

Reviews of Books

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Public Archives of Canada, Manuscript Division. *Preliminary Inventory, Record Group 10, Indian Affairs.* (Ottawa. King's Printer and Controller of Stationery, June 1951. Pp. 14, xiii.)

In an explanatory note that accompanies the inventory the Manuscript Division of the Public Archives of Canada outlines a well-conceived plan for describing the public and private records in its custody. Under this plan two series of inventories will be compiled. One of these will cover the official records, which have been arranged in thirty "record groups," while the other will cover private papers and other non-official materials that have been organized in a parallel series of "manuscript groups."

The first group of official records to be covered in a preliminary inventory is that relating to Indian affairs. This group has a long and complex provenance, spanning the periods of both imperial and ministerial control of Indian affairs and originating in many different offices, both central and field. The records were seemingly bound into volumes by the offices that maintained them, and the portfolios and bound volumes were numbered consecutively. The main body of records, about 140 linear feet, is found in a sequence of 792 volumes. There are in addition two other small sequences of bound material, one of 15 and the other of 10 volumes, and an undesignated quantity of numbered files maintained in the central registry office of the Indian Department.

How should this material be described and identified so as to realize the hope of the Dominion archivists that the product will "make it possible for research workers at a distance to ascertain with some precision what papers are preserved in the Public Archives, and to judge with some accuracy whether the department has in its custody significant material relating to any particular topic?" Since the various groups of numbered volumes could not be described as series, for they had their origins in a variety of offices and related to a variety of activities, the procedure adopted was to list the records in the inventory "in such a way that they will present an authentic picture of the organization of the agency which created them." The main problem confronting the Dominion archivists, in a word, was to ascertain the provenance of the records found in each of the volumes and portfolios, and to describe them in terms of their administrative or functional relationships.

As general background information on the origins of the records, a brief administrative history of the Department of Indian Affairs is provided in an "Introduction." Appendixes provide supplemental information in the form of a table of the senior administrative officers of the department, compiled by the archivists, and a "Who was Who and When," compiled by the registrar

of the department. This information is helpful in unravelling the complex succession of officials who had charge of Indian affairs. The degree to which information found in the appendixes is supplemental to that found in the introductory statement may be illustrated by the following example: In the "Introduction" reference is made to a Commission on Indian Affairs, the recommendations of which resulted in a reorganization of the department in 1844 placing Indian affairs under a Superintendent General. Records of the Commission, dated 1842, are described in the body of the inventory. The "Who was Who" lists Captain H. Bagot as Superintendent General from 1840-43, but no reference is made to him in the table of senior administrative officers. The matter of titles, incidentally, is one with which American archivists, fortunately, do not have to bother, for the various titles of any given individual must be difficult to trace since he may be a lord at one time and a viscount at another. Differences in title designations occur primarily between the table of senior administrative officers and the "Who was Who," and since the latter was compiled by an official of the Indian Department it was properly reproduced as compiled, with its inconsistencies in abbreviations and titles.

In order to list the records so as to reflect the organization of the Indian Department, the record group is progressively broken down into smaller groups. The first break-down is into four categories, identified by symbols A, B, C, and D, and consisting of "Administration Records" for the periods of imperial and ministerial control, "Records of Field Offices," and "Land Records." From the point of view of reflecting organizational structure, this categorization is not altogether fortunate, for one of the categories was established on the basis of subject rather than organization. Listings of the records of the various Indian superintendencies appear, as a result, under both the "field office records" and the "land records."

The second break-down, identified by arabic numerals, is generally into the organizational units that created the records under the four major heads identified above. Thus "Administration Records" are broken down into sub-categories that correspond roughly to the various classes of senior administrative officers (listed in the appendix) who had charge of Indian affairs. The field office and land records, on the other hand, are broken down into sub-categories for the various Indian superintendencies.

Underneath the smallest of these categorizations the series are identified and described. As a rule the series are given titles that signify the types of records involved, such as "correspondence," "minutes," "letter books," and the like, though occasionally subject headings, such as "Point Pelee Island" or "Buc-touche Reserve," are made to serve as titles. In the paragraph entries additional information on the type, the subject, or the provenance of the series is provided. Frequently this is repetitive, particularly in the descriptions of land records, as illustrated by the following example of a series entry under the sub-category entitled "Six Nations (Grand River) Superintendency":

Title: Land Returns, 1844-1881. (Vols. 774, 777, 779) 1 foot.

Entry: The superintendents' returns of land sales in the Grand River Superintendency.

The attribution of the innumerable volumes and portfolios created by the Indian Department to their proper organizational categories and sub-categories was a stupendous and a somewhat hazardous undertaking; and it is therefore not surprising that series entries for a number of volumes are missing, or that certain volumes are described in more than one series entry, or that indices remain "unidentified," or that records to which indices apply are "missing." On the whole, however, the preliminary inventory under review will accomplish the avowed objective of the Dominion archivists in that it will make known to researchers at a distance what papers are preserved on the topic of Indian affairs. The progressively more detailed break-down of the record group serves to establish fairly precisely which organizational units created the record series, and the descriptive entries serve to indicate fairly well the topics that are covered by such record series.

T. R. SCHELLENBERG

National Archives

Guide to the Writing of American Military History. Department of the Army Pamphlet No. 20-200. (Washington. United States Government Printing Office, 1951. Pp. ix, 126. \$0.35.)

