for the individual convention attendee, there is no other possibility.

3) The cost of travel might go down but for the energy crisis. It therefore, will also probably creep up.

4) The cost of sponsored events has soared, both individually (a \$10.00 roast beef dinner now costs \$20.00; a seventy-five cent drink is now a \$1.50) and aggregately, (and we also have a thousand people eating roast beef and lapping up booze where, only a few years ago, we had five hundred). When I suggested a two hour opening reception to the catering manager of the Fairmont Hotel, he looked at me pityingly and responded that "we do not recommend a two hour reception" - implicit in this was the suggestion that even the Retired Millionaires Association could not afford a two hour reception.

5) In addition to the greatly increased costs for sponsored events, and these have been just tremendous, other costs to the Associate Members have zoomed skyward. As the association has grown, the publisher or dealer must bring more of his people to the meeting, his hospitality suite expenses have soared, the costs of exhibiting - transportation, salaries, space, etc. - have doubled in the past four years.

There is another side of the coin however: the Associate Members have been, in effect, our captives at this feast for one week each year, but they are our captors for the other fifty one. Of all library groups that I call to mind we, the librarians of the law, a discipline whose stock in trade is words, are most at the mercy of publishers, or supplier, or vendors of the printed page.

During my career I have known of no major legal publisher or dealer who was ever near "gone under"; many remain closely held, evidence of solid financial resources, others have proved tasty plums for takeover by large conglomerates. I have difficulty in feeling sorry for the law book industry and its outlay for "good will". I submit that there are other forms of subvention: the West Publishing Company prints and distributes the proceedings and directory of the A.A.L.S. Legal authors, most of whom are members of the A.A.L.S., enjoy starting royalties of 15% on their books, that's 5% more than most authors receive. The Matthew Bender Company gives an open bar cocktail party at the annual meeting of the bankruptcy referees. There are doubtless hundreds of other examples. There is no need for us to be embarrassed over this state of affairs - if we want to declare our independence, fine but not out of a sense of guilt or shame.

As I have already indicated, independence is very likely on the way, and we shall have to face a multitude of problems brought about by this. The most important of Connie Bolden's recommendations (done in 1975 and never published) was that an event either be sponsored in full or it be dropped. Increasingly, some of the sponsors have balked at paying for an entire event, perhaps a \$5,000 contribution is given and the rest of the cost must be made up out of association funds, of course it is still known as the "X Company" function. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs and, quite rightly, some changes will have to be made.

The Bolden report was but one step in the movement to reevaluate our traditional methods of funding, but it was, in my opinion the most important: its other recommendations concerned raising the registration fee to a realistic figure, recommending a minimum number of social events and generally pushing A.A.L.L. towards total self support at the convention level.

I think we are in trouble on convention funding, some facets of this predicament are due to our own actions, some to changes in the size and structure of our organization, some to inflation and the increased cost of doing business and then, of course, we cannot discount the effect of Watergate, purity in government has even filtered down to here.

The A.A.L.L. is encountering some difficulty in making ends meet. Law Library Journal requires a lot of financial assistance and the general cost of operation has gone up faster than the increase in income. One source of support for the association has been the annual convention: up to now, it has made a profit. The figure called "net" to the association: was \$18,000 in 1976: \$25,000 in 1977 and is estimated at \$15,000 in 1978. While I find these sums to be quite unrealistic, it is safe to estimate a nice profit of \$10,000 to \$15,000 every year, coming substantially from the charges we make for exhibitors. It is my understanding that, in the future, the Association will not expect any profits to be generated by the convention.

We can retrench: we are going to retrench at San Francisco. I hope we can still have a good convention there and in the future. We need have only four generally attended social events. The "outing", the "trip" is out. I can assure you that there will be no "outside event" in San Francisco. The "Night of the Pops" cost \$9,000 in Boston, the "Old Mill" cost \$14,000 in Toronto. These were not sponsored events. Contributions played only a part in their financing. The rest came from registration fees.

Many associations have moved to separately ticketed events - this works fine for S.L.A. I was adamant that San Francisco not be the proving ground for this approach. Who in his right mind would pay \$30.00 for hotel roast beef (albeit nice hotel roast beef) and head table introductions, when for \$35.00 he could have better food, ormolu and gilt, and no speeches at Ernies? I had visions of 200 hardy or unimaginative souls lost in the vastness of the Fairmont's banquet hall. I think that we'll find that with our group, ticketed events would work fine in Rochester where we were a truly captive audience, or in Los Angeles, where it is impossible to get around without a car. It won't work in San Francisco or New York or Chicago. As I see it, tickets are not a viable alternative.

