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LLMC/CRL Content Goals for 2013-14

As described in the previous issue of this newsletter,¹ subject priorities for the portion of LLMC's scanning that is funded through its partnership with CRL are established by a joint committee dubbed the Global Resources Law Steering Committee.² Most members of this group were able to meet by conference call shortly before the holidays to discuss options and set priorities for the partnership in its second two-year phase of operations.

The Committee took into account that major progress has now been made on scanning CRL's backfiles of U.S. state legislative journals. Since that project was the principal focus of partnership-sponsored scanning during 2012, roughly one third of the states have now been completed.³ With the journals project well established and assured eventual completion, the Committee felt that it could afford to slow down the pace somewhat in the interest of addressing other member-library needs and preferences. Thus, for 2013-14, the Committee has set a scanning goal of ca. 1,750 volumes for the category of state legislative journals. To date the project has

¹ Issue 54, 11/9/12, p.1, Col. 2

² All LLMC-appointed members of this body were able to participate in the call. They are: Judith A. Gaskell, (Dir.Ret.), U.S. Supreme Ct. Lib.; Paul George, Asso. Dean & Dir., Univ. of Penn. Law Lib.; Anne C. Matthewman, Chief Law Libn., Dalhousie Univ. Law Lib.; and Judith Wright, Asso. Dean for Libs. & Info., Univ. of Chicago Law Lib.

³ Completed to date are 39 separate journal titles from 17 states: AK, AZ, CO, HI, ID, KS, MT, ND, NM, NV, OH, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA & WY; and most of MO. Member libraries are reminded, however, that there were some gaps in the CRL collections, and that few of the runs listed go completely up to date. To quickly determine whether any of its holdings might be useful for completing a given state run, a library need only go to that title on www.llmc.com, where, below the title description, a detailed log of the current status of the online run is provided. Check, as an illustration, the holdings for the Arizona House Journal, LLMC Title 40760.

been moving across the U.S. map state by state in a generally easterly direction. Therefore, most of the remaining states lie east of the Mississippi and, being older, have longer journals runs. Given that, it is expected that under the new schedule for 2013-14 we will complete the scanning of the legislative journals for roughly 18 more states.

With the partnership's near term scanning capacity thus freed up by roughly half, the Committee was able to target several other areas of high interest to various of its member library constituencies. A big part of the Committee's motivation was to concentrate on subject areas that do not appear to be well served by the scanning efforts of other parties. It therefore set two-year scanned targets of 500 volumes for Cuba, 1,000 volumes for Africa, and 1,000 for Latin America, Eastern Europe, and pre-Soviet Russia.

The Cuba project will be a continuance and speedup of an existing project modeled on LLMC's successful Haiti Legal Patrimony Collection effort. To date LLMC has scanned over 100 titles numbering ca. 200 volumes borrowed from the Univ. of Michigan Law Library and has in process another 5 large titles numbering. This puts progress at about 10% of the way toward an anticipated final collection of ca. 1,200 titles and ca. 1,500 volumes. It is anticipated that a large number of the targeted titles will be accessed thru book loans from the two "anchor libraries" for the project, the Univ. of Michigan Law Library and the Univ. of Florida Libraries. However, even given the exceptionally rich resources of those two institutions, there will still be many gaps in our Cuba target list that will need filling. All member libraries are encouraged to review their local holdings to see if there are any Cuba titles that are probably out of copyright that they would like to see migrate online. If in doubt, check it out by contacting one of our Content Management people at llmc.com.⁴

⁴ Too often we hear from librarians who start out with the assumption that "we wouldn't have much of anything in that area." But the lesson from our other collection building efforts is that things show up in the most unlikely places. During the Haiti Collection build it

N.Y.C. Bar Library Propels Africa Build

One of the reasons why the Joint Steering Committee included African legal materials as a substantial part of their targeting is that relatively little is being digitized for Africa by other publishers, non-profit or otherwise. This is so even though there is a steady call from scholars for better African documentation; especially when the daily news keeps reminding us that for, better or worse, Africa is consequential. Current events also make clear that a knowledge of Africa's colonial history and legal institutions is important for an understanding of how many African countries evolved to where they are today.

For the majority of scholars, historical study of the legal traditions and institutions of African countries is hampered by the fact that in the past few law libraries had the resources and sustained interest to build substantial collections for the periods of the 19th century "Scramble for Africa" and the 20th century era of decolonization. Fortunately for users of *LLMC-Digital*, our network of contributing libraries enables us to share the resources of those few libraries with deep holdings for this neglected part of the world.