This Department of the Army pamphlet is carefully prepared to assist officers who find themselves assigned to research projects, either in service schools or in doing advanced study in civilian educational institutions. Apparently it will establish a doctrine of research techniques for use throughout the army. It is obviously organized and prepared for the use of students whose research experience has been limited. Beginning as it were at the door of the library or archives, the manual carefully instructs the user in basic library procedures and the fundamental concepts for the organizing of human knowledge. It has a very fine section entitled "Steps in Research." This section instructs the student in the preparation of bibliography and methods of taking and arranging notes, and includes a rather extended discussion of methods of evaluating source materials. The next section considers the actual writing and final organization of material. The second chapter is a brief and basic style manual and the pamphlet concludes with a 34-page basic bibliography for use in writing military history. In addition to serving its basic purpose of assisting army officers in the preparation of professional historical studies, this is a good elementary manual of research technique which should find wide academic distribution.

WILLARD WEBB

Library of Congress

A Calendar of Ridgely Family Letters 1742-1899 in the Delaware State Archives, edited and compiled by Leon de Valinger, Jr. and Virginia E. Shaw. Family data supplied by Mrs. Henry Ridgely. Volume II (Dover, Delaware. Published privately by some descendants of the Ridgely family for the Public Archives Commission. 1951. Pp. 344, 37. Illustrations, genealogical chart.)

To say that the second volume of the Ridgely papers is as good as the first is as obvious and superficial as it is to say that there is a misreading on p. 97 (Who but a local antiquarian would know that the reigning belle of Lancaster, Pa., in 1801 was Polly Zanzinger, not Zangering?) Yet to say the first is to give high praise, as to say the second is to prove that inaccuracies are so few that one finds them by the merest accident.

In content, this volume is of even wider interest than the first, for the activities of this large and articulate family spread beyond the bounds of their native state to ever-enlarging fields of national service. The correspondence covered by the present volume is that of Nicholas Ridgely (1762-1830), first Chancellor of the State of Delaware, and of his half-brother, the Hon. Henry Moore Ridgely (1779-1847) and his children. The correspondents include, as the anonymous author of the *Historical Introduction* happily puts it: "casual associates as varied as Presidents of the United States and household slaves."

While these volumes are of interest to genealogists and social, medical and industrial historians (this volume is especially rich in the social life of early Washington), their continuing value for the archivist is as a pattern for all calendars to come.

ELIZABETH CLARKE KIEFFER

Franklin and Marshall College

A True Relation of the State of Virginia lefte by Sir Thomas Dale Knight in May last 1616, by John Rolfe. Set forth with an Introduction and Notes by a group of Virginia Librarians. Printed from the Original Manuscript in the Private Library of Henry C. Taylor, Esq. (New Haven. Yale University Press, 1951. Pp. 41 and facsimiles. Americanum Nauticum Number Two. 212 copies.)

In 1616 John Rolfe, whose cultivation of tobacco was the most important economic event in the history of seventeenth-century Virginia, returned to England. He took with him his wife, the Indian princess Pocahontas, and thus assured himself of a spectacular reception. But he had practical business to do at home. The affairs of the Virginia Company were depressed and confused: Sir Thomas Smith, its long-time head, sought to blame the colonists and their leaders for the want of profits from the venture; but a rising faction in the company, led by Sir Edwin Sandys, held that the trouble lay in Smith's own mismanagement. The editors of Rolfe's *Relation* are doubtless right in believing that Sandys put Rolfe up to preparing this first-hand and highly enthusiastic account of the Virginia plantations. It was propaganda against Smith and in the interest of "A Country as worthy of good report, as can be declared by the penn of the best wryter"; and it was successful, for Sandys shortly afterward replaced Smith in the management of the Company.

This is the historical context which the "group of Virginia Librarians" (John Cook Wyllie, John M. Jennings, and Francis L. Berkeley, Jr.) have skilfully and lucidly provided for the document here printed for the first time from Rolfe's manuscript in his own hand. An approximation of the text of the *Relation* has been known ever since Purchas in 1617 published a paraphrase

of a manuscript borrowed from Rolfe, and later historians of Virginia have made use of two other manuscripts (one of them sent to King James I and now in the British Museum; the other sent to Sir Robert Rich and now in the Public Record Office). But as Mr. Berkeley demonstrates in a learned note on the relations of the several manuscripts, the Taylor text, prepared for and sent to the great courtier William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, is the most authoritative of them all, being unquestionably Rolfe's own fair copy from a (now missing) draft, whereas the others are in a clerk's hand bearing only occasional corrections by Rolfe. The Taylor text has only very recently come to light and was brought to this country in 1948. It was a happy idea of Mr. Taylor's to enlist the talents of so distinguished a panel of editors. The volume as designed and printed by Carl Purington Rollins is so extraordinarily handsome that it is a pity so few copies are available. The collotype reproduction of the manuscript itself is perfect to the point of deception; one easily surmises that it is the work of the Meriden Gravure Company.

The text of the *Relation* as now printed (from a transcription by Miss Emily Driscoll and Mrs. Henrietta Hannah) is such sheer delight that it beggars comment, though Mr. Wyllie's introduction is wonderfully inviting. The air, "freshe and temperate," the topography, the abundance of animals "both wilde and tame," the crops and natural resources, the happy relations with the Indians (so largely accomplished by Rolfe's own marriage) — all are set forth in a language full of the haunting music of Shakespeare. "But the greatest want of all is least thought on," says Rolfe plaintively; "which is good and sufficient men, as well of birth and quallyty to command: souldiers to march, discover and defend the Country from Invasions: as artificers, Laborers, and husbandmen: with whom were the Colony well provided; then might triall be made, what lieth hidden in the womb of the Land." Thanks to Rolfe and his kind, full trial was made.