My proposal is that we continue as in the past, although we can not really estimate the long range effect of the Board's action of last year. We may well discover that there is no longer any support (at least among the associate members) but we ought to try one more time.

We should move towards a realistic registration fee which will allow the

convention planners greater and much needed flexibility. We shall have to limit ourselves to the minimum of four social events with the excursion as but a memory.

Now, another and important aspect of this "publisher support of the association" is: where is the money going to go if it does not provide for the social events? The major argument, fallacious in my view, is that it can be channelled into the grants and scholarships program. Sponsorship of convention social events is a legitimate cost of doing business, all publishers have such budgetary allocations. I don't mean just law book publishers and dealers. We did not invent the three martini lunch. The present arrangement, frankly, spreads this good will around, it is distributed fairly equally. Everyone in attendance has as much free liquor as he can down, in decency, in the allotted time space; everyone gets a free lunch and dinner. No one is slighted, all who are so inclined participate. Often a beginner can sit at the same table with an august person. There is something to be said for this, surely, any obligation, moral or otherwise will be considerably diffused by the participation of a thousand others in this possibly slightly shady shindig. I personally do not feel compromised when partaking of a luncheon courtesy of say Lawyers Co-op; not when 999 others also have shared the fruit cup, chicken and sherbert.

None of us really believes that - suddenly - unless impelled by unlikely changes in the Internal Revenue Code, the publishers and dealers are going to dry up. If anyone does hold this opinion then he still waits for the tooth fairy. No, instead of the spectacle of the entire membership being corrupted by say Lawyers Co-op to the tune of \$12.95 a head, we shall observe the edifying pageant of the chosen few - the movers and shakers - being fêted en group, from soup to nuts, for big bucks, by the same publishers.

I'll admit that I don't always attend the mass functions; but this is because of culinary reservations, not ethical ones. I'll survive and most of you will survive without sponsored events. I don't think it will be as enjoyable a meeting, certainly not for the younger and newer members.

We come to the "nut". Is all of this money going to go to grants? Well, some of it will. Grants are designed to enable the newer members of our association, and especially those from institutions with limited travel budgets, to attend the annual meeting and really participate in the activities of our profession. This is an excellent idea - I was a recipient once. I benefited and I would like to see the program continued.

Last year I was constrained to ask "Are we the Ford Foundation"?. Just how far does our obligation to drum up attendance at these affairs extend? First of all, an equal amount is not going to go to the grants: I don't envision any publishers, hithertofore willing to support the "X" function with \$9,000, suddenly donating all that to our association's grants program. Hopefully \$2,000 will go to grants, \$2,000 to the favorite local charity of the wife of the Chairman of the Board, \$3,000 to convention entertainment by invitation only, and \$2,000 back to the shareholders.

Again, what is our mission? We bring deserving newcomers to our meeting but how many are there every year? We give grants to brand new first year members. Shouldn't we see a few years commitment to our profession before we spend \$300 on a beginner? I wonder how many deserving potential grant recipients we might look for every year? What is the figure, a hundred, two hundred? I was told that 88 grants or scholarships were awarded to 112 applicants last year. It is difficult to separate these two types of awards - one is to help defray the costs of convention or institute attendance, the other to support continuing study in law or librarianship - and these latter are funded from an independently existing endowment.

My concern is with grants - these are not generous, often only paying for little more than airfare. It is my impression that there were fewer grant applicants this year than last. Indeed, the grants committee may have been hard put to come up with the requisite number of recipients. As I sat there at the opening luncheon last year listening to all those names and institutions being reeled off, I heard that three institutions each had three members attending on grants. While this is not contrary to any rules or policies, I yet wonder: just how many of the deserving are there, if the committee was so short of applicants that eleven grants were made to librarians from four academic institutions (there was another school with two recipients). Surely every beginning law librarian need not be encouraged, or subsidized into attendance. Many law librarians, indeed an increasing number, are connected with profit making institutions whose employers are aware of the value of professional contacts and continuing education. After a few years of service and evaluation of their librarian, they usually support convention and institute attendance.

