
Southwestern Law Librarian

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER OF A.A.L.L.
Volume 5, number 3
May, 1980.

E*D*I*T*O*R*L*A*L*

Here are a few more of my thoughts on the Uniform System of Citations (Harvard Citator.) "They" state that there will be a fifth and sixth printing of the 12th edition within the next year. However, there will not be any substantial changes from the 12th edition, fourth printing. The Harvard Law Review says that next Fall (1981), the 13th edition will be published. But no specific date for publication has been set. Let's hope it is a still better product.

"Unclear", "Confusing", and "Inconsistent" perhaps are the best words to describe the present Harvard Citator. Many of my first year legal research students thought that to have one master list of abbreviations would be a vast improvement. For example, how do you abbreviate the numbers of the various U.S. Court of Appeals? As a starter, the two lists of words-abbreviated and words-not-abbreviated in the periodical section should be combined and refined for easier use. For example, the word "trust" (singular) is abbreviated "Tr." (p.92) but "trusts" (plural) is not (p.93). "Rutgers" is not abbreviated (p.93) but "Rutgers-Camden" is abbreviated (p.91). Why? There does not seem to be a logical reason. "Solicitor(s)" is not abbreviated, but it is listed in the words-abbreviated part. It could be reduced to "sol." without causing any confusion with any other word. The present abbreviation lists should be the easiest section to use, but they are not.

A larger size would allow the editors to break up the long paragraphs into short, more manageable sentences. The "case names in text" section (pgs 29-33) being a "must know" rule and containing a wealth of information should be reworded and simplified. Perhaps the case name rule should be reduced to eight words, "the running head ... may serve as a guide." (p.30).

Hopefully, in the 13th edition, there will be greater use of different type-faces. Heavy, bold type would set off the general rule in each section, much like is done in hornbooks.

A confusing statement is "Give the last name of the author and the title in italics ..." (Rule 17:1, p.85) It implies that the author's name should be in italics, but all the examples show it in roman. The words "in roman" should be added after the word "Author." Better still, entirely scrap the use of italics. You can easily tell if it is a periodical article by the subsequent reference to a law journal title.

I'm positive that every one has his or her own list of horrible examples or rules. None of them will be missed. The statutes, code sections are especially unclear and difficult to comprehend. Throughout the entire Harvard Citator is a scarcity of examples for state materials. In the upcoming 13th edition, they should add to the state table section in the rear, information on how to cite to each state's attorney general opinions. Rule 14:2 (p.65) does not help the average user.

If nothing is done, maybe we should march on Cambridge, hold prayer vigils and burn our citators in protest.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The 1980 Southeastern Chapter breakfast and business meeting will be held Wednesday, June 25 (7:30-9:15) at the Empire Room of the Chase-Park Plaza, St. Louis, Missouri. William W. Gaunt & Soms, Inc. has generously offered to sponsor the event. In order to facilitate the planning it will be necessary to know in advance the number of members expecting to attend. Please fill out the attached sheet at the end of the newsletter and mail to me as soon as possible.

Other news of note --

The Chapter has an election of officers coming up in May. Please don't forget to vote.

Also plans for the August Chapter meeting are underway. Bardie Wolfe and Reba Best are handling local arrangements at the beautiful site of the Sheraton Gatlinburg Hotel in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Robin Mills and her committee, Larry Wenger and Don Ziegenfuss are working on the program. (See page 35.) More details will be forthcoming at the St. Louis meeting and in the next Southeastern Law Librarian.

Finally, let me remind you to respond to Connie Pine's request for membership information. Please use the form included in the last issue of the SELL.

Look forward to seeing you in St. Louis.

Anne H. Butler
President, S.E./A.A.L.L.



1980-81 OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee for SEAALL has selected the following slate for 1980/81:

Vice-President/President Elect
Michael Beaird
University of Mississippi

Secretary/Treasurer
Anne Slaughter
McCollister, McCleary, Fazio, Mixon,
Holiday & Jones
Baton Rouge, Louisiana



PROPOSED BY-LAWS: COMMENT

I am writing to question the need for four of the proposed amendments to the Bylaws which appeared in the March, Southeastern Law Librarian.

