To the Bag:

Regarding the letter captioned “The Inferences of Webster’s Third” (19 Green Bag 2d 5), I don’t suppose Green Bag readers would be interested to note that, whatever the Supremes’ opinions of Webster’s Third New International Dictionary, for purposes of federal government writing, it is the definitive spelling reference? The public printer of the US, in the exercise of his/her authority under 44 U.S.C § 1105, has specified W3NID as the GPO’s “guide for the spelling of words not appearing in the GPO style manual.” GPO Style Manual ¶ 5.1.

The GPO, a legislative branch agency, is responsible for the printing of the bound volumes of United States Reports.¹

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¹ 28 U.S.C. §§ 411(c) and 412; www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/info_opinions.aspx.