



Doc's Prescriptions

Ohio GODORT

Karen R. Kotsy
Editor

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TO THE MEMBERS
Jeff Wanser, President

By the time you read this you should have long ago received the Fall meeting announcement and decided whether or not you'll be at Case Western Reserve University on October 11th at 8:45. If this is all news to you, please call George Barnum or me at once and we will give you all the information. It will be a stimulating and useful program, with a mix of policy issues and practical matters. Plus, we will have an extra feature talk by D. Kay Gapen, Director of CWRU Libraries. Personally, I can't wait to have Freenet spoon-fed to me.

Speaking of technology, some of us who are a bit backward are about to join the 20th century. Hiram is finally getting a CD-ROM reader for me. Now the question is can I figure out how to use all that stuff I've been stockpiling in my office since I told the powers that be that I needed one. I'll be bugging several of you for advice.

Karen pointed out at the Executive Board meeting in August that the fall meeting marks Ohio GODORT's 10th anniversary. We'll see if we can do a little extra something at the meeting in the form of commemoration. It might be hard to fit it in with all of the items on the agenda. Strangely enough, virtually everything that was on the Spring meeting agenda (except Council) has reappeared for further mastication. That may drive some of you away, but we'll try to keep discussion to a manageable length, so that we can wade through it all by lunch.

Be forewarned: I will be asking for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. It is a painful job, but perhaps some of you would prefer it to being nominated.

In looking over the membership list during the summer, I noticed that a number of depository libraries in the state are not represented in Ohio GODORT. This was born out when I compared the list with the directory of depositories. It seems that nearly two dozen depositories have no staff in our organization. I think we need some volunteers for a membership committee.

Anne Zald informed me in late August that she is leaving Oberlin College to take a job as Documents Reference Librarian at the University of Washington in Seattle. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Anne good luck in her new position. This trend of leaving Ohio has got to stop!

EDITORIAL

Karen Kottsy

We are officially on "break" as I start the this newsletter, traditionally a time of the year when we can catch up and relax before the new school year begins. It is not working out that way this year. And to top everything off we have to find room for the 1990 census volumes in paper. The 1970 volumes, which have been replaced by ASI microfiche are going to have to go to storage. It was a very pleasant surprise when they started arriving in early. It may be a greater surprise if the Census Bureau funds are not restored by Congress. I recently attended a census workshop where it was announced that if the money was not replaced in the Census budget by Congress, there would be nothing printed or released after STF 3A. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the case on adjustment that was brought by California and other states in 3-4 months. We may or may not have census information and it may or may not be accurate.

Another very pleasant surprise was the phone call I received from the local office of the International Trade Administration asking if we like the NTDB CD-ROM. The local official will be coming to the library to give us a demonstration on the finer points of the improved NTDB CD. He said that he would be contacting the other depositories in this area. If you have not been contacted by your local ITA office, you may want to contact them. And if you have not gotten the NTDB up and running, you should try it--it really works and is a very good example of a useful government CD-ROM. Now if we could just figure out a way to convince the Commerce Department that the pro-active outreach program they have for the International Trade Administration would also be appreciated if it was applied to the Census Bureau and other agencies within Commerce. I suspect that there are different lobbying groups and administration policy involved.

Our 3 local planning offices are selling census tract maps for the area. If you will let me know what is happening in the other PSMA's in Ohio, I will publish a list of sources for local maps. The Census Bureau's maps on demand project produces good maps and they are not that expensive, but the block maps for Hamilton County were \$255. It is very nice having basic census data for the blocks and tracts, but my patrons want the maps to go with the information. We will be purchasing very few maps compared to the number we were able to get in 1980.

John Graham, from the Cincinnati Public Library has prepared an article for this issue on his attempts to identify and locate documents published by the Security and Exchange Commission. This is just one agency that is producing fugitive documents, it is overwhelming even to think about the fact that all of the federal and state agencies are doing this. Sometimes being a documents librarian is more of a challenge and adventure than we really need.

Ken Grabach will be keeping track of Ohio documents for the newsletter. Please let him know if you have any questions or have located a fugitive document. My recent Ohio discovery was that Ohio no longer recognizes common law marriages (Ohio HB 32). It is amazing what you discover when filing services.