L. H. BUTTERFIELD

Institute of Early American History and Culture

The Papers of Henry Bouquet, Volume II, The Forbes Expedition, edited by Sylvester K. Stevens, Donald H. Kent, and Autumn L. Leonard. (Harrisburg, The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1951, Pp. xxxiii, 704. \$7.00.)

When an account of the career of Colonel Henry Bouquet in North America is written, it will be concerned largely with military operations in western Pennsylvania. A native of Switzerland and a soldier of long experience in the armies of Holland and Sardinia, Bouquet arrived in Pennsylvania in 1756, as a lieutenant colonel of the Royal American Regiment, to undertake recruiting. He was second in command to Brigadier General John Forbes in the expedition against Fort Duquesne in 1758, and he continued to serve in western Pennsylvania under Brigadier Generals John Stanwix and Robert Monckton and later directly under the British commander in chief. Following his highly successful expeditions of 1763 and 1764 against the Indians, he was made a brigadier general and transferred to Florida, where he died from

yellow fever in September 1765. His papers and other effects passed into the hands of his former comrade in arms, personal friend, and fellow Swiss, Frederick Haldimand, who was also in the British service. Together with Haldimand's own papers, those of Bouquet were presented by the general's grandnephew in 1857 to the British Museum where they are still preserved.

Publication of the Bouquet papers begins with the period June 1 to December 31, 1758, during which the Forbes expedition occurred. The series is initiated with volume II, because it is hoped that further search in European archives will uncover additional papers relating to the early years of Bouquet's career. The present annotated edition of the Bouquet papers is based upon an incomplete, mimeographed compilation prepared by the WPA Pennsylvania Historical Survey and sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission in 1940-43. The principal source of the documents published is the Library of Congress collection of photostats of Bouquet papers, but other photostats were obtained of handwritten transcripts in the Public Archives of Canada. Additional items were secured from numerous other sources described in the foreword. A chronological arrangement has been followed, except for an orderly book which appears at the end of the volume. It is a comprehensive collection, including all letters from Bouquet, all letters of significance to him, and other important related material, but duplicates, accounts, routine reports, and some other unimportant material are excluded or abstracted. Besides a foreword and a table of contents, there are a list of papers, a list of illustrations, a table of abbreviations, and a bibliography of sources. Each month's batch of documents is preceded by a chronology to assist in orienting the reader. The book is printed on paper of good quality and has a strong binding.

The punctilious editorial techniques employed ensure a reliable text and one as close to the original as the printing process allows. The more usual practice of putting the notes at the foot of the pages is departed from, and these are grouped together at the ends of the documents. This method necessitates the turning of pages to read the notes with the text and detracts from the appearance of the text. Some paper might have been saved in these days of scarcities by not making the space between paragraphs greater than between lines of text. The titles of publications cited in the notes could have been abbreviated more. An explanation in the foreword could have been used to avoid the frequent repetition in the notes of the statement that documents of earlier date referred to in the text would be published in volume I. According to the mimeographed edition of the Bouquet papers, the fire in which some of the earlier letters of Bouquet were burned occurred in November 1759 and not a year earlier as stated in the foreword. The index contains only proper names and is unanalytical, and is, consequently, of limited value.

The volume inaugurates a series of great value for the history of military operations and other affairs in Pennsylvania during the French and Indian War. As Bouquet was directly charged with the superintendence of road and fort construction and transportation and supplies, there is much material on these matters. But the documents are also concerned with other subjects, including the Indians, Indian diplomacy and trade, Indian paths, traders' routes,

the physical character of the country, and the military, political, and business leaders of the time. Such well prepared and comprehensive documentary compilations as this will attract writers to a period in which there remains much writing to be done.

HENRY P. BEERS

National Archives

Guide to Manuscript Materials of American Origin in the Illinois Historical Survey, by Marguerite Jenison Pease. Illinois Historical Survey, University of Illinois, Publication No. 3. (Urbana, Ill. Illinois Historical Survey, 1951. Pp. 78. Mimeographed.)

This *Guide* is the third publication (mimeographed) in the series of the Illinois Historical Survey presenting the survey's manuscript resources of American history which are available to graduate students and to historians in all parts of the United States. According to F. C. Dietz, director of the survey, this volume grew out of a pamphlet, *Materials for Historical Research Afforded by the University of Illinois*, issued in 1922 by the university's department of history. The *Guide* was published in order to include many important additions, and "in the hope of rendering the Survey still more serviceable" both to scholars and to students at the university.

There are over 180 groups of records listed in the *Guide*. Personal collections as well as public records comprise the holdings. Groups are described to include original manuscripts, typescripts, photostatic and microfilm copies, photographs, broadsides, occasional maps, pamphlets, manuscript calendars, indexes, notes, newspaper clippings, and paper money. Usually where copies constitute the collection, locations of original manuscripts are credited. Groups range in size from one item to many hundreds, and in most entries the size of the collection is indicated by stating the number of items. The groups are not numbered but are arranged alphabetically by name of collection. There are cross references in some cases but no index.

