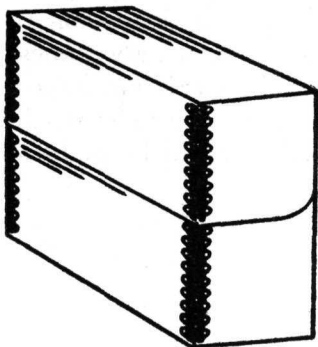


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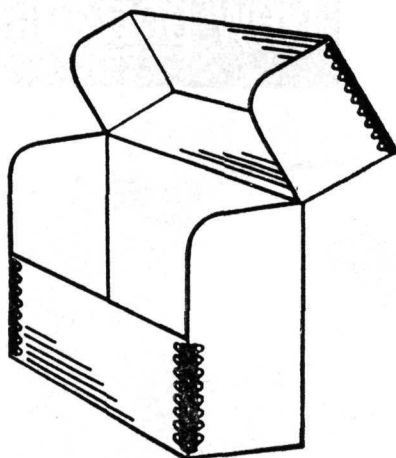
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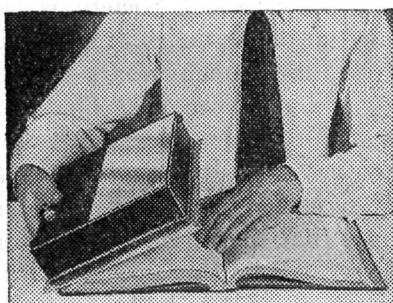
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Local Arrangements

Leon de Valinger, Chairman

Program

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- Archival Exhibits
- The Archival Profession
- Recent Microfilm Developments
- Adventures in Maryland Archives
- Archival Publication Policies
- New Archives and New Archivists
- SAA Long-Range Planning

## For Information Write:

Morris L. Radoff

Maryland Hall of Records

Annapolis, Maryland

# The Archivist's Book Shelf

RICHARD G. WOOD, *Editor*

*The National Archives*

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## A TRIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORIES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The development of official World War II records projects in about forty of the States and Territories has been best summarized by Lester J. Cappon and James H. Rodabaugh in two *Bulletins* of the American Association for State and Local History covering the successive periods 1941-1943 and 1943-1947, respectively. They analyze and document the history of a widely variant group of efforts. Most of these State war history agencies attempted no more than to assemble current war records and to insure their preservation for the research students of future generations. But some proceeded to formulate and to pursue plans for the publication of State and local war histories which, in the main, had not been completed when Rodabaugh closed his survey in 1947. Hence it is worthwhile to offer this bibliography of war histories which I have seen, despite the fact that it is almost certainly incomplete. Three major types of exclusions in the compilation of this list, which has not been intended to become narrowly selective, have been releases of the Federal government, near-print publications, and personal narratives of individuals not issued by an official agency. In the passage of time this bibliography will be made obsolete by the appearance of additional titles; for example, the one entry for Maryland may be supplemented by the other two volumes which are projected there, and it is expected that a few months will bring the appearance of one regional and two local war histories for Virginia which are now in press.

### CONNECTICUT

*Bristol, Connecticut, in World War II.* World War II Historical Committee, Bristol, 1947. Cloth. About 330 pages.

Archie Kilpatrick, *World War II History of Manchester, Connecticut.* [Printed by the Hobson Book Press, New York, 1946.] Cloth. About 200 pages.

*The Gold Star Book of New Canaan.* The War Records Committee of the Town of New Canaan and the New Canaan Historical Society, [New Canaan,] c. 1948. Paper. About 130 pages.

*New Canaan War Veterans Speak.* The War Records Committee of the Town of New Canaan and the New Canaan Historical Society, [New Canaan,] c. 1946. Paper. About 155 pages.

### GEORGIA

Lamar Q. Ball, *Georgia in World War II: a Study of the Military and the Civilian Effort, Volume I (1939).* Department of Archives and History, State of Georgia, [Atlanta,] c. 1946. Cloth. About 220 pages.

### HAWAII

University of Hawaii, Hawaii War Records Committee, *In Freedom's Cause: a Rec-*

*ord of the Men of Hawaii Who Died in the Second World War.* The University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 1949. Cloth. About 195 pages.

#### INDIANA

Indiana Historical Bureau, compiler, *Gold Star Honor Roll (Indiana in World War II, volume I)* [publication of this list of the war dead was begun county-by-county as separate pamphlets to be bound together ultimately as one volume, but the issues for Adams and Whitley counties are the only ones known to have appeared]. Indiana War History Commission, Bloomington, 1949. Paper. About 20 pages each.

Howard H. Peckham and Shirley A. Snyder, editors, *Letters from Fighting Hoosiers (Indiana in World War II, volume II)*. Indiana War History Commission, Bloomington, 1948. Cloth. About 420 pages.

#### MARYLAND

*Maryland in World War II: Volume I, Military Participation.* War Records Division, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, 1950. x, 384 pages.

#### NORTH CAROLINA

Spencer Bidwell King, Jr., *Selective Service in North Carolina in World War II.* The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1949. Cloth. xxiv, 451 pages. \$6.

#### OHIO

Norris F. Schneider, *Muskingum County Men and Women in the World War II.* The Times Recorder and The Zanesville Signal, Zanesville, 1947. Cloth. About 520 pages.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

*Pennsylvania's First Year at War: December 7, 1941-December 7, 1942.* The Pennsylvania Historical Commission, Harrisburg, 1943. Paper. About 110 pages.

