PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
HIGHLIGHTS
FOR TEXAS

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY/TLA SPECIAL LIBRARIES DIVISION/TLA DOCUMENTS ROUNDTABLE

- PRESENTS -
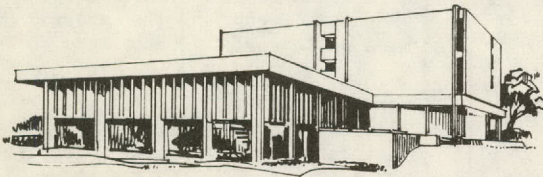
Access to Government Information: Sources and Trends for the 80's

Joe C. Thompson Center   Sept. 6-7, 1979
Austin, Texas

On September 6-7, 1979, the Texas State Library in cooperation with the Texas Library Association's Special Libraries Division and the Government Documents Roundtable will present the Third Annual Conference entitled "Access to Government Information: Sources and Trends for the 80's." The conference will be held at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center located on the campus of the University of Texas at Austin.

The conference will open on the morning of Thursday, September 6, 1979, with a General Session highlighting the statistical resources of the federal government. The keynote address, by a representative of the Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, will provide an overview of the current attempts by the federal gov-ernment to encourage more coordination among the major data collecting agencies. Presentations by representatives of two of the largest data producing offices, the Energy Information Administration amd the Bureau of Labor Statistics, will conclude the first session. The speakers will discuss the responsibilities and activities of their respective agencies and perhaps offer insight into future developments in the area of governmental data collection and dissemination.

Following the General Session, a series of 9 concurrent mini-sessions will be held on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. Topics for these 3 to 4 hour mini-sessions will include: Energy Statistics, Labor Statistics, Census Bureau Programs, Government and Commercial Data Bases, and Legal Research.

Registration for the conference is free, and limited openings are available on a 'first come, first served' basis. Interested participants are encouraged to register early. If you would like to receive, when available, a detailed agenda and registration materials for the conference, including additional specific information on the speakers and topics to be covered, contact:

Texas State Publications Clearinghouse
Texas State Library
Box 12927, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

(512) 475-6725

ALA Annual Conference, June 23-27

AGENDA OF THE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ROUNDTABLE

The annual conference of the American Library Association will be held in Dallas, Texas, June 23-27, 1979. The ALA Government Documents Roundtable has planned a full program of activities concerning local, state, federal, and international documents and all documents 'activists' are encouaged to attend.

The tentative GODORT conference schedule is as follows:

Saturday 6/23:

2:00 - 4:00 GODORT Steering Committee Meeting.

Inside This Issue...

Publication Schedule For

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
HIGHLIGHTS
FOR TEXAS

Persons interested in submitting articles or information for publication in Public Documents Highlights for Texas should forward the material to the Editor according to the following deadlines:

HIGHLIGHTS ISSUE: SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Summer 1979 - Vol. I, No. 4 . . . . July 6, 1979

Fall   1979 - Vol.II, No. 1 . . . . October 5, 1979

Winter 1980 - Vol.II, No. 2 . . . . January 2, 1980

A.L.A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CONTINUED

Saturday 6/23: (Continued)

4:30 - 5:30   -Federal Documents Task Force Steering Committee and GODORT Program Committee Meeting.
-International Documents Task Force Meeting.
-State and Local Documents Task Force Steering Committee.
-Constitution Committee.
-Election Committee.

Sunday 6/24:

9:30-12:30   GODORT Program, "Government Information to the People".

2:00-4:00   Discussion, "Government Information to the People".

Monday 6/25:

8:00-9:00   Congressional Information Service Breakfast.

9:30-11:00   -GODORT Clearinghouse Meeting.
-Federal Documents Task Force Work Group on the Census.
-International Documents Work Groups of IGO Documentation and on Foreign Documents.

11:30-12:30   -Federal Documents Task Force Study Group on Classification Numbers.
-State and Local Documents Task Force Work Group on Local Documents.
-GODORT Statistics Interest Group.

2:00-4:00   Federal Documents Task Force Work Group on Depository Libraries.

4:30-6:00   -Machine Readable Data Files Task Force Business Meeting.
-GODORT Cataloging Manual Committee.
-State and Local Affiliates to GODORT Meeting.

Notes from the Editor

I- hope that everyone will seriously consider attending the Third Annual Conference sponsored by the State Library and TLA's Special Library Division and Documents Roundtable. In presenting information about this years conference I hope that you will notice that we are trying to avoid calling it a 'Documents Conference', because in actuality it is a conference designed for people who utilize government generated information of all kinds -- certainly not limited to 'published documents'.

The facilities for this years conference will be far superior to those we had for either of our previous two conferences, and while facilities can't equal in importance the content of the program, they will allow us a more comfortable and fluid atmosphere and greatly enhance the program and mood of this years conference.