I want to thank Ken and John for their contributions to the newsletter. Their efforts and those of all our contributors are appreciated. If you have an idea for an article that you would like to write or have questions about some aspect of documents in Ohio, please let me know. Nani Ball, Karen Kimber and Evron Collins are working on a series of articles about the former presidents of Ohio GODORT, that will be appearing in future issues.

I am looking for someone to take on parts of the Editor's Bulletin Board. There is a lot more happening in Ohio than is being covered by the newsletter. Perhaps we could divide the state up into 4 or 5 districts and establish contact with each other on a regular basis. Changes in staffing, new bibliographies and lists, well answered reference questions, problems and concerns could be shared. Please let me know if you are interested in helping with this part of the newsletter.

The deadline for the next issue will be December 15th.

EDITOR'S BULLETIN BOARD

1990 CENSUS UPDATE

Has anyone heard anything on the Census budget? Did the money get restored? We were recently told at a census workshop that unless the money was restored there would be nothing published or released from the 1990 census after the release of the STF 3A tapes--no CDs of STF 3A, no census tract volumes, no zip code data, etc. This was not contradicted by the Census Bureau representative who was in the room at the time.

Summary Tape File 3 is due to be released in February, 1991. We should start receiving the STF1 CD-ROMS in November.

HAVE YOU SEEN?

"The Federal Government and Optical Disk Technology," by Susan A. Motley in *ONLINE*, March 1990, p. 105-107. Even though the article is now more than a year old it is a good overview of what the government is doing with this technology.

"Managing Electronic Records," is now available from the Records Administration Information Center, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington D.C. 20408.

"Instances of Use of United States Armed Forces Abroad, 1798-1989." by Ellen C. Collier was printed in the January 3rd CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, on pages S14-S19.

AROUND THE STATE

The Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium-Continuing Education Committee is sponsoring a 1 day workshop entitled "Uncle Sam Wants You...To Understand Government Documents," on November 8th at the University of Cincinnati. Cost is \$25. The workshop will be an introduction to government documents, including the variety of government publications and the impact of new technologies on the dissemination of government information. Sandra McAninch, Kentucky Regional Documents Librarian will be the keynote speaker in the morning. Additional information may be had by contacting Roni Greenberg, GCLC, 3333 Vine Street,

Eric Loehr will be working with documents at Oberlin College and Judy Takach is the new documents librarian at Youngstown University. We are very happy to have them join us in the exciting adventure of document librarianship.

Julia Baldwin is on academic leave this quarter to prepare a paper on getting cataloging records for documents into the University of Toledo's online catalog. They are using NOTIS. Ruth Levor has recently been appointed to the American Association of Law Libraries' Government Relations Committee and will be following information policy in the executive branch.

DOC TECH

According to the University of Cincinnati Systems Librarian, Linda Newman, Compuserv offers a gateway to the Internet. If your library does not have access to internet or bitnet, it may be possible for you to subscribe to Compuserv and then be able to use the Cleveland Freenet, Govdoc-L, Map-L and other telecommunication wonders. Other commercial vendors are also offering access to Internet.

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NON-COMPLIANCE AT THE S.E.C.: THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND THE DEPOSITORY SYSTEM.

BY JOHN GRAHAM, PUBLIC LIBRARY OF CINCINNATI AND HAMILTON COUNTY

Created by the 1934 Securities Exchange Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission (S.E.C.) is a Federal agency dedicated to a policy of "disclosure." The S.E.C. administers both this 1934 Act and the 1933 Securities Act. Both laws are called disclosure statutes, because they both require corporations to disclose to the investing public any known, "material" facts regarding their finances and operations. This policy of disclosure has become an effective government tool in many areas beyond securities law. Yet the S.E.C. itself has often not practiced its own disclosure in making its publications available to the depository community.

I visited the S.E.C.'s headquarters for a week in July to do research for an annotated bibliography on the Commission. In using the Commission's library for the week, I realized many of the S.E.C. documents I was examining were neither printed by G.P.O. nor distributed through the depository system. Many of the items I reviewed were probably the only extant copies of S.E.C. studies and statistical reports!

