Comment:
I think it is important to have a place and/or person at the copyright office that we can consult when we want to use something for which we can't find the copyright holder - call it the Orphan Works Division. This division could link with every other place, person, organization that copyrights a work so that the different types of copyright are brought together under one umbrella as it were. Any work that seems to be an orphan can be listed so that the same futile searches aren't duplicated by different people who want to use the same work. Perhaps an item could be placed in the public domain if it has been an orphan for say five or ten years. Some of those "orphan works" may never have been copyrighted to begin with. Fortunately, I've never had to make that kind of search.