

**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS**

**Congressional Papers Roundtable**

**Newsletter**

**February 1999**

**Table of Contents**

- Note from the Chair
- Correspondence with the House Clerk
- House Claims Furniture of Former Speakers
- A Renewed House Historian?
- Senate Historical Office
- Senate Records Lent to Hawaii
- Institutional News
- Internet Resources
- California Political Papers Consortium
- OAH Publication on Congressional History
- Note from the Editor

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**Note from the Chair**

St. Paul

22 Feb. 1999

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier in February, I attended a conference at the National Archives for personnel of the presidential libraries. There was a strong emphasis on developing a coordinated preservation strategy that would set goals and impact budgeting decisions. Soon after I returned to Austin, I received an e-mail from Jeffrey Suchanek saying that the preservation /conservation survey discussed at the 1998 CPR business meeting in Orlando was ready to mail. There is clearly a growing realization of the need to identify the conservation/preservation problems in modern political collections.

The survey, prepared by Jeffrey Suchanek and Mark Greene, will provide basic statistical information about current preservation/conservation and holdings maintenance practices. The information will help archivists evaluate the preservation work being done in modern political collections and help them to develop preservation strategies and budget priorities. When you receive the survey, please take the time to complete and return it; the success of this project depends on widespread participation. The survey results will be presented at the Sept. 1999 Roundtable meeting in Pittsburgh.

On another note, there have been two new developments in the House of Representatives. Early last year, as you remember, there was a reorganization of the Office of the Clerk. The reorganization, implemented by then House Clerk Robin Carle, effectively abolished the archivist position held by Cynthia Miller. The Roundtable strenuously objected to the change and asked the House Oversight Committee to restore the position. The position was not restored. To update everyone, Robin Carle resigned in Dec. 1998, and the new clerk is Jeff Trandahl, who is considering his own reorganization. Cynthia Miller is still employed by the Office, but not as a professional archivist. I am drafting a letter to Jeff Trandahl asking him to consider restoring the archivist's position. I encourage members of the Roundtable to write the new clerk to express their hopes that the position will now be restored. The address is Hon. Jeff Trandahl, Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives, H-154, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

The second development in the House came with the adoption of new rules for the 106th Congress. The new rules include a provision saying "there is established an Office of the Historian of the House of Representatives. The Speaker shall appoint and set the annual rate of pay for employees of the Office of the Historian." We will continue to watch and see what happens on that front. (see below "A Renewed House Historian?")

At the Orlando meeting, the steering committee discussed the possibility of having a panel on fund-raising for archival projects at the 1999 Roundtable business meeting. I have talked to Mike Gillette, director of the Center for Legislative History at the National Archives, and to Herb Hartsook, curator of Modern Political Collections at the University of South Carolina. Both have agreed to speak at our meeting. Most recently, Mike Gillette obtained corporate and foundation support for a documentary source book, *Our Mothers Before Us: Women and Democracy, 1789-1920*. The book highlighted documents from the Center for Legislative Archives. Herb Hartsook has been very successful at persuading donors' to give monetary support along with their donations of papers. I am looking forward to hearing them in Pittsburgh.

Claudie Anderson

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## Correspondence with the House Clerk

The House Legislative Resource Center (LRC) sends the following news:

The web site <http://bioguide.congress.gov/> is now available. It provides online access to biographies of all members of Congress since 1774, as well as updated versions of the House and Senate guides to research collections and bibliographies of Senators. Favorable comments have been received regarding the site. Our thanks go to those of you who have sent updated information on the congressional collections in your repositories. The LRC and the Senate Historical Office update the web site as information is received. The LRC is currently adding bibliographic citations for House members. Researchers who contact the office by telephone and e-mail are enthusiastic about having current information so readily available.

The new 106th Congress exhibits the lowest turnover in House membership in ten years. Only forty-nine members elected to the 105th Congress are not members of the 106th. During the last Congress four members died, two were appointed to other office, three resigned, twenty-one did not seek reelection, and twelve ran for other office, including three elected to the Senate. One member was defeated in the primary, six in the general election.