At least two entries comprise collective groups. One is the "Lincoln Administration and the Civil War," consisting of eighteen subgroups photostated from originals in the Library of Congress, and another subgroup photostated from the Maine Historical Society. Seven subgroups are copied from collections in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and there is a subgroup of transcripts from various sources. The second collective entry, "U. S. Archives Calendar (Mereness Calendar)," describes the calendar of materials in the Federal archives in Washington relating to the Upper Mississippi Valley. Made between 1915 and 1937 by Dr. Newton D. Mereness, this calendar is on 298,479 cards. A breakdown is given of the number of cards used in calendaring each Federal agency's records.

A sample entry from the *Guide* is as follows:

Roosevelt, Theodore. Letters, 1915, 1917. 3 items. Originals.

Three letters written by Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th president of the United States. The first, to Walter Colyer, Albion, Illinois is an acknowledgment; the second, to Lawrence M. Larson, University of Illinois, set forth views on prepared-

ness; the third, to Charles M. Woodbury, Danville, concerns the Isaac Walton League. All are original letters signed.

Because of its content the *Guide* can be a helpful tool, especially to those who are interested in the history of midwestern United States. Numbered entries and an index might have improved its reference usefulness.

WATT P. MARCHMAN

The Hayes Memorial Library

List of Business Manuscripts in Baker Library, 2nd edition, compiled by Robert W. Lovett. (Boston. Baker Library, 1951. Pp. v, 213. Litho-printed.)

It is now 35 years since the 1500 volumes of the Slater Collection were acquired for the Harvard Business School by Dean Gay and Professor Cole, thus inaugurating a novel venture in assembling a special type of source material for American history. Prior to this, business records had been little sought by our libraries and historical societies. They were accepted when offered if they seemed sufficiently interesting. The Harvard group sought such records actively and exclusively, and evolved policies to guide them in their collecting. They were interested not only in business records that could make a contribution to American history in the more general sense, but in business records that illustrated the evolution of business organization and methods in the United States and that could be used to teach business history to graduate students of business administration. The latter motive is not ordinarily present in other institutions that in recent years have given greater emphasis to the collection of business records.

The results of this 35 years of specialized collecting may now be appraised from this new inventory. And, if one wishes to look back to the first *List of Business Manuscripts in Baker Library*, compiled by Margaret R. Cusick and published in 1932, he may compare what was acquired in the first half of this period with what has been added since. Despite a decline in active soliciting during the depression and a virtual halt in war years, the number of entries (each entry representing a collection) has increased from 508 to 1118. It is a reflection perhaps of the increased interest in railroad history that entries relating to railroads are seven times as numerous as in the earlier list. This is also in part a result of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society's having adopted Baker Library as its depository. Items relating to ocean shipping have more than tripled. Inasmuch as the holdings under this heading were already large, the increases have brought shipping up to a position rivalling the textile industries, and these two, as might appear natural in New England, dominate the collections.

It must be left to the economic and business historians seriously to appraise these new holdings as potential research materials for their writing. One impression of the reviewer, however, is that despite the addition of some very significant individual collections, the accessions of the 1932-50 period, taken as a whole, do not assay higher than those of the earlier years, if as high, despite supposedly stricter canons of selection. A passive policy, such as has prevailed

in most of the latter years, does not bring in the better material; it must be actively sought — like any other good property. This inventory also seems to the reviewer to reveal a need for some refinement of present holdings through screening, thus making room for more and better material. This, too, requires initiative, and the reviewer has been glad to see in manuscript Mr. Lovett's account of the Library's major effort in this direction this past summer, which will appear in a forthcoming issue of the *American Archivist*. The screening of business records is a field in which there has been too little recorded experience. The return of smaller and fragmentary collections to more appropriate local depositories, which has been started to some extent, is to be commended and should be increased. The Isaac Briggs collection (No. 305), James P. Stabler collection (No. 313), and the Washington Turnpike Company books (No. 345), for example, will probably remain unused for years on the shelves of the Baker Library, whereas they would be used frequently were they in their home environment in Maryland where related material exists.

As is appropriate in an inventory or list, the entries are factual, impersonal, and without evaluation. All entries consist of (1) inclusive dates, (2) name of person or company, (3) geographical location of person or company, (4) size and physical nature of the collection (i.e. "6 volumes, 2 boxes" or "1 ledger"), and (5) donor or other indication of provenance. In addition, there are usually a few lines or a paragraph containing further descriptive details. Only the latter part of the entry varies in size and it is never long. Thus, the entry for the large, important, and complex Boston and Albany Railroad Company collection is only about twice the length of that for an account book of the Boston and Keene Stage Company. The result is that lesser items take an undue proportion of the space on these pages whereas they probably take very little space on the shelves. It would seem that the larger collections deserve more analysis than they have received and should be given more space in any future edition of the guide. In some cases fuller descriptions have appeared in the *Bulletin* of the Business Historical Society. Cross references to such in that journal or elsewhere would have been helpful.

The arrangement of entries in this volume "approximates" the physical arrangement of the records on the shelves. Both represent a logical classification "beginning with genetic industries, followed by extractive industries, manufacturing industries, engineering and construction, the various types of services, such as marketing and financial services, and finally ending with governmental services."

This classification has presumably been found workable or it would have been thrown overboard by this time. This reviewer likes it, and feels that it deserves serious consideration from all collectors of business records that have enough of them so that they must seek a logical order in which to describe them. One hesitates about the parallel shelving, however. It is easy enough to insert cards in a catalog, but what about inserting on the shelves in its proper place, about the middle of this sequence, the newest collection of some 200 volumes? Would it be better to have an arbitrary shelving arrangement, merely giving the new collection its next accession number, placing it next to

the last one, and letting the entries in the classified list merely refer to these numbers? The reasons for shelving library books according to their classification are not compelling for a collection of business records. Either the Baker Library has been doing a lot of moving, or this perhaps is where the "approximates" comes in.