S. K. Stevens, Marvin W. Schlegel, and Joseph T. Kingston, *Pennsylvania's Second Year at War: December 7, 1942-December 7, 1943.* Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1945. Paper. About 175 pages.

*Pennsylvania at War, 1941-1945.* Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, 1946. Paper. About 70 pages.

#### VIRGINIA

Division of History and Archaeology, Virginia Conservation Commission, *Virginia in Wartime, 1942-43.* Division of Purchase and Printing, Richmond, 1944. Paper. 34 pages. Free.

Francis Howard Heller, *Virginia's State Government during the Second World War: Its Constitutional, Legislative, and Administrative Adaptations, 1942-1945.* Virginia State Library, Richmond, 1949. Cloth. xvii, 203 pages. \$2.

William Edwin Hemphill, editor, *Aerial Gunner from Virginia: the Letters of Don Moody to His Family during 1944.* Virginia State Library, Richmond, 1950. Cloth. xxx, 366 pages. \$3.

W. Edwin Hemphill, editor, *Gold Star Honor Roll of Virginians in the Second World War.* Virginia World War II History Commission, Charlottesville, 1947. Cloth. lxii, 373 pages. Free.

W. Edwin Hemphill, editor, *Pursuits of War: the People of Charlottesville and Albemarle County, Virginia, in the Second World War,* by Gertrude Dana Parlier and others. Albemarle County Historical Society, Charlottesville, 1948. Cloth. xxvi, 430 pages. \$3.50.

*Newport News during the Second World War.* History Commission World War II, City of Newport News, Newport News, c. 1948. Cloth. xvi, 174 pages. \$2.

Harvey Lee Price, [compiler,] *Virginia Farmers at War: Essays on Agricultural Production in the Old Dominion during the Second World War.* The Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, [Blacksburg,] 1950. Paper. 108 pages. Free.



Mary Croft Pulley, compiler, *History of Lunenburg County in World War II*. The Dietz Press, Inc., Richmond, 1949. Cloth. xxvii, 122 pages. \$2.

Marvin Wilson Schlegel, *Virginia on Guard: Civilian Defense and the State Militia in the Second World War*. Virginia State Library, Richmond, 1949. Cloth. xxiii, 286 pages. \$3.50.

Major William Reginald Wheeler, editor, *The Road to Victory: a History of Hampton Roads Ports of Embarkation in World War II*. 2 volumes. Newport News, 1946; c. by Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut. Cloth. Each volume about 360 pages. \$10.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Margaret C. Norton's article in the January 1951 issue of the *American Archivist* summarizing the first International Congress of Archivists is an excellent one. I attended the Congress as an interested outsider—a historian who has visited many French departmental archives as well as the National Archives, and who is aware of some of the problems discussed at the Congress. Like all international conventions where people speak different languages, this Congress was slowed up by the necessity of translation, especially for translation from French into English, since most talks and remarks were made in French. Nearly all European delegates knew French and could have understood without the translation. The young woman who made the translations did a fine job, but it was tiring to hear first a paper summarized from a printed text circulated for the delegates to read before the Congress, and then sit through the translation. The result was that the time for discussion was negligible. I believe that it would be desirable for future Congresses held in Europe that at least one member of the American delegation have a good command of French. I do not believe that this consideration entered into the choice of delegates for last summer's first Congress. Since my work on French history has given me a fair command of the language, I was doubly aware of this slowing process, and a little sympathetic with those who had read the papers carefully before the meeting, and who did not want to spend two hours before discussion began.

One of the problems discussed at the Congress was microfilm. Miss Norton has given an excellent summary of that discussion, based upon an admirable paper by Mr. Lester K. Born. There was an aspect of this problem which was not discussed directly at the Congress, but which is of vital interest to historians. The archivist may look upon microfilm as a means of preserving documents, but the historian looks upon photography as a method of making documents accessible and of saving travel and hence, research expense. While it was pointed out that the United States has opened its archives to consultation earlier than many European archives, where a fifty year rule applies, nevertheless, the price of microfilm seems disproportionately high in this country. The microfilming services of the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Archives Nationales charge approximately one cent a frame. The fee charged at our own National Archives is five cents a frame for a single page. If there are two facing pages, the fee is doubled. Although film and reproduction by commercial companies is more expensive in France than here, the fee for microfilming for scholars is less than in this country. Many State, city, and university libraries here charge only two or three cents, but our National Archives charges five cents for comparable service. Is there anything that can be done to lower this price, which hardly seems justifiable under the circumstances? Documents may be accessible, but reproduction for the historian who is not a resident of Washington, D. C., seems unduly expensive. As a historian who has benefited by the fees in French microfilming agencies, I would like to see this aspect of our own service discussed.

Historians have not always given due recognition to the role of the archivist in their research, and perhaps most archivists have not been drawn from the historical profession. There is a mutual benefit to be derived from their cooperation. It is encouraging that the American Historical Association reserves one session of its annual convention for problems of archivists, but it was my impression from the Chicago meeting in December 1950, that it was chiefly professional archivists who attended the session. I am grateful to the French archivists who have facilitated my research, and I would like to see the same recognition here from American historians.