The LRC provided advice to 30 of the offices that were closing. Nineteen departing members donated their papers to repositories upon leaving the House.

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## House Claims Furniture of Former Speakers

The House is claiming furniture taken by former Speakers when they left office. In many cases, the furniture has been displayed in public exhibits commemorating the lives and careers of these men. This action has been in conjunction with a law affecting publicly-funded offices of living former Speakers.

Approximately 40 pieces of furniture, primarily tables and chairs, from former Speaker Tom Foley (D-WA) are located at the Foley Institute of Washington State University. They are on a permanent loan from the House. During the summer of 1998, House Clerk Robin Carle contacted the Foley Institute about reclaiming these items, based on the law. The furniture had gone to the institute in 1994 when Foley was still Speaker, and because of this, the institute is seeking clarification on whether the law applies.

Texas Christian University has also been contacted about furniture associated with former Speaker Jim Wright (D-TX). This includes chairs, tables, a lamp, a sofa, a bookcase, draperies, and other pieces, and all have been displayed in the Special Collections area of the Burnett Library since 1989. Representatives from the House have repeatedly checked on the items in the intervening years. Last summer, the Clerk's Office contacted Wright, not the university, about the return of these items, and the former Speaker indicated that he will comply with the request.

From 1986-1996, the Bapst Library at Boston College (BC) displayed furnishings from the Speaker's office of Tip O'Neill (D-MA), and this was a popular tourist attraction. Exhibited were a grandfather clock, two chandeliers, a sofa, a love seat, chairs, tables, lamps, and a porcelain horse presented to the Speaker by the premier of China. These items were on loan from the Architect of the Capitol and the Clerk's Office. As a separate loan from the Smithsonian, BC had Pres. Grover Cleveland's desk, which O'Neill had also used in his Washington office. In 1996 the university decided to close this display and install at the Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Library a permanent exhibit, with the Smithsonian desk as the centerpiece. Proposals were made to move or purchase the furniture on loan from the House, but the pieces were returned to Washington when the Clerk's Office would not agree to these changes. Included was the rostrum chair, which BC said O'Neill's colleagues had given him as a retirement present. The Clerk's Office was unable to substantiate this.

The Clerk's Office has contacted the University of Texas's Center for American History, which oversees the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum. Among the items sought to be returned are a Greek urn and a marble rostrum. The view of the center is that the Rayburn Library and Museum and its contents are property of the state of Texas.

Boston University (BU) possesses a desk, chairs, a sofa, flags, and other items from John McCormack, and it has also been approached by the House. These items are no longer formally displayed, as they had been during McCormack's lifetime, but they are prominently identified as having belonged to the former Speaker. BU had not complied with the House clerk's request because it believes itself to be the owner of the items through an agreement with McCormack.

The 18 Feb. 1999 issue of ROLL CALL stated that the staff of new Speaker Dennis Hastert has been reviewing the situation and that nothing definite has been decided yet. It also reported that "sources familiar with the deliberations said House officials are sensitive to the notion that whatever decisions they reach will likely serve as precedent for the disposition of the legacies of all past and future Speakers." New House Clerk Jeffrey Trandahl, in his former role as deputy clerk, had performed an investigation into the disposition of the furniture.

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## Renewed House Historian?

Page Putnam Miller, director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, reported the following in her 28 Jan. 1999 NCC Washington Update (which appeared on the Archives & Archivists listserv):

On 6 Jan. 1999, the House of Representatives re-codified and passed a revised version of its standing rules. The revision, which involved reducing the standing rules from 52 to 28, retained the provision for the Office of the Historian. In 1994 when Republicans gained control of the House, one of Speaker Newt Gingrich's (R-GA) first acts was to dismiss the House Historian, who had been selected by a bipartisan search committee and had served ably for many years. For most of the past four years, the position has remained vacant. The recently adopted Rule 2, which deals with the duties of officers and members, states under Item 7 that "there is established an Office of the Historian of the House of Representatives." This is an encouraging development and may open the way for the House once again to have a historian.