The first edition of this *List* was a beautiful job of printing in which different fonts of type were combined tastefully to set off the different elements of each entry. Anyone who has the two side by side will be keenly aware of the limitations of lithoprint for a task of this kind. Yet, nothing has been sacrificed in the new list, and it works. If the savings permit the publication of more frequent editions of such working tools in order to keep more closely behind accessions, we must vote for lithoprint. The one great improvement in this edition over the first one is the addition of an excellent 29-page general index. There is also a five-page chronological index, broken down by decades. These, combined with the industry classification by which the *List* itself is arranged, seem to cover every needed approach.

OLIVER W. HOLMES

National Archives

Annual Report on Historical Collections, University of Virginia Library including Alfred Henry Byrd Library of Virginia History and Literature, Elizabeth Cocke Coles Collection of Books About Virginia, Tracy W. McGregory Library. Twentieth for the Year 1949-1950. (Charlottesville. University of Virginia, 1951. Pp. [249-341].)

Third Report of the Archivist of the Division of Documents, West Virginia University 1949-1951. Collection of West Virginia History. West Virginia University Bulletin, Series 51, No. 12-1. (Morgantown. West Virginia University, 1951. Pp. 27.)

Many archivists and manuscripts curators suffer from what might be called "institutional introversion," a condition in which they are entirely preoccupied with the "inside" operations of accessioning, arranging, describing, and servicing the collections or record groups which they have effortlessly received. They shirk their social and professional obligation to go out after additional material which they should have, and to make widely known the contents of the depositories they administer.

The University of Virginia and West Virginia University are not shirking their responsibilities, however. In publishing these reports, they are on the one hand soliciting appropriate acquisitions, and on the other they are placing their resources at the disposal of the world-wide scholarly community. The two reports are quite similar in purpose, plan, scope, and format. Both list acquisitions for a specific period; both are concerned with describing historical collections in the broad sense of including manuscripts collections, official university archives, special non-book printed material, and newspaper collections; both use a group or accession unit of description, alphabetically arranged; both contain introductory explanations of terminology, abbreviations, and arrangement; and finally, both append a list of friends or donors. The West

Virginia report, the smaller or more modest of the two, appears to be modeled on that of Virginia; and if this is actually the case, the mentor is well chosen.

To appreciate the *Twentieth Annual Report on Historical Collections of the University of Virginia Library*, one should spread before him all twenty reports of the series as they were published in eighteen numbers, covering the period 1930-31 to 1949-50. Add to these the general index to the first fifteen reports, which was published separately in 1945, and anticipate the index, already in preparation, which will cover the reports from 1945 to June 30, 1950 (*i.e.*, including the twentieth). Together they constitute a textbook and a model plan for a university archivist who is also charged with responsibility for manuscripts, newspapers, and other special research collections. The first ten reports were issued as *Reports of the Archivist of the University of Virginia Library*, Lester J. Cappon having been appointed to that position in 1930 by University Librarian Harry Clemons. The present title of the series was adopted with the eleventh annual report, Mr. Cappon becoming Consultant in History and Archives; and in that report the present plan of listing annual acquisitions was inaugurated, each year's report with separate pagination and index. Since the 1945 general index to the first fifteen reports, the same general plan has been followed in the reports by Curator of Manuscripts Francis L. Berkeley, Jr., except that the annual index has been abandoned in favor of five-year continuous pagination and indexing. The twentieth report contains a biographical sketch of Harry Clemons, who retired as university librarian June 30, 1950, having served since 1927. The core of the twentieth report is, of course, the section entitled "Materials Acquired. 1 July 1949 to 30 June 1950," pages 257-336. Inserted in the alphabetical listing of named accession units are several subject headings under which are described some of the non-manuscript material other than books in the library's historical collections, *e.g.*, BROADSIDES, MAPS, MICROFILM, NEWSPAPERS, and PRINTS AND PICTURES. A general statement on the university archives is found under: "UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA 1819-1950. Archives and unofficial records." Under JEFFERSON, THOMAS (1743-1826) PAPERS is found another general statement; and a supplement to *University of Virginia Biographical Series*, No. 9, is headed: "RANDOLPH, JOHN OF ROANOKE. SUPPLEMENT TO CHECKLIST OF HIS WRITINGS. 1790-1830. 124 items. Microfilm." Therefore, all microfilm does not fall under the microfilm heading. Not that it matters greatly, but perhaps some of the more general statements on collecting policy would be more appropriate in the explanatory notes section of the report than in the section which lists materials acquired during the year. Such headings as "ECONOMISTS," "GREEK LABOR MOVEMENTS," "MICROFILM," and especially "MISCELLANEOUS TRANSCRIPT" would be distressing were it not for the promised index. On the matter of real importance, however, the twentieth report deserves fullsome praise — the collections were greatly enriched and the report proves it.