1. The first two proposals double the chapter dues. No explanation for the need for the increase has been provided. There was a balance on hand of \$1,570 when I became Secretary-Treasurer in September, 1978. At the end of fiscal year (May 31, 1978), the balance was \$1,604. As of today, there is \$823 in the Chapter's checking account. Funds for scholarships (\$600) will be withdrawn within the next month or two. However, membership dues for the next fiscal year become due soon, thus the checking account balance will increase. The Chapter did not fund the last annual meeting. In fact, \$884.71 was left over from the expenses of that meeting. These funds are now in a savings account. Unless some project is planned which will require considerable funding, I am in favor of retaining the current membership dues. It should be noted that this year 75 members paid their own dues.

2. The proposed amendment to Article II. Section 1 appears to be unnecessary if its purpose is to schedule the annual meetings at a time and place different from that of Southeastern Regional Conference of Law Teachers. The section now reads as follows:

An annual meeting of the Chapter shall be held at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine. Meetings shall be held generally coinciding with the meetings of the Southeastern Regional Conference of Law Teachers.

At the 1978 annual business meeting the membership voted to continue to meet at the same time and place as the Southeastern Conference of Law Teachers. The site of the 1980 and 1981 meetings was announced at that meeting without objection. At the 1980 annual meeting the membership will again have an opportunity to express its preference to the Executive Board which determines the time and place of the annual meeting.

3. The fourth proposal to amend Article IV, Section 1 by striking out "of" and inserting "on" does not improve the wording of the section. The section now reads as follows:

Any proposed amendments to the Constitution of the bylaws shall be filed with the secretary-treasurer at least 30 days before a Chapter meeting. . .

The word "of" in the section appears to be a typographical error. The word should be "or." I suggest that the proposed amendment be changed to read "or" instead of on.

4. The proposed amendment to Article V deletes the requirement that the Secretary report annually to the Chairman of the AALL Committee on Chapters. Since the Committee on Chapters no longer exists, this amendment should be adopted.

5. I recommended to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws a change to Article I, Section 2.b.4. This section now reads as follows:

Members failing to pay dues for two successive years shall be dropped from membership.

This provision permits membership to continue if dues are paid only every other year. I recommend that this section be changed to suspend membership six months after the beginning of the fiscal year if dues are not paid. The AALL Bylaws contain a similar provision.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances H. Hall
N.C. Supreme Court Library
Raleigh, NC 27611

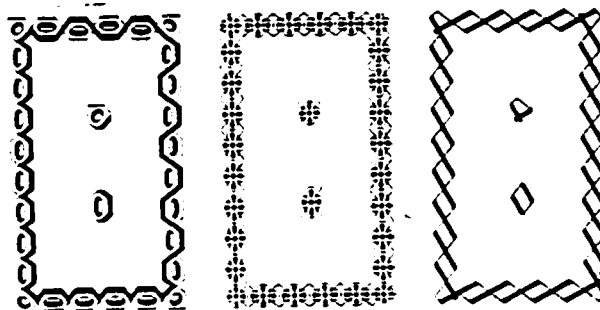
April 11, 1980



WEST'S NEW YORK DIGEST 3D

In case, you have been wondering (as I was) why the volumes of the new New York Digest 3d are so much bigger than the pocket parts they replace (For example, volumes 22, 23 and 24 of New York Digest 3d cover 901 pages. They replace the cumulative 1979 pocket parts for volumes 13, 13a, 13b, 14, 14a, and 15 (303 pages total.) Here is the answer. Mr. Arnold Ginnow, Editor-in-chief of the West Publishing Co. wrote that the reason for the increase in contents is because Federal cases arising from the Second Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals, are being added to the New York Digest 3d.

This is a noble attempt to up-grade their product. Keep up the good work, West.