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## Senate Historical Office

The following news comes from Karen Paul:

Documenting the impeachment trial has been a primary focus of archival activities during the past several weeks. The Senate historians have maintained a chronology of the secretary of the Senate's role during the process, beginning with the receipt of the Referral Report of the Office of the Independent Counsel to the House of Representatives on 11 Sept. 1998 and continuing through the final vote to acquit on 12 Feb. 1999. This information is designed to document the entire administrative process. Concurrently, the documents that were submitted and created during the trial have been collected and inventoried. These materials (including the transcripts of closed sessions) will eventually be forwarded to the Center for Legislative Archives.

The MINUTES OF THE SENATE DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE, 1903-1964, (S. Doc. 105-20) have been published, thus fulfilling a 1991 recommendation made by the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress. Edited by Donald A. Ritchie, the conference minutes add significantly to knowledge about the Senate's institutional development during the first two-thirds of the twentieth century. The minutes have been transcribed, annotated, edited, and indexed. The 694-page volume is being sent to government depository libraries and presidential libraries. Because it is published in very limited quantity, the use of interlibrary loan is recommended. (Publication of the Republican minutes will be forthcoming.)

Now that the impeachment trial is concluded, the Senate Historical Office will be watching the status of S. 217, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of charitable transfers personal papers with a separate right to control access. Introduced by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) with Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-HA) and Paul Wellstone (D-MN) as cosponsor, it has been referred to the Committee on Finance. In his introductory statement, Moynihan explained that it is designed "to correct a little-known estate and gift tax provision that may inadvertently penalize persons who donate their personal papers and related items to a charitable organization for the historical record" (see p. S663 of the 19 Jan. 1999 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD). The full text of the statement and the bill are available through the Thomas web site of the Library of Congress (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>).

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## SENATE RECORDS LENT TO HAWAII

In Aug. 1998, the Center for Legislative Archives of the National Archives (NARA) and the Senate lent to the Bishop Museum of Honolulu, HA, portions of a 1897 petition to the Senate. The 556-page petition

contains the signatures of 21,169 native Hawaiians, more than half the population at the time, who protested the proposed annexation of Hawaii to the United States. The document is highly revered by Hawaiians because it illustrates the degree of opposition.

The petition was a forgotten part of Hawaiian history until 1992, when Noenoe Silva, a Hawaii Studies doctoral candidate, saw it displayed in a National Archives and Records Administration exhibit titled *Ties that Bind*. Silva and Nalani Minton had the petition copied and published with a 50-page historical note. Tom Coffman, a Hawaiian journalist and film maker, made the petition the centerpiece of a documentary film and accompanying book titled *NATION WITHIN: THE STORY OF AMERICA'S ANNEXATION OF THE NATION OF HAWAII*.

The Bishop Museum displayed that portion of the petition that could travel to Hawaii (90% of the pages), and it mounted on the walls of the Hall of Discovery copies of each page. Thousands of Hawaiians came to see the petition because it contained "mana," the Hawaiian word for "spirit" or "soul." They also searched for their ancestors' signatures. Ceremonies were held when the petition arrived and when it returned to NARA in Jan. 1999. The NARA Document Conservation Laboratory is treating those pages that were too fragile to travel, and a NARA microfilm publication will be published this year.

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## Institutional News

Rep. Vic Fazio (D-CA), who recently retired after serving in Congress for 20 years, has donated 340 boxes of personal papers, political memorabilia, and other documents to the library at the University of California-Davis. It's the first time a national politician has donated his or her papers to the university. There are boxes of material on base closures, water policy, and environmental law. Fazio's speeches and briefing books are also included. Also at the former representative's home are materials that he is currently sorting through.

SACRAMENTO BEE

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The Special Collections Unit, Clemson University Libraries, has acquired new material for the J. Fred Buzhardt, Jr. Papers (1923-1984). The addition includes photographs, clippings, and papers, including a remarkable draft of a letter to Bob Woodward in reaction to *All the President's Men*. The collection consists of the personal papers and other material of J. [Joseph] Fred Buzhardt, Jr., who joined Sen. Strom Thurmond's (R-SC) staff as legislative assistant in 1958 and became the Senator's administrative assistant in 1965. In 1973 he became Pres. Richard M. Nixon's special counsel in matters concerning the Watergate investigation, and from Jan.- Oct. 1974, he was counsel to the president. The Buzhardt Papers date primarily from these last two positions.