The *Third Report of the Archivist . . . West Virginia University 1949-1951* is submitted by Archival Consultant Oscar D. Lambert, and presumably picks up where the *Second Report of the Archivist* (July 1, 1936 — June 30,

1949) stopped, listing acquisitions for two years or to June 30, 1951. Format is approximately the same in the second and third reports: a statement of purpose and scope; a "Forward" giving the rules of use and explaining symbols; followed by the list of accessions, all under the heading "Manuscripts" which is not a well chosen word even though it is explained; a list of newspapers, and finally a list of donors. The third report is better in many respects than the second, for example in giving fuller descriptions and in noting the number of items rather than the number of boxes in large collections; and certainly the rate of growth has been great, nearly as many entries being listed for the two years of the third report as in the thirteen year period of the second. Most, but not all, of the newly acquired material falls in the 19th and 20th centuries, well distributed over the 150 years. The subject matter is largely concentrated on West Virginia persons, families, businesses, and organizations. Most of the collections are relatively small, only eight or nine exceeding a thousand pieces. A few of the collections contain source material of first importance to historians beyond West Virginia's borders; and a good deal of archival material has been acquired, for example: Monogalia County Records, 1858-1934; and the West Virginia State Dental Society's official records for 1906-1947. Other significant papers received were those of Senator Nathan Goff, Governor Howard M. Gore, Governor E. F. Morgan, Judge Ira E. Robinson, P. J. Crogan, Iva Cutright, and Francis Denkins. Mr. Lambert reports, "With the most attentive care all these documents were separated and arranged chronologically." His fellow-archivists may worry a bit about that statement, standing as it does without any explanation that an effort was made to reconstruct the original order of the files. Let's not carp though; here is another welcome and praise-worthy report!

ANDREW H. HORN

*University of California Library
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Report of the [Canadian] Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences, 1949-1951; An Unofficial Summary, prepared by Wilfrid Eggleston . . . *Together with the Recommendation of the Commission*. (Ottawa. [The Commission], 1951. Pp. 57. Processed.)

[*Canadian*] *Royal Commission Studies: A Selection of Essays Prepared for The Royal Commission*. . . (Ottawa. Edmond Cloutier, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty, 1951. Pp. vii, 430. \$3.00.)

The Massey report, so far at least as it deals with public records, exemplifies the utility of a special commission to convince government administrators in general and the public of what the specialists in government already know. The leadership and the program of the Public Archives of Canada are consistently praised; emphasis is on the lack of effective government-wide machinery and especially of space to establish the sound, continuous, records retirements that the Archivist, Dr. W. Kaye Lamb, would like to see.

Here the panel of experts has a wholly cultural approach; it is nonetheless realistic and practical. The prominence given to archives in a report broad

enough to include the press, radio, television, and national scholarships, by a commission headed by a statesman who has since been named Governor-General, is significant. The whole is directed toward producing a public better informed on Canadian history and ideals — a better informed electorate in a democracy. The five-member commission included a prominent historian, Hilda Neatby, and the special study on archives is by C. P. Stacey, Army General Staff Historian.

The recommendations, which largely follow Stacey, would among other things strengthen the Public Records Committee (which has its secretariat in the Privy Council) in its supervision of disposal and transfer; require the appointment of a qualified records officer in every department; and provide transfer of historically valuable records to the Public Archives, and disposal of the rest, generally after ten years. They would also augment the staff and strengthen its qualifications, continuing to require historical training as a prerequisite; move the museum and library material (other than a working archives library) out of the archives building to appropriate new agencies; enlarge the archives building; separate responsibility for the archives and the proposed national library; and provide for the Archivist an advisory committee, including historians and provincial archivists among its members. They would initiate a project to discover and list historical manuscripts throughout Canada; and would extend the sale of microfilm copies of public records, as well as the microfilming (recently substituted for hand copying) of pertinent records in London and Paris.

The Commission followed Stacey in declining to recommend intermediate depositories or "half-way houses" though they had been favored by the Archivist. Time is likely to support the Archivist's view. There is no intent shown to have the Archivist assume responsibility for advising the agencies on current records management; this would fall wholly to the departmental records officers. They would continue to review their files "in consultation with the Archivist," so that with his *de facto* chairmanship of the Public Records Committee he would still control selection of records for retention and disposal. Private manuscripts of national interest would still be taken by the Public Archives; the urgency of locating and preserving them is fully recognized. For handling them as well as official records it would be desirable to plan for training archivists as archivists, an element omitted in the report.

These volumes, and the full report when it is available, deserve the highest respect of archivists as well as others in cultural activities.

PHILIP C. BROOKS

National Archives

Venezuela. Ministerio de Justicia. *Memoria sobre el Archivo General de la Nación*, by Héctor García Chuecos. (Caracas. Imprenta Nacional. 1951. Pp. 12.)

The admirable organization and clear, direct style of this pamphlet will make it pleasant as well as profitable reading for all scholars interested in the Venezuelan National Archive, whether their primary concern is records man-

agement or Venezuelan history. The essay includes a short history of the archive; a list of the *fondos* or record groups (giving the amount of material in each, and the section of the archive where they are kept); a statement on how the records are classified and the extent they are cataloged; a section on what records one might expect to find in the archive but will not; a list of books published by the archive; and a short administrative history of Venezuela. Because Venezuela, before 1831, had a complicated administrative history, the last mentioned section is a necessity for anyone who wants to understand the colonial records dealing with present-day Venezuela. The information is not available elsewhere in so concise a form.

This reviewer's only cause for complaint is that the list of *fondos* does not give enough information on the years covered by the records. For example, what were the dates for the 53 volumes of *Real Consulado* records? Or again, even if the records of the *Renta de Tabacos* are "without ending," there must have been an opening date for the 63 volumes of records concerned with this institution.