Due to the fact that the admission is FREE, and that many of the sessions will have limited openings, all participants are encouraged to register early to insure a reservation.   The Thompson Center provides ample parking facilities and we have made arrangements for a block of rooms at a hotel within walking distance of the conference facilities. For more information contact the Texas State Publications Clearinghouse (512) 475-6725.

I think that the Highlights staff is starting to gain a much better feel for the readers and personality of this newsletter and I hope that you have found it to be informative.   I expect that after a few more issues, we will circulate a survey concerning the content, style, and format of Highlights and hopefully this will provide us with the information to make the newsletter even better.

See you in September....

Bob Walton, Editor

Missing an issue?

We still have copies of issues one and two of Highlights. If you are a new subscriber, or, missed one of the earlier issues, contact:

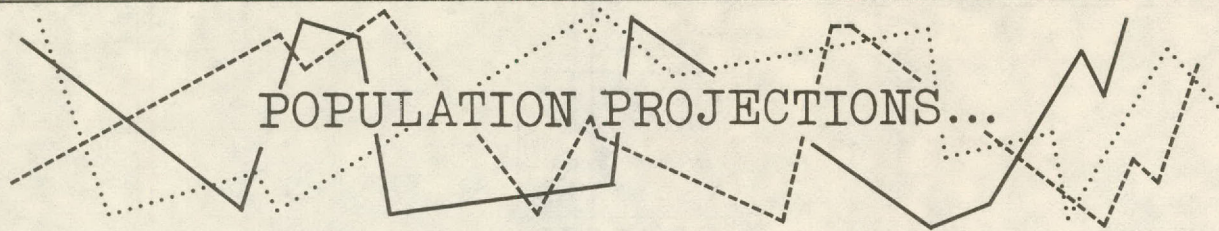Peggy Lockhart, Texas Documents
(512) 475-6725

POPULATION PROJECTIONS...

Every ten years, regular as a Timex, the U. S. Department of Commerce attempts to count each and every person living in the United States and its territories. Few escape being counted; most of us, White, Black, Spanish Surname, male, female, resident, alien, rich and poor, become grist for the statistical mill. These ten year counts, or censuses, are invaluable to planners, managers, executives and seers in both the public and private sectors. The census gives us a still-life snapshot of the size of the population in a given area, their ages, sex, race, income, education and a slew of other data items that we add, subtract and fiddle with to find out what we want to know about the folks out there.

But ten years can be a long time between snapshots. Infants become fourth graders, fourth graders become adolescents, adolescents become parents with infants of their own...and some people die. People move away. In Texas, people mostly move in. Industry rises and falls; jobs come and go. The picture changes too fast to be able to rely on counts that are more than a few years old. This article is about one way people try to keep the picture in focus between census counts: population projections.

Population projections may be produced by a variety of methods. The current state-of-the-art approach is a combination of the cohort survival technique, long used by life insurance actuaries, with data on migration, or people-flow into and out of a given area. Cohort survival, in simplest terms, involves counting the number of individuals in an age bracket, then "surviving" that "cohort" for the number of years between the year of the base count and the projection year. If this were 1975, and there had been twelve children between ages one and two in Sprinkle, Texas in 1970, we could begin with the assumption that there would be, in 1979, twelve children between ten and eleven in Sprinkle. Once all the cohorts were survived, births added and deaths subtracted, the migration effect could be calculated: how many people would move in and out of Sprinkle during that nine years? The end result is a projection of how many people will live in Sprinkle in 1979.

It is highly unlikely that projections will be accurate to the individual. The environment in which projections are made is too complex, too many variables. Good projections will be very close, particularly in terms of a percentage of the total popula-

tion. For this reason, projectors usually do better when working with large populations like Harris County, than with smaller units such as Loving County, or even Sprinkle. Projection users are normally willing to accept small margins of potential error. They are aware that not even the census counts are totally accurate and complete, but mostly they know that using projections is better than operating blind.

Many state and local agencies use population projections. Some produce their own projections, others purchase theirs tailor-made. Most agencies which use projections are willing to share them with other consumers, on request.

Currently, the major in-house population projection effort is carried out by the Texas Department of Water Resources. Under one name or another, Water Resources has produced county and municipal level population projections since 1968. By far the longest projections, Water Resources stays fifty years ahead of the times, reaching 2030 with its most recent set (1978). These projections march ahead in one year intervals, with breakdowns for sex, age in five year increments, and race/ethnicity (White, non-White, and Spanish Surname; the latter available only for those counties which had at least fifty percent Spanish Surname in 1970.)

Water Resources uses the cohort survival/migration technique to generate their projections, which are widely distributed among Texas counties, municipalities, Councils of Governments (COG's), state agencies, private consultant firms and other interested parties. Estimates of the future demand on water resources for drinking, irrigation, washing the dog and recreation are among the primary uses of these figures. Persons interested in obtaining population figures from Water Resources may contact Dr. Herb Grubb, Director of Planning, at 475-3821.