Here are a few examples. Two reports on the Cincinnati Stock Exchange were of interest to me--and probably would have been of interest to our patrons in Cincinnati. These reports were entitled A Monitoring Report on the Operation of the Cincinnati Stock Exchange National Securities Trading System and Report on the Operation of the Cincinnati Stock Exchange National Securities Trading System, 1978-1982. Both were printed in-house in the S.E.C.'s basement print shop. Neither was ever distributed via the depository system, as far as I have been able to determine. (I did, however, make photocopies of both of these non-copyrighted items to add to our collection in Cincinnati.)

Another example concerned the S.E.C.'s directory of registered stock transfer agents. These transfer agents keep track of ownership changes among shareholders. Questions concerning stock transfer agents are quite common, especially in a public library reference setting. The S.E.C. is the only Federal agency which registers these firms. In the mid-1970s, the S.E.C. did publish, and distribute to depositories, a directory of transfer agents. The next, and final, printed edition was the 1985 Transfer Agents Directory. This directory was again

printed in-house and never distributed to depositories. (Copies are available free from the Commission's Publication Office in Washington, D.C.) A recent listing of the registered transfer agents is no longer available free from the Commission.

Our Library has submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to receive a printout list of these transfer agents, including addresses and phone numbers. The printout costs \$140.00 in computer time to produce. The fate of many other government publications has followed the same route as the S.E.C.'s directory of transfer agents: from G.P.O. to an item available only via a Freedom of Information Act request.

After returning from Washington, I wanted to try to find a way to urge the S.E.C. to comply with the Depository regulations. A librarian I met at the Commission's own library did not hold out much hope however. She was aware of the many S.E.C. documents pirated in-house and never distributed to depositories. She had had little luck in working for change within the S.E.C. I hoped my luck would be better.

First, I wrote a letter to the S.E.C.'s Director of the Office of Public Affairs, Mary McCue. She had been helpful in my research, and I hoped she could find the right person at the Commission to alert to this problem. As a second step, I next called Karen Kottsy at the University of Cincinnati to seek her opinion. She suggested I contact Sheila McGarr at G.P.O. to alert her to the non-compliance problem. I also contacted an S.L.A. colleague, Sandy Morton, who is also a member of the Depository Library Council. Sandy also suggested a call to Sheila McGarr, as well as a letter to the Joint Committee on Printing.

I wasn't sure how much help this all would be in getting the S.E.C. to get its publications into depository channels. Shortly before I began to write this article for Doc's Prescriptions I received a call from Sheila McGarr at G.P.O. She had made contact with the Publications Office at the S.E.C. This office was evidently unaware of its obligation to provide copies of S.E.C. publications to the depository system, even if G.P.O. had not printed the item. Sheila described the office as very willing to help. They had even sent her "half a dozen" S.E.C. documents to distribute to depositories. Items which had been printed in-house and never distributed to the public at all! Perhaps we can all hope to see more S.E.C. items, to be distributed on microfiche according to Sheila, coming our way in the future.

This problem is on its way to a happy resolution, at least part way. After visiting the S.E.C.'s headquarters, I have no illusions about why more documents don't make their way to G.P.O. for depository distribution. Even a relatively small agency, such as the S.E.C., has layers of bureaucracy. Many agencies, including the S.E.C. have in-house printing and duplication shops. This step, of course, saves time at the agency. It also means G.P.O. doesn't print, and probably won't distribute, this large class of documents printed in-house at Federal agencies.

As a final note, the S.E.C. itself bears watching. One can only hope more of its documents will make their way into depository channels. The Commission has a history, however, of a less than full publications program. The March, 1989 cancellation of the popular S.E.C. Monthly Statistical Digest is a prime example. The Commission also has made extensive use of private information providers to distribute public information. Since 1968, for example, the S.E.C. has contracted with a private firm to sell microfiche and paper copies of corporate filings with the Commission. The S.E.C. has also recently contracted with Ohio's own Mead Data Central to construct an online database of full-text corporate filings to be submitted under the pilot E.D.G.A.R. program, (Electronic Data Gathering Analysis and Retrieval). While this online service will, no doubt, offer superb access to S.E.C. filings to firms and individuals with money to pay for LEXIS search time, it will also price smaller firms, libraries, and individuals out of the market for online retrieval of S.E.C. filings in the future.