The Gubernatorial series of the Strom Thurmond Collection has been microfilmed and opened for research. Covering the period 1947-1951, the series includes appointment books, correspondence, proclamations, reports, speeches and telegrams relating to Thurmond's official and personal activities while being South Carolina's governor. Topics of interest include civil rights, railroad freight rate equalization, regional education, and women in government. There is also material on Thurmond's 1948 presidential campaign as the States' Rights ("Dixiecrat") Party candidate. While most of the material relates to the South Carolina branch of the party, it also contains information on the national campaign and constitutes the largest amount of the States' Rights Party records still extant.

Matthew Prieue and Jim Cross

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The University of Connecticut is pleased to announce the donation of the papers of Rep. Barbara B. Kennelly (D-CT). The collection will be placed in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center on the university's Storrs Campus. Kennelly was the first woman to serve as vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus, as chief deputy majority whip, and as member of the House Committee on Intelligence. In the 105th Congress, she was the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Social Security. A longtime advocate for children, she has worked for child protection programs, foster care and adoption assistance, and health care.

Kennelly represented Connecticut's First District from 1982 until 1998, when she ran unsuccessfully against John Rowland for governor of the state. Prior to her election to Congress, she was secretary of the state of Connecticut and a member of the Hartford Court of Common Council. The collection consists of 72 cubic feet of materials pertaining to her Congressional career and includes correspondence, reports, news clippings, press releases, speeches, committee and issue files, and audio visual materials. A public announcement will be made when the collection is opened for research.

Betsy Pittman

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The Dirksen Congressional Center has a new Web site [www.pekin.net/dirksen](http://www.pekin.net/dirksen) with information about the center's history, governance, programs, grants, archival collections, and other features. The center has also sponsored a new grants program, called the Robert H. Michel Civic Education Grants. Information on the grants can be found at the Web site.

Frank H. Mackaman

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The Pepper OnLine Archival and Retrieval Information System (POLARIS) Project officially began in Oct. 1998 at the Claude Pepper Library, Florida State University. It provides access to the library's holdings.

Researchers will be able to search and browse the finding aid to the papers of Sen. Claude Pepper (D-FL), as well as the collections of photographs, memorabilia, and audiovisual recordings. In the future, this will be available on the Internet. The POLARIS project team is creating a database for the finding aid container lists, and will be pursuing several projects involving the imaging of documents and photographs and the digital reproduction of sound and video recordings from the collection.

Burt Altman

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The Joint Archives of Holland has processed the first increment of the papers of Rep. Guy A. Vander Jagt (R-MI), member of Congress from 1967 to 1992. The collection will be closed until processing is completed in 2000. Vander Jagt served as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee from 1975-1992. His committee assignments included Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Taxation, and Foreign Affairs. The papers were processed during the summer of 1998 by Helen Baer, now an MLIS graduate from the University of Texas at Austin. Two subsequent summer interns will complete the processing. The Vander Jagt collection will eventually join the other processed congressional collections of Rep. Gerrit J. Diekema (R-MI) and Sen. William Alden Smith (R-MI). For further information about the project, write to Geoffrey Reynolds, Collections Archivist, at P.O. Box 9000, Hope College Campus, Holland, MI 49422-9000, or send

Geoffrey D. Reynolds

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Humbolt State University holds the papers of Rep. Don Clausen (R-CA), and a preliminary box-level inventory was recently prepared. The collection contains more than 80 boxes. Future plans for the collection have not been established, but processing is expected to begin within the next few years. Clausen served in Congress from 1963-1983.

Eddie Butler

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The University of Kansas continues with its plans for a new archive facility to house the papers of Sen. Robert Dole (R-KS). A site has been selected. The designs for the building include space for a separate receiving room; large processing area; digitization, photo, conservation labs; and exhibit preparation room. A separate heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system for the storage areas will maintain constant temperature year-round.

