

Reviews of Books

RICHARD G. WOOD, *Editor*

National Archives

A Guide to Utah Manuscripts in the Bancroft Library, With an Introduction to Hubert Howe Bancroft and the History of Utah, by George Ellsworth. (Reprinted from the *Utah Historical Quarterly*, 22:99-124, 197-247, April, July, 1954.)

Dr. Ellsworth, an assistant professor of history at the Utah State Agricultural College, has divided his monograph into two parts. The first is a historical introduction on Bancroft and the history of Utah. The second, twice as large, is the guide to manuscripts in the Bancroft Library that concern Utah history.

In the latter half of the nineteenth century Hubert Howe Bancroft undertook to write a monumental and definitive history of western America. In the course of his researches he and his staff assembled more than 60,000 volumes and over 100,000 manuscripts. The manuscripts consist of autobiographies, interviews, copies of statutes, diaries and journals, and first-person narratives of participants in historical events. Bancroft spoke the truth when he said, "He who shall come after me will scarcely be able to undermine my work by laying another or a deeper foundation. He must build upon mine or not at all, for he cannot go beyond my authorities for facts."

The Bancroft collection was sold in 1905 to the University of California for \$250,000, and it formed the nucleus of the Bancroft Library. Since then the collection has been considerably augmented by gifts and purchases, the most notable of which were copies of hundreds of interviews and diaries collected by the Historical Records Survey of Utah.

Professor Ellsworth discusses the manuscripts in two major groups, each with two subdivisions. The first group comprises the manuscripts acquired from Bancroft and is subdivided into "Utah Manuscripts" and "Other Classifications." The documents in the latter subgroup, although pertaining to other States, contain material of interest to the student of Utah history. The manuscripts in the second group are those acquired by the library since 1905; these are subdivided in the same way as those in the first group. The entries are arranged alphabetically within each subdivision.

A typical entry gives the full name of the author and the dates of his birth and death, the title of the manuscript and the place and date of writing, the number of volumes and/or pages, the size, a short description of the author and the contents of the manuscript, and the library's call number for the manuscript.

The *Guide* was written for the student of the history of Utah and of the Mormons, and as such it admirably fulfills its purpose. The historian and the

archivist may well congratulate Dr. Ellsworth for preparing this excellent and invaluable finding aid for the student of western American history. It is to be hoped that Dr. Ellsworth will eventually do the same spadework for the collections of the Utah Historical Society.

M. HAMLIN CANNON

Washington, D. C.

City of Philadelphia, Department of Records. *Annual Report, 1954* (Philadelphia, the Department, 1955. Pp. 42. Processed.)

This report should be read by anyone interested in municipal records. No other city presents a comparable summary of its records activities; for that matter, no other city has a department of records. The experiences of Philadelphia in the areas of archives and records center administration, document recording (particularly of deeds and other legal instruments), forms control and design, records control, and microphotography are carefully outlined here for those of us who choose to recognize their true significance. The major cities in this country are becoming increasingly aware of their records problems. They would be wise to watch Philadelphia in its pioneering as one of the very small group of American cities that are doing something positive about a serious situation.

The report itself is not remarkable either in appearance or content. It is printed in offset and is paperbound. The few illustrations could serve a more useful function if they were more significant and carried captions; charts and graphs could be more numerous than they are. The progress and accomplishments of the year are carefully set forth, but this reviewer would personally like to see set forth in some detail the methods and procedures behind them. The arrangement of the report is logical, printing first an organization chart and then discussing the activities of the various divisions in the department. These are the Deeds Division, the Archives Division (which encompasses the records center), and the Forms Control and Records Service Division. Finally the report gives a general summary of achievements, problems and plans.

Of particular interest to members of this Society is that part of the report that deals with the Archives Division under the Archivist, Charles Evans Hughes, Jr. The matter-of-fact summary of his historical "finds," the acquisition of the old Customs House for an Archives building, the details of savings to the city in dollars and space through the Archives' and the records center's activities come very close to dramatic reading.

RICHARD RUDELL

Ford Motor Company Archives

Early American Science; Needs and Opportunities for Study, by Whitfield J. Bell, Jr. (Williamsburg, Va., Institute of Early American History and Culture, 1955. Pp. vii, 85. \$1.25.)

During 1952-53 the Institute of Early American History and Culture conducted at Williamsburg three conferences on the needs and opportunities

for study in several inadequately investigated fields: early American science, early American law, and Indian relations before 1830. In each field an authoritative specialist presented a survey paper, which was critically discussed by the other participants and was later revised for publication with an extensive bibliographical supplement. Dr. Bell's review of science, the first to be published, certainly sets a high standard for its successors. The survey occupies 34 pages with 63 bibliographical footnotes; the bibliography is in 4 parts and occupies 44 pages; 36 of these are devoted to the final part, biobibliographies of 50 early American scientists. The first 2 parts of the bibliography, on the general history of science and the history of science in America to 1820, do not repeat titles which appear in the footnotes to the survey. The index, of less than 3 double-column pages, is far from exhaustive.

Dr. Bell, in the course of noticing much valuable work already done, indicates the categories in which further study is desirable: bibliographies above all, particularly in order to catch important historical studies published in scientific journals; biographies ("Perhaps in historiography the biographical stage corresponds with the taxonomic in natural science"), including those of amateurs and patrons of science and European teachers and correspondents of American scientists; histories of individual sciences in America, especially astronomy, physics, chemistry, navigation, surveying, and ethnology; pseudo-science; education in science, especially intensive studies of individual colleges and of the academies in general; scientific intercommunication, especially transatlantic; scientific organizations; scientific popularization, including public lectures and museums; and science and society, including the problems of the support and the prestige of scientists.

Dr. Bell, in his survey and its footnotes, and in part four of his bibliography, gives much attention to archival and manuscript sources of certain or possible value for further research. He notes as one of the basic difficulties of the subject that fact that papers of men of science have been less fully