OHIO DOCUMENTS **BY KEN GRABACH, MIAMI UNIVERSITY**

I hope this column might become a means of sharing information about Ohio publications. I've worked with these documents for a few years and I have no dearth of questions about them. Two things occurred to me in light of this:

1. Other readers of the newsletter also work with Ohio publications, and you probably have questions you would like to see answered, too; also,
2. Your combined experience could probably help us all to find answers to these questions.

So I proposed this column. I look forward to the participation of you, the readers and Ohio documents librarians. If you have a question send it to me in care of our editor (Karen Kottsy) or directly to me: Ken Grabach, Miami University Libraries, Oxford, 45056, or

kgrabach@miamiu.bitnet. I will post any queries here, and we can see what we can find out. If you learn about fugitive publications you think we would like to acquire, let us know of them. We should also keep a look-out for titles to include in next year's Government Publications Review notable documents issue. I recall some interest expressed in getting Ohio included in the Library Journal annual review of documents, as well. Comments and suggestions are welcome.

We have long had need for an authoritative, single source of statistics about the state, its people, and their activities. Several agencies have some excellent statistical reports (as, for example, those marvelous publications from the Employment Services Bureau), there are unpublished statistics that should be captured, and there are commercially published sources. A good statistical abstract in official form by a government agency is essential. We do not have such a publication, but Ohio State University Press publishes a title that serves adequately in its stead. Called Benchmark Ohio, the second, 1991, edition is edited by William Shkurti, of OSU's School of Public Policy.

It is 300 pages of charts and tables, with all sources cited, official, unofficial, and unpublished. The tables are clear and very easy to read. Thirteen chapters cover population, employment, commerce, government, education, health, social welfare, crime and corrections, agriculture, energy, and environment. Consumer price indexes for the U.S., Cleveland and Cincinnati, from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics appear in an appendix. Each of the chapters ends with suggestions for additional information. An appendix gives, in very general terms, additional places to look for information, including libraries. Another appendix lists tables from the first, 1989, edition, that were not updated or repeated in the second. Some information was not available, and some editorial decisions were involved, according to a note with this list. This note indicates that at time of publication (1990) copies of the first edition were still available, and that libraries would have it. I hope both of these statements are true.

Benchmark Ohio is a good source for many of the statistics about the state of Ohio, and will ably supplement the separately published materials from state publications. I would like to see coverage of some areas expanded, such as commerce, transportation and highways, environment, energy, and government activity. Consumer price indexes could be computed (Employment Services may have these already) for the cities the U.S. Labor Dept. does not

cover. These reservations aside, this is an essential purchase for all Ohio academic, public, school, and special libraries. Libraries that have editions should keep them together in reference.

**FEDERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS,
PART TWO**

BY JEFF WANSEER, HIRAM COLLEGE

The second part in this series of I-don't-know-how many, focuses on another set of publications from the National Park Service, more specifically, the Archeological Assistance Division. Item number 646-A-01 contains four series: 1) I 29.59/4: ARCHEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DATA RECOVERY PROGRAM (annual); 2) I 29.59/5: FEDERAL ARCHEOLOGY REPORT (bi-monthly); 3) I 29.59/6: ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TECHNICAL BRIEFS; and 4) I 29.59/7: LISTING OF EDUCATION IN ARCHEOLOGICAL PROGRAMS (LEAP). The first series listed I can't say much about since I've never received anything. I'm going to write to the agency, and will report any results.

The FEDERAL ARCHEOLOGY REPORT, while listed as a bi-monthly publication, is more accurately a quarterly. It is currently in volume 4; a few issues are missing in my run, and I assume they never came through the pipeline. Basically a newsletter, the REPORT contains news items, publication notes, bibliographies, and announcements, all dealing with cultural resource management, government sponsored archaeology, and the work of the division. Individual issues range from 20-32 pages in length, and contain photos and illustrations. There is a concerted effort to report news at all levels--local, state, federal, and international--so that an article about NPS cooperation in India will appear with a news item about men arrested in Tennessee for digging a site on state-owned land. Fascinating for those involved in this end of archaeology, it provides a useful window on the field of applied archaeology for the amateur and the curious.