AUGUST MEETING

SEALL ANNUAL MEETING
August 11-13, 1980
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Monday, Aug. 11

1:00 - all afternoon Registration
3:00 - 3:45 p.m. New Developments in Banking Law
3:45 - 4:15 p.m. Break
4:15 - 5:00 p.m. Banking Law Research Resources
5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Dinner on your own
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Reception
8:15 - Sweet Fanny Adams Theatre and
 Music Hall

Tuesday, Aug. 12

8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Chapter Breakfast and Business
 meeting
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Break
11:00 - 12:30 Law Library Management in the 80's
12:30 - 2.00 p.m. Lunch on your own
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. Concurrent Workshops:

 I
 Techniques of Accountability for
 Academic and Other Public Law
 Libraries

 II
 Techniques of Accountability for
 Private Law Libraries

3:15 - 3:45 p.m. Break
3:45 - 5:00 p.m. Committee meetings
7:00 - Reception and Banquet

Wednesday, Aug. 12

9:00 - 10:15 a.m. State Administrative Procedure
10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Break
10:45 - 12:00 Panel: Availability and Accessibility
 of State Administrative Documents

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JOBS JOBS

This is a short list of openings, due to time restraints in publishing this issue. A fuller listing will be printed in the June issue of SELL. Leigh Morris of University of Richmond Law Library is the South Eastern's representative to the A.A.L.L. Placement Committee. She knows of job vacancies in all regions.

LOUISIANA. LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Baton Rouge. Head of Technical Services.

This position is responsible to the Law Librarian for planning, organizing, coordinating and implementing the work of the Technical Services Department. The Library is a large academic law library, with holdings of more than 275,000 volumes and an annual book budget in excess of \$300,000. Materials are acquired in all major West European languages, and in several media. Ongoing programs include conversion to Library of Congress K classification and to automated technical processes, using OCLC and local systems. Qualifications: M.L.S. from an ALA-accredited library school; extensive cataloging experience in an academic law library; comprehensive knowledge and understanding of technical services operations, including automated applications; previous supervisory experience; effective leadership and interpersonal skills. Academic rank and 12 month contract. Salary: open, depending upon qualifications and experience. Available July 1, 1980. Applications (including names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references) to: Lance E. Dickson, Law Center Library, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803. LSU is an affirmative action and equal employment opportunity employer.

LOUISIANA. LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, New Orleans, 70118. Circulation Librarian.

Position: Circulation Librarian with rank of Assistant Professor
(twelve-month contract)

Commencing Date: August 1, 1980 (Application deadline: May 15, 1980)

Salary: \$12,000.00+ per annum with University fringe benefits

Qualifications Required:

Education: M.L.S. degree from an ALA accredited library school

Experience: A minimum of two years professional experience in an academic or a law library, one of which being in a supervisory capacity.

Qualifications Preferred:

Previous academic or law library experience in circulation, stack maintenance, or reference departments. Experience in handling microform materials and equipment. Knowledge of OCLC and LEXIS. Full or partial legal education. Familiarity with the format of legal serials and the use of legal research materials. Demonstrated supervisory ability.

Send application to Win-Shin S. Chiang, Law Librarian, with resumé and three letters of reference. Loyola University is an equal opportunity and an affirmative action employer.

CURRENT LAW INDEX

- A BOOK REVIEW

I have written this column for several reasons. One, to serve as a book review. After all, you are committing almost \$300.00 this year and in 1981, probably over \$300 for this service, so you should hear other people's comments. Two, as a member of the A.A.L.L. Committee on indexing of legal periodicals, I must make a report on it. Also, the editors of CLI want to know our opinions of it.

While it may be too early to make a definitive statement, but if the first three issues of CURRENT LAW INDEX (CLI) are any indication, the INDEX TO LEGAL PERIODICALS (ILP) will never worry about going out of business. CLI has not lived up to my hopes for it. Nor has it lived up to the representations about it that I heard in San Francisco last year.

The best feature of CLI is its typography. It is so easy to read. The use of large and heavy type faces set off very well the subject headings. My eyes dread using ILP. Two, I like that they put citations into Harvard Citator format. And, they give the first and last page of each article. These factors help the average user. Also, CLI sets out all the bibliographic information under the author's name, while ILP forces you to go on a treasure hunt to locate the article in question.

Now the bad news. CLI has not gotten its act together. They rushed into print. Instead, they should have produced a sample issue and circulated it for comment. Many of its obvious defects would have been corrected. As it now is, law libraries are now paying the full price for experimental issues. Tickets for baseball games during Spring practice are cheaper than regular season tickets. An CLI editor telephoned me when he read that I was going to write this review. He readily admitted it is not perfect. He put most of the responsibility for defects on the A.A.L.L. and said that at our June meeting, changes could be made.