JOHN P. HARRISON

National Archives

Primera Reunión Interamericana del Comité de Archivos, 18-25 de Septiembre de 1950. (La Habana, Cuba. Comisión de Historia, Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, [1951]. Pp. 90. Illustrations.)

Archivists of the Americas are a hardy breed, to judge from this well edited and copiously illustrated record of the first meeting of the Committee on Archives of the Commission on History, which in turn is a part of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History. From the time they deposited a floral wreath at the tomb of José Martí in Havana's magnificent Central Park Monday morning, September 18, 1950, until they gathered for lunch at the splendid Country Club on the following Monday for the closing sessions, their days must have been full indeed to account for all the discussions they engaged in and all the resolutions they produced. The gathering, made possible by the generosity of the Cuban Government, brought together a representative group of archivists and historians from most of the American nations. Spain had an observer present. From the United States came Philip Brooks, Herbert W. Krieger, and Dan Lacy. Roscoe R. Hill had an important role as technical advisor.

The more important topics upon which the delegates achieved agreement were the following recommendations: to raise the Committee on Archives to the category of a Commission; to stimulate governments to put into effect the resolutions on archives they had previously agreed to; to collect the basic legislation on archives in the Americas; to urge that "the most liberal regulations possible" be adopted to facilitate the examination of archival material; to encourage passage of legislation to prevent the emigration from any American nation of its valuable historical documents; and, to establish an Inter-American School of Archivists.

Another recommendation was that each national archive should publish as

soon as possible a general guide to its holdings. In diverse ways the group went on record favoring the technical training of archivists and the proper equipping of their archives so that access to the records will be efficient and easy. The exchange of copies of documents in one archive bearing on the history of another American nation was favored, as well as the exchange of archivists on a fellowship basis. A strong international spirit was manifest in all these deliberations and special resolutions were passed that archives in Spain be invited to cooperate with those in America, and that the Committee on Archives maintain close relations with the world organization.

When all these resolutions were considered by the Commission on History at its Second Consultation held in Santiago, Chile, in the following month, the parent body decided that the time was not ripe for setting up a Commission on Archives with attendant financial responsibilities, but the basic ideas agreed upon at Havana will surely continue to be the aims of all those who are concerned with the preservation and proper utilization of the great body of valuable historical material locked up in the archives of the Americas. Work and persistence will be required, of course, if these resolutions are to become a reality.

LEWIS HANKE

University of Texas

Inventaire des Archives du Conseil d'État de Régence, 1706-1716, by Denise Van Derveeghde and Cecile Lefèvre. (Brussels. Archives Generales du Royaume, 1950. Pp. 31.)

This inventory of state archives of the Catholic Low Countries presents a remarkably clear and concise listing of records created during the years which witnessed a fierce struggle to maintain the balance of power in Europe. These countries saw much fighting in the War of the Spanish Succession, which lasted from 1702 to 1713, and as a result the Spanish Netherlands became the Austrian Netherlands. Though administrative changes occurred, French continued to be the official language and the sequence of the records proceeded in orderly fashion by function, if not by title.

According to the table of contents at the end of this publication, the material is divided into four parts with one set of entry numbers from 1 to 506. The first section deals with the functions of the occupying powers, the second with the functions of the Governor General, the third with the functions of the Council of State proper, and the fourth with the functions of the Privy Council. Under the first, 29 entries are given; under the second, 226; under the third, 155; and under the fourth, 96. Besides an assigned number, each entry contains the title, date, and type and quantity of units (in registers, collections, or bundles). The four pages of introduction, with documentation, describe briefly but adequately the administration of the Netherlands before and during the ten-year period. The authors furnish an admirably precise statement of their arrangement of the official records created in the midst of foreign war and internal reorganization. There is a subject-place index which locates each entry by its assigned number. This inventory was prepared by the

authors as a practical exercise in the study of archival science under the direction of Joseph Lefèvre, the curator of the State Archives.

For the foreigner, at least, this inventory would be improved by a statement concerning the dimensions, in inches, of the records covered by each entry. It may sound carping to mention one error in a page reference in the table of contents when the authors have done such a good, workmanlike job.

ELIZABETH W. MEADE

American Association of University Women

Directory of Microfilm and Photocopying Services; prepared by the International Federation for Documentation (FID) under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. FID Publication No. 244. Prelim. ed. (The Hague. International Federation for Documentation, 6 Willem Witsenplein, The Netherlands, 1950. Pp. 65. 4 Dutch Fl.)

The compilers of this important reference tool invite comments and criticisms from those who make use of it. In doing so they frankly admit the limitations imposed by the difficulty of securing material to be included. They express the hope, however, that poverty of existing services, revealed by lacunae in the directory, may stimulate all countries to the remedial action of establishing national clearing houses for information on documentary reproductions.

The preliminary character of the work is thus modestly emphasized by the compilers. But any directory that may be used in aid of increasing the flow of research works, after the disruptions caused by World War II, has importance that overrides limitations. Germany, hard-hit in this way, is credited with fourteen reproduction services, obviously important for rebuilding German libraries. The *Directory* also brings together information — admittedly fragmentary at times — from 84 countries as different in their research interests as Iceland, Peru, and Vietnam. If no reproduction service seems to exist in a country, the scholar is at least directed to an important library, archive, or research center, addresses of these being regularly supplied.