The Dole Institute's programs and the senator's career continue to be highlighted in various ways, including a photo display of Dole's last week in the Senate (shown 29-30 Jan. 1999 at the annual Kansas Day Celebration in Topeka, KS) and a presentation made on 13 Feb. 1999 to the Riley County (Kansas) Republican Women. Future plans include celebration of the 30th anniversary of Dole's maiden speech in the U. S. Senate (14 Apr.1999) and a conference on the 50th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Sept.

Within the last six months, the Dole Archive has acquired materials from former Dole staff members and volunteers. These include materials regarding the senator's legislative interests on the rights of the disabled, world trade, taxation, and budgetary issues; audio files from Senate hearings; and photographs from photographer P. F. Bentley. Former staff members, volunteers, and friends of the senator are encouraged to donate materials and anecdotal history to the Dole Archive, Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, the University of Kansas. Processing continues on the Dole papers, and it is expected to be completed in two or three years.

Bryan Culp

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On 18 Sept. 1998, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library released recordings and transcripts of telephone conversations held by Johnson from 1 Sept.-31 Oct. 1964. The Library had previously opened the president's recorded conversations dated 22 Nov. 1963 - 31 Aug. 1964.

The focus of many of the Sept. and Oct. conversations is the impending 1964 presidential election, but other topics include action on remaining legislative items before Congress, another alleged attack on U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin, the arrest and subsequent resignation of Johnson aide Walter Jenkins, and the explosion of a nuclear bomb by the People's Republic of China. The release includes a number of conversations with members of Congress, including John McCormack, Carl Albert, Hale Boggs, Mike Mansfield, Richard Russell, Carl Hayden, and many others. There are approximately 34 hours of recorded conversations from this time period.

Researchers may listen to the recordings in the library's Reading Room or purchase copies of individual tapes at a cost of \$6.00 per tape (minimum order of \$10.00). The cost of the set of 32 tapes is \$132.00, plus Texas sales tax where applicable. Copies of transcripts (transcribed by the president's staff) may also be

purchased at 10\_ per page if ordered in the Reading Room and 20\_ per page if ordered by mail. Researchers should be cautioned that the transcripts are not always reliable and should never be used without being checked against the actual recordings.

Claudia Anderson

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The Kentucky Archives for Politics and Public Policy at the University of Kentucky Library recently announced the acquisition of the collections of Sen. Wendell Ford (D-KY) and Rep. Scotty Baesler (D-KY).

After serving as a Kentucky state senator, lieutenant governor, and governor, Ford was elected to the Senate in 1974, and he became the state's longest serving Senator, breaking the record held by Alben W. Barkley (D-KY). In addition to serving as minority whip, Ford was involved in major national public policy debates and helped shape many pieces of historic legislation, such as the National Voter Registration Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the National Energy Security Act of 1992, the Age Discrimination Act Amendments of 1986, the Tobacco Reform Act of 1985, and the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1977. He was known as a staunch supporter of the economic interests of Kentucky, and as a national leader on energy, aviation, and federal election reform. He served on committees on Rules, Commerce, Science and Transportation, and Energy and Natural Resources; on the Aviation subcommittee; and on the Joint Committee on Printing. He also served as chairman of the National Democratic Governors Caucus (1973-1974) and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (1976-1982). The 1500 c. f. Ford Collection and includes gubernatorial papers. Access to it is restricted during Ford's lifetime.

Scotty Baesler served as Lexington, KY, vice mayor and mayor and Fayette County district judge. In 1991 he was defeated in the Democratic gubernatorial primary, but in 1992 he was elected to Congress by a large majority. He served three terms in the House before running for the Senate seat vacated by Ford. In the Nov. 1998 general election he was defeated by Rep. Jim Bunning (R-KY) by a narrow margin. Baesler served on the Agriculture Committee, which positioned him to protect Kentucky's tobacco interests. During the 104th Congress, he introduced legislation to prevent the Food and Drug Administration from asserting regulatory control over tobacco and tobacco products. As a founding member of the Democratic "Blue Dogs," the congressman helped develop two major policy initiatives: the Common Sense Balanced Budget Act of 1995 and the Individual Responsibility Act. He also introduced legislation dealing with campaign finance reform. The Baesler Collection consists of 42 cubic feet of material, and includes photographs and audio-visual film and videotapes. Access to the collection is restricted during Baesler's lifetime.

