

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

Congressional Papers Roundtable Newsletter

March 1997

Table of Contents

- Congressional Archives: Selected Bibliography
- Note from the Chair
- Steering Committee, 1996-1997
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress
- Senate Historical Office
- Query
- Institutional News
- Note from the Editor

CONGRESSIONAL ARCHIVES: SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

compiled by Cynthia Pease Miller

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

The Roundtable supported a program that was accepted for the 1997 SAA annual meeting to be held in Chicago. The traditional session is entitled "Comic Relief: The Cartoon Collection as Archival Documentation" created by Pam Hackbart-Dean. At the Chicago meeting of the Roundtable, Frank H. Mackaman, Executive Director of the Dirksen Congressional Center will discuss educational programming and other activities at the Center. Look for more information in the next newsletter. New leadership for the Roundtable was elected in San Diego:

SAA CPR Steering Committee, 1996-1997

Ron Becker, Chair (1996-1997)
Rutgers University

(908) 932-7006

Mark Greene, Chair-elect (1996-1997)
Minnesota Historical Society

(612)296-2620

Pam Hackbart-Dean (1996-1998)
University of Georgia

(706) 542-0627

Gretchen Lake (1996-1998)
University of Alaska at Fairbanks

(907) 474-5590

**** AND** two positions to be elected at the annual 1997 mtg for the term (1997-1999)

Ex officio members:

Sheryl Vogt, Past Chair
University of Georgia

(706) 542-4144

Diane Dimkoff
Center for Legislative Archives, NARA

(202) 501-5350

Cynthia Pease Miller
Legislative Resource Center, U.S. House of Representatives

(202) 226-5200 **** NOTE NEW TELEPHONE # and fax: 226-5207**

Karen D. Paul
U.S. Senate Historical Office

(202) 224-3351

Newsletter editor:

Rebecca Johnson Melvin (1996-1997)
University of Delaware

(302)831-6089

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominations Sought for Roundtable Leadership

Elections for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect and two members of the Steering Committee will be held at the annual meeting of the Roundtable in Chicago. The Nominating Committee -- Sheryl Vogt (chair), Pam Hackbart-Dean, and Gretchen Lake -- is currently seeking candidates for these positions. Candidates must be members of SAA and the Congressional Papers Roundtable. In selecting the slate, the Nominating Committee will be attentive to any diversity in the composition of the Roundtable. Leadership is expected to attend annual meetings; partial duties for the positions are as follows:

VICE-CHAIR/CHAIR-ELECT: Serves as the Vice-Chair from the conclusion of the 1997 annual meeting through the 1998 meeting, at which time s/he assumes office of Chair for one year. As immediate past chair, serves a third year as a member of the Steering Committee and as chair of the Nominating Committee.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Serve for two years beginning at the end of the 1997 meeting and through the 1999 meeting. The two members elected in 1997 will serve on the Nominating Committee their first year and on the Program Committee their second.

The Nominating Committee should identify six candidates and asks that you volunteer or nominate a colleague by completing the form at the end of this newsletter. You may also contact a committee member (see information above).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE RECORDS OF CONGRESS

Diane Dimkoff of the Center for Legislative Archives forwarded the executive summary of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, Second Report, December 31, 1995. Due to space limitations in this newsletter, that summary will be included in the August newsletter. Karen Paul provided an update from the recent meeting of the Committee: The Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress (est. P.L. 101-509, November 5, 1990) voted at its December meeting to establish a Task Force on the Impact of Technology on Archival Documentation. The goals of the Task Force are to:

- Locate and identify major electronic information systems currently in use or in the planning stages in the House and Senate including all systems that maintain official records.
- Identify the permanently valuable electronic records maintained on these systems and the appropriate proportion of electronic versus paper records (instances where the paper version is determined to be the "record" copy)
- Develop a list of National Archives transfer options for electronic records
- Discuss and make recommendations for verification, security, and authenticity
- Make recommendations on electronic recordkeeping systems and data migration and preservation.

These survey findings and recommendations should also be made available to Members' offices. An interim report should be available for the Spring 1997 Advisory Committee meeting, with a final report to be presented at the Fall 1997 meeting.

SENATE HISTORICAL OFFICE

Senate Historical Office Editorial Project: In 1992 the Senate's party leaders agreed to a recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress that the Historical Office preserve, edit, and publish the official minutes of each party conference, dating from the start of the twentieth century to a period thirty years before the present. The Office completed work during 1994 on the minutes of the Senate Democratic Conference covering the years 1903-1964. That volume is ready for publication, subject to final approval by the Democratic Conference and completion of a companion volume for the minutes of the Republican Conference for the years 1911-1964. During 1996, the Historical Office began editing the Republican minutes. Publication is anticipated by the end of this congress.

