

ANNOUNCEMENT

Approved by the Librarian
11/17/60

It is with sadness that we announce the death, on November 12, 1960, of Arthur Fisher, United States Register of Copyrights. Mr. Fisher died of acute leukemia at the Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Fisher joined the staff of the Library of Congress in 1946 as Associate Register of Copyrights and became Register of Copyrights in 1951. Previously he had practiced and taught law, edited a newspaper, and served in Government posts in World Wars I and II. He was a graduate of Harvard College (A.B., 1915, magna cum laude) and of the Harvard Law School (L.L.B., 1920).

An authority in international as well as national copyright law, Mr. Fisher was deeply interested in furthering the international protection of literary property, and he represented the United States with distinction in a number of international copyright conferences. Mr. Fisher was active also, both nationally and internationally, in fields closely related to copyright, including design protection and the rights of performing artists, broadcasters and phonograph record producers.

It was during his term as Register that the Universal Copyright Convention came into being and was

ratified by the United States. Mr. Fisher led the long and determined drive which made the United States an adherent, for the first time, of a world-wide copyright agreement.

The final achievement of Mr. Fisher's distinguished career was the planning for a revision of the present copyright law and the execution of a series of studies re-examining the law. These studies, prepared during the last three years under Mr. Fisher's direction, have been referred to as the most encyclopedic work on copyright to date. They are now being published by the U. S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Born in Chicago, Mr. Fisher was the son of Walter L. Fisher, U. S. Secretary of the Interior in the cabinet (1911-1913) of President Taft, and Mabel Taylor Fisher. He was 66 years old at the time of his death.

The Librarian of Congress, L. Quincy Mumford, has announced that effective November 12, 1960, Abraham L. Kaminstein, who has served as Deputy Register and Chief of the Examining Division, is appointed Acting Register of Copyrights and as such will perform the full duties of the Register of Copyrights.

THE COPYRIGHT OFFICE