BEATRICE F. HYSLOP  
HUNTER COLLEGE

# Records Management, 1867

By LYLE J. HOLVERSTOTT

*National Archives*

IN the light of the Records Disposal Act of 1943, the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 and the establishment under that Act of the Records Management Division in the National Archives and Records Service, and the Federal Records Act of 1950, the December 20, 1867 letter (reproduced below) from the Collector of Customs at New York City to the Secretary of the Treasury concerning the disposition of records is prophetic. Considering the dim view that the Secretary took in the matter, as evidenced by his December 21 reply (reproduced below) to the Collector's plea, the words of the Collector can perhaps also be considered somewhat pathetic.

Twenty-two years were to elapse after the exchange of correspondence in 1867 before Federal legislation relating to the disposal of records was enacted in 1889, and another fifty-four years passed before legislation was on the books that permitted the *scheduling* of Federal records for disposal. The Collector's statement that the "immense mass of useless papers . . ." is a "crying evil" and "pressing nuisance" has a freshness about it that brings to mind the present-day criticism of too many Federal records being kept too long. Accomplishments since the National Archives came into existence in 1934 and the recognition in recent legislation of the importance of records management in the Federal Government represent the delayed reaction to such cries in the wilderness as those made by the New York Collector in 1867.

Not without interest are the statements in the Collector's letter concerning his understanding of the English practice in the disposal of records. His letter is strong evidence that the United States Government certainly was not pioneering in the records management and archival fields in the 1860's as it is today. The dispatch with which the Treasury Department answered Mr. Smythe's supplication — on the very day of its receipt in Washington — may indicate the official indifference to the records problem. Certainly the "future consideration" promised in the Secretary's reply was deferred for many years. In fairness to the Secretary of the Treasury, however, it should be said that his apparent indifference was

not unusual since most other department heads and other responsible officials in the Federal Government took no official cognizance of the records management problem until many years later in the post-Civil War period.

For the record it should be stated that happily for students of maritime history, genealogists, and others not all the "archives of the Customs" at New York were destroyed when authority was finally obtained, apparently in 1902 under the 1889 records disposal legislation. Such valuable documents as passenger lists of vessels entering the port, crew lists, shipping articles, ships' documents, and vessel entrance and clearance records continued to be preserved and are now in the National Archives along with comparable customhouse records for many other ports.

The letters appearing below were found in Record Group 56, General Records of the Department of the Treasury, in the National Archives. One word appears to have been omitted in the letter to the Secretary and another word in the same letter was not clearly decipherable, as indicated by the editorial additions made by the undersigned. Capitalizations and punctuations are given as they appear in the communications.

LYLE J. HOLVERSTOTT  
*National Archives*

CUSTOM HOUSE, NEW YORK,  
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

20th December 1867

Sir

The immense mass of useless papers and worthless documents which has accumulated in the archives of the Customs of this District since the beginning of the institution is now a crying evil and a pressing nuisance, and I am now importuned to hasten their removal from their present locality in the Sub-Treasury building to the attic of this Custom House.

In respect to these records themselves, they are of course, a constantly increasing inconvenience, and always have crowded us out of much valuable room. Nine-tenths of them are [in] depositories (?) to which we have no occasion ever to refer. Several years ago when Mr. Collector Curtis was exhibiting to the Hon. John C. Spencer, then Secretary of the Treasury, the arrangements he had just completed for the accommodation, and post-mortem examination of these old papers, the Secretary emphatically recommended that a World of expense would be saved if most of them had long ago been burned up.

I am told that the English Records are destroyed by act of Parliament, when they get to be twenty-five years old. I am deeply impressed with the expediency — in fact the necessity, of the Department taking this matter into consideration: and of appointing a Committee to examine and destroy the useless portion of these antiquated documents: — or, if Legislation be required to authorize their destruction, to obtain it from the present session of Congress.

I am very respectfully

Your Obdt. Servt.

H. A. SMYTHE  
Collector

Hon. H. McCulloch  
Secretary of the Treasury

### TREASURY DEPARTMENT

December 21, 1867

Sir:

Your communication of the 20th inst. is received in which you suggest, for the purpose of giving increased room facilities, that the accumulated mass of papers and documents belonging to the archives of the Custom House at your port, be removed from the Sub-Treasury Building where they are now stored, to the office of the Custom House.

After a consideration of the matter you are informed that I can see no objection to the proposed removal of the said papers and documents provided, the "Attic" referred to by you, is deemed a secure and fitting place therefor, and that the removal is made under the direction and supervision of one of the Deputy Collectors, at your port to be specially detailed for such purpose.

In regard to the further suggestions made by you, concerning the destruction of the certain papers and documents, I would say that this Department does not deem itself sufficiently authorized to act upon them at present, and that they will accordingly be deferred for its future consideration.

I am

Very Respectfully

HUGH McCULLOCH  
Secretary of the Treasury

H. A. Smythe, Esqr.  
Collector of Customs  
New York

## NATIONAL RECORDS MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Arthur Barcan of the Navy Department, Office Methods Division, Executive Office of the Secretary, has been awarded a \$10,000 graduate fellowship by the Council for advanced study in business paperwork and record-keeping controls. Mr. Barcan will investigate and devise new measurements, types of controls, and analytical techniques applicable to office systems and records designed to make corporate paperwork and record-keeping more precise through the application of quality control, thereby reducing the volume of records at the source and increasing their value and usefulness as a management tool. He currently directs the Navy's Special Studies Unit in all phases of records management. During 1949-50 he directed a Navy-wide program designed to eliminate, revise, and improve reports. He planned and helped direct the separation of over 4,000,000 veterans' personnel records from active office space to a Navy records center, and has been a member of a management survey team in the Department. He is also an instructor on reports and forms management at the Graduate School, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and has served as a senior member of a task force directed by the National Records Management Council for the Legislative Committee on Reorganization for the State of Michigan.

