

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## THE BOOKKEEPER BOOK DEACIDIFICATION PROCESS

**HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 18, 1999*

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch of both the House of Representatives and the Senate have actively supported for over two decades the Library of Congress' efforts to develop new paper preservation technologies aimed at ending the "brittle book" problem. Our joint objective has been to prevent and slow down the disintegration of "the written word" in the nation's libraries and archives due to the acids in modern books and manuscripts. The attached article from the Pittsburgh Business Times & Journal, dated April 2, 1999, describes the new "Bookkeeper" technology that chemically neutralizes these damaging acids in paper. Bookkeeper, with research, development and demonstration assistance from the Library of Congress, has perfected both a "mass" process for library books as well as consumer products that can be used for smaller collections.

Mass deacidification makes it possible to preserve library books and manuscripts in their original format for hundreds of years, rather than allowing these precious materials to become brittle and unusable. It is a pleasure to recognize the efforts of the Library of Congress and Preservation Technologies Inc., the Pittsburgh-area company that owns the Bookkeeper process. They have worked collaboratively and energetically to save already nearly a quarter of a million Library of Congress books so they will be available for Congress and America's citizens to use for many more generations. It should be noted that this American process is now being used by scores of other institutions in the U.S. and Europe and that several governments and companies are still actively working on related processes to save endangered, at-risk cultural materials.

James Burd, president of Preservation Technologies, said the product solves a perplexing problem facing scrapbook enthusiasts. "They tell you not to put anything acidic in a memory book" he said. "They don't tell you what to do if you have something on acid paper, but you want to keep it."

The need to use acid-free paper is a message that can't be avoided at a craft or scrapbook store. Making scrapbooks is a \$3 billion annual business, part of the \$20 billion craft industry, according to Mr. Burd.

Archival Mist is, in essence, an antacid for paper. A powder, magnesium oxide, that resembles crushed Tums, is suspended, not dissolved, in an expensive inert liquid. The liquid evaporates within a minute, even if a page is drenched. It is said to be safe for use on virtually anything. The Library of Congress tested it on thousands of papers, inks, glues and book covers.

But the high cost of the liquid, which is also used as a coolant poured over super computing chips, pushes the suggested retail price for Archival Mist to \$40 for the 5.3 ounce bottle.

Mr. Burd knows that's not the optimum selling point for a retail product no larger than a can of deodorant.

"Everybody said \$20 is the magic price point," Mr. Burd said. "But there are dollars in the bottle. The chemistry is very expensive."

A bottle of Archival Mist can treat about 40 standard sheets of paper. Since most items put in a scrapbook are much smaller, such as a newspaper wedding announcement, Mr. Burd said deacidification costs about 20 to 25 cents per item.

Ms. Higgins is convinced serious scrapbookers will spend the money.

"The thing about the \$40 price is that one bottle contains enough to treat 300 typical clippings," she said. "Really, if we can convince people that this is one of the best investments you can make in scrapbooking, it's not too much."

It certainly isn't much compared with what the government spent trying to solve the problem. Charged with keeping books forever and faced with decaying acidic collections, the Library of Congress launched an all-out attack on acid in the 1980's.

After the government spent 15 years and more than \$30 million developing a gas-based antacid to treat a chamber full of books, the chemical company it had working on the project gave up. Though most of the technique's kinks were worked out, it brought challenges and risks that Bookkeeper does not. Once, a chemical reaction caused a major fire at a laboratory working with the gaseous mixture.

Several other companies developed options based on dissolving an antacid in a liquid. But they required using more volatile liquids and they damaged some books.

Richard Spatz had led the development of the first generation of Bookkeeper as a Koppers Industries, Inc. executive, receiving a patent in 1985. After his 1988 retirement, he bought the patent for Bookkeeper, which at the time used freon, and tried to sell the idea to the Library of Congress. But library officials didn't become interested until they had exhausted their own research's possibilities.

[From the Pittsburgh Business Times & Journal, Apr. 2, 1999]

### WHAT'S A MEMORY WORTH?

(By Ethan Lott)

Archival Mist can preserve scrapbook pages, but will the price reduce its mass market appeal?

The quick explanation of Archival Mist is that it preserves memories.

The how it works, why it's important and why someone should shell out \$40 for a 5.3-ounce bottle requires an explanation that starts in the mid-1980s and covers Chemistry 101 and millions of dollars in government research.

This complexity is one reason why marketing Archival Mist presents a challenge.

So Preservation Technologies, the company launching Archival Mist as its first retail product, is turning to a market that understands the basic need to use acid-free papers scrapbook hobbyists and craft store regulars.

Archival Mist was unveiled in February at the Hobby Industry Associations trade show in Dallas. Shipments to about 100 stores began two weeks ago. Last week, the company finalized its order with the nation's largest craft chain, Michaels Stores Inc., and started shipping to its 516 stores this week.

