

Warpach &
Council Fire

Copyright Office
No. 15

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
COPYRIGHT OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

RENEWAL OF COPYRIGHT.—The first term of copyright is 28 years.

Renewal registration can be made only during the last year of the first term of copyright measured from the date on which the copyright originated. Thus, for example, if the copyright term in a work began on July 4, 1917, a renewal application could only be received in this Office within the year from July 4, 1944, to July 3, 1945. An application received either before or after the last year of the first term of copyright cannot be accepted. All renewals will be for the additional term of 28 years, the total possible term, including renewal, being 56 years. If the original copyright term expires without the filing of a renewal application, the work covered by the copyright falls into the public domain, and such expired copyright may not thereafter be revived.

Under the present law (effective July 1, 1909), the copyright term begins on the date of publication. In the case of works not reproduced for sale, the copyright term begins on the date of the deposit of copies.

To secure the renewal it is necessary to file a renewal application, accompanied by the statutory fee of \$1, during the last year of the first term of copyright protection. Application forms R will be supplied by the Copyright Office upon request. The registration fee for renewal of copyright in prints and labels used for articles of merchandise is \$6, and forms RR have been specially prepared for applying for renewal of copyright in such material.

No copies of the work upon which renewal is claimed are required to be sent.

The claimant's full name should be given in the form in which it would be affixed to any other legal document. The name of a married woman should be her own name, not that of her husband prefixed by "Mrs." The use of mere initials is generally insufficient. Full names should be given. The full address of the renewal copyright owner, containing the street and number as well as the city and state, should be given.

The complete title of the work should be given, as it appeared on the certificate of original registration.

Renewal of copyrights secured after July 1, 1909, can be made only as provided in section 23 of the Copyright Act of March 4, 1909.

The following persons are entitled to claim a renewal copyright:

1. The **author** of such work,* if still living;
2. The **widow, widower or children** of the author, if the author is not living;
3. The author's **executor**, if the author, widow, widower, or children be not living;
4. The author's **next of kin, IN THE ABSENCE OF A WILL**, if the author, widow, widower, or children be not living.

If the work in which the renewal copyright is claimed falls under one of the following groups, then only the proprietor of the copyright at the time of the filing of the renewal application is entitled to claim the renewal copyright. But the proprietor is not entitled to claim the renewal copyright in any other case.

A **proprietor** may renew:

1. Posthumous works,
 2. Periodical, cyclopaedic, or other composite works**
 3. Any work copyrighted by a corporate body (otherwise than as assignee or licensee of the individual author);
 4. Any work copyrighted by the employer for whom such work was made for hire.
- if the copyright was secured originally by the proprietor thereof;

Richard L. De Wolf
Register of Copyrights.

*The term "work" includes contributions by individual authors to periodicals, or to cyclopaedic or other composite works.

**A composite work is one similar to a periodical or encyclopedia, i. e., a work consisting of a number of distinct and separate parts, by different authors.

[OVER]