Traditionally, grants have gone to new people and often to first time attenders; I can think of no argument for making successive grants to the same person. I believe this is the policy of the committee. How many new people, how many deserving, potential applicants can we really anticipate every year? Let's assume that the whole sponsorship sum will drop into the lap of the grants committee - say \$35,000. At an average of \$300 per grant we may have to really beat the bushes to come up with another hundred souls who have not had a previous grant, and who are committed to the association, and who would not otherwise have sufficient funds, either their own (a respectable salary) or funds from their employer, to attend the convention.

It is difficult to envision just where the proposed (or accomplished) changes will lead us in another decade. I do not foresee any sort of beneficially improved relations with our publishers or dealers because of this. I don't know that anything is the matter with our relations at the present time - if a publisher does something I don't like, I tell him "I'll tell the F.T.C.". We are still going to have the fat cats being swept off to a private dining room of the ritziest restaurant in town - this happens in every professional association. There is certainly nothing wrong or reprehensible about it. But there may emerge well founded resentment on the part of those - not the chosen few - who must survive for a week on a tight expense account without even a free highball. The new librarian may receive a grant and be gone the next year. Those who have paid their dues, have done their committee work, have participated over the years in association activities will be the real "beneficiaries" of the purity and ethic movement - they will have the no frills convention.

If we want an independent and unsubsidized annual meeting, well and good. We shall just have to cut loose. It may already have been done for us; but this action need not be based on ethical or moral grounds. Once we inject these factors in the argument, or found our decision on this; we call into question our past standards of conduct, and as well, suggest to our associate members a disapproval of the past state of affairs, a view that many of us feel is unwarranted. Why is it less unethical, or not at all questionable for a librarian in a one person operation to accept a free trip to Toronto from the West Publishing Company (say \$300.00) than it is for fifteen librarians to "accept" a free dinner - costed out at \$20.00 each and shared by another 985 colleagues? These are niceties and distinctions that will require further clarification.

PRIVATE LETTER RULINGS

Below is printed a two page article written by Louise B. Beardwood, a librarian at the law firm of Montgomery, McCracken, Walker and Rhoads in Philadelphia, Penna, on the topic of commercial tax publishers and their coverage of I.R.S. Private Letter Rulings. It is reproduced here with the kind permission of Ms. Beardwood. The article first appeared in the April 1979 issue (3/8) of the NEWSLETTER of the Greater Philadelphia Law Library Association.

TAX SERVICE ANALYSIS

by

Louise B. Beardwood.

I.R.S. "Private" Letter Rulings became available to the public early in 1977. One to two hundred of them are released each Monday. The major sources of information on these "unpublished" rulings are BNA, CCH, P-H, Tax Analysts & Advocates, and LEXIS. Two services provide full text; the others present digests of the letters, with full text available from their central offices.

A brief description of each service and a summarizing chart follows.

BNA. DAILY TAX REPORT. Digests of all rulings, prepared by Tax Analysts & Advocates. Arranged by Code section and listed in periodic indexes. Published on Friday, picking up releases of previous Monday. Full text are available by telephoning Washington (like decision service) at no charge.

CCH. IRS LETTER RULINGS. All releases. Newsletter highlighting important rulings with brief digest of others. Arranged by Code section. All releases in full text pamphlet, which is arranged by Letter Number. One or more issues per week, covering letters released ten to fourteen days previously. Weekly and cumulative indexes by Topic, Uniform Issue List and Code section.

PRENTICE-HALL. PRIVATE LETTER RULINGS. Does not state that they cover all releases, but spot checking indicates that they do. Highlights and digests by Code section, with monthly and cumulative indexes by key word, Code section, and Letter Number. Issued weekly on Friday, picking up prior Monday's releases. Delivery is slightly erratic. Full text is available by postal card or free telephone call. Cost is \$1.00 plus 20 cents per page, plus postage.

TAX ANALYSTS & ADVOCATES. TAX NOTES. All releases, digested by Code section. Semi-annual index by Code section. Issued weekly on Monday, publishing the prior Monday's releases. Full text is available. \$7.00 for the first order. Additional orders cost less.

LEXIS. All releases. Available about ten days after release. Access is by Document Number, Code section, date, refer-reply, third party communication, notes, text and exhibits.