Patrons of craft stores are more likely to already know that acidic paper becomes brittle as it ages. That's why some old books have pages that fall apart. Likewise, newspaper clippings, report cards and birth announcements may not stand the test of time in that old scrapbook in the attic.

Archival Mist makes any paper it touches non-acidic. It is the retail version of the Bookkeeper solution Preservation Technologies uses to save aging library books.

The company is in the midst of its second major contract with the Library of Congress, for which it is treating hundreds of thousands of aging books. After a dip in its pool of special liquid, acid in the book is neutralized. Within hours, the book is dry and ready to be shipped back to Washington.

Archival Mist allows consumers to do the same thing, page by page, with a hand-held spray bottle. Get it?

Becky Higgins, creative editor of Creating Keepsakes Scrapbook Magazine, sure does. She's been trying out Archival Mist and gives it a glowing endorsement.

"I use it a lot," Ms. Higgins said. "Scrapbooking has become a fun hobby. A lot of scrapbookers put together these gorgeous pages, but they won't last for generations because they include products that aren't acid free."

Finally, the library took a look at Bookkeeper. After testing the product for 18 months, the library gave Preservation Technologies a \$1 million test contract in 1995. The company treated 90,000 books under that contract, then in 1997 received a four-year, \$3 million contract to treat up to 300,000 books.

Ken Harris, preservation projects director at the Library of Congress, said the company's technology was the right solution at the right time.

"Aside from the fact that it works and works well, it doesn't have all these negative side effects," Mr. Harris said. "The whole library community gives testimony to the Bookkeeper process by awarding contracts."

Mr. Burd said the second contract with the Library of Congress is what finally gave the company credibility in the eyes of the library community. Though the Library of Congress is still the company's biggest customer, about 30 major research libraries, plus archive collection holders worldwide, have contracts with Preservation Technologies.

Getting into the spray market was not an entirely new idea for the company. It already sells Bookkeeper as a spray to professionals who want to test it on their own or treat items too large or brittle to ship to Cranberry Township.

Though he wouldn't give overall company revenue figures, Mr. Burd said Bookkeeper spray currently represents about 10 percent of the company's business.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

He said the total spray business could account for 25 percent of revenue as Archival Mist sales grow.

Until more stores carry Archival Mist, the company will ship orders from Cranberry or direct consumers to the nearest retail store carrying the product. Information can be found at the company's Web site—[www.ptlp.com](http://www.ptlp.com).

**TRIBUTE TO EDWARD BELA "API" UJVAGI**

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 18, 1999*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime of contributions that Edward Béla Újavagi made to his family, community and to our world before his passing on Monday, October 4, 1999. A resident of the city for over forty years, Mr. Újavagi was an erudite gentleman of the first order. Popular and well loved, he embodied the ideals of a virtuous and loving generation. He will be missed by all who knew him. On behalf of Ohio's lawmakers and citizens, I wish to pay tribute to this outstanding individual.

Born in Budapest, Hungary, on March 11, 1916 Mr. Újavagi was an avid outdoorsman, taking part in activities such as ski jumping, glider flying, boxing and more. He became a precision machinist and master tool and die maker, founding a small company that specialized in producing precision analytical balances. His company, however, was eventually nationalized by the communist regime. When the people of Hungary revolted against this government in 1956, Mr. Újavagi, at the age of 40, fled to the United States with his wife and four children. A fifth would be born in America. They spent six months in an Austrian refugee camp along the way. Despite arriving in our country with little more than the clothes on their backs, the family refused to give up. Mr. Újavagi founded the Toledo Scientific Instrument Co. in his own basement with only a milling machine and lathe. A very capable man, he was able to use his skills to develop and expand this business into E & C Manufacturing Co. Inc., which has operated for more than four decades. In America, he was able to piece together again the precious shards of a dream deferred.

Edward Újavagi was truly representative of the ethnically diverse, blue-collar individuals who make up the city of Toledo. Having endured internment in a Russian labor camp following World War II, he was someone who understood freedom: he knew what it meant to have it taken away. He was not just a man who discovered a new life in another country; he was a man who embraced newfound opportunities and possibilities. He took an active role in his community, belonging to the Toledo Chamber of Commerce, St. Stephen's Catholic Church, the Hungarian Club of Toledo, Hungarian Communion of Friends and many more groups. Though fiercely proud of his heritage, he also worked hard to become an American citizen, accomplishing that in April 1965. Mr. Újavagi was also a great believer in education and urged all of his children to expand their own horizons and pursue their own dreams.