Jeffrey Suchanek

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Since Dec., 1998, the Ohio State University Archives has received approximately 1346 c. f. of the papers of Sen. John Glenn (D-OH). For the most part, these document Glenn's 24 years in the Senate, and they include correspondence, campaign materials, photographs, videotapes, microfilm of constituent correspondence, press releases, speeches and artifacts. Also included are more than 100 boxes of mail concerning his 1962 space flight. Additional materials are expected in the near future, and these will document Glenn's pre- and post-Senatorial career.

The collection is smaller and in better condition physically and intellectually than expected. In 1997 Glenn added to his staff an experienced and professional archivist, Colleen Mason, to prepare the collection before transfer. Weeding of duplicates and trivial items took place before the office closed. Nearly all of the boxes have container-level descriptions, which are searchable electronically; some also have folder-level descriptions.

The John Glenn Institute was inaugurated in 1998 at Ohio State University. It will feature workshops, seminars, and classes that on formulation of public policy and issues of citizenship. Glenn is a member of the faculty. The archival program is an aspect of the Institute and is part of the Ohio State University archives. Permanent funding to process the collection, service researchers, and develop the collection further has been allocated to the archives by the university. Staff will be hired in the very near future.

The University Archives is in a new (1995) building that provides an ideal environment for research and preservation. A picture of the building appears on the archives' web site <http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/arvweb>. An additional stack building has been funded and will be completed by the spring of 2000.

Rai Goerler

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The University of Scranton has received the Joseph M. McDade Collection. Rep. McDade (R-PA) served the Tenth House District in northeast Pennsylvania for eighteen terms beginning in 1963. At his 1998 retirement, he was the senior republican in the House, the vice chair of the Committee on Appropriations, and vice chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on National Security. The unprocessed collection is approximately 400 cubic feet, and it is stored in a recently renovated room in the university's Weinberg Memorial Library.

Mike Knies

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Modern Political Collections, a division of the University of South Carolina's South Caroliniana Library, has recently opened the papers of Reps. Joseph Raleigh Bryson and James R. Mann.

Bryson (1893-1953) represented South Carolina's Fourth House District from 1939 until his death in 1953. A conservative Democrat, he was a staunch supporter of prohibition and a champion of states rights. He earned the title "Mr. Textiles" for his work in the interest of the Southern textile industry. The collection contains 8.75 l. f. of papers, chiefly dates from 1947-1953 (inclusive dates are 1917-1953), and documents Bryson's congressional service.

James Robert Mann (1920- ) also represented the state's Fourth District as a Democrat from 1969 until his retirement in 1979. He is best remembered for his leadership on the House Judiciary Committee when it considered the impeachment of Pres. Richard Nixon. The collection contains 28.75 l. f. of material, dates from 1948 -1998, and chiefly documents his service in Congress and the state legislature.

Modern Political Collections recently mounted an exhibit on the career of former South Carolina Governor and U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia John C. West. It was displayed both in West's hometown of Camden, SC, and at the South Caroliniana Library. Another exhibit, "Christmas on the Potomac," featured Christmas cards from the papers on former Rep. William Jennings Bryan Dorn (D-SC).

Susan Dick, processing archivist with Modern Political Collections, is leaving to become senior archivist at the Georgia Historical Society. The vacated position is being upgraded to attract an experienced archivist and will soon be advertised on the Archives & Archivists listserv.

Herbert J. Hartsook

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The Archives/Special Collections Department of the Hilton M. Briggs Library at South Dakota State University has recently completed processing the Rep. Ben Reifel (R-SD) Papers. Reifel was from Parmelee, SD, and held a seat in the House from 1961-1971. He was the first enrolled member of a Sioux tribe to serve in Congress. The congressional part of the collection is limited to election material, letters from VIPs, and memorabilia.