Senate offices increasingly seek advice on scanning projects involving congressional papers. If anyone has embarked on such a project, please send a brief description to so that she may share it with the offices.

The Records Management Handbook for United States Senators and Their Archival Repositories is currently being updated. Please send any suggestions for a revised edition to the above e-mail address or to Karen Paul at the Senate Historical Office, Washington, DC, 20510. Copies of the annual report of the Senate Historical Office are available upon request at the same address.

QUERY

Is anyone currently digitizing or has anyone digitized a Congressional Collection? I am familiar with the HELIOS project courtesy of Ed Galloway, and I was wondering if any other repositories had embarked on a similar project. Naomi L. Nelson, Congressional Archivist, Special Collections, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322-2870, phone: (404) 727-6871 fax: (404) 727-0053 email

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Diane Dimkoff: Ann Howard has recently moved from Capitol Hill to the National Archives. In February 1997, Ann joined the staff of the **CENTER FOR LEGISLATIVE ARCHIVES** after spending three years working as an archivist for Senators Danforth and Hatfield. She is a 1993 graduate of the University of Maryland's History/Library Science program.

Todd Kosmerick: Outreach has been the major focus of the **CARL ALBERT CENTER CONGRESSIONAL ARCHIVES** over the past few months. Two new exhibits were opened last fall. One, titled "Electioneering, Oklahoma Style," explores the history of political campaigns in the state of Oklahoma and features numerous pieces of political memorabilia. The other, "Wagon Master of the New Frontier," commemorates the centennial of the birth of Senator Robert S. Kerr, whom one reporter labeled the "Uncrowned King of the Senate" during the Kennedy administration. This exhibit was opened last November at a gala event in the Oklahoma State Capitol attended by 125.

The Carl Albert Center developed a web site containing information on the Center's programs, scope and content notes for the archival collections, and biographical exhibits on Speaker of the House Carl Albert and Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas. Additional exhibits are planned for the upcoming year. The address is <http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/cachome.html>

A new guide to the archives' materials is available. Titled "Native Americans and Public Policy: A Guide to Resources at the Carl Albert Center," this 30-page brochure pinpoints materials that document the history of 20th century federal policy affecting Native Americans. The Center received one collection in the aftermath of the 1996 elections. This is the papers of Congressman Bill Brewster, who represented Oklahoma's Third District. Persons wishing further information about the Carl Albert Center's guides and activities should contact Todd Kosmerick, Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma, 630 Parrington Oval, Rm 101, Norman, OK 73019-0375, (405) 325-6272,

Pam Hackbart-Dean: The **RICHARD B. RUSSELL LIBRARY FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH AND STUDIES** at the University of Georgia is proud to announce the acquisition of two major collections: The Democratic Party of Georgia Papers and the Georgia Republican Party Papers. As the official repository for both these organizations, the Russell staff is now working with these parties to develop records management plans and deposit schedules. email:

Special Collections and University Archives at **OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, STILLWATER** completed the processing of Henry L. Bellmon's Personal Papers, 1942-1993, bulk 1963-1993 (17 linear ft.) in the fall. Bellmon served as the U. S. Senator from Oklahoma from 1969-1980. His personal papers are a rich source of material from a long political career as the first Republican governor in the state of Oklahoma (1963-1967), the U.S. Senator from Oklahoma (1969-1980) and his second term as governor (1987-1991). In addition, materials from his committee work, teaching, and work for the Republican party are included. The collection is divided into three series, Personal, Political, and Committee and Topical Files. A separate photographic collection, mainly from Bellmon's Senate years, also is available now. Special Collections and University Archives also holds Henry Bellmon's senatorial and gubernatorial papers, nearly 1100 linear ft.. These are unprocessed at this time; however, they are available for research use. Preliminary finding aids are available. For information about the Bellmon collections contact Special Collections and University Archives, Oklahoma State University Library, Stillwater, OK 74078-1071, phone 405-744-6311, web page <http://www.library.okstate.edu/dept/scua/scuahp.htm>

Herb Hartsook: The **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA** 's Modern Political Collections [MPC] was the focus of the University's 1996 South Carolina State Fair exhibit. The fair presented a remarkable outreach opportunity. Over one hundred thousand people may have viewed the exhibit, which featured photographs, editorial cartoons, campaign buttons and stickers as well as text panels describing our programs, and a fifteen minute videotape. The production of the video was a real education. We blocked out a basic shooting script, then the University's Instructional Services took over. A director was assigned to the project and worked closely with us to ensure that the final product would serve our purpose for the fair and be useful in future outreach efforts. The video begins and ends with a doctoral student speaking of his research and the part played therein by MPC. In between, the narrator describes the purpose of MPC, and three donors -- Senator Fritz Hollings, former governor John West, and Congressman Floyd Spence, comment on MPC or recount personal stories.

