

Government Documents at the Library of Congress An Overview

*Presentation by the
Serial and Government
Publications Division*

GPO Interagency Depository Seminar
July 31, 2013



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Serves

- As the Congressional library
 - Founded in 1800 as a legislative library for the Congress
 - Originally housed in a room in U.S. Capitol
 - \$5000 worth of legal books, maps, charts
 - Today the Congressional Research Service works exclusively for the U.S. Congress
- As the national library
- As an archival institution



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Today

- Approximately 3,300 permanent staff
- Twenty-two reading rooms
- Three buildings on Capitol Hill
- Packard Campus in Virginia for Motion Picture, Broadcast, and Recorded Sound
- Remote storage in several locations
- More than 155 million items in all formats
 - Books and print items, recordings, photographs, maps, sheet music, manuscripts...
 - Acquires about 11,000 items per working day

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Multiple Programs and Activities

- Reading rooms and reference services
- Cataloging products
- Preservation services
- Digital collections, including web archiving
- Copyright Office
- Federal Library and Information Center
- National Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
- NDIIPP
- Educational Outreach, etc.

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U.S. Government Collection Levels

- U.S. Federal publications ▶ Comprehensive
- State publications ▶ Research level
- County, regional, local publications ▶ Selective
- Native American tribal government publications ▶ Selective



U.S. Government Publications Collection Policies

- LC collection policy statement:
 - *Government Documents-U.S.*
(<http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/standard.pdf>)
- LC collects comprehensively at federal level, but...
- Does not have everything...Excludes, for example:
 - Ephemeral publications (brochures, pamphlets)
 - Blank forms
 - Technical agricultural publications
 - Clinical medical works



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

U.S. Government Documents—Collection Procedures

- Most documents are fully cataloged
- Catalog records are available in LC OPAC
- Government serials are checked in
- Documents are integrated into Library's general and special collections
 - As dictated by call number, format
- Some special collections are either not cataloged or have collection level cataloging

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

U.S. Government Documents-Acquisition

- Title 44, Section 5 of the U.S. Code:
 - Library of Congress shall receive up to 25 copies of all federal publications
 - Principal means of acquisition
- GPO Depository Library program participant
- Purchase
- Direct transfer from agencies
- Gift

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Major LC U.S. Government Collections

- Law Library:
 - U.S. legislative, legal, & regulatory materials
- Geography & Map Division:
 - U.S. government maps, atlases, charts
- Prints & Photographs Division:
 - Collections such as Historic American Buildings Survey
- Science, Technology & Business Division
 - U.S. technical reports & standards
- Serial and Government Publications Division
 - Several special collections
- All collections have some U.S. government materials



Serial and Government Publications Division

Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room





Serial and Government Publications Division (SER)

U.S. Government Collections & Services

- Federal Depository Library Collection
- Federal Advisory Committee Collection
- GPO Silver Master Microfiche Collection
- A center of reference for U.S. government information
- Recommending officers for acquisition of U.S. government publications

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U.S. Government Documents- GPO Depository Set

- SER became a federal depository library in 1977
- Depository collection duplicates and supplements the comprehensive general collection
- Selective depository (ca. 95%)
- SUDOC number arrangement
- Latest ten years kept as special collection
- Weeded depository documents used to fill in gaps in other sections of the Library or for exchange
- Congressional Research Service is LC's other federal depository library (1978-)



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Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Collection

- Is one-of-a-kind collection
- Consists of materials legally deposited with the Library of Congress under the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA)
 - Public Law 92-463, as amended, 5 *United States Code*, Appendix
- Relates to committees of the executive branch
- Covers 1972 to present
- Permanently retained

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Federal Advisory Committee Collection

- Federal advisory committees
 - Are temporary committees, panels, commissions, etc.
 - Are a mix of government employees & private citizens
 - Advise federal government on specific topics
 - examples: health care, post-disaster analysis, national forests, space exploration
- Types of publications include charters, annual reports, special reports, meeting minutes

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Federal Advisory Committee Collection

- Records for committees added to the Library's OPAC
- Will scan, fax or email limited number of FAC pages
- Future: digitize selected retrospective documents

President's Commission on Organized Crime.

Relevance: ●●●●●

Type of material: Book (Print, Microform, Electronic, etc.) - Collection

Corporate name: [United States Department of Justice](#)

Main title: President's Commission on Organized Crime.

Published/Created: [197-?]

Description: v.