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# News Notes

MARY C. LETHBRIDGE, Editor

*Department of State  
Washington, D. C.*

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## SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

The Secretary reports that the following persons have been accepted by the council as members of the Society:

Howard E. Mathis, Assistant Archivist, Reference Service Branch, GSA Region 9, San Francisco, California.  
Margaret V. Shuman, Adjutant Generals' Office Records Branch.  
Mrs. Mary Givens Bryan, Georgia Department of Archives and History.  
Joseph A. Reilly, Acting Director, Federal Records Center, GSA Region 2, New York City.  
Arthur Miller, Deputy Regional Director, Records Management Service, GSA Region 2, New York City.  
Richard C. Grimes.  
Miss Martha L. Simonetti, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.  
LeRoy DePuy, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.  
Charles E. Hughes, Jr., Comptrollers Office, City of Philadelphia.  
Ivan D. Eyler, Deputy Regional Director, Records Management Service, GSA Region 7, Dallas, Texas.  
Vagn Dybdal, Erhversarkiv, Aarhus, Denmark.

The following additions should be made in the list of committee members published in the April issue:

Archival bibliography: Lester K. Born.  
Microphotography: Gust Skordas, Ernest E. East, David C. Duniway.  
Program: Leon de Valinger, chairman; Virginia Gambrell, Lucile Kane, Fred Shelley, William J. Van Schreeven.  
State archives: Margaret Norton, William J. Van Schreeven, Dolores Renze.  
Membership: Seymour J. Pomrenze, chairman.

## THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE

The first meeting of the reconstituted National Historical Publications Commission was held at the National Archives in February. A comprehensive plan for the publication of historical materials, including the papers of several American leaders during the Revolutionary War and the early Federal period, was considered. Philip M. Hamer, formerly Records Control Officer of the National Archives and Secretary of the "old" NHPC, was named Executive Director by the Commission. Another meeting will be held in the spring.

A comprehensive two-volume guide, entitled *Federal Records of World War II*, has recently been published by the National Archives. Volume I deals with the wartime records of the civilian agencies and volume II with those of the military agencies. About 65,000 cubic feet of valuable World War II

records in the National Archives as well as those that have not yet been transferred to the agency are described in the guide, which includes, in volume II, a 200-page index. The guide is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at \$2.50 a volume.

A brief guide to all the holdings of the National Archives has also been published; it is a revision of *Your Government's Records in the National Archives*, first issued in 1945. A new *List of File Microcopies of the National Archives* is now available. It describes briefly the bodies of important research materials that have been reproduced on some 3,500 rolls of 35 mm. microfilm. Positive prints of these microfilm publications may be obtained at a cost of \$4 for each unit of about 50 feet of film. Preliminary inventories of the records of the Bureau of Aeronautics and the United States War Ballot Commission and a reprint of the section on the National Archives and Records Service from the *Annual Report of the Administrator of General Services* (1949-50) have also been published. Copies of these publications are available from the National Archives upon request.

The Federal Register Division has published a *Handbook of Emergency Defense Activities* (92 p.), which lists the officials and briefly describes the functions of the Government agencies that have responsibilities for defense activities. It is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents at 25 cents a copy.

Journals of hydrographic observations kept by members of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition under Commanders Cadwalader Ringgold and John Rodgers, 1853-56, with related sketches and notes, and a volume of hydrographic observations kept on board the U.S.S. *Fenimore Cooper*, September 27, 1858—August 5, 1859, have been transferred to the Archives from the Navy Department. Among other recent accessions are additional manuscript maps and drawings of old Army posts and installations, 1800-1900; the central files of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, 1907-30; and maps compiled by the Office of Strategic Services and its predecessor, the Office of the Coordinator of Information, showing terrain, transportation, and economic conditions in the USSR and Asia, 1940-45.

The Public Record Office in London has presented to the National Archives a copy of its *Summary of Records* (London, 1950. ix, 366 sheets). This *Summary* is a repertory of the holdings of the Public Record Office, arranged by groups or *fonds* in the alphabetical order of their descriptive titles and thereunder by class number. It gives, for each class, its descriptive title, inclusive dates, and the number of "reference units" contained in it. Although originally compiled for administrative purposes, the *Summary* in its earlier editions has been available in the search rooms of the Public Record Office for nearly 40 years. American scholars may now consult this valuable reference work in the National Archives Library.

The International Council on Archives, of which the Archivist of the United States is vice president for the Western Hemisphere, has issued a folder on the objectives and activities of the organization. The folder also describes the various classes of membership. Archivists and archival institutions throughout the world are invited to join. Copies of the folder, in English, French, or



Spanish, may be obtained from the Council's headquarters, 19 Avenue Kleber, Paris 16, France.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

In an administrative memorandum dated January 29, 1951, the Departmental Records Branch, Adjutant General's Office, announced the assignment of Seymour J. Pomrenze as archivist for Departmental Records and Philip P. Brower as archivist for Special Collections.

