

MINORITY MEMORANDUM

August 12, 1944

Remitter: Anne Woodrow Van Devanter [MP-2326]

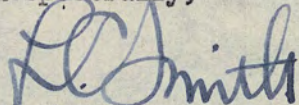
Titles: "O Come Let Us Adore Him", "Guidance", "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow", "For God so Loved (motto)" and "For God so Loved (poster)", "The Great Commandments", "A New Year" and "He Is Not Here--He Is Risen As He Said".

Question: Is copyright notice acceptable?

The Majority are of the opinion that the instance case comes within a recent ruling of the Register of Copyrights which held that if the full form of the copyright notice appeared on the back of the print (no notice or a part of a notice appearing on the face of the print), it should be accepted and registration of the claim completed. The copies of the works now in question bear no notice on the face of the prints but do contain on the reverse a copyright notice which reads: "Produced and copyrighted by A. W. Van Devanter".

The Minority contends that the full form of the notice does not appear on the back of the print in that the year date is omitted, and the case does not, therefore, come within the recent ruling of the Register of Copyrights. To hold that the year date can be omitted from the full form of the notice because it is a print would seem also to allow substitution of the symbol "©" for the word "Copyright" and hence allow registration for all works bearing the notice only on the reverse of the print, whether in full or abbreviated form.

Respectfully,


Member, Revisory Board

DECISION: The law (Section 18) only requires the year date in the case of ~~x~~ "printed literary, dramatic or musical composition". Hence, the full form of notice for a print in lieu of the symbol "©" would not require the year date.

H.A.H., 8/14/44