AAP TECHNICAL BRIEFS is also a relatively new publication series. The most recent one received is #9, dated October 1990, but issues are published irregularly and often arrive in clusters. Older BRIEFS are updated. More in-depth than the REPORT, each BRIEF deals with a separate topic of interest to cultural resource managers and historic preservationists. Among subjects covered so

far are intentional site burial, federal contracting, revegetation to stabilize sites, and the use of volunteers in public archaeology. Individual issues are usually 8-12 pages and contain photos and bibliographies. While they're rather technical and cover some of the less interesting aspects of archaeology to the outsider, they are generally well written and useful to those in the field.

LEAP is quite a mix of stuff. Part directory, part catalog, this annual (I hope) is a listing of publications, information and projects promoting public awareness of American archaeology. Listings are drawn from a computerized database and are divided by category: posters, brochures, exhibits, public participation programs (including excavation opportunities for volunteers), school education programs, audiovisual materials, press articles, popular publications, and community outreach projects. A typical entry contains the name, address and telephone number of a contact, a short description of the item or project, and the date of the information. Organization within each category is by state. There are several indexes and an introduction to the database. The first edition of LEAP appeared in late 1990, although information dates from 1987-89. This publication would be quite useful for educators, historical societies, vertical file fans, and the general public.

It is difficult for me to make any sort of commendation about the appropriateness of these series for various types of libraries, since we are discussing three (possibly four) separate publications, each aimed at a slightly different audience, but wrapped up together in a single item number. The smallest libraries probably don't need them, the largest almost certainly get them. The rest of us must decide whether to put up with either the BRIEFS, which will go unused, in order to the REPORT, which might be used, or LEAP, which likely will be used. If you decide on the basis of space, put your mind at rest; the entire output of the Archeological Assistance Division since 1989 is about three inches.

**EX LIBRIS MINUS AESTIMATUS
BY GEORGE BARNUM,
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY**

I am fond of quoting the bibliographer and bibliophile J.H. Powell in connection with discussions of rare and valuable government documents, and in quoting him I am usually out to refute some of his observations. In THE BOOKS OF A NEW NATION he laments government publications as "Alas! books no collector esteems...."

At the distance of thirty-odd years, we are able to say "Not so!" A considerable number of dealers now list government documents in their catalogs, and do a brisk business in government imprints. One such recently used a pair of Congressional publications as the "teaser" entries at the beginning of his catalog of Americana. It was clearly the intention of the dealer, Dave Hellyer of Five Quail Books, to start his catalog off with a bit of a frolic, and the pair started me off on a donnybrook of the type that reminds us what a pleasure our collections can be.

The listings in the catalog are for two House Miscellaneous Documents (41/3, H.Misc. Doc. 12 (Serial 1462) and 42/1, H.Misc. Doc. 37 (Serial 1472)) that Hellyer describes this way: "One of six plaintive but shamelessly mendacious pleas made by the self-styled captain, attempting to wrangle funds out of Congress for his alleged explorations of the Colorado."

A bit of exploring on my own led me to discover that there in fact six items in the Serial Set surrounding the claim of Captain Samuel Adams.

The first two (41/3, S. Misc. Doc. 17 (Serial 1408) and 41/3, H.Misc. Doc. 12 (Serial 1462)), lay out in rather dogged detail the journey of exploration that Adams claims to have undertaken in 1864, 1865, and 1866. Taken on their own, the reports are captivating, full of the adventure that we associate with the exploration of the American West: perilous passages through swift water, panoramic vistas, and sweeping fields of grain. Take for example this passage:

Mr. Lillis and myself started on the raft to the head of the canyon--it swung around in an eddy as if reluctant to go down the current. We pushed her out, and in a moment she shot like an arrow down the rapid descent. We both grasped the cross-pieces on the raft to which our provisions were lashed: she sunk four feet under the surface, it rose again in the distance of eight yards, when, in turning an abrupt angle in the river, she struck and parted, Here we lost a large portion of our provisions. We then took the raft apart, and by swinging three of the logs below formed another, and succeeded in getting what provisions we had ashore....