For the chief of the Departmental Records Branch, Sherrod East, the Branch archivists are to exercise staff responsibilities for the records administration and archival program of the Branch, including the functions of accessioning, analysis and description, disposition, and reference service in their assigned areas of specialization.

The archivist for Departmental Records will be responsible for functions pertaining to records created or assembled by the following military agencies and their predecessors: the Office of the Secretary of Defense and associated boards and staffs; the Headquarters, Department of the Army, including the Headquarters, Army Field Forces; and the Headquarters of the Air Force.

The archivist for Special Collections will be responsible for functions pertaining to records created or assembled as indicated in these categories: combined (international) military records; captured records; military government records; war crimes records; military history programs, including operations reports, unit histories, records of historical units, and file microcopies; personal papers of military and civilian officials that are accepted for deposit in the Branch; and such other special collections as he may be assigned.

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Department of State has established a Records Service Center in a three story building at 2020 M Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., formerly used as a garage. The Center has capacity to store 35,000 cubic feet of records. It is staffed by an archival processing and storage unit, a microfilm unit, and a reference unit. The Center has a study room for the use of Government officials and private scholars.

The consolidation of many of its files, including those of many foreign service posts, has made it possible to coordinate further research activities within the Department.

In a regulation dated January 4, 1951, the Department revised its policy on the use of its records by private researchers. The "open period" is the period prior to January 1, 1926. On January 1, 1952, and each year thereafter until January 1, 1955, the terminal date of this period will be automatically advanced one year. Records of this period, with certain exceptions, are open for use by the general public at the National Archives, subject to its regulations. The "limited-access period" is the ten-year period immediately following the open period. Use of the records of this period will be confined to qualified searchers and other persons demonstrating a legitimate need for the informa-

tion requested. The "closed period" is the period subsequent to the "limited-access period." The records of this period are not normally available to non-government searchers. Exceptions to the rule will be limited, in general, to mature scholars undertaking research regarded by the Department as desirable in the national interest.

Applications for access to records of the open period shall be made to the National Archives. Application for access to the other records of the Department shall be made in writing to the Chief, Division of Historical Policy Research.

Mr. John Dethman, Assistant Records Management Officer, resigned on March 30, 1951, to take the position of Records Management Officer of the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan.

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Carpenter collection of geographical photographs, assembled over a period of fifty years by the late Frank G. Carpenter and his daughter Mrs. W. Chapin Huntington, has just been presented to the Library of Congress. Authors of geographical textbooks, the photographers included in their collection many rare pictures of historical value, including a comprehensive treatment of the Far Eastern, African, Alaskan, and French Basque areas.

Dr. Luther Evans accepted on March 14, on behalf of the Library, a facsimile of the famous Book of Kells, perhaps the world's most famous manuscript. Presentation was made by the Irish Minister of External Affairs, Mr. Séán MacBride, who described the process of reproducing the original, which is in the custody of Trinity College, Dublin, with the help of Swiss experts on printing. The Book of Kells, compiled in an Irish monastery about 800 A.D., is in fact an illuminated encyclopedia of the universe in 678 pages. The gift comes from the people of Ireland through the Irish government to the Library of Congress.

An exhibit of photographic reproductions of the Mount Sinai scrolls recently microfilmed by the Library opened on March 19 with an address by Aziz Suryal Atiya of Farouk I University, Alexandria, Egypt, on the Arabic treasures at St. Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai. The collection includes more than 2000 pieces, many of which are charters signed by medieval sultans and kings of Egypt. [For additional news see p. 288.]

### FOREIGN NEWS

#### *Bermuda*

Within the pages of Bermuda's ancient Colonial Records, dating back to 1612, lies a horde of background material for fabulous stories. Accounts of sea adventures and shipwrecks and of storms and pestilence are carefully entered and recorded. Students of history will find a wealth of information on early life in Bermuda and methods of early colonial government.

But up to now, with one outstanding exception, no sustained effort has ever

been made to preserve the Colony's priceless records. As a result, volume upon volume of these records has been put away in dank vaults or other unsuitable store-rooms, left to rot under the ravages of time or be eaten away by insects.

Through the efforts of the Bermuda Historical Monuments Trust, however, under the chairmanship of Dr. Henry Wilkinson, one of Bermuda's foremost historians, steps are now being taken to restore the records and preserve them for all time. For the last year, an expert trained at the Public Records Office in London, England, Mr. Laurence Gurrin, has been engaged in the painstaking process of restoring the crumbling documentary pages. A laborious and time-consuming task, the page to be restored is built up again with hand made paper and then pressed between two sheets of strong, translucent silk. When completed, the page may be easily handled and is ready for binding.

The only other major effort made to preserve the records was carried out by a former Governor, J. H. Lefroy, who was perhaps Bermuda's first historian and the author of *Memorials of Bermuda*. He had the foresight to rescue many bundles of tattered manuscripts and fragments of books covering the earliest period in Bermuda's history, and sent them to England for restoration in the 1870's, and except for the bindings they are still in good condition.

The Bermuda Historical Monuments Trust has taken up the work where Governor Lefroy left off, and the records which are now being restored cover the period from the latter part of the 17th century onwards.

No little interest in the ancient records has been shown by visitors to the Colony. Almost daily a few visitors call on the Custodian in a small room located in the tower of Bermuda's Parliament House where they are shown the process of restoring the records. Writers and students also ask for help in digging out material from the old books. This past summer a student preparing a thesis for a doctor's degree dealing with the life of a former Bermuda governor found a wealth of information in the records that had never before been uncovered. He brought with him a portable microfilming machine to make a copy of the records to assist him in preparing his thesis.