The Department of Human Resources has purchased a set of projections from the Population Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin. These projections are similar to those described above in the method of production and in the breakdowns available. They differ in that they go only to the county level, but are aggregated at the Health Service Area level, and again at state level. They include a finer age breakdown (twenty-two categories), and a separate set of age breakdowns (15 - 19 and 15 - 44) for females only. All age categories

are further broken down by percentage of the state median income, to give a picture of the economic condition of each group. They do not have race/ethnicity categories. The projections, produced in 1978, are for the years 1979 through 1983. Information from these projections may be had through John Townsend, Assistant Commissioner for Coordination, 475-6131.

The Texas Department of Health has recently entered the arena, and will soon produce projections for 1980 through 1990. These will include age (five year increments), sex, and race/ethnicity (White, Black, and Spanish Surname) categories, and go down to the county level. The production methodology, a modified cohort survival technique, has been developed by the Population Research Center. The Health Department will use its own computer to produce the figures. They will be used in caseload planning and to meet federal requirements in PL93-641 (the health planning law). When the data become available this summer, interested persons may contact Harold Patterson at 458-7347 to gain access to it.

The U.T. Bureau of Business Research is a heavy user of Census Bureau estimates, and does not produce their own projections. They sometimes use county level projections done by Sales and Marketing Management, a New York based magazine. These projections offer total population, total households, total effective income and projected retail sales. There are no age, sex or race/ethnicity categories.

The 1980's will usher in a new era, that of the mid-decennial census. In 1985, the Census Bureau will carry out the first five year interval full count of population, which may reduce the need for population projections in some agencies. Others will continue to use projections for planning and management, but with greater confidence in them because the baseline data will be much closer for the second half of the decade.

Charley Jennings
Administrator
Planning Data Division
TEXAS DEPT. OF HUMAN RESOURCES

DATA BASE DATA
by Dena Gordon
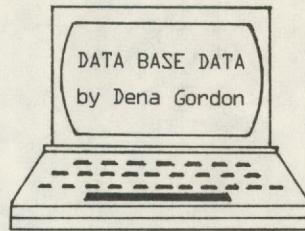
FEDERAL INDEX ONLINE

The Federal Index is produced by Predicasts, Inc. and coverage includes the Congressional Record, the Federal Register, The Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents, Commerce Business Daily, and the Washington Post beginning with October, 1976. Available online only through Lockheed Information Systems, the file "contains brief abstracts on proposed rules, regulations, bill introductions, speeches, hearings, roll calls, reports, vetoes, court decisions, executive orders, contract awards, and more. Records contain citations to the Code of Federal Regulations, United States Code, Public Laws, Congressional Bills, Resolutions and Reports."

The methods of searching Federal Index are quite unique. Predicasts files online are very code-oriented, i.e., almost all searching can be performed using numeric or alphabetic codes which correspond to words. Predicasts' codes include product codes (PC=), geographic codes (CC=), and event codes (EC=). For Federal Index, geographic codes are available for every country in the world and every state in the United States. Product codes are available for major House and Senate Committees, major Congressional agencies and commissions, federal courts, federal agencies, the Executive Office of the President, etc. Event codes are available for legislative hearings, legislative floor actions, executive orders, agency rules, etc. Free-text words can be combined with these codes to enable a searcher to be very specific about his request. For example, recent legislative action on gasohol can be obtained by typing in SELECT GASOHOL(C)PC=914. The PC-914 indicates that product code 914 or "national legislative bodies" is desired, and (C) indicates that it should appear in the same citation or record as gasohol (Figure 1). To locate any recent Senate action on trade negotiations with Red China, you would enter SELECT PC=9141(C)CC=9CHN(C)EC=956 (Figure 2). To obtain recent Executive Orders, simply enter SELECT EC=084; therefore a recent Executive Order on reduction of energy use by the federal government could be obtained by entering SELECT EC=084(C)EC-327 (Figure 3). EC=327 is the event code for energy conservation.

In addition, free-text searching alone is useful in Federal Index as in other more conventional online files. Recent information on the National Commission for the Review of Antitrust Laws and Procedures can be obtained by simply entering the key words in the Commission's name (Figure 4). Also, because Lockheed split the Federal Index into two files, number 21 containing only the most recent update and number 20 containing the bulk of the index, it is easy to use Federal Index for SDI purposes.

Two problems in searching Federal Index online come to mind---those of currency and cost. The file is updated only monthly, and this fact coupled with the lag time of getting the included items indexed, serves to make the file less helpful for recent events than it could be. In addition, the $90/hour fee for online time is toward the high end of the scale. Nevertheless, the Federal Index is a useful and unique file which can serve a definite function in the location of federal information.