Throughout his report Adams describes vistas and

landmarks that capture the imagination. The upshot of these theatrics was his contention that for the enormous services he had rendered the American Republic, he was due something in the area of \$20,000, just for expenses, of course.

Two bills were introduced to pursue his claim, S. 412 and H.R. 2565 (41/3). Adams had made reports to the War Department, one of which is included in Misc. Doc. 12, and adds supporting matter in both of these communications.

The plot thickens when we move to the reports of the Senate and House Committees on Claims (43/2, S. Rept. 662 (Serial 1632) and 44/1, H. Rept. 512 (Serial 1710)). Take for example this passage from the Senate report which discussed Adams' journal for the trip down the Colorado. When we join the report, the committee has already established that the region he claimed to be opening was in fact not unexplored:

"It is east to trace on the map the progress made by the party from day to day.... The record of distances shows that they went 95 miles. If we made allowance for his usual exaggeration of known distances, this point would be situated about half way between the mouth of the Blue and the mouth of the Eagle River; but giving him the benefit of his own estimates, he should have reached the mouth of the Eagle River, though in his journal he makes no mention of having seen that stream.

Supposing, however, that he reached the mouth of the Eagle River on his trip down the Grand, he was yet one hundred and seventy-five miles from the Colorado River.... From the Rio Virgen, which he states that he could see, it was more than eight hundred miles by way of the river. The two points are separated by more than seven degrees of longitude and four degrees of latitude."

The report goes on to detail further inaccuracies and non-truths and finally, in high dudgeon, concludes:

...[Adams' report to the Congress] is a complex tissue of errors and

exaggerations. He starts his voyage down the Blue 700 feet above the highest peak of the Rocky Mountains. He discovers fields of wild grain unknown to the botanists of North America. He discovers mines of precious metals of fabulous wealth. He states that those opposed to his exploration...cut down the timber...so that he could procure no fuel for his boat, &c.

Mr. Adams has made no map of any part of the Colorado River, or any of its tributaries. He had determined no longitude or latitude, and no altitude, and in describing parts which he has probably seen he often errs in giving correct position by several hundred miles. Whatever may have been the services of Mr. Adams, they were rendered without any authority of law, and your committee seeing no reason why the government should be called upon to pay for them, report back the bill referred to them, and recommend that it be postponed indefinitely.

The House committee ultimately agreed, after first proposing and rejecting a reduced settlement. In the end, his claim was "indefinitely postponed." Mr Hellyer's catalog ends the story for us: "[Adams] wound up his swashbuckling career by practicing law in Beaver Falls, PA, and died there in 1915 at age 87, 'oldest member of the Pennsylvania bar, and probably the craziest' (Stegner)."

There's a truism about truth and fiction, and the history of the West is filled with larger than life characters who probably were more colorful than any character in a novel. Hellyer's reference to Stegner is Wallace Stegner *BEYOND THE HUNDREDTH MERIDIAN* which is one of the definitive studies of the history of the exploration of the Grand Canyon and the Southwest (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1954). Stegner tells many of the stories of "both scoundrels and saints" including that of Captain Adams.

LOCAL MAPS *BY EVRON COLLINS*

One of the most frequently asked questions is for road or street information. In order to provide this information a library needs to maintain a collection of road maps and atlases. In many libraries these questions never reach the map collection because they are answered at a general reference desk. However, if you are the map expert, you should work with the general reference desk to see what information is needed and recommend materials to them.

Road maps are available from many sources. Lists of map sources can be found in *MAP USER'S SOURCEBOOK* by Lance Feild (Oceana, New York, 1982) and *MAP SOURCES DIRECTORY* by Janet Allin (Council of Ontario Universities, Office of Library Coordination, Toronto, 1983). You can usually obtain state maps from the state transportation department for the cost of mailing a request. County and city maps are also available free, if you can identify the necessary office. Champion Map Company (P.O. Box 5545, Charlotte NC 28225), Rand McNally (8255 Central Park Ave. Skokie IL 60067), and H.M. Gousha (2001 The Alameda, San Jose CA 95126) are all commercial publishers of maps. The American Automobile Association (AAA) has very good maps, if you can enlist the help of a member, you can obtain their maps for the collection. Even though the maps are marked with a price I have never found an AAA office which will sell maps to me.