It is the hope of the Bermuda Historical Monuments Trust to find in the near future a suitable place where the records may be put on public display, as well as better facilities to assist students and writers who want to consult the records. [This item is by courtesy of the Bermuda News Bureau, Hamilton, Bermuda.]

### Canada

The Fourth Report of the Saskatchewan Archives, covering the years 1948 to 1950, indicates that the microfilming of municipal records is going forward with some speed. Surveys of such records have been completed in four cities, fourteen towns, three villages and fourteen rural municipalities. The Provincial Archivist has been assisted in this project by Professor A. N. Reid of the Department of Economics and Political Science at the University of Saskatchewan.

In order to facilitate the adoption of scheduling in the disposal of provin-

cial government records, an amendment to the Archives Act was passed in 1949 (*Statutes of Saskatchewan*, 1949, chapter 119) which included the following terms:

(1) Extending permission for the disposal of records from those already in existence to those of the same class which might be created in the future.

(2) Permitting the disposal of records before the expiration of ten years from the date of their creation, provided such disposal were approved by the Select Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the Library.

The same amendment also altered the system of inspecting records proposed for disposal, it being provided that an officer of the Department of the Attorney General and an Officer of the Treasury Department should participate with the Provincial Archivist and the Legislative Librarian in advising the minister of a department on the advisability of such disposal. Mr. W. Fountain was appointed to represent the Treasury Department and Miss Dorothy E. Greensmith, K.C., to represent the Department of the Attorney General.

The University of Laval Press, Quebec, announces the forthcoming publication of *Le conflit anglo-français su l'Ohio (1745-1756)*, a volume of sources dealing with the rivalry of the English and French in the Ohio valley, based upon hitherto unpublished material in the rich archives of the Seminary of Quebec. The volume will be published under the patronage and with the cooperation of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, official historical agency of the State of Pennsylvania. This is the first in a projected series of *Documents Historiques*, presenting the invaluable treasures of source materials in the Archives of the Seminary. These documents, critically presented, will be edited by the Institute of History and Geography of Laval University, under the direction of its professors. Publication price is \$10 per volume; pre-publication subscribers price, \$7.

### Greece

Dr. Peter Topping, Professor of History at Santa Barbara College, who is in Greece on a Fulbright Fellowship, has submitted a preliminary report to the United States Educational Foundation in Greece, which says in part: "One [purpose] is to survey the libraries and archives, describing their operation, physical plant, the extent of losses in the last decade, future prospects, etc. A second purpose is to examine the unpublished historical materials in the archives and the manuscripts section of the National Library and in the monasteries in enough detail to enable me to draw up a program for the micro-filming at some future date of selected materials of great importance. (These materials relate mainly to the Turkish and National Periods of Greek history). A third purpose is to secure microfilm copies at this time of unpublished catalogues of the documentary and manuscript materials in the archives and libraries and monasteries."

Professor Topping hopes that it will be possible for him to publish a detailed description of the most important classes of material in the General Archives and in local collections.

*Hungary*

The Library of Congress *Information Bulletin*, for February 26, 1951 carried the following review by John S. Moats:

The Hungarian Republic promulgated a decree No. 4118 on June 24, 1949 which states that "the purpose of documentation is to make accessible to interested persons the scientific and practical results and experiences found in books, periodicals and other sources." Extensive plans for the implementation of the decree by the Hungarian National Center of Documentation are recorded by Dr. Peter Lazar in the periodical *Magyar Technika*, No. 9, September 1949, in an article entitled "Organization of Hungarian Documentation." . . . The final section of the article is devoted to the National Documentation Organization of Hungary and is accompanied by a chart which illustrates its organizational pattern. Its central organ is the National Center of Documentation (ODK) which works under the supervision of the Scientific Council. Its functions are (1) to organize and direct the documentation activities within the country; (2) to prescribe the methods and instruments to be applied in documentation; and (3) to maintain a national register of all processed documentation material as well as personnel and equipment. The Center wishes to prepare a Hungarian issue of the Universal Decimal Classification System; it maintains connections with foreign, international, and national documentation organizations and represents Hungary in the International Federation for Documentation.

The burden of documentation work is placed upon the specialized documentation centers, five of which were being organized or considered at the time of writing. The Technical Documentation Center was to be formed within the Patent Office; the Medical Documentation Center was to be established upon the organization of the Medical Labor Union; the Agricultural Documentation Center was to be formed from the documentation division of the Agricultural Scientific Center; the Documentation Center of Libraries was to be established from the corresponding branch of the National Center of Libraries; and the organization of an Economic Documentation Center should be undertaken only after due consideration for the documentation activities of other governmental departments, national enterprises, the state banking organization and the National Bank.

*Italy*

An exhibition in honor of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Columbus opened in Genoa on October 12, 1950, and is continuing for a full year. Ministries and officials of the Italian government, are participating; archives, libraries and museums in Europe and America have lent their treasures. Four halls in the San Giorgio Palace are devoted to the pre-Columbian civilization of the new world, to the life of Columbus, and to documents and studies made of the great discoverer. Rare maps and atlases, notarial records, paintings and letters are included in this collection.

