

## APS Back Issues on-line: A proposal that requires Board Action

David C. Michener

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### Summary

1. APS publications that are out-of-copyright are on-line, word-searchable, and printable.
2. They are accessed through the research library consortium called Hathi Digital Trust.
3. Michener has set up a trial sample (below) that APS members could access. The "site" can be made quasi-permanent, even once Michener retires from UMich (not soon!)
4. We, the BOD of APS, can release copyright for non-commercial use to the Hathi Digital Trust. This allows more current issued to be found by users. The irrevocable release is done through the 'Creative Commons' (last section of this page.)
5. We, the BOD, can set the date for this 'Creative Commons' (as a rolling 10 years past the current year). This releases the issues to EVERYONE, but my (Michener's) sense is most nonAPS members won't try to find it in the Hathi Digital Trust.
6. We, the APS, can put our simple link (below) behind our pay wall. "Done!"

### Decisions

1. Do we wish to use this free-to-us service for back issues? There are about 14 million books and journals scanned here, including a rich trove of random peony and horticultural materials. It is expanding – the intent for Hathi is all books and journals ever printed that are relevant to research libraries will be here in the foreseeable future.
2. IF YES, what past cut-off-date do we wish to release to? That is, everything printed after Date X.
3. IF NO, who wishes to form a working group to address finding, scanning, digitally curating back issues and keeping such a software environment working and backed up for APS members, as Michener has no interest in this avenue.

### Try it yourself

The link to a special "collection" of 19 volumes of APS materials I've made is:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/mb?a=listis&c=682027300>

1. You'll need to cut&paste it in your browser. *NOTE: Yahoo doesn't work at all.*
2. You will want to go the "Sort by" box/line and select "Date Descending" or "Date Ascending" for the best view. It defaults the "Sort by" title, which is a complete jumble.
3. Opening a "full view" document. You should be able to scroll through.
4. Note: you can also search by word. Use the finding box, or "control F" if you're a key-command person (some of us are that old.)
5. You'll notice many volumes are restricted access. These are copyright restricted. IF, however, you are a member of any of the hundreds of libraries in the Hathi Digital Trust, you can word-search these copyright restricted issues AND see the context of the search term. I've done a demo on the next document. Note the links that show are hyperlinked (when logged in) and take one DIRECTLY to the pdf of the full page.

### About Creative Commons

We will need to have subgroup discuss and report back to the BOD at its next meeting. The legal release is through the signed Creative Commons. This is somewhat familiar ground for me.

<https://creativecommons.org/about/cclicenses/>

- We would likely use the last of the 6 options, which is the most restrictive.