Museletter: February 1999

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February Is Black History Month:
A Tribute to Giles Beecher Jackson
(1852-1924)

The Muse Law Library has a special collection of the law books owned by Giles Beecher Jackson, a former slave who became the first black lawyer in Virginia. In addition to selected volumes of Virginia case reporters and digests, other titles included in the collection are: A Treatise and Forms for Use in Justices’ Courts and Upon Appeals Therefrom to the Circuit Court by Charles Hogg; A History of Virginia Conventions by Jacob Breneman; the Standard Encyclopaedia of Procedure; Alexander Sands’ History of a Suit in Equity: as Prosecuted and Defended in the Virginia State Courts and in the United States Circuit Courts; an 1877 Annual Message and Accompanying Documents of the Mayor of Richmond to the City Council; Proceedings in the Trial of Andrew Johnson on Articles of Impeachment Exhibited by the House of Representatives; and Isaac Ray's Treatise on the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity, to name a few.

Mr. Jackson was a native of Goochland County. As a young man, he was employed in the law offices of W. H. Beveridge, who later encouraged him to study the law. He developed a national reputation for his efforts to create racial harmony. After Mr. Jackson's death on August 13, 1924, the City Council President read from a resolution honoring Mr. Jackson: “His work for harmony between races and his indefatigable efforts for the material advancement of his race will stand as an enduring monument to his memory.”

In addition to his legal career, Jackson published a newspaper called The Negro Criterion. His activities to improve race relations attracted the attention of Booker T. Washington, who enlisted his services in organizing the Southern Negro Business League, and later he was elected a Vice-President of the League.

Mr. Jackson was said to have met all Presidents from Grant to Roosevelt. President McKinley commissioned him to take command of a regiment of cavalry during the inauguration ceremonies in Washington, and President Roosevelt renewed that commission. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development building at 501 North Second Street in Richmond's Jackson Ward community is named Jackson Center in honor of Giles B. Jackson.
LIBRARY STUDENT ASSISTANTS ON THE MOVE

Two library student assistants have changed positions within the library. Tracey Watkins, a December graduate, moved from A-V to the Circulation Desk while she studies for the bar exam. Nicholas Barlett has moved to Technical Services as a Supplementation Assistant. Five new students have joined the library payroll: Tolls Dimopoulos (Supplementation Associate), Barry Waldman (Circulation Associate), Scott McMichael (Computer Services Associate), Joseph Manning (Acquisitions Assistant) and Cheung-Tzong Wang (Collection Assistant).

The library staff thanks the students for their help.

NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


ASK DR. CATALOG

Q. Why do I get more than one journal title when I input an exact title search?
A. The catalog has what librarian/catalogers call “connective tissue.” An earlier title is linked to the changed title which follows it. This is akin to genealogy, like a family tree. (Virginians should love it! Please note that Dr. Catalog IS a Virginian and does not mean any disrespect.)

Q. Why do two titles on evidence stand 20 volumes apart with call numbers that look wildly different?
A. In the Library of Congress classification schedules, there are often ranges of numbers. The numbers in these ranges are assigned with the help of “form divisions” table. The forms in the table range from bibliography and periodicals to symposia, treatises, and minor works. Note that catalogers will overrule the form divisions if they cause too much confusion.

Q. Why are some catalog records so very long?
A. There are many reasons for long records. The connective tissue referred to above is one reason. The cataloger’s desire to give helpful information in notes is another. There are also numerical fields with bibliographical identifiers like the International Standard Bibliographic Number (ISBN) and the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). Additionally, contents notes can really increase the size of a record. Briefer records are possible, but they often are not as helpful.
NEW COMPUTER LAB PRINTING POLICY

All currently enrolled students at the Law School may print up to 300 pages per semester to the laser printers in the Computer Lab without incurring any charges. If you want to print more than 300 pages per semester, you must purchase additional pages at $.10 per page. Kim Wiseman, Computer Services Assistant, is responsible for accepting payment and adjusting your account. Students should watch closely the noticeboards to see when the effective date of this policy change is. (A new server will be installed shortly, and the policy will not be effective until the staff has sufficient time to test the new server and the PCounter software.) A complete copy of the policy and guidelines will be posted to the noticeboard as well.

Once the policy is in place, you can monitor your account easily. There will be a "$" icon in the lower right hand of your computer when you sign onto the network. You can learn the balance in your account by either double-clicking on this icon or mousing over it.

REMINDER...

New printing policy will be effective when new server is up and running!

JANUARY/FEbruARY DATES IN LEGAL HISTORY


January 2, 1974: President Nixon signed a bill requiring the states to limit highway speeds to a maximum of 55 mph. The measure was meant to conserve energy during the crisis precipitated by the embargo imposed by the Arab oil-producing countries. The embargo was lifted in March after a 300 percent price increase in gasoline.

January 16, 1919: Nebraska became the 36th state to ratify the prohibition amendment, and the 18th Amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution. One year later the amendment took effect, prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages. The 21st Amendment repealed the 18th in 1933.

January 20, 1801: John Marshall was appointed chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

January 22, 1973: Roe v. Wade, the decision which struck down state laws restricting abortions in the first six months of pregnancy, was handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court.

January 23, 1964: Twenty-fourth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, eliminating poll taxes and other taxes as a prerequisite for voting in all federal elections.

January 23, 1933: Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, fixing the date of the Presidential inauguration to January 20; determining succession if the President-Elect were to die before the inauguration; and setting January 3 as the official opening date of Congress each year.

February 3, 1870: Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, granting that the rights of citizens to vote shall not be denied on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.

February 3, 1913: Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, allowing Congress the authority to levy taxes on income.

February 10, 1967: Twenty-fifth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, clarifying procedures for presidential succession and provisions for continuity of power in the event of a disability or illness of the President.

February 27, 1950: Twenty-second Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, limiting the tenure of presidential office to two terms.

SOURCE: Chase's Calendar of Events 1999
Spring, 1999 Semester - Regular Hours

Sunday  
10:00 a.m. - Midnight

Monday - Thursday  
7:30 a.m. - Midnight

Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday  
9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Exceptions to Regular Hours

Spring Break (March 5-14, 1999)

Friday, March 5  
7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sat.-Sun., March 6-7  
CLOSED

Mon.-Fri., March 8-12  
7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 13  
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sun., March 14  
Resume Regular Hours

Spring Exam Period (April 23-May 6, 1999)

Friday, April 23  
7:30 a.m.-Midnight

Saturday, April 24  
9:00 a.m.-Midnight

Sunday, April 25  
10:00 a.m.-Midnight

Mon.-Thu., April 26-29  
7:30 a.m.-1:00 a.m.

Friday, April 30  
7:30 a.m.-Midnight

Saturday, May 1  
9:00 a.m.-Midnight

Sunday, May 2  
10:00 a.m.-Midnight

Mon.-Thu., May 3-6  
7:30 a.m.-1:00 a.m.

Spring Inter-Session Hours (May 7-May 9, 1999)

Friday, May 7  
7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 8  
9:30 a.m.-Noon (Graduation)

Sunday, May 9  
CLOSED

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