Reportedly, the bulk of his congressional materials was left in Washington, DC, and has subsequently been lost. The finding aid to the collection can be accessed on the Internet <http://www.sdstate.edu/li11/http/mss/scope/ma9.html>

Elizabeth B. Scott

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The University of Vermont Libraries has received the first installment of the papers of Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT). These 40 l. f. include the senator's personal files relating to his work as chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and they cover the years 1989-94. Some of the more interesting topics documented include the Farm Bill (1990), Vermont land trust, maple sugaring, the Northeast Dairy Compact, and GATT Fast Track legislation. Leahy was elected to the Senate in 1974, following the retirement of George D. Aiken (R-VT), and he is known as the "cybersenator" because of his work on Internet legislation. He has been a leader in the campaign against antipersonnel landmines, and he has been ranked as a top environmental legislator. He serves on the Agriculture, Judiciary (ranking member), and Appropriations committees and on several Appropriation subcommittees including, Agriculture, Defense, Foreign Operations, Interior, and VA-HUD. Kristi Mashon, the archivist on the senator's staff, has been working closely with archivists at the University of Vermont on disposition issues.

Connell B. Gallagher

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The congressional papers of Rep. Thomas Foley (D-WA), former Speaker of the House and now the ambassador to Japan, are now fully open for research use at the Washington State University Libraries. Received in 1995, the papers have been made available under limited conditions since that time, pending the completion of processing and the compilation of a complete guide. For information about the collection, contact Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections, Washington State University Libraries, Pullman, WA 99164-5610. The telephone number is (509)335-6272. Hours of service are 8-5, M-F. The guide to the collection is a 265-page folder list. Interested persons may obtain it, either as a photocopy or on a diskette with ASCII format files. There is a small fee. The guide can also be viewed on the World Wide Web: <http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/holland/masc/foley.page.htm>

Lawrence R. Stark

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## **California Political Papers Consortium**

The following information has been compiled from minutes to the meetings of the California Political Papers Consortium's (CPPC):

CPPC is a group of archivists and manuscript librarians interested in establishing cooperative procedures among interested California repositories to ensure acquisition, preservation, and access to collections documenting the activities of the state's public officials and political organizations. Membership is open to

all and currently includes representatives from the California State Archives (CSA), the Los Angeles City Archives, the Huntington Library, California State University-Northridge, Loyola Marymount University, University of Southern California, University of California-Irvine, University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA), University of California-Riverside, and University of California-Santa Barbara.

The organization began on 19 Sept. 1997, when 17 archivists and manuscript librarians met at UCLA to discuss issues concerning California legislative and governmental collections.

Attendees gave brief descriptions of past and current acquisition practices and collection policies, notable holdings, processed and unprocessed materials, and budgetary support at their respective repositories. Discussions took place on the state's jurisdiction of governmental records, processing costs and deaccessioning requirements, the need for detailed appraisal guidelines specific to California collections, the need for preparation and advance planning, coordination of acquisition efforts among a repository's development staff and administrators, and the effects of term limits. There was unanimous agreement among attendees that a cooperative approach to the acquisition of legislative and governmental collections should be pursued. By the end of the meeting, the group had adopted its name and planned to meet again.

The next meeting was on 30 Jan. 1998 at the UCLA Library. Attendees received a list of post-World War II California legislative and governmental collections administered by non-governmental repositories. A CSA representative discussed development of a statewide database that will contain information on the location of California's legislative records created since 1960. She also stated that the state archives is most interested in acquiring bill, hearing, and subject files from state legislators' offices but less so with their district office materials. There was a confirmation of CPPC goals to ensure the preservation of and access to the papers of persons who have served as public officials within the state and to ensure the preservation of and access to the records generated by significant organizations and agencies related to the state's public officials and/or governmental activities. The membership agreed that these collecting goals will be carried out in cooperation with the collecting mandates and regulatory responsibilities of California archival agencies. Each member repository will identify collections it wishes to acquire within the parameters of its collection development or acquisition policy, and each will foster the cooperative acquisition of collections on a statewide level.