One such treasure trove is **LA Law Library**, where for the past year the main focus of our scanning partnership has been colonial and post-independence African primary titles and supporting secondary materials. Through that work ca. 125 titles, comprising ca. 500 volumes have been added to our online holdings. The LA Law scanning in this subject area will continue during 2014 with the promise of similar results.⁵

developed that three of the rarest books, in terms of copies held worldwide and to which we obtained access, were held by institutions which had originally reported that they had no expectation of finding anything worthwhile. Two of those exceedingly rare items came from libraries with fewer than ten Haiti titles in their collections.

⁵ LA Law scanning for 2012 captured the major part of the library's public-domain holdings for Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, Tanganyika, Uganda, Zambia, Zanzibar, and such British inter-colony institutions such as the East and West Africa courts of appeal. It's 2014 scanning will be focused on public-domain material for Botswana, Egypt, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Sudan,

We are happy to report that another major research library has now joined the Africa build effort. Although its current mission is much more oriented to serving the practicing bar, the **New York City Bar Library**⁶ was in its collection-building prime during the later 19th through the middle 20th centuries. As was the case in other foreign law areas, its collections of material from that period for the African countries are world class, rivaling those of better known academic libraries such as Columbia, Harvard, Michigan and Yale. The Bar Library has now agreed to make all of its public-domain African titles accessible for LLMC scanning.

The strengths of the Africa holdings of the New York City Bar Library and the LA Law Library are in some ways duplicative, but in other ways complementary. For the latter reason having access to both collections will result in much more comprehensive online holdings. In addition, having the scanning going on simultaneously⁷ in both collections will hasten the day when *LLMC-Digital* becomes a leading resource for research in this subject area. On behalf of the patrons of all of our member libraries, who will benefit far into the future from its generosity, LLMC extends its sincerest thanks to the leaders of the Bar Library for joining in on this project.

Fordham/NYLI Boost Lat. Am. Holdings

Through a combined gift from **Fordham Univ. Law Library** and the **New York Law Institute Library**, LLMC has now received several thousand volumes of foreign law material which those libraries owned in

Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and such British inter-colonial institutions as the High Commission for South Africa and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

⁶ Still officially "The Association of the Bar of the City of New York Library," the institution was "rebranded" some seven years ago.

⁷ Initially the Bar Library will be focusing on shipping to LLMC materials for the same countries that LA Law Library is currently scanning. There is some virtue and efficiency in coordinating those complementary efforts. Later on the Bar Library will go back and help us to fill gaps for those countries that LA Law did previously. When both institutions have gone through their holdings for these former British colonies, the plan is to move on to those countries that formerly were French colonies.

common. Among those materials are a large number of volumes which will contribute toward the goals of the LLMC/CRL partnership for building up our Latin America holdings.⁸ So thanks from all of us to Fordham and New York Law Institute for this useful and timely donation.

While the Fordham/NYLI gift provides us a sufficient number of books to make a nice start on our goal of building a useful Latin American collection, it is only that - a start. We can only hope that many of our member libraries will look at their historical Latin American materials, no matter how many or few, and ask themselves whether those texts might not be more useful in a searchable, manipulable format. If the conclusion is yes, we would be glad to help.

Rounding Out Our English Caselaw

During 2012, helped by a major donation of materials from **Florida Coastal University** Law Library, LLMC was able to build its collection of English nominatives past 250 titles. The **University of Chicago** Law Library is now working through its extensive duplicates collection to see if it can fill any gaps. And recently **Pace University** Law Library came forward with an offer of 10 large English caselaw titles, including the bulk of the Law Reports series, which we will try to put through scanning sooner rather than later.

So, thanks to our colleagues at the above institutions, those of you who have been urging us to move along on this front will soon have the option of significant space recovery. Of course, as always, we do hope that you will check our lists for any gaps before you do any deaccessioning.

Canadiana.org Provides Early Canadiana

One of our quiet little partnerships which chugs along without much notice, but oh so very productively, is the data swapping arrangements which we have in operation with

⁸ The Fordham/NYLI combined gift contains a substantial amount of primary legal material, in particular codes, for the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Uruguay & Venezuela.

the most effective organization operating on the preservation front in Canada, Canadiana.org., or ECO as it is also known. Our work with Canadiana.org is now in its second year.⁹ The program doesn't bring in much in the way of volume-count, but the titles it secures for us are always high value items, images of rare materials that would be difficult to acquire in any other way.