Figure 1 —
```
? SELECT GASOHOL(C)PC=914
        1     22 GASOHOL(C)PC=914
? TYPE1/5/1-3
18/5/1
219167  cr s  78/10/02  P16883
   Eagleton:  commends Missouri farmers for decision to build $20mil
gasohol plant
   Senate-Members  Gasohol  Energy  R&D NEC   Energy R&D Programs NEC
     statements expend for R&D

18/5/2
219158  cr s  78/10/05  P17275
   McGovern:  cites bureaucratic red tape behind USDA implementation of
gasohol loan guarantee program
   Senate-Members  Gasohol  Energy  R&D NEC   Energy R&D Programs NEC
     statements expend for R&D

18/5/3
219157  cr e  78/10/05  P5423
   LaFalce:  cites gasohol as environmentally sound alternative energy
source
   House of Representatives-Members  Gasohol  Energy  R&D  NEC
Energy R&D Programs NEC  insertions expend for R&D
```

Figure 2 —
```
? SELECT PC=9141(C)CC=9CHN(C)EC=956
       20      3 PC=9141(C)CC=9CHN(C)EC=956
? TYPE20/5/1-3
20/5/1
238174  cr s  79/02/22  P1702
   Hatch:  opposes economic ties with China as creating 'gargantua of
frightening proportions' to US jobs
   China,  Peoples  Republic  Senate-Members   Bilateral  Trade
Negotiations  statements  trade negotiations

20/5/2
238169  cr s  79/02/09  P1450  S417
   Dole:  intros bill requiring China to sign nuclear nonproliferation
treaty before acquiring most favored nation status; to Finance
   China,  Peoples  Republic  Senate-Members   Most Favored Nation
Agreements  Nuclear  Nonproliferation  public bills  trade
negotiations

20/5/3
113251  cr s  76/09/30  P17374
   Garn:  cites economic failure under Mao Tse-Tung; sees few prospects
for trade
   China,  Peoples  Republic  Senate-Members   Trade  Relations
statements  trade negotiations
```

Figure 3 —
```
? SELECT EC=084(C)EC=327
       23      1 EC=084(C)EC=327
? TYPE23/5/1
23/5/1
236129   pd  79/02/12  P219
   Pres Carter:  issues memo re:  reduction of energy use by Federal
government
   Resources, Environment & Energy  Energy  Energy  Conservation
executive orders  energy conservation
```

Figure 4 —
```
? SNATIONAL;SCOMMISSION;SREVIEW;SANTITRUST;SLAWS;SPROCEDURES;C4-9/AND
        4   6642 NATIONAL
        5   9029 COMMISSION
        6   1787 REVIEW
        7   1268 ANTITRUST
        8   1256 LAWS
        9   3662 PROCEDURES
       10      5 4-9/AND
? TYPE10/5/1-3
10/5/1
237980  cr s  79/02/08  P1350
   Metzenbaum:  inserts antitrust litigation  cost  reduction
recommendations from National Commission for Review of Antitrust Laws
& Procedures
   Senate-Members   Business  Related  Com NEC   Antitrust  Law
insertions antitrust  regulation

10/5/2
223225  wp d  78/11/16   P8
   :  National Commission for Review of Antitrust Laws & Procedures
approves deregulation of trucking industry
   Presidential Commissions  Trucking   Trucking Programs  agency
notices  transport programs

10/5/3
196325  cr s  78/06/15  P9205
   Hatch:  appointed to National Commission for Review of Antitrust Laws
& Procedures
   Senate-Members   Executive  Appointments  Antitrust  Regulation
floor actions nec  new appointee
```

FACS

FAMILY AND CHILD STATISTICS (FACS) INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Early Childhood Development Division of the Texas Department of Community Affairs has updated its information service to provide to Texas communities the latest available statistical data on the young children in their counties.

The Family and Child Statistics (FACS) Information System contains approximately two hundred variables on each county in Texas and on the state as a whole. The data cover a broad range of subjects relating to young Texas children and their families, such as population, ethnicity, income, live births, and health and medical facilities. About fifty sources of data--including both published and unpublished sources by agencies such as the U.S. Census Bureau, the Texas Department of Human Resources, the Department of Health, Texas Medical Association, and others--are tapped into the system.

The data in the FACS system can be retrieved in a number of formats. The first and most commonly requested is a comprehensive report called a county statistical profile which contains all the data in the system on a particular county. The data are arranged by broad subject categories with a brief introductory paragraph preceding the actual figures for the subject. This paragraph relates the statistics to some of the known research findings on the topic and also suggests possible program implications of the data. In order to facilitate comparison and to provide further contextual information by which to weigh data on the individual county, state data are provided along side the county data. The county profile report contains a table of contents, an index, and a bibliography.

A second form of retrieval is a computerized search performed in response to a special request. These searches simply retrieve the data contained in the county profiles in different formats. Examples of specialized retrievals using a data factor such as "infant death rates" include:
--a list of infant death rates for each county in Texas
--a list of all counties with an infant death rate greater than the national average
--a ranking of all counties from high to low by infant death rate
--the range (highest and lowest figures) of infant death rates
--a ranking of all counties by infant death rate and the physician/population ratio

Data can also be retrieved for certain political and administrative regions. Most data can be presented to reflect conditions and statistics in areas of councils of government; health, education, or human resource areas; and congressional, house, or senate districts. A few of the variables, however, are available only as ranges.