Noncommercial as well as commercial services are described; details of the size and character of reproductions furnished, policies with reference to copyright, and prices in effect in 1949 are also given. Other features of the publication include a brief list of published guides that give the location of additional services for microfilm and other reproductions, and also a short survey of modern processes of documentary reproduction. The main body of the *Directory* consists of information arranged according to the geographical scheme of the Universal Decimal Classification; therefore an alphabetical index of countries facilitates the use of the guide.

In making an over-all estimate of the significance of this physically small pamphlet, one must keep in mind the excellence of the pattern it sets for international coverage of a field in which adequate and convenient sources of information are hard to come by. FID and UNESCO deserve present gratitude for this preliminary edition, as well as future cooperation in the enlargement and perfecting of the editions that will follow.

BLANCHE PRICHARD MCCRUM

Library of Congress

Union List of Microfilms, compiled by Philadelphia Bibliographical Center and Union Library Catalogue. Revised, Enlarged and Cumulated Edition [edited by Eleanor Este Campion]. (Ann Arbor, Mich. J. W. Edwards, 1951. Pp. xvi; 1961 numbered columns. \$17.50. Lithoprinted.)

Interlibrary loan services, especially, will welcome this lithoprinted volume, which includes references to 25,000 microfilms held by 197 institutions in the United States and Canada. It includes the entries in the first edition of the *Union List of Microfilms* (1942) and its five supplements (1943-1947), plus some 6,500 additional entries compiled by the editors from information they received, 1947-1949.

The entries are in single alphabetic arrangement, by author (or title, where authorship cannot be indicated). As manuscript material on film is notably lacking in this *Union List*, this arrangement is probably the best that could have been adopted. Location of the positives and of the original material is given where such information is available.

Where newspapers appear in *Newspapers on Microfilm* (1948), a reference is made to the appropriate page in that work, thus giving it a title index. Microfilms produced by the American Council of Learned Societies' British Manuscripts Project are listed by library, collection, and manuscript number. No attempt has been made to duplicate the University Microfilms cross index of books filmed from the *Short Title List*. Considering the severe limitations under which this *Union List* was obviously compiled, such expedients seem quite justified.

While this work is in no sense an annotated bibliography, the editors have prefixed each entry with the Library of Congress subject symbol. The diligent student may be able to use this work to some extent in his research if he has the patience to seek out the appropriate symbols throughout the 1961 columns.

In general, this volume is an able piece of compilation. However, the separate lists of keys to symbols for contributing institutions and institutions owning originals might well have been combined, into one list, to facilitate usage. The value of the volume would have been enhanced if it could have been indicated by symbol whether an institution's film could be borrowed or copied.

The chief fault of this new *Union List* is not the fault of its compilers, who have done an admirable job with the materials available. The publishing of a true *Union List of Microfilms* must await the action of the holders of the film. Until the libraries of this country can catch up on the job of cataloging microfilm (especially film of manuscript material) and provide some central organization (such as the Philadelphia Bibliographical Center and Union Library Catalogue) with full information on their holdings, any list will be necessarily incomplete, no matter how carefully it has been prepared.

ROBERT E. BURKE

The Bancroft Library

List of File Microcopies of the National Archives. (Washington. United States Government Printing Office. Pp. v, 67.)

The current edition of the *List of File Microcopies of the National Archives* should prove a most useful tool for those carrying on research in the fields of

American, European, Far Eastern, and Latin American history, as well as in local history and genealogy. Compiled by Albert H. Leisinger, Jr., of the Exhibits and Publications Section of the National Archives, this publication lists 3,478 rolls of 35 mm. master negatives which have been completed as a result of nearly two hundred microfilm projects.

Instituted in 1940 by the Archivist of the United States, the File Microcopy Program of the National Archives has as its purpose the microphotographic reproduction of selected records of the Government in order to make valuable sources available to investigators at a distance from Washington. Although a comprehensive development of the program has never been possible, special reference service requests have included the filming of several items of particular interest. Among these are the *Revolutionary War Prize Cases, 1776-87*; *Records of the Russian-American Company, 1802-67*; *Records Relating to the Wilkes Expedition, 1836-42*; materials relating to diplomatic relations between the United States and the Far East through 1906; the *Journal of Charles Mason during the Survey of the Mason and Dixon Line*; and a World War II collection of seized enemy records.

For the most part, arrangement of the list is according to the organization of the Government. The following information is given for each microcopy: title, inclusive dates, total number of rolls filmed and total footage, the file microcopy number, a general descriptive or explanatory note when needed, and a list of rolls, giving numbers, dates, and footages. The films themselves include appropriate title pages and introductory notes. In some cases they also show tables of contents, indexes, and special lists of the records microcopied.

Positive prints of one or more rolls are available at a cost of \$4.00 for each 50 feet of film to the nearest 50 feet, the cost to be calculated on the total footage of each order. A copy of the *List* may be obtained free from the National Archives, Washington 25, D. C.

DONALD C. HOLMES

Library of Congress

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

The need has long been urged by historians and archivists for a guide to historical manuscripts on a nation-wide basis which would be somewhat comparable to the Union Catalogue of Printed Books established and administered by the Library of Congress. The field of manuscripts presents special difficulties in bringing essential information under control because of the very nature and diversity of the materials. The scholar wants to know whether certain records are in existence; if so, where they are located; and then, having located them, he asks first what period they cover, how extensive they are, and what information is readily available on the nature of their content. This brief essential information he can already obtain from the published guides of certain institutions, but these are few in number, although most of them are of high quality, thanks chiefly to the work of the Historical Records Survey in this field over a decade ago.