Links: <http://fd0.gov/facdatabase/>

CALL NUMBER: [FAC 102651 C](#)

Charter

Set 1

-- Request in: Newspaper & Current Periodical Reading Room (Madison LM133)

-- Status: Not Charged

CALL NUMBER: [FAC 102651 MC](#)

Meeting Closed

Set 1

-- Request in: Newspaper & Current Periodical Reading Room (Madison LM133)

-- Status: Not Charged

CALL NUMBER: [FAC 102651 RP](#)

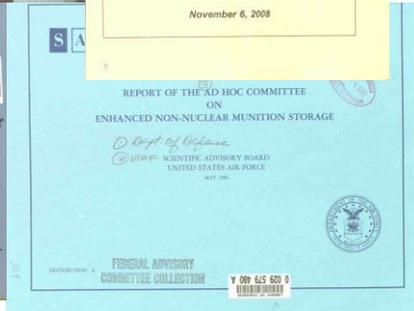
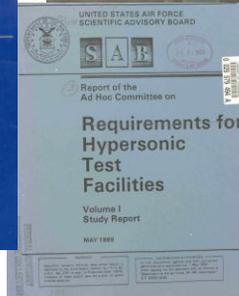
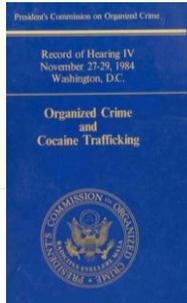
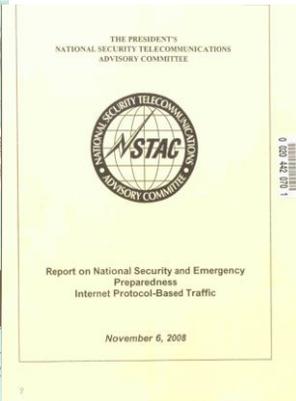
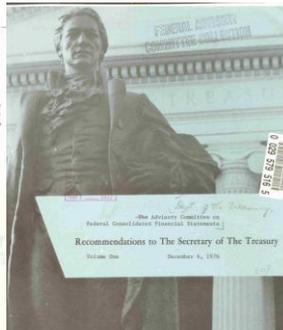
Report

Set 1

-- Request in: Newspaper & Current Periodical Reading Room (Madison LM133)

-- Status: Not Charged

COPING WITH
THE DYNAMICS
OF WORLD TRADE
IN THE 1980'S



Print Master GPO Silver Microfiche

- Received periodically from GPO under a 1989 interagency agreement
- Masters from which depository library copies were made
- Retained permanently
- Collection contains:
 - approximately 1,025,227 documents
 - publications 1976 to date
- NARA has the 1st generation master negative

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Print Master GPO Silver Microfiche

- Microform copies available from LC Photoduplication Service for fee
- Copies used to replace microfiche in LC collections
- Can be used for LC exchange programs



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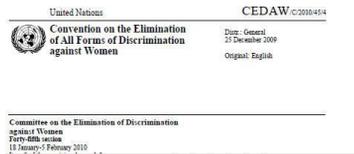
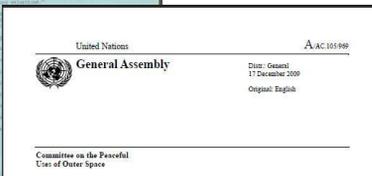
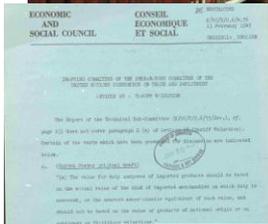


Other Government Publications

- Publications of large number of intergovernmental organizations, such as the United Nations
- Cataloged and dispersed through the collections
 - Discovery via OPAC
- Publications of foreign governments
 - Cataloged and dispersed through the collections
 - Collections in African and Middle Eastern Division, Asian Division, European Division, Hispanic Division, Law Library, Serial and Government Publications Division, general collection, and more
 - Discovery via OPAC



United Nations Documents in Print and Microform





LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Other Resources

http://www.loc.gov/topics/government.php

View Favorites Tools Help

Government, Politics & Law - Browse by Topic (Library...)

Government, Politics & Law

These pages link to selected collection content available online at the Library of Congress, arranged by broad categories. The Library's online content represents only a small percentage of its physical holdings.

Civil Rights



- Photographs of Signs Enforcing Racial Discrimination
- Voices of Civil Rights ...