One new collection has been received as a direct result of the exhibit, and copies of the video have been sent to a variety of supporters and potential contributors to the MPC endowment. The endowment was established in December 1995 and currently stands at \$78,000, with an additional \$100,000 donated as a charitable remainder trust. MPC has reached agreement with former South Carolina governor and U.S. Secretary of Energy James B. Edwards to receive his papers. The 1974 election of Edwards, the state's first Republican governor since Reconstruction, was a major landmark in the rise of the Republican Party in the South and his papers should prove an important addition to MPC's holdings. Contact Herbert J. Hartsook, Curator of Modern Political Collections, South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, 720 College St., Columbia, SC 29208, (803) 777-0577 email

Lee Miller: The **TULANE** Manuscripts Department recently acquired the Norman-Schrier Family Papers. Included in this new acquisition are the papers of M.E. Norman, Republican candidate for Congress in southwest Louisiana in 1932. The Tulane Manuscripts Department (which preserves the papers of members of Congress Hale Boggs, Lindy Boggs, F. Edward Hebert, David Treen, and others) will also be moving to new quarters during the late Spring and Summer of 1997. During the move some reference services and hours may be limited. We expect the move to be completed and full reference services reestablished by August. Contact: Leon C. Miller, Manuscripts Librarian, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University, New Orleans LA 70118, (504) 865-5685; Fx: (504) 865-6773, Our web site was just named one of the top ten in its category! <http://www.tulane.edu/~lmiller/SpecCollHomePage.html>

Timothy Smith: The **UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA** has acquired the papers of Pat Williams, Montana's member at large in the House of Representatives from 1979 - 1996. Williams retired and accepted a teaching position at the University which makes him conveniently available for interviews for a planned

oral history and for answers to any questions concerning his papers. Williams' "big issues" were NEA and a series of wilderness bills concluding with the 1993 Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act. His papers consist of staff case files, committee files, constituent files, legislation, and other expected articles. We anticipate an official ceremony some time this Spring. Archivist Robert Applegate and Timothy Smith, a student and former Congressional staffer, are doing all of the processing, following procedures developed by retired director Dale Johnson who worked in D.C. on Mike Metcalf's archives, now also at Montana. The jewel of Montana's congressional papers is the Mike Mansfield collection, which has just been released from its 20 year closure. He was one of the few early opponents to the Vietnam War and later Ambassador to Japan. Montana has his entire collection including personal effects, unique gifts from overseas, etc. Several researchers from around the United States have visited since the collection was opened. email Timothy O. Smith:

Ed Galloway: The H. John Heinz III Archives at **CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY** recently processed the congressional papers of the late Pennsylvania Senator John Heinz (1938-1991). The papers encompass his entire congressional career as a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1971-1976) and the U.S. Senate (1977-1991). Access to the complete finding aids can be viewed at the Heinz Archives website at <http://www.library.cmu.edu/Guide/Heinz>

John Heinz entered the arena of national politics in 1971 when he won a special election to fill the unexpired term of U.S. Representative Robert Corbett of Pennsylvania's 18th District. Heinz won landslide victories in his reelection bids in 1972 and 1974. As the youngest member in the House at age 33, Heinz served on numerous committees, including Government Operations (1971-1972), Interstate and Foreign Commerce (1973-1976), and Select Committee on Aging (1975-1976). He also chaired the House Republican Task Force on Antitrust and Regulatory Reform (1974-1976). In addition to documenting his committee service, the papers (42.2 lin. ft.) focus on local and regional issues important to Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. Upon the retirement of Hugh Scott from the Senate in 1976, John Heinz successfully won the vacated Pennsylvania Senate seat. He was reelected in 1982 and again in 1988 by impressive margins and served until his untimely death in an airplane crash on April 4, 1991. Heinz served on the Special Committee on Aging (1979-1991), Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee (1977-1991), Budget Committee (1977-1978), Energy and Natural Resources Committee (1981-1984), Finance Committee (1979-1991), and Governmental Affairs Committee (1977-1978, 1987-1991). The papers (646 lin. ft.) document his work on national issues, such as health care policy, retirement, international trade and finance, and environmental policy. The Senate papers contain committee files, legislative assistants' files, legislative directors' files, VIP correspondence, statewide grants/projects, press files, campaign material, party/political leadership files, scheduling files, office administrative files, voting/attendance records, constituent service records, and state office files.