Christopher Morely once wrote, "There is only one success—to be able to spend your

life in your own way." Based on this, I honestly believe that Edward Újavagi was successful in life. He lived his life to the fullest and will be remembered as a man of love, faith, integrity and accomplishment. On behalf of the people of the Ninth District, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Újavagi's family, his wife Magda, daughters Magdalene, and Bernadette Újavagi; sons Charles Edward J. and Toledo City Council President Peter Újavagi; brother Istvan Újavagi; and 17 grandchildren. May our thoughts and prayers strengthen them in this time of reflection and profound loss and may a lifetime of memories of this rare individual sustain them today and always.

**TRIBUTE TO THE B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION OF SACRAMENTO**

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 18, 1999*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the B'nai Israel Congregation of Sacramento. This year, the congregation will be celebrating its 150th year anniversary. As the members gather together to celebrate, I ask all my colleagues to join with me in saluting this commendable achievement.

B'nai Israel's humble beginning can be traced back to the "Gold Rush" days of 1849, when shop owners and crafts people gathered to celebrate the High Holy Days in Old Sacramento. Among these people was Moses Hyman, who invited fellow Jews into his Front Street home. Later, Hyman became known as both a pioneer of California Judaism and the father of Temple B'nai Israel.

A fire swept through Sacramento just two months after Hyman helped dedicate the congregation's first synagogue in 1852. The fire destroyed the chapel as well as 85 percent of the city. However, Congregation B'nai Israel persevered. In 1858, the congregation purchased another place of worship from the Methodist Episcopalian group, which had been built on the same property as the congregation's first chapel. Unfortunately, nature continued to conspire against B'nai Israel. After another fire and floods that destroyed the synagogue, the congregation established its third permanent home in a former concert hall for the First Presbyterian Church in Sacramento.

Here, B'nai Israel continued to grow and thrive for decades until the split of Orthodox and Reformed Jews in the early twentieth century. This split, however, only served to strengthen the congregation. Touting itself as a congregation of "Reformed Israelites," Congregation B'nai Israel had grown in size to over 107 families. Their new home, on Fifteenth Street in Sacramento, served as B'nai Israel's religious home for over 30 years.

In an effort to expand the congregation, President Dalton Feinstein successfully promoted the idea of relocating to the present temple site at 3600 Riverside Boulevard. To make this dream a reality, a major fund-raising campaign was successfully launched. The new temple was finally dedicated in 1954, thanks to the dedication of volunteers who raised money and found others to donate materials. An education wing, named after Buddy Kandel, was added in the early 1960's.

Throughout the years, the congregation has been involved in several community services and causes. Such involvement includes demonstrations against pogroms after World War I, organizing institutes for Christian clergy members to improve Judeo-Christian understanding, and conducting services at Folsom State Prison.

Rabbi Lester Frazi, who took over the pulpit in January 1974 and remained over 20 years, continued the B'nai Israel tradition of service to the greater Sacramento area. In addition to serving as president of the Interfaith Service Bureau, his areas of focus included helping pregnant teenagers, feeding the hungry, and supporting the gay and lesbian community.

In 1995, Rabbi Brad Bloom was installed as Rabbi Frazi's replacement. Under this leadership, the congregation has been involved in several areas, including Shabbat food deliveries to people with AIDS, Mitzvah Day, children's book collections, High Holy Day food donations to the Sacramento Food Basket, and more.

On June 18, 1999, arson fires were set at B'nai Israel, Kenesset Israel Torah Center, and Beth Shalom. Despite this horrifying act, the congregation has remained strong. In addition, support from the community during this time of trial has been overwhelming. On June 21 at the Sacramento Community Center, over 4,000 people joined in a Unity Rally in a show of solidarity. At the rally, patrons were greeted with signs bearing the sentiment, "We are strong. We are proud. We are together." Despite its many tragedies in its existence, B'nai Israel has grown stronger and stronger.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of the B'nai Israel Congregation gather to celebrate their 150th anniversary, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most exceptional organizations. Concerning their trials, the perseverance and dedication of this congregation are particularly incredible. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing B'nai Israel continued success in all its future endeavors.

**CPA WEBTRUST**

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 18, 1999*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight an excellent private sector initiative that is making cyberspace a safer place for consumers to shop: CPA WebTrust.

The Internet is transforming the way consumers across this country are buying products and services. Today, 55 percent of the population uses the Internet in the United States, and that number is expected to increase substantially by the end of 1999. Last year, 35 million households purchased something on the Internet. In addition, more than one quarter of all U.S. retailers has an e-commerce Web site, and the U.S. Department of Commerce predicts that online sales could surpass \$300 billion by the end of 2002.

The Internet is a retailer's dream, taking advantage of lower overhead and transaction costs and leveraging its easy access and convenience for millions of consumers. However, online shopping raises concerns for consumers. Is it safe to buy online? Will businesses deliver on their sales promises? Are