[Explore More Civil Rights Topics >](#)

The Courts & the Judiciary Branch



- "With an Even Hand" - Brown v. Board at Fifty
- Slaves and the Courts 1740-1860 ...

[Explore More Judiciary Branch Topics >](#)

The Congress & the Legislative Branch



- Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention 1774-1789
- THOMAS Legislative Database ...

[Explore More Legislative Branch Topics >](#)

Elections & Voting



- United States Election 2000 Web Archive
- Votes for Women Suffrage, Pictures 1850-1920 ...

[Explore More Election Topics >](#)

We the people of the United States, in order to

The Constitution

- Creating the United States
- Documents from the Continental Congress ...

[Explore More Constitutional Topics >](#)

The Presidency & the Executive Branch



- George Washington Papers
- "I Do Solemnly Swear..." Inaugural Materials

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Library of Congress Primary Sources by State - Primary Source Set | Teacher Resources - Library - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/states/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Library of Congress Primary Sources by State - Primar...

TEACHERS

Search this site

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- [Classroom Materials](#)
- [Professional Development](#)
- [TPS Partners](#)
- [Using Primary Sources](#)
- [News and Events](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)
- [FAQ](#)

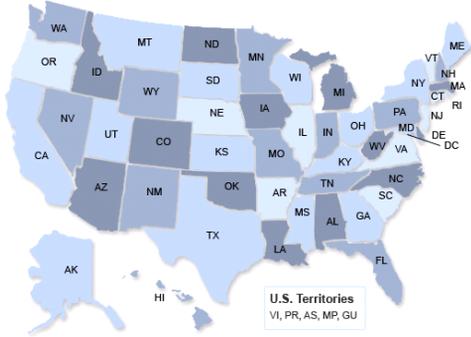
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Library of Congress Primary Sources by State

The extensive collections at the Library of Congress contain historic artifacts and cultural materials from across the U.S. Click on the map below to see select items from your state.

Find out which standards this resource meets

Common Core
 State Content
 Organizations



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Government Documents and Challenges for the Future

- Same as those facing other libraries
 - Formats--choosing among formats for additions to the collections
 - Archiving--tangible and digital formats
 - Digitization
 - Budget and space



Reference

- Library of Congress website: <http://www.loc.gov>
- Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room homepage: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/ncp.html>
- Ask a Librarian: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/ask-news.html>
- Chat: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/askalib/chat-news.php> (Monday-Friday, 2:00-3:00 p.m.)
- Telephone reference: 202-707-5690



Newspaper & Current Periodical Reading Room

SERIAL AND GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

Home

Find in



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities

LIBRARY OF
CONGRESS

Chronicling America & National Digital Newspaper Program

GPO Interagency Depository Seminar
July 2013

Robin Butterhof
Library of Congress



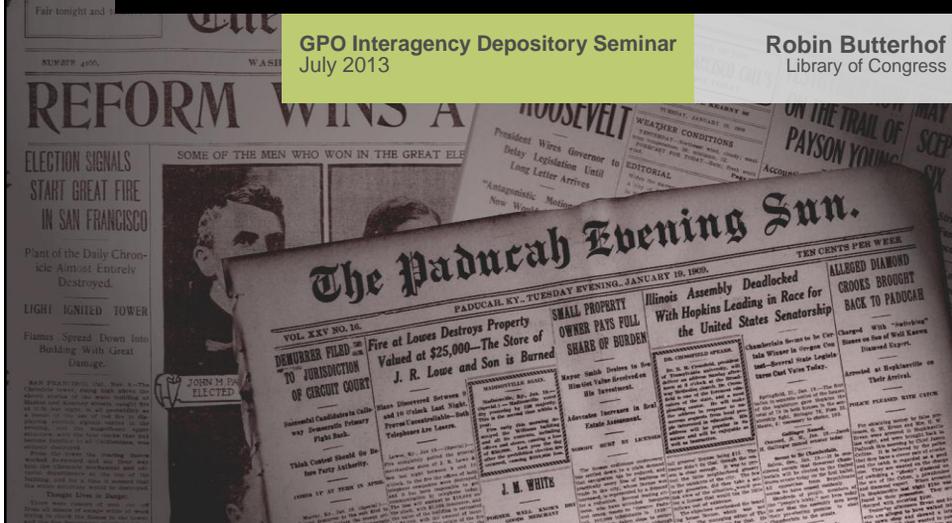
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United States Newspaper Program, 1984-2010

GOALS

- To enhance access to historic American newspapers
- Inventory, catalog, and microfilm newspapers
- [US Newspaper Directory](#)
 - *140,000 titles cataloged, 900,000 holdings, more than 75 million pages filmed*



National Digital Newspaper Program, 2005-



- Successor to United States Newspaper Program (USNP) 1982-2011
- NEH awards grants to state institutions to select and digitize pre-1922 US newspapers, usually from microfilm.
- LC collects the content, checks that it meets the standards of the project, and make it available through the Chronicling America website

Any Questions?