CPPC met for a third time on 30 Apr. 1998 in Pasadena, CA. Twenty-eight persons gathered to review the reasons for the group's formation and to determine statewide interest in promoting its objectives. Members made presentations on their repositories, and information was presented on the CSA attempt to document legislative intent in the state legislature and the Los Angeles city archives concern over the acquisition of mayoral and city council member records by local academic institutions. There was an agreement to support and comply with state and local public records statutes and ordinances, to support the mission and objectives of state government archives and record centers, to further cooperative acquisition efforts, and to expand the work of the CPPC into a statewide effort. A fourth meeting was held in Sacramento, CA, on 6 Nov. 1998. Meeting minutes have not yet been distributed.

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## Internet Resources

The Library of Congress American Memory Project is bringing online important congressional records and publications. "A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation" is a web site <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html> designed to make these records more accessible to students, scholars, and interested citizens, and it will bring together the records and acts of Congress from the JOURNALS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS through THE CONGRESSIONAL GLOBE, which ceased publication in 1873. Documents dated 1774-1805 are currently available. Additional materials will be added to the site every few months. The CONGRESSIONAL RECORD from 1989 to present is also available at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas2.html>

Rebecca Johnson Melvin indicates that she plans to review the congressional list at the University of Delaware's web site [http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/c\\_clctns.html](http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/c_clctns.html). Anyone with Internet-accessible collection information linked to that site should review it and indicate changes to Rebecca. Those people wanting to add a link from that site to their Internet-accessible collection information should also contact her. Her e-mail address is

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## OAH Publication on Congressional History

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Senate Historian Richard A. Baker provided the introduction to the Summer 1998 issue of MAGAZINE OF HISTORY, published by the Organization of American Historians (OAH). His introduction is followed by a panoramic literature review on congressional history by archives specialists Kenneth Kato and Elizabeth Rybicki, both from the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration.

In three essays the magazine provides "examples of the ways in which congressional history may be used to examine issues and structures affecting the daily lives of most Americans":

\*Patrick Maney, "The Rise and Fall of the New Deal Congress, 1933-1945" \*Donald A. Ritchie, "What Makes a Successful Congressional Investigation?" \*Raymond W. Smock, "Kings of the Hill: The Speakers of the United States House of Representatives."

Accompanying lesson plans by Rita G. Koman, Donald A. Ritchie, and Richard P. Kollen use original source documents related to the New Deal, the Watergate scandal, and the 1836-1844 House gag rule debate.

Two additional essays describe Library of Congress and National Archives projects designed to make documents and records much more readily available to the nation's classrooms:

\*Emily Lind Baker, "A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates on the Internet" \*Richard Hunt, "Using the Records of Congress in the Classroom."

Editors Charlene Bangs Bickford and William C. diGiacomantonio draw upon their First Federal Congress Project at George Washington University to provide profiles of the more influential members of that Congress. Those interested in obtaining a copy of this issue (Vol. 12, No. 4) of the OAH MAGAZINE OF HISTORY may contact the Managing Editor, 112 North Bryan Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47408-4199, (812) 855-7311 (tel.), (812) 855-0696 (fax), (e-mail). The magazine is also available on microform and article copies through University Microfilms Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106, telephone (800) 521-0600 (tel.)

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## Note from the Editor

Minutes to the 1998 CPR business meeting in Orlando were distributed to you via e-mail in Nov. 1998. If you didn't receive a copy, please contact the editor.

The editor would like to thank all who contributed to this issue of the newsletter. If you have news for the next issue of the CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER, please submit it to the editor by 16 July 1999. The next issue will be distributed in Aug. 1999.

If you know of anyone who would like to join CPR, please have them contact the editor.

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Note from Editor: Some Congressional Papers Roundtable members may still be using my old e-mail address of kosmerick@uoknor.edu. Effective May 1, 1998, this will be deactivated. Congressional Papers Roundtable members should use to contact me.