Finally, any variable in the FACS system can be displayed on a computer-drawn and shaded map to give visual representation to the values.

The FACS Information System has been received favorably by local, regional, and state planners. The county profiles seem to fill a need for a balanced compilation of data derived from diverse sources. The number of items selected for inclusion seem to be sufficient to provide a fair indication of need without overwhelming the user with an overload of figures. Although the system is specifically aimed at children and their families, the information contained has proved useful for all who are interested in the populations and services of any Texas county.

FACS was originally produced in 1977 and is updated annually to reflect new data issued by the source agencies. The latest update will be ready for distribution about June 1. FACS county profiles and information on the other services are available free of charge by calling Terry Foster at 800-252-9642 (toll-free) or 475-6118 (in Austin) or by writing to her at the Texas Department of Community Affairs, Early Childhood Development Division, P. O. Box 13166, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711.

Terry Foster

DOCUMENTS TLA ROUNDTABLE

Report from the Chair

As incoming chairman of the Documents Roundtable, I look forward to a year of increasing activity among the documents librarians in Texas. There are some exciting things happening, both at the national level and at the state level.

Annual conference was an exhilarating experience. Pam Bonnell, City of Dallas Management Services Library, and Milt Ternberg, Dallas Public Library, gave a superb presentation on municipal documents. They explored types of information available, acquisitions of municipal documents, and bibliographic control.

During the business meeting, Dorothy Glasser, Houston Public Library, was elected Secretary/Treasurer and Frank Pouzar, Dallas Public Library, was elected Vice-President/Chairman-Elect.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the spring meeting of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer which was held in San Francisco. I plan to send a detailed report on the meeting to the members of the Roundtable. One of the concerns of the Council is the forthcoming revision of Title 44 of the U.S. Code. This title sets forth the law concerning the printing and distribution of U.S. government documents.

This year promises to be a busy one. We hope to hold several workshops in the various TLA districts. There is no set formula for these workshops; they might be introductory [for smaller public libraries and school libraries] or more specialized [for depository libraries]. If anyone is interested in participating in the planning of these workshops, please contace me at Texas A & M University Library.

Finally, don't forget to mark your calendars now to attend the Third Annual Conference in Austin which has been set for September 6 & 7, 1979. This year's conference is sponsored by the Texas State Library, the TLA Special Libraries Division, and the TLA Documents Roundtable.

Roberta Palen
Chairman
Texas A & M University
Library - Documents
College Station, Tx.
77843

MAIL BAG

Dear Editor,

I must disagree vehemently with the review on the GPO Monthly Catalog Data Base by Dena Gordon: Lockheed Information Systems has done an enormous public service in bringing this database on-line.

First and foremost, the new Monthly Catalog format is excessive in price and bulk and deficient in its indexing and findability of documents. The printed version of the Monthly Catalog is heavy and it takes up 4-8 times the space that used to be required for shelving the old-formatted version. And the information density has declined while the cost has inflated.

Secondly, the on-line service provides the very numbers one really needs to order the document, or to locate it in a conventional government documents collection. Not only does it give the author, the ISBN and the call number, it provides the CODEN, the corporate source, even the UDC and Dewey decimal numbers.

Finally, the on-line version has a high information density and thus provides a good value for your money. You can search by the words of the title or by the abstract, by the subject headings or the authors, by the corporate source, or even by the year of issue. Further, the names of individuals mentioned can be located, the names of organizations originating the documents, as well as miscellaneous but useful data like the LC card number and the ISSN. One hour of computer searching costs less than a years subscription to the printed version. I feel personally that one hour of computer searching will reveal a great deal more than an hour in trying to find something in the printed edition.

Librarians of Texas need to take advantage of this incredible revolution in information handling. No longer are we isolated. The powerful tools of computer processing are now available at a cost nearly any library can afford. The Lockheed DIALOG system is far easier to learn than the entries in the GPO Monthly Catalog, and the computer system allows one to search for a document in a hundred different ways compared to the limited access supplied by the miserably inadequate indexes to the Monthly Catalog.

Frank Wagner
Frank Wagner
834 Oak Park, Corpus Christi TX 78408

Mr. Wagner is an Information Specialist for the Celanese Chemical Company in Corpus Christi, Texas.

AUTHOR'S RESPONSE

Dear Mr. Walton,

I would like to thank Mr. Wagner for writing his reactions to my article--I think that dialogue of this kind will provide an excellent source of information for us all. First, let me address the points with which I heartily agree. The price of the printed Monthly Catalog has increased substantially from $27.00 in June, 1976 to $55.00 in January, 1979. For those who preferred the old Monthly Catalog format, this means more money for a less desirable product. Also, the new Monthly Catalog certainly does take up more space, but why not invest an extra $20.00 or so per year for a microfiche or microfilm copy and throw out any nonessential paper copies?