AUTOMOBILE SUITS FOR DOGS



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

NDNP / Chronicling America

p.31

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

- Let's get searching!

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

NDNP / Chronicling America

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16 TULSA DAILY WORLD, TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1903 16C7711 4

Census Takers Are Missing Tulsans

BECAUSE---

People Who Answer the Census Takers' Questions Are Failing to Give A Full Report

HELP THE FEDERAL CENSUS TAKERS GET A FULL COUNT

When the Census Taker Calls on You

Make SURE that they get the name of every person lodging in your home, servant quarters or premises. Be SURE you give them the name of any person who may be temporarily absent but who makes your home their usual place of abode.

Answer any question asked by the census taker as he is under oath to keep same secret. These questions do not obligate you in any way. They are NOT for tax purposes, but merely to find out your name, occupation, etc.

Be Patriotic—Boost Tulsa

Make it YOUR business to see that everyone in your home or business is counted. The more people the Federal census shows, the prouder you will be of Tulsa; the more state school money we will get and the more government road money we will receive. Many things depend upon the Federal population of a city.

Make Sure You Give the Federal Census Taker the Name of Everyone in Your Household or on Your Premises

Searching for Census (within 5 words) Newspapers.



FILE OF AGRICULTURAL SCHEDULES ONLY, AT THE WASHINGTON CENSUS BUREAU. Digitized by Google & OpenStax.

Searching for Census (within 5 words) Newspapers.

Topics in Chronicling America - Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906

The information and sample article links below provide access to a sampling of articles from historic newspapers that can be found in the *Chronicling America: American Historic Newspapers* digital collection (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>). Use the Suggested Search Terms and Dates to explore this topic further in Chronicling America.

Jump to: [Sample Articles](#)

Important Dates:

- 1898-1899. Soldiers in the Spanish-American War die from eating badly-preserved meat or "embalmed beef." Two generals later testify before Congress about the scandal.
- November 1901. Children in St. Louis and Camden die from tainted vaccines.
- 1902-1906. A group of twelve volunteers, nicknamed the "poison squad," agree to eat food laced with common preservatives of the time, such as formaldehyde. The study is administered by Dr. Harvey Wiley, who is considered the father of the Food and Drug Act.
- February 1906. Upton Sinclair publishes *The Jungle*, an expose of the meatpacking industry.
- June 30, 1906. President Theodore Roosevelt signs the Pure Food and Drug Act as well as the Meat Inspection Act.



Context
for historic
legislation.

Topics in Chronicling America - Theodore Roosevelt's "Great White Fleet"

On the warm, cloudy morning of December 16, 1907, President Theodore Roosevelt's "Great White Fleet," a force of sixteen battleships bristling with guns and painted sparkling white, steam out of Hampton Roads, Virginia to begin its 43,000-mile, 14-month circumnavigation of the globe "to demonstrate to the world America's naval prowess." The four-mile-long armada's world tour included 20 port calls on six continents, and is widely considered one of the greatest peacetime achievements of the U.S. Navy. Read more about it!

The information and sample article links below provide access to a sampling of articles from historic newspapers that can be found in the *Chronicling America: American Historic Newspapers* digital collection (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>). Use the Suggested Search Terms and Dates to explore this topic further in Chronicling America.

Jump to: [Sample Articles](#)

Important Dates:

- July 1907: President Theodore Roosevelt commissions sixteen new battleships from the U.S Atlantic Fleet to make a voyage around the world to the Pacific.
- December 16, 1907: The Atlantic Fleet leaves Hampton Roads, VA headed towards South America. The fleet stops in Trinidad, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Mexico before returning to the U.S.
- May 7, 1908: The Fleet arrives in San Francisco, CA.
- July 7, 1908: The Fleet departs San Francisco bound for eastern Asia. It stops in Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, Japan, and China.



Topics Pages:
Presidential
Administrations:
Great White
Fleet