



PUBLIC DOCUMENTS HIGHLIGHTS



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Advisory Council Meets On Depositories

SUPERINTENDENT'S LOG

Welcome to Public Documents Highlights! This is the first attempt at a circular letter of interest primarily to Documents librarians.

The letter is significant because it is one of the many recommendations of the Public Printer's Advisory Council on Depository Libraries convened earlier this year. A number of other important contributions were made, many of which you'll see effected in coming months.

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"The world was not built by conformists!" said a former Public Printer. Although *conformism* is not an evil unto itself, it has to some extent inhibited our growth in recent years to meet the burgeoning demands of Americans and many of our overseas' friends for new knowledge in the hands of many of our government departments.

In the Depository Program particularly, we're looking for new—if nonconformist—programs leading to better service to libraries and, hence, to those who use them.

Keeping "in touch," something we haven't done as well as we should have in the past, is one way we think we can improve our service to depositories.

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There are two ways you can help:

Supporting the Public Printer's Advisory Council is one; the other is exchanging material, suggestions and recommendations for Public Documents Highlights.

Public Documents Highlights is circulated on an irregular basis by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402, and is mailed at first class postage rates. Public Documents Highlights is circulated to librarians of the Federal Depository Library Program. Material proposed for circulation may be submitted to the Chief, Planning Division, Public Documents Department, Box 1533, Washington, D.C. 20013. The Superintendent of Documents, however, retains the right to accept such material, to edit it and to assign priorities of circulation.

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A newly-organized Advisory Council to the Public Printer on Depository Libraries met in Washington, D.C., on February 2, 1973. The Council offered a number of recommendations, including publication of a circular letter. This is the initial issue.

The Council, numbering fourteen respected librarians across the nation, replaces an earlier constituted body but which never conducted formal meetings.

Much of the discussion centered around micropublishing and the role of both the Government Printing Office and Superintendent of Documents in its preparation and distribution.

Considered, meanwhile, were recommendations involving instructions to depositories, the *Monthly Catalog*, particularly indexing, changes in depository shipping lists with a new format, study groups, as well as newsletters.

Yet to be clarified are a number of administrative matters pertinent to the Council's function.

At the February meeting were:

D. Clifton Brock, Jr., University of North Carolina; Clifford P. Crowers, Free Library of Philadelphia; Bernadine E. Hoduski, USEPA, Kansas City; Charles G. LaHood, Library of Congress; Jean E. Lowrie, Western Michigan University; Ralph E. McCoy, Southern Illinois University; Peter J. Paulson, University of the State of New York; Carolyn Else, Peirce County (Washington) Library System; Katherine Laich, University of Southern California; Maryellen T. Hall, Oklahoma Department of Libraries; former-Superintendent of Documents Carper W. Buckley; Eileen D. Cooke, American Library Association; Catharine J. Reynolds, University of Colorado; and Margaret T. Lane, Office of the Secretary of State of the State of Louisiana.

Selection of a chairperson was considered without final decision.

Then-Acting Public Printer Leonard Golden called both the Depository Program and the work of the Council "important" adding.

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"With ... expansion of the (*depository*) program in view, we determined that it would be in our best interest, and we hope in yours also, to establish a professional advisory group to the Public Printer on the Depository Library program."

No new meeting was set at the time but a session has since been scheduled for the June convention of the American Library Association at Las Vegas.

BOOKSTORES

Depository librarians nationwide frequently mention support they've received from GPO Bookstores in acquisition and reference not directly associated with the Depository Program. It occurred, again, most recently at Huntsville, during a meeting of the Alabama State Library Association. The object of note at the Huntsville proceedings was the GPO Bookstore at Birmingham and the assistance of its people to all librarians, not alone to those most intimately associated with Depositories.

With the ribbon barely cut opening the 20th store at Cleveland in March, the Department, meanwhile, turned its attention to stores to be opened shortly at Seattle and Milwaukee.

Six more are proposed for fiscal 1974; Houston, and mentioned as possibilities are Jacksonville, Minneapolis, Buffalo, Phoenix and St. Louis.

Pittsburgh, Honolulu and New Orleans also are thought to be *fitures*.

The New York store is expanding. So is Philadelphia, into new and larger quarters. Similar relocations are scheduled at Los Angeles and Chicago.

And so the chain grows.

Additional stimulus to the program is expected with relaxation of requirements that stores be located in federally-owned or leased facilities. Beginning next year, wider latitude in selection of market places is expected in cities thought suitable for bookstore locations.

The goal is a store in each of the major marketing areas throughout the United States, not necessarily only in those cities offering surplus space in federally-controlled buildings.

That the growth is a healthy one is indicated by notable increases in sales throughout the bookstore organization, up more than \$56,000 during a recent reporting period over the same time span a year ago, with libraries and librarians increasingly counted among its customers.

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NEW AGENCY

Publications of a new agency within the Department of Commerce, the Domestic and International Business Administration, means additions to the Superintendent of Documents classification system. DIBA has organized into four subordinates, Bureau of International Commerce, Bureau of Resources and Trade Assistance, Bureau of Competitive Assessment and Business Policy and the Bureau of East-West Trade.

New "classes" look like this:

Domestic and International Business Administration
(C57.1:-99)

(Includes Secretary's Office and administrative offices.)

International Commerce Bureau (C57.100's)
(formerly C42)

Resources and Trade Assistance Bureau (C57.200's)

Competitive Assessment and Business Policy Bureau
(C57.300's)
(formerly Domestic Commerce Bureau C41)

East-West Trade Bureau (C57.400's)

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ORGANIZATION MANUAL—The organization manual of the U.S. Government is expected to wear a new face next year, in line with a White House recommendation to improve design of all government publications. New cover designs are not expected to increase costs, however.

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NEW PEOPLE—The Public Documents Department, long plagued with too few people for too much work, particularly in sales and order-processing, is getting much-needed relief. Twenty-eight new people were brought on board in the first week of March; eighty-seven others were scheduled for the balance of the month and into April.

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REFERENCE FILE—The Department's Reference File, microfiched experimentally a year ago, nears "on line" use. Updating of the file is scheduled every 6 weeks—in the beginning—through Administrative Terminal System (ATS) outlets to computers. The result is expected in savings of thousands of "reference" hours annually.



