

DEATH OF FORMER ASSISTANT REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS WILLIAM P. SIEGFRIED (1946-1965)

William P. Siegfried, Assistant Register of Copyrights from 1946 until his retirement in 1965, died at his home in College Park, Maryland, on February 9, 1978.

Mr. Siegfried, who was born in Pennsylvania and moved with his parents to Washington, D.C., at an early age, began work as a messenger in the Copyright Office in 1922, while still a student at Eastern High School. Noted throughout his career as a conscientious and diligent employee, he soon began rising through the ranks. At various times he served as a cataloger, as a supervisor in the Mail, Files, and Index Section, as Administrative Assistant to the Register, and as a member of the Revisory Board. With the passage of time, this variety of experience gave him an unusually comprehensive understanding of Copyright Office operations.

Appointed Assistant Register in July 1946, he aided Sam Bass Warner, who had become Register of Copyrights in 1945, in reorganizing and modernizing the Copyright Office. A considerable number of the reforms they inaugurated, including the organization of the Copyright Office into divisions, are still in force.

Endowed with good judgment and administrative ability, Mr. Siegfried received a number of special citations and Outstanding Performance Ratings for excellence in directing the general operations of the Copyright Office. Courteous, patient, and tactful, he was universally liked and respected by the staff.

He is survived by his wife, Elsie C. Siegfried; two daughters, Betty Ann Baer and Joan C. Parker; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on February 13 at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Riverdale, Maryland, followed by interment in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.