Popular Names of U.S. Government Reports

A Catalog
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Compiled by
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Foreword

That laws frequently become known and cited by the names of individuals connected in some prominent way with their enactment has long been recognized as an increasingly difficult and annoying problem. The names of the individuals appear in no way on the contemporary official texts of the laws. Each new edition of the official United States Code has included as a permanent and necessary reference feature an "Index of Acts Cited by Popular Name." Not only the names of persons identified with the enactment of legislation, but short, abbreviated, or popular designations of the acts are drawn within the net. Frequently a law may be enacted with a provision for a short form of name other than its public law number. Federal Acts by Popular Names or Short Titles, published by Shepard's Citations since 1931, has served the needs of researchers for such bibliographical information.

For U.S. Government reports there has long been a need for a similar pragmatic approach. Individual reports have become identified through debate in Congress, and through various mass means of communications. The name of an individual may not even be mentioned in the title of the report, or in the text, or indeed in bibliographical references to it. With the lapse of time, the situation is certainly likely to become more frustrating. It was only in January 1963 that the Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications began to index personal author entries. The present compilation should help to set guidelines for the identification of reports by popular name and to point the way to further needed work in this difficult reference field.

JAMES B. CULLIN, Specialist in Government Document Bibliography.
Preface

This catalog contains a selection of significant reports, published during the past 75 years, which have become identified with personal names. Many of the 479 reports of U.S. executive, legislative, and judicial bodies cited here are important documents in our national history and continue to be primary sources for research.

These reports have become known by the name of a person prominently concerned with them, such as the chairman of a committee, the head of a research team, or a specialist who performed the work. The "Warren Report" on the assassination of President Kennedy and the "Moynihan Report" on the Negro family are recent examples. News media, especially, tend to refer to such publications by the name of a person.

Identification of these documents in libraries, however, is made difficult by the fact that cataloging rules require entering Government reports generally under the name of the official issuing body. The personal name popularly associated with a report may not appear in it with sufficient prominence to ensure that an added entry for the name will be made. Therefore a key to personal names is needed to facilitate the location of these reports.

All of the items listed are available in the collections of the Library of Congress, as the call numbers indicate. Although all but a few of the reports are out of print, many of them may also be located in libraries that are depositories for U.S. Government publications.

The reports in the catalog are arranged alphabetically by popular name. In order to provide the fullest descriptive detail, including notes and tracings, the entries comprise photographic reproductions of LC printed catalog cards without further editing for this publication. For the few cases not represented by a printed card, a bibliographic entry has been prepared with a reference to the publication containing the report. There is an index based on LC subject headings.

The compilers make no claim to completeness. Users of the catalog are invited to inform us of additional reports which might appropriately be included in a revision.

Mrs. Thelma Friedell of Wayne State University Library originally suggested the need for this catalog. We wish to express our appreciation to Miss Ruth Fine of the U.S. Bureau of the Budget Library, Richard H kupcan of the U.S. Senate Library, and Mrs. Elaine Woodruff of the U.S. Civil Service Commission for their assistance in identifying many of the reports.

Donald F. Wisdom,
William P. Kulick.
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