However, I must disagree on several other points. The "indexing and findability of documents" of the printed Monthly Catalog is not deficient in my opinion. Compare the printed Monthly Catalog's access points (title, personal author, corporate author, LC subject headings, 'enriched' subject headings, series or report name or number) with those of Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (STAR), Government Reports Announcements (GRA), Resources in Education (RIE), and Selected Water Resources Abstracts (SWRA) although these publications do have personal author, corporate author, subject, and report or contracts number access, none has a title index. In addition, in the fall of 1977, GPO distributed a questionnaire to each subscriber of the Monthly Catalog, and results indicate that people are generally pleased with the new format. Further, 72.4% of the respondents felt that subject accessibility was better in the new format, and 76.4% felt that LC subject headings should continue to be used in the Monthly Catalog. 32% of the respondents felt that the LC subject headings should be supplemented with "local LC-type headings," and GPO is now doing this.

In regard to Mr. Wagner's comments about additional information available in the online version, let me clear up one point. The computer tapes used to produce Lockheed DIALOG's online version of the Monthly Catalog are abbreviated versions of the tapes used to produce the printed Monthly Catalog. There is no information available contained in the online Monthly Catalog that is not also available in the printed version. Granted, the ability to search by additional access points is a benefit, but no additional information is contained in the online file. In addition, I have learned since writing my article that some of the searchable fields available online are rarely used by GPO, and searching by them yields only sketchy information. These include CODEN, UDC, DDC, call number, and ISBN fields. With this new information, I can't help but feel that the online file's utility will be even further decreased.

Finally, I agree that "one hour of computer searching will reveal a great deal more than an hour in trying to find something in the printed edition," but I feel that you must carefully weigh the cost of obtaining your information online. For example, I would estimate that an average search of the online Monthly Catalog would take from seven to twelve minutes for a reasonably straightforward question. Using a figure of ten minutes, the search will cost $5.83 for online charges plus approximately 83¢ for telecommunications charges plus approximately 85¢ for staff time (one employee, ten minutes, $10,000 per year salary). These figures total $7.51, assuming no offline prints were generated. Measure this against a mere 85¢ for staff time that would be spent for a manual search. In this example, the online search costs almost eight times as much as the manual search.

Again, thanks to Mr. Wagner for writing. I would welcome any other comments or contributions that anyone might have.

Dena Gordon
"Data Base Data"
Highlights Newsletter

Texas Administrative Code

by Mary Barrow
Texas Register Division
Office of the Secretary of State

The Office of the Secretary of State will soon be announcing publication of a document for which state and law librarians have long felt the need--the Texas Administrative Code. Authorized by the Texas Administrative Code Act (Article 6252-13b), the Code will be the first comprehensive publication of all the rules of the administrative agencies of the state.

The Texas Register Division, which compiled the rules under the mandate of the Administrative Procedure and Texas Register Act (Article 6252-13a) and which publishes the twice-weekly Texas Register under that authority, is responsible for publication of the Code. The project is being undertaken in conjunction with Shepard's/McGraw-Hill, which, among other things, publishes Shepard's Citations and the Pennsylvania Code.

The Code will be issued in looseleaf form for easy updating of material which changes rapidly, as the rules of the agencies do. The frequency of supplementation has not yet been determined, but will likely be at least quarterly. The Texas Register, which publishes amended and newly-adopted rules, will serve as a temporary update to the Code, in addition to fulfilling its usual notice and communications functions.

In order to provide maximum information to the public on its subject matter, the Code will be annotated to court cases and Attorney General Opinions, and cross-referenced internally. It will include finding aids such as a general index, disposition tables, tables of authority showing which statutes have resulted in rulemaking, and tables of contents at every level.

The Code will be arranged by titles, which cover general subject areas such as public finance, education, insurance, and the like. The first titles scheduled for publication are Title 1, Administration, and Title 31, Natural Resources. Those titles should be available to the public by July or August of this year. Other titles will be issued over the remainder of the year, and possibly into the first half of 1980. The rules will be available for purchase in a full set, by volume, or, if demand is sufficient, by individual agency. Information on pricing will be available soon, as will information on discounts to state government and quantity purchasers.

For further information concerning the Texas Administrative Code, please contact Mary Barrow, Office of the Secretary of State, Texas Register Division, 475-7886.

‹ ACCESS ›

the subject approach to documents

All of us at the Texas State Publications Clearinghouse make it our business to get to know well the state documents we receive. They all cross our desks at one time or another, all are classified, cataloged, listed, and indexed.

One advantage of this work is that, after a time, we begin to get a broad view of the kinds of information published by state government and available through its documents. We see the "big picture" of who publishes what kinds of information, what subjects command the most attention, which publications complement or supplement one another, what kinds of information are most readily available through state documents, and which publications are reliable sources of information for frequently asked reference questions.