The March issue remedied a serious shortcoming of the first two issues in regards to the listing of CLI journals. Finally, addresses for the periodicals were given, but not cost. Now, can you tell if and when CLI has started to index a specific journal. They say that all 1980 imprints will be indexed, but you dont know if they recived the issue. For a few journals, they can not find an address. It would be nice to know which of their titles are also indexed in ILP. a simple * next to the title would indicate dual indexing.

More importantly, CLI's subject headings are archaic because it uses Library of Congress subject headings. For example, it uses LIBERTY OF SPEECH, while ILP uses the modern term FREEDOM OF SPEECH. CLI uses the term AFRO-AMERICANS as well as BLACKS, but does not make cross reference to the other. Nor did it make the see reference, NEGRO see....

I think that ILP is good about putting articles under the appropriate geographic subject heading, both for foreign countries and states of the United States. CLI is not consistent. For example, in the January 1980 issue, there are two articles under the heading PUNISHMENT IN CRIME DETERRENCE. One is about about Denmark and one is about Great Britain. There is a listing under Denmark, but not under Great Britain.

An especially good feature of ILP is the subject heading "Biography - individual." CLI does not even recognize individuals as subjects. But it recognizes corporate bodies such as law firms, bar associations, law reviews, et al. The interview of F. Lee Bailey in 16 CRIMINAL LAW BULLETIN 5-21 did not entitle him either to a subject heading or even mention as an author in the Author Index. But a mere one hundred line article on the relationship between law firms and law review articles received at least four subject headings.

Proudly, CLI says that it indexes "cover to cover." and "the only exclusions are brief personnel notes or similar ephemeral matter." Then what are all those obituary and disbarment notices doing there under the subject heading LAWYERS? These ephemeral notices are inundating that subject heading. Also, a news release about West's new bankruptcy reporter was made a permanent part of the CLI because it appeared in the ARKANSAS LAW QUARTERLY. Will CLI index results of football games? See the Index section to volume 79 of the COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW. I am afraid that a 200 page issue of the HARVARD LAW REVIEW will receive 7 or 8 subject headings, while a small, obscure bar journal will get scores because it prints scores of short tidbits relevant only to that state's bar. It means that the indexer's time is poorly spent. It would be ironic if we went back to the ILP mechanical rule of a minimum of five pages before the article is indexed.

If inconsistency does not do it, then clutter will destroy the value of CLI. The subject headings are so specific that in time they will prove unmanagable. At least, ILP put articles under broad groupings so that you would know where to look. In CLI, it is pot luck. Already CLI has four subject headings on HOMOSEXUALITY (that, HOMOSEXUALITY AND EMPLOYMENT: HOMOSEXUALS: and GAY LIBERATION MOVEMENT.) Another example, is the subject headings ENGLISH LANGUAGE, & LEGAL DOCUMENTS with cross reference to the other. I am beginning to think that unless I read every page of CLI, I will not find all the articles about one topic.

Also, articles disappear. In the January 1980 issue, there were 12 listings under the subject heading SOUTH DAKOTA SUPREME COURT. In the March issue, there are only three. What happened? And the March issue is supposed to be a three month cumulation.

What determines the order of the articles under a specific subject heading? Obviously, they are not listed alphabetically. Are they listed by the point in time that they are indexed? Or the issue received by CLI? Or arranged by random?

It would be a shame if CLI did not do things because ILP did them a certain way. For example, I think that the Author entries should be interfiled with the subjects. One master alphabet is better than four or five small ones. CLI's TABLE OF STATUTES is a very good feature. ILP does not have one. But the section could be improved by a scope note which told the average user how the Federal and state statutes are filed.

In summary, a lot of work needs to be done on CLI. It still is in the experimental stage. As it presently looks, it will never replace ILP.

G.T.



I will be attending the business/breakfast meeting for the Southeastern Chapter Wednesday, June 25 at the Chase-Park Plaza, Empire Room, at 7:30 a.m.

Name: _____

Library: _____

Please return to: Anne H. Butler
Alston, Miller & Gaines
1200 C&S National Bank Building
35 Broad Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

unpaged. Please fill out and mail back.