The work on HELIOS continues with over 500,000 pages from the collection scanned and converted to ASCII text. In addition to scanning, we have entered the verification stage where archivists and graduate students assess the quality of the scanned images, review/edit the corresponding ASCII text, transcribe handwritten annotations, and create notes at the folder and document level. We expect an initial release of HELIOS on the World Wide Web in early 1997. HELIOS (The Heinz Electronic Library Interactive Online System), an archival management system developed at Carnegie Mellon University, supports full-page digital image access and employs natural language processing techniques to search and retrieve material from the electronic archive. For more information, contact Ed Galloway, email:

Tom Kemp: U.S. Congressman Sam M. Gibbons has contributed his public papers and correspondence relating to his career in public service, as well as personal and family papers, to the Special Collections Department at the **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA** Library. His collection, weighing in at 2,500 cubic feet, spans his entire public career. In 1952, Gibbons, now 76, was elected to the Florida State House, where he initiated the legislation that made the University of South Florida a reality. In 1958 he was elected to the Florida State Senate. When the U.S. Congressional District 7 was created in 1962 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he remained for 17 terms. In announcing the donation of the Collection, Gibbons stated that "it is important to save information about our past so that future generations can learn from our successes as well as from our mistakes." Samuel Fustukjian, Director of the Library,

said "the great detail and comprehensive nature of the Collection will be appreciated by students, faculty, researchers and scholars. Congressman Gibbons' care and diligence in preserving these documents makes it a very valuable and useful resource covering his many years of public service." Gibbons was the featured speaker at the USF Library's Last Lecture Series on February 4, 1997. His presentation titled, "Looking Around at Mid-Life" was well received by a packed audience in the Special Collections Department's Grace Allen Room. A videotape of the remarks and reception has been placed in the collection. For further information please contact Thomas J. Kemp, Head of the Special Collections Department, USF Library LIB 407, Tampa, Florida 33620 and visit our website at <http://www.lib.usf.edu/spccoll/>

Ben Primer: The papers of former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley arrived at the Mudd Library at **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**. They join the papers of Senators H. Alexander Smith, John Foster Dulles, George McGovern and David Aiken Reed, and Representatives Charles Aubrey Eaton, Michael Feighan, Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen, William Fitts Ryan, and Frank Thompson. There were over 3300 boxes in all, of which 2200 are being transferred to us at this point. The materials include Bradley's professional basketball career with the New York Knicks, 1967-1977, and his 18 years in the Senate, 1979-1997. email:

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In addition to the vacancies available on the Roundtable steering committee, a vacancy is now available for the enjoyable position of editor of the Congressional Papers Roundtable Newsletter. The August 1997 pre-conference issue will be the end of my third year as editor, and according to the Roundtable bylaws, it is time for someone else to take on this responsibility. The editor publishes two newsletters per year, maintains the Roundtable mailing list, and takes minutes at the annual Roundtable meeting. I will be happy to discuss these duties with anyone interested in assuming the position. My personal testimony for the experience is that it has been professionally gratifying to collect and present the news which is so willingly shared by the empathetic network of archivists who work with the challenging source material created by members and the institution, itself, of Congress. There must be a tie that binds any one archivist with another who likewise confronts several hundred linear feet in one collection which, in addition to its sheer bulk, also presents the entire spectrum of archival management issues for privacy and confidentiality, declassification, sound language in a deed of gift, appraisal, sampling, space planning, reformatting and digitization projects, team processing, description and other access tools, preservation of multi-format and electronic records, documentation strategies, donor relations and fund-raising, outreach and effective publicity, etc. It's fun to solicit news from fellow congressional archivists, so come on, who wants a turn? Please give me a call or email, or contact Ron Becker, to express your interest. As usual, sincere thanks to all the contributors to this issue, especially to Cynthia Miller for the very useful bibliography of sources for congressional collections.

L. Rebecca Johnson Melvin
Special Collections
University of Delaware Library
Newark, Delaware 19717-5267
(302) 831-6089 or

Please contact

NOMINATIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL PAPERS ROUNDTABLE LEADERSHIP

Vice-Chair/Chair Elect:

Steering Committee:

Interest in editing the newsletter:

Comments:

Mail, by **JUNE 1**, to
Sheryl Vogt
Russell Library for Political Research and Studies
Main Library, The University of Georgia Libraries
Athens, GA 30602-1641
or telephone 706-542-5788, fax 706-542-4144, e-mail