	Coverage	Presentation	Indexing	Frequency & speed	Availability of full text	Shelf space	Filing	Cost
RWA Daily Tax Report	All releases.	Digested by Code section. Exactly same as Tax Notes.	Weekly listing. No subject list.	Weekly on Friday, picking up prior Monday's releases.	Phone call to Washington D.C. No charge.	No addition to sizable Daily Tax.	No additional.	About \$700 per year.
CCH IRS Letter Rulings	All releases.	Newsletter w. highlights & digests by Code sec. + full text by ruling #.	Weekly Topical, Uniform Issue List, & Code section.	1 or more per week, about 10 days after release.	Instant.	About 5 binders per year. Microform option.	Minimal.	\$425 per year + taxes & shipping.
F-11 Private Letter Rulings	Seems to be all, tho' they do not claim this.	Newsletter w. highlights & digests by Code section.	Monthly & cumulating Key Word, Code section, & number.	Weekly on Friday, picking up prior Monday's releases.	Free phone call. \$1 + 20¢ per page. Billed.	1 binder per year.	Minimal.	\$327 per year.
TA & A Tax Notes	All releases.	Digested by Code section.	Semi-annual by Code section.	Weekly on Monday, picking up prior Monday's releases.	Phone call to Virginia. \$7 first order, \$2 add'l orders. Billed.	2 binders per year.	Minimal.	\$99 per year.
Lewis	All releases.	Access by #, Code sec., date, Refer-reply, 3d party, notes, text, exhibit.		Available about 10 days after release.	Instant.			Depends on law firm accounting.

AUGUST MEETING

This year, the law librarians of the Southeast and the law teachers of the Southeast are meeting at different times, although in the same hotel. The law librarians' meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 12, 1979, through Tuesday (noon), August 14, 1979. The law teachers' meeting will be from Tuesday (evening), August 14 through Thursday (noon) August 16, 1979.

The local arrangements committee for the law teachers' meeting extends a most enthusiastic invitation to each and every member of SEALL. I am taking this means of reaching each SEALL member to ask that you notify me if you wish to attend the law teachers' meeting and I will pass it on to my colleague here at Ole Miss to insure that you receive a registration packet. Registration packets for the librarians' meeting will be mailed to all SEALL members. Mark your calendar for Biloxi and the Gulf Coast for August, 1979!

A. Michael Beard
Chairman, Local Arrangements
Law Librarian
Assistant Professor of Law



HELEN CRAWFORD

I want to advise you of the death of Helen Bailey Crawford. Helen was not a frequent attendee at National or Regional AALL meetings, so perhaps few of you knew her. She was a very dedicated law librarian who typified the highest ideals of this profession. She had been the associate law librarian at the University of Mississippi since 1963. Although she was forced to take early retirement in 1978, she continued to have an interest in law libraries, students and law librarians. Helen died in January 1979. She will be missed.

Carol C. West
Law Librarian

S.E.A.L.L. BRIEFS

compiled by Ann T. Fessenden

Thanks so much to everyone who contributed news items for the new S.E.A.L.L. Briefs column. I hope all of you will enjoy reading it, and will send in YOUR news for the next issue on the form provided. -- A.T.F.

ALABAMA

Susan Virkler, librarian at BALCH, BINGHAM, BAKER, HAWTHORNE, WILLIAMS AND WARD in Birmingham is attempting to set up an author/title catalog and a limited subject catalog for her library. She is also making cards for old bound briefs and memos and indexing and binding new ones. She reports that the local chapter of SEALL is beginning work on a union list of periodicals and looseleaves for its members.

The ALABAMA SUPREME COURT AND STATE law library became a member of SOLINET in September, 1978 and received its terminal in February, 1979. The library plans eventually to add its entire holdings to the OCLC data base and to begin using a COM catalog as soon as SOLINET has this service available.

FLORIDA

Emily P. McLeod retired at the end of 1978 as head librarian at the HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY law library in Tampa after more than 20 years of service. She was honored on December 8 at the annual luncheon meeting of the Hillsborough County Bar Association. She has been replaced by William M. Bailey who was a practicing attorney in New York and Ohio before moving to Tampa.

Carole W. Knobil has been appointed assistant law librarian for public services at the UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI law library. A graduate of Syracuse Library School and Cornell Law School, she replaces William J. Beintema who became head law librarian at Oklahoma City University Law School.