The latest shipment from ECO, negotiated by Assistant Director for Content Management, Stephen Wiles, provides a sampling of how the program works and what it makes possible. We received a total of 20,120 images. Included were many early gap fillers for our existing runs of Canadian federal and provincial statutes. This shipment also filled out our statute runs for both Lower and Upper Canada and the successor combination of those two jurisdictions, the Province of Canada. Finally, also acquired were several collections of French-era ordinances for Quebec (ancien droit).¹⁰

One reason for occasionally calling attention to our work with Canadiana.org is to remind our Canadian library members and scholars interested in research involving Canadian materials that we have this collection-building option available to us. If there is some pre-1900 title that you wish that we had available on *LLMC-Digital*, make a suggestion. We can probably get it.

⁹ The program was first announced in these pages in Issue 47, May 20, 1911, p.2. The URL of their website is www.canadiana.ca/en/eco. Some of our subscribers also subscribe to Canadiana.org, which offers a portion of its materials for free while other major segments are accessible only by subscription. This bifurcated arrangement is a response to the fact that their sources of support include both public funds and library subscription monies. Those LLMC materials received through our swap arrangements are hosted on the subscription side of their service.

¹⁰ Sample early Quebec titles acquired are: *Edits, Ordonnances Royaux, Déclarations et Arrêts du Conseil d'État du Roi Concernant le Canada...*; *Ordonnances des Intendants et arrêts portant reglements du conseil superieur de Quebec...*; and *Abstract of the several Royal Edicts and Declarations, and provincial regulations and ordinances, that were in force in the Province of Quebec in the time of the French government....*

Documentary History of the U.S. Sup. Ct.

If most of this issue of the newsletter appears to be devoted to a string of expressions of gratitude, it's probably because, through the good will of our many friends, we have a lot to be thankful for. One last bit of good news that deserves our special thanks involves the small but significant title: *Documentary History of the United States Supreme Court, 1789-1800* (DocHistUSSC): 8 vols. in 9 bks., pr. by Columbia Univ. Press, 1985-2012.¹¹

Through the good offices of Jennie Meade, who helps supervise our scanning partnership with George Washington Univ. Law Library, we were recently brought into contact with Prof. Meava Marcus, a GWU Law School research professor, who also serves as Dir. of the Institute for Constitutional History at the New York Historical Society and splits her time between D.C. & NY. She also recently served a term, 2007-2009, as President of the American Society of Legal History. Most pertinent to us, Prof. Marcus was the principal editor of, and holds copyright release rights to, DocHistUSSC.

In the interest of making it searchable and thus more useful, Prof. Marcus has offered to allow LLMC to make most of DocHistUSSC available on LLMC.¹² She would actually prefer that we make it universally available,

¹¹ Summary of the documentary contents for the nine books: v. 1. pt. 1. Appointments and proceedings; v. 1. pt. 2. Commentaries on appointments and proceedings; v. 2. The justices on circuit, 1790-1794; v. 3. The justices on circuit, 1795-1800; v. 4. Organizing the federal judiciary, legislation and commentaries; v. 5. Suits against states; v. 6. Cases, 1790-1795; v. 7. Cases, 1796-1797; v. 8. Cases : 1798-1800.

¹² Some few pictorial items in the 8-volume set are in copyright, and the DocHistUSSC project only secured permission for one-time use. We would, of course, seek similar permissions. But, if those were not forthcoming, it would not be that consequential, since the pictures are more decorative than substantive. We would just mask the images with placeholders which would at least contain the captions from the print versions. For those who don't have easy access to the print version of this work, a sample volume is available (without permission as it turns out) on Google Books at: http://books.google.com/books?id=NDCWQKHAo_sC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false.

and someday our site may have the functionality to do that for selected items. In the meantime we are going through the process of seeking courtesy permissions from several parties that were associated with the project. We hope to soon be able to scan the title and offer it in searchable format on line.

Note on distributing the newsletter:

Some members tell us that they route the newsletter to selected members of their staff or faculty. We're grateful for the interest and for the help in spreading the word. However, if it would save work or result in more timely delivery, please feel free to send us e-mails addresses for people who you think should be receiving this publication regularly. We will be happy to add those names to our main list serv.