Much of this information is currently accessible through the use of the finding aids produced by the Clearinghouse. Other kinds of information, however, do not fit the format or scope of our finding aids at this time. For example, information on specific geographic areas, such as cities, counties, and planning regions

...Federal Gov't Data Bases Online

A WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA ONLINE USERS GROUP

A workshop entitled "Federal Government Data Bases Online" was held March 22 and 23 in Research Triangle Park, North Carloina, and was sponsored by the newly-formed North Carolina Users Group. Dena Gordon, coordinator of the Texas Industrial Commission's Energy Search Center, attended the two day workshop.

Approximately 70 people participated in the workshop which addressed the following online data bases: Monthly Catalog, NTIS, Federal Register, Federal Index, CRECORD, CIS, SSIE, and ASI. Featured speakers were Rick Caputo of Lockheed, Ted Ryerson of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Wayne Muhstein of Capitol Services, Inc., Bernice Usdane of Congressional Information Service, Inc., and Rona Sun of the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange (SSIE). Each speaker presented an overview of the content and format of a particular data base, and then discussed the techniques of searching the base online. One hour was devoted to each of the eight data bases, and a reactor from the North Carolina Online Users Group commented on each presentation.

The afternoon of March 23, Bernice Usdane of CIS presented an in-depth discussion of online search techniques for the CIS and ASI data bases. This presentation was aimed at experienced online searchers of CIS and ASI and was extremely beneficial.

Dena Gordon

ACCESS, continued

is accessible through the subject index by the name of specific city, county, or region. But what about the patron who needs information on child care, population, pollution, health facilities, employment, federal outlays, and education on many or all Texas cities and counties. Short of searching through each of these subject headings in the subject index, there is no convenient source for this information, for as yet the TSD Subject Index does not contain by-city, by-county, and by-region categories similar to those used by the Congressional Information Service in its American Statistics Index.

Other examples of available but not readily accessible information come to mind: sources for preparing a profile of a state agency, including documents issued by the agency and by other governmental bodies; an in-depth look at the wealth of information contained in the planning documents issued by the councils of governments and health systems agencies; compilations of documents dealing with a fairly broad subject, such as infants and children, with titles of selected information sources on its various aspects, in this case births, childhood diseases, child abuse and neglect, education, homelife, health services, safety, juvenile delinquency, nutrition, child care facilities, and childhood development.

To provide a vehicle for just these kinds of information, the Texas State Publications Clearinghouse is pleased to announce the beginning of a new series: Documents Working Papers. Unlike the Documents Monograph Series, which reports in depth on all phases of documents activities in Texas, the Working Papers will include short papers highlighting the practical use of documents: suggested sources on various topics, documents availability, and how to use documents sources. We invite contributions from our documents users and newsletter subscribers.

Working Paper Number I has already gone to press. Its subject: by-county information available from selected state documents. Included is a listing of state documents titles which provide descriptive and statistical information on all or most Texas counties. Copies of this paper may be obtained free by writing directly to the Texas State Publications Clearinghouse.

Kate Adams
Texas Documents Indexer
TEXAS STATE PUBLICATIONS
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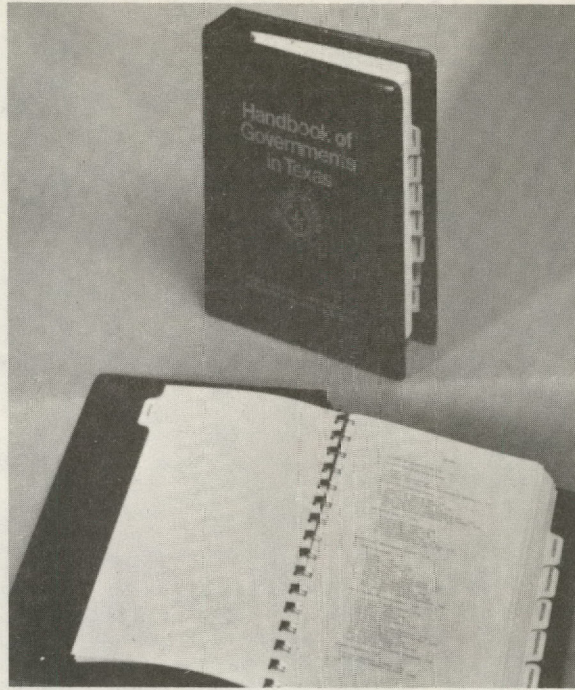
HANDBOOK OF GOVERNMENTS IN TEXAS

The Handbook of Governments in Texas is a basic reference guide to all levels of government in Texas -- federal, state, local -- providing descriptive and programmatic information throughout its six major sections: state government, county government, municipal government, special districts, regional governments and agencies, and the federal government. This 584-page guide is organized in a convenient loose-leaf binder and is indexed to facilitate easy reference. A comprehensive update of each of the sections is prepared periodically.