## CALIFORNIA

James De T. Abajian has succeeded Mrs. Virginia Carlson Parker as librarian of the California Historical Society. Mr. Abajian has served as assistant curator of rare manuscripts at the University of Michigan and as assistant curator of manuscripts at the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

## MARYLAND

Word has been received from the United States Naval Academy of the establishment of the James Forrestal fellowships in naval history, open to persons with or without advanced degrees, who have demonstrated ability in research and have shown interest in naval and military history. Appointments will be for one year, are renewable, and will carry a stipend ranging between three and eight thousand dollars, according to the needs of the recipient. The fellowships are not supported by Government funds but have been made possible through privately subscribed gifts. Research will be done chiefly at Annapolis, but travel funds are provided as well as office space and clerical aid. The closing date for making this year's applications was in May.

## MASSACHUSETTS

A valuable collection of Hebrew history and literature was presented to the Harvard College library at ceremonies in the Houghton Library on March 11. The nearly 3,000 manuscripts and books, from the library of the Amsterdam collector, Felix Friedmann, have been purchased for the Library by a group of alumni interested in Hebrew studies. The Friedmann collection includes several items not previously available to scholars in the United States, and represents an important addition to the extensive collection of Hebrew works which has been assembled at Harvard during 300 years.

## MICHIGAN

A disastrous fire started at the Michigan State Library at noon on February 8 and raged for 45 hours. Emergency measures were taken immediately after the fire was declared under control to save as much of the Library's collection as possible. The latest report, received at the end of March, indicated that 17,000 books had been lost; 10,000 had been sent to be bound; and 2210 had been treated for water and mold damage. Only ten per cent of the Library's collection had been handled at this time and the statistics on the losses and damage were still incomplete.

Henry E. Edmunds, archivist of the War Production Board during World War II, has been appointed archivist of the newly established Ford Motor Company Archives. Mr. Edmunds will direct a staff of trained archivists in collecting, arranging, and cataloguing the historical materials of the company and its founder, the late Henry Ford. Records of the company, when arranged and catalogued, will be one of the most significant private collections of research materials in the field of American business records. They will provide

an unprecedented quantity of original research material hitherto unavailable to scholars of the past 50 years of American economic and industrial history.

Mr. Edmunds' appointment was announced by A. K. Mills, director of Ford's fiftieth anniversary plans office. The new archivist comes to Ford from the International Monetary Fund, where he has been archivist since 1946. Prior to his service with the War Production Board, Mr. Edmunds was associated with the National Archives.

### MISSISSIPPI

Lt. Col. William D. McCain, director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, reported to Camp Stewart, Georgia, on May 8 as commanding officer of the 115th AAA Gun Battalion (90 MM). While he is on indefinite military leave, Miss Charlotte Capers will act as director of the Department as she did during World War II.

### NEW JERSEY

At the request of the Thomas Alva Edison Foundation at West Orange, N. J., the National Historical Publications Commission arranged for a member of the staff of the National Archives and Records Service, Miss Elizabeth B. Drewry, to serve as consultant on the arrangement and description of the Edison papers. Miss Drewry began her survey of this private collection in February and has recently submitted her report.

Six missing papers from an agricultural work in Thomas Jefferson's handwriting have been presented to the Princeton Library to aid the editors of the *Papers of Thomas Jefferson*. The gift was made by Roger Barrett of Chicago, class of '37. Manuscripts of all but a few of Booth Tarkington's novels, short stories and plays, together with thousands of letters and memorabilia, have also been presented to Princeton.

### NEW YORK

Alexander J. Wall, Jr., assistant director of The New-York Historical Society, has resigned to accept the position of director of The New Jersey Historical Society in Newark, New Jersey. He will assume his new position on April 1st.

The New York State Historical Association will conduct a series of seminars on American Culture at Cooperstown, New York, from July 5 to 12. The courses offered include courses on "The Historical Society"; and "The Small American Museum." Faculty for the course on "The Historical Society" includes Albert B. Corey, Anna Belle Lee Boyer, James Taylor Dunn, Loren McMillan, and S. K. Stevens. The course on "The Small History Museum" will be conducted by Carl E. Guthe, Joye E. Jordan, and Bertram K. Little.

The Division of Archives and History, Albany, New York, has issued a 20-page bulletin, *Protecting public records against bombing attacks*. Copies are available on request.



## NORTH CAROLINA

The State Department of Archives and History announces that the following publications are ready for distribution: *Addresses, Letters, and Papers of John Christoph Ehringhaus, Governor of North Carolina, 1933-1937*, edited by David L. Corbitt, and the *Papers of Willie Person Mangum*, edited by Henry Thomas Shanks. The former is available free of charge from the Division of Publications of the Department; requests for the latter should be accompanied by a wrapping and mailing fee of 50 cents.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Word has been received from Thomas Amelia of the Pennsylvania Economy League that the proposed Philadelphia charter containing provisions for a municipal records department, as described in his article entitled "Philadelphia Records and a Program of Administration" in the January 1951 issue of the *American Archivist*, has been adopted by the voters at a recent election. Mr. Amelia and those who worked with him to get modern archival and records management procedures and facilities established in Philadelphia are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

The Presbyterian Historical Society, 520 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia 7, is distributing two small mimeographed pamphlets entitled "Procedures for the Committee on History of a Local Church" and "How to Write the History of a Church."

## VERMONT

Through the generosity of George Adams Ellis of Bennington, a valuable collection of materials dealing with Matthew Lyon has become the property of the Vermont Historical Society. The collection covers the periods of his life spent in Vermont, in Congress and elsewhere.