Bicycle riders are frequently looking for maps with "backroads" information. This is available on the county maps mentioned above as well as the series of maps available from the state Departments of Transportation. Bicycle clubs also issue maps for their local areas and a city recreation department may have maps of bicycle trails in its city.

Commercial atlases of county maps are available. These come from several publishers and the quality of maps may vary. The state atlases published by the Delorme Company (P.O. Box 298, Freeport ME 04032) are a good source for this type of information.

However, there are maps which we receive on deposit which can also be used for road information. The topo quadrangles (item no. 619-M-NO.) have very detailed road information and sometimes have city street information for small towns. The 1:100,000 and 1:250,000 series can be used, as can the state maps and county maps issued by the USGS.

Once you have decide what road maps you need, you may find them in your local bookstore. I found my first Delorme atlas that way and recently found a book of Michigan city maps which includes many small towns not included in other sets. You never know what you will find in a good bookstore!

DOC'S PRESCRIPTIONS

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ALA Washington Office Fact Sheet GPO WINDO ACT

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Government Printing Office Wide Information Network Data Online Act

The federal government currently produces thousands of databases and documents that are stored electronically. Unfortunately, for most Americans, it is a daunting task to locate this information, establish accounts with different agencies to purchase the information and process the information into a readily usable form. Many agencies only sell electronic information on magnetic tape, which is difficult or impossible for most citizens to use.

The GPO Wide Information Network Data Online (GPO WINDO) Act (HR 2772), introduced by Rep. Charlie Rose (D-NC) on June 26, 1991, would establish online access to public government information through the Government Printing Office (GPO). This GPO Windo would be a single account, one-stop-shopping way to access and query federal databases, complementing rather than supplanting other agency efforts to disseminate information. It would not be an exclusive method of dissemination. Its purpose is to make it more convenient for the public to obtain low-cost access to government information.

The databases and documents offered through the GPO WINDO would initially consist of a group of core databases, which will be expanded as the system matures. While the initial offering would be determined after a period of planning and public comment, core data would likely include such high-interest services as the *Federal Register*, *Congressional Record*, Economic Bulletin Board, National Trade Data Bank, MEDLINE, the Department of State *Dispatch*, agency and White House press releases, CENDATA, DOE *Energy*, AGRICOLA, FEC Campaign Contributions, NTIS Research Abstracts, U.S. Supreme Court opinions, and many others.

These choices would be based on a combination of technical feasibility, costs, and user interest. They would include online services already offered by GPO to selected depository libraries and those that are currently available through commercial vendors only. The GPO would start with the least costly and the technologically simplest services, making incremental expansions as the program matures. The long-term goal is to provide online access to as many federal databases as possible, limited only by technological and costs constraints.

The information available through the GPO WINDO would be priced for most subscribers at approximately the incremental cost of dissemination, and provided without

charge through the depository library program.

GPO would work with agencies to determine the best means to disseminate information online through —

- a gateway service, connecting callers to agency online services with GPO handling the billing to the caller through the single account; and
- online access to federal databases directly through GPO.

GPO would rely upon an agency's data storage and retrieval software unless agencies cannot do so or if GPO can provide better service or lower prices. Access to the information will be provided through all available telecommunications modes, including dial-in telephone modem access and computer networks.

GPO would have the authority to develop a friendly user interface, with menus, indexes, online help, and other aids to make it easier for users to locate databases of interest. GPO would also work with other agencies toward the development of standards that will make it easier to use different databases. It is contemplated that GPO will regularly solicit comments on the service from users and the public in an annual report detailing the steps it has taken to implement the congressional objectives and to address user concerns.

The following organizations are supporting the concept of the GPO WINDO:

- American Association of Law Libraries
- American Association of University Professors
- American Council on Education
- American Historical Association
- American Library Association
- Association of Research Libraries
- National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History
- National Security Archive
- Organization of American Historians
- Public Citizen
- Special Libraries Association
- Taxpayer Assets Project

For more information on the GPO WINDO, contact:
American Library Association, 202-547-4440
Taxpayer Assets Project, 609-683-0534.