The NOVA UNIVERSITY Law School has acquired a new building, and the law library anticipates a move in August or December. Faye Jones, head of serials and cataloging at Nova has been accepted at the Nova University Law School and will become a full-time student and half-time librarian in the fall. There are two new staff members; Mimi Levin, acquisitions clerk, and Ruby Stone, cataloging clerk. Pat Perry has returned to the staff following the birth of her baby. Jeanne Underhill, head of reference, recently passed the Florida Bar, and Mike Richmond, library director, attended the SWALL meeting in Kansas City.

GEORGIA

The law library at the UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA has had a change of directors. Edwin C. Surrency succeeded Col. Sewell M. Brumby in January, 1979. Prof. Surrency came to the University of Georgia from Temple University School of Law. The law library has become independent of the main university library, with the law librarian now reporting directly to the dean of the law school. A new annex to the law library has been funded and occupancy is expected by July, 1981. Lexis is to be added in May, and paperwork has been completed for the law library to become a government documents depository.

(GEORGIA, CONT.)

The MERCER UNIVERSITY law library has moved into a new law school building which gives the library over 33,000 square feet. Dedication of the building was scheduled for May 4. Lexis is to be installed this summer. Reynold Kosek, reference librarian, has been promoted to assistant professor effective July 1. Anne Jones, who has her M.L.S. from Emory University, has joined the Mercer staff as cataloger. Leah Chanin, director of the law library, has completed Reference Guide to Georgia Legal Research and Legal History and sent it to Bobbs Merrill for publication.

KENTUCKY

The ASHLAND OIL COMPANY law library has grown from about 5,000 volumes to its present 18,000 since 1975. All cataloging, labeling and indexing of the collection has been done since 1976 with help and advice from the University of Kentucky staff. A new corporate building is to be completed in 1980 which will provide more space for the library.

LOUISIANA

An addition of two new floors to the LOYOLA UNIVERSITY law library building has been completed, bringing the total library space to six levels. The library has been designated a U.S. government documents depository. Plans are to fully catalog and classify the documents into IC and integrate them with the regular collection. Two new staff positions have been created to handle the documents, one professional and one paraprofessional, both effective August 1. The library also will have a new circulation librarian position, effective August 1. This position will bring the library's total professional staff size to seven.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY law library joined the Lexis network in February, 1979. LSU also has two new staff members. Tran Van Linh joined the staff as comparative law librarian in March, 1979. He holds the Licence en Droit from Indo-China University and an M.L.S. from LSU. He was previously on the staff at Tulane. Charlotte Corneil became part-time reference librarian in January. She holds a B.A. from the University of Southwestern Louisiana and a J.D. from Tulane. She is enrolled in the M.L.S. program at LSU. David Naylor, assistant librarian at LSU, was a member of the faculty for "Legal Retrieval Reference Workshop" sponsored by the Louisiana Library Association in Baton Rouge on March 27. Lance E. Dickson, librarian and professor of law, has edited the third supplement to Water Law Bibliography, published by Jefferson Law Book Co.

MISSISSIPPI

Carol West, director of the MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE School of Law Library, served as a program participant in the Mississippi Governor's Library Conference. She addressed the delegates on "State of the Art--Special Libraries." She also served as a member of the exhibits committee.

The UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI law library moved into its new building last August. Special equipment in the new building includes a Knogo security system, electric compact shelving, and a Lexis terminal. A Solinet terminal is scheduled for installation in June. Chester S. Bunnell, former assistant librarian for readers' services at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, has been circulation librarian since November. He will be promoted to reference librarian effective July 1. Ann T. Fessenden, technical services librarian, has been accepted to the 'Ole Miss Law School and will begin part-time work on her J.D. in the fall. Helen Crawford, retired associate law librarian, died January 13, following an extended illness. She had retired last year after 16 years of service.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The SOUTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT library is microfilming all cases that have been heard in or submitted to the court since 1918. Bound volumes will no longer be maintained as all new cases are being filmed. The project is being funded by an LEAA grant.

VIRGINIA

The Marshall-Wythe law library of the COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY has acquired a microfilm camera and will soon begin filming the records and briefs of the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals and the Virginia Supreme Court. Hard copies will be disposed of as the filming is completed, and will be available to anyone willing to pay the shipping costs. The library also plans to supply the films at cost.

S.E.A.L.L. B R I E F S

Please send news about your

library and staff by

SEPTEMBER 18, 1979

TO:

Ann T. Fessenden
University of Mississippi
Law Library
University, MS. 38677

Library name and address:

Use this form or send a
separate sheet if you prefer.