## VIRGINIA

The Institute of Early American History announces the appointment of Lyman H. Butterfield as the new Director of the Institute. Mr. Butterfield, whose appointment takes effect July 1, succeeds Mr. Carl Bridenbaugh who resigned from the Institute to become Margaret Byrne Professor of American History at the University of California. Mr. Butterfield, who did both his undergraduate and graduate work at Harvard, has taught at Harvard, Radcliffe, and Franklin and Marshall College, with his special interests centered in American literature and the age of Franklin. Since 1946 he has worked as associate editor on the 50-volume *Papers of Thomas Jefferson*, launched under the general editorship of Mr. Julian P. Boyd and now in course of publication by the Princeton University Press.

## WISCONSIN

The appointment of Roy McL. Ziemann, Madison, as field man for the Labor History Project of the State Historical Society was announced in Feb-



ruary by Clifford Lord, the Society's Director. Mr. Ziemann, who holds a degree in industrial relations from the University of Wisconsin, and a diploma from Oxford University where he studied under a labor scholarship at Ruskin College, will collect noncurrent labor records and reminiscences of pioneers in the movement to supplement the Society's famed Commons Collection of labor publications. He is working under a grant from the State Federation of Labor, voted to the Society for this project at its Oshkosh convention in February. The Federation's grant has been matched by Rockefeller Foundation funds available through the Committee on Studies in American Civilization at the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Wayne C. Grover, Archivist of the United States, addressed the Founders' Day banquet of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin on January 27, 1951 in Madison. His speech, entitled "Cooperation for Free Inquiry," stressed the need for closer working relationships among archival and manuscript depositories, public and private, Federal, state and local.

### MISCELLANEOUS

A Conference on Micro-Reproduction of Scholarly Material was held at the University of Michigan on January 30 and was attended by representatives of libraries and organizations especially interested in microfilm. Special projects, such as cooperative microfilming developments, were discussed in addition to technical problems connected with reading machines, the relative merits of flat and roll film, and so forth.

A "Uniform Photographic Copies of Business and Public Records as Evidence Act," promulgated by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, has been introduced in several State legislatures during recent sessions. Copies of this Uniform Act, together with statements of the considerations of the Conference, may be obtained from Mr. Barton H. Kuhns, Secretary, First National Bank Building, Omaha, Nebraska.

On May 20, 1951 (Cuban Independence Day), Dr. Roscoe R. Hill, well-known member of the Society of American Archivists, was honored at the Cuban Embassy in Washington by the presentation of a medal designating him Commander of the National Order of Merit Carlos Manuel de Cespedes. Awarded on recommendation of Dr. Emeterio S. Santovenia, President of the Consejo Nacional de los Archivos de Cuba, and presented by Ambassador Luis Machado, it was conferred in recognition of Dr. Hill's book on the National Archives of Latin America, recently translated by the National Archive of Cuba and published in the Spanish language, and for "his services to Cuba" in connection with the recent meeting of the Committee on Archives of the Commission on History of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History in Havana. Dr. Hill was at one time a resident of Cuba, spent a number of years in Spain working on Cuban papers compiling a *Descriptive Catalogue of Documents Relating to the History of the United States*, and in recent years has been much interested in the official management of the Cuban Archive under the competent direction of Capt. Joaquín Llaverías.

## THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The papers of Major General Frank Ross McCoy have been presented to the Library of Congress. They cover his career from the time he served in the Philippines shortly after the turn of the century until his retirement in 1949. An extensive body of personal and general correspondence, supplemented by organized series of memoranda, reports, and speeches, by early notebooks, and by an unusually valuable series of scrapbooks, document his service as aide-de-camp to Leonard Wood, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Howard Taft; his various activities on the Mexican border in 1915-16 and with the A.E.F. in Europe in World War I; and his work as supervisor of the presidential election in Nicaragua in 1928, as chairman of the Commission of Inquiry and Conciliation (Bolivia-Paraguay) in 1929, and as American member of the Lytton and Far Eastern Commissions.

Additional papers of Major General Hugh L. Scott, prominent authority on Indian affairs and Chief of Staff during a large part of World War I, have been presented to the Library.

The Library has also received the papers of Frank L. Greene, who served in the United States Congress as Representative from Vermont and later as Senator, from 1912 to 1930. Included is an extensive file, arranged by subject, that concerns Greene's work as member of the Military Affairs committees of the House and Senate.

A group of personal and semi-official papers of Fritz Wiedemann, one time company commander in the infantry regiment in which Adolph Hitler served as corporal, and later Hitler's personal adjutant, consists mainly of correspondence with Nazi officials and sympathizers and with German organizations from 1938 to 1941, when Wiedemann was German consul-general at San Francisco and directed German espionage in the Western hemisphere. There is also a revealing series of scrapbooks containing clippings and press notices from newspapers in the United States and Canada, identified and annotated by Wiedemann.

Dr. Solon J. Buck has been transferred to the position of Assistant Librarian of Congress. He will also serve as Consultant on Manuscripts, including their acquisition and arrangement. David C. Mearns becomes Chief of the Division of Manuscripts. In addition to occupying the Chair of American History, Mr. Mearns will serve as Assistant Librarian for American Collections, coordinating all library acquisitions and services relating to the history and civilization of the United States.

Handwritten calculations and notes:

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