

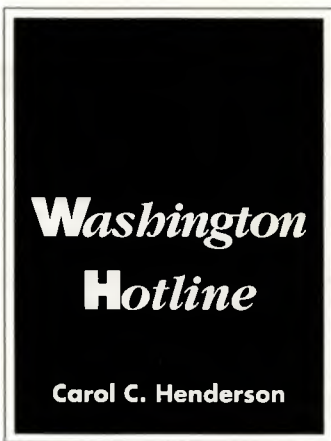
Reinventing government

The September report of Vice-President Gore's National Performance Review, "From Red Tape to Results: Creating a Government That Works Better & Costs Less," described hundreds of actions and recommendations designed to cut red tape and produce better government for less cost. Information technology and electronic government were emphasized. Details are gradually becoming known, and supplementary reports are expected. This column highlights two areas of recommendations that would have a profound effect on library services and on public access to government information.

Library program eliminations

The report recommends elimination or consolidation of more than 40 Department of Education programs and freeing up resulting savings for use in other educational programs. The report cites the HEA Act II-C research library program as an example of a program that has served its original purpose, and says university endowments should be used to build library collections. In fact, the II-C program is designed to help major research libraries make their resources more accessible to users outside their own primary clientele—an appropriate federal role. The administration was poised, as this column was written, to submit a request to Congress to rescind or defund all FY94 funds just appropriated for a number of ED programs. The six library programs on the rescission list include, in addition to LSCA public library construction and library literacy programs, all currently funded HEA II programs (see table).

The administration is highlighting libraries as a key element in its "National Information Infrastructure: Agenda for Action" (see Pat Wand's article in this issue). However, the National



Performance Review would eliminate most programs targeted to assist libraries to use electronic technologies and networks to develop, access, and share resources. The requested library program eliminations, proposed earlier in Clinton's FY94 budget, have already been rejected by Congress. These proposals are not a new "reinventing government" idea, but a resurrection of previous administrations'

unsuccessful attempts to eliminate libraries from Department of Education priorities. The ACRL Legislative Network was among the groups being called to action.

Government printing & depository library program

The report's recommendation to "Eliminate the Government Printing Office's Monopoly" is a continuation of a long-standing controversy over government printing policy. Implementation would require Congress to amend Title 44 printing requirements, and ignores the fact that the GPO already contracts out most executive-branch printing. Following a recommendation to assure public access to federal information, the report states: "Give the executive branch agencies responsibility for distributing printed federal information to depository libraries. Require agencies to inventory the federal information they hold, and make it accessible to the public." After seeing a draft of the "reinventing support services" section, ALA

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HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

	FY 1993 APPROPS.	FY 1994 HOUSE	FY 1994 SENATE
<i>(amounts in thousands)</i>			
II-A, College Library Technology and Cooperation Grants	\$ 3,873	\$ 3,873	\$ 3,873
II-B, Library Education and Human Resource Development	4,960	4,960	4,960
II-B, Library Research and Demonstrations	2,802	2,802	2,802
II-C, Improving Access to Research Library Resources	5,808	5,808	5,808

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Samuel Taylor Coleridge, [1772-1834]
The poetical works of S.T. Coleridge.
(London) Oxford University Press 1912
p. 362

DEJECTION: AN ODE

Late, late yestreen I saw the new Moon,
With the old Moon in her arms;
And I fear, I fear my Master dear!
We shall have a deadly storm

BALLAD OF SIR PATRICK SPENCE

I.

- [1] WELL! If the Bard was weather-wise, who made
The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spence,
This [night] so [tranquil] now, will not go hence
Unroued by winds, that ply a busier trade
- [5] Than those which mould yon clouds in lazy flakes,
Or the dull sobbing draft, that moans and rakes
Upon the strings of this Aeolian lute,
Which better far were mute.
- [10] For lo! the New-moon winter-bright!
And overspread with [phantom light],
(With swimming phantom light o'erspread
But rimmed and circled by a silver thread)
I see the old Moon in her lap, foretelling
The coming on of rain and squally blast.
- [15] And oh! that even now the gust were swelling,
And the slant night-shower driving loud and fast!
Those sounds which off have roused me, whilst they awed,
And sent my [soul] abroad,
Might now perhaps their wonted impulse give,
- [20] Might startle this dull pain, and make it move and live!

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Training Program. The awards will support a year of full-time study for seven doctoral students and six master's degree students. Recruiting for the master's fellowships will emphasize three specialty areas—cataloging, systems analysis, and children's services. The professional school currently offers two master's degrees, a post-master's certificate of advanced study, and a doctoral degree in information and library science.

The University of West Florida Library, Pensacola, has received a \$9,976 grant from the Florida State Historical Records Advisory Board to compile and publish a new comprehensive guide to Special Collections and West Florida Archives.

Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries, Richmond, have been awarded a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to process the manuscript collection of a prominent Virginia suffragist. The \$30,720 grant will fund a full-time, one-year position to process the Adele Goodman Clark papers. Items in need of preservation treatment will be identified and a guide to the collection will be produced.

The Wayne State University Library System, Detroit, has been awarded a \$90,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to add records of manuscript collections and oral history holdings of the Walter P. Reuther Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs into the OCLC database. The archives contain one of the most important archival collections in the United States on the history of the North American labor movement. The Reuther Archives and Wayne State University Library System are partners in this venture and will share staffing and expertise to complete the project.

Acquisitions

A collection of more than 8,500 books, 1,100 periodicals, personal papers, and other materials has been acquired by **Abilene Christian University Library,** Texas, from the family of Dr. LeMoine Gaunce Lewis, a biblical studies professor at the university from 1949 to 1985. An omnivorous reader and collector, Lewis spe-

cialized in early church history. His collection includes materials written in a variety of languages, among them German, French, Hebrew, and Latin.

The papers and professional library of John Eliot Allen, professor emeritus of geology and author of more than 240 monographs and articles, have been acquired by the Branford Price Millar Library at **Portland State University.** Allen's library consists of over 900 pieces, including books, serials, pamphlets, and maps. Among the papers are geologic field manuals, typescripts of Allen's articles and books, and his professional and personal correspondence.

The book collection of John Beaufort, for many years the international drama and film critic for the *Christian Science Monitor* has been acquired by **Teikyo Post University's** Traurig Library and Learning Resources Center in Waterbury, Connecticut. The collection, consisting of approximately 1,900 volumes of drama and literature, was donated by Beaufort's widow, Francesca Bruning.

An extensive collection of literary and historical first editions in English and American literature has been acquired by the **University of Delaware Library.** An especially rare item is the Audubon edition, *The Birds of America from Original Drawings*, published in 1860. It has chromolithography by Julius Bien and contains 105 double elephant plates depicting 150 species of birds. Only 49 copies of the volume are known to exist. The gift was given by C. Porter Shutt of Montchanin, Delaware. ■

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President Hardy Franklin wrote to Vice-President Gore to tell him of ALA's concerns about the printing recommendations. Franklin said the radical restructuring of the Depository Library Program called for requires evaluation and thorough examination before going forward, and pointed out that the proposed decentralization would result in increased costs and less efficiency for all participants: "There would be neither a single point of access to publications for depository libraries, nor a single mechanism for administering the Depository Library Program." ■

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