The state section of the Handbook is the largest (316 pages) and perhaps the most comprehensive, listing information on the state's 200-plus agencies, boards, and commissions. Addresses and phone numbers, governing board membership, and primary responsibilities and programs are but some of the detailed information offered in this section. Information within this section is revised quarterly to reflect current changes caused by elections, new state laws, appointments to boards and commissions, changes in administration and location of agencies, and new or different telephone numbers.

All county governments have generally the same organization, responsibilities, and authority. Accordingly, the Handbook presents a brief historical view of county government, an enumeration of its powers and responsibilities, and selected information about each of the 254 Texas counties, including population, county seat, and the name of the county judge.

The municipal section lists both alphabetically and by population 1,085 incorporated cities in Texas, their city hall addresses, populations, and respective counties. It also provides an historical review of the development of Texas cities, their legal and organizational structure, and selected financial information.

Special districts and authorities are governmental entities created to provide specific services within a defined geographic area. General information on the organization, purpose, legal authority, and programs of 15 major types of special districts in Texas such as public school districts, water districts, soil and water conservation districts, housing authorities, and junior college districts is provided in this section of the Handbook.

Regional governments and agencies discussed in the Handbook include councils of governments, education service centers, health systems agencies, economic development agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, alcoholism authorities, manpower programs, and river authorities. Information regarding their general organization, responsibilities and programs, names and addresses, legal authorization, and funding is supplied for each.

The federal government section provides basic information on the

HAND. OF GOVT'S, CONTINUED

three branches of government -- legislative, executive, and judiciary. It includes organizational and program information on all cabinet-level departments and on independent executive agencies. The addresses and phone numbers of the principal federal offices in Texas as well as information on the Texas congressional delegation (committee assignments and addresses and phone numbers of Washington and district offices) are also contained in this section.
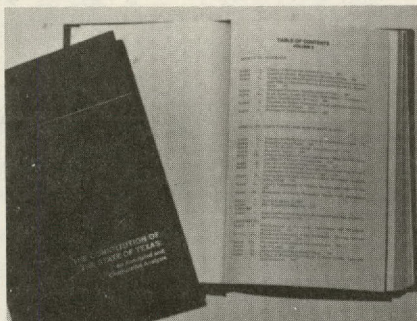
Reviewed in the February 1979 issue of the *Texas Bar Journal* as "an absolute must," the *Constitution of the State of Texas: An Annotated and Comparative Analysis* provides a thorough explanation and analysis of the Texas Constitution in 893 pages. For each section of the constitution, the *Annotation* contains a complete historical background, a comparative analysis with similar provisions in constitutions of other states and the United States, as well as interpretive comments of its eight distinguished coauthors. George D. Braden, primary author and editor-in-chief of this two-volume hardbound edition, is a former associate professor of law at Yale University and is recognized nationally as an authority on constitutional law.

The *Annotation* is written in a manner that is understandable to the layman, providing a useful explanation of the fundamental charter of Texas while also serving the practicing lawyer as an adequate first source for research concerning a Texas constitutional question. Publication of this work was the cumulation of five years of cooperative effort among several public agencies of Texas.

The two reference sources are the products of the Texas Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, a Texas state agency created by the state legislature to improve coordination and cooperation among all levels of government in Texas by providing continuing research, information, and advisory services to public officials and citizens of Texas. Please use the order form below to order these two publications or to request information regarding other publications from this Commission.

A.L.A. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CONTINUED

Thursday 6/26:

8:00-9:00   -Federal Documents Task Force Study Group on the <u>Monthly Catalog</u> Subject Headings and Index Meeting.
-State and Local Documents Task Force Work Groups on Legislation <u>and</u> on Publications Meeting.

9:30-11:00   -<u>Documents to the People</u> Staff Meeting.
-Education Task Force Business Meeting.

11:30-12:30   -International Documents Task Force Business Meeting.
-Federal Documents Legislation Subcommittee of the ALA Legislation Committee Meeting.

2:00-4:00   -Microforms Task Force Business Meeting.
-State and Local Documents Task Force Business Meeting and Work Group on Bibliographic Control.
-Federal Documents Task Force Work Group on Acquisitions and Bibliographic Control.

Evening   Junior Members Roundtable Bash - Dancing and Beer, Admission Fee Required.

Wednesday 6/27:

8:00-9:00   Federal Documents Task Force Study Group on Review of U.S. Documents.

9:30-11:00   Federal Documents Task Force Business Meeting.

11:30-12:30   -Federal Documents Task Force Steering Committee.
-International Documents Task Force Steering Committee.
-State and Local Documents Task Force Steering Committee.

2:00-5:00   GODORT Business and Membership Meeting.

8:00-10:00   GODORT Steering Committee Meeting.

For Additional Information, Contact:

LeRoy C. Schwarzkopf, McKeldin Library
University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
(301) 454-5704

This schedule was originally listed in <u>DttP</u>, Vol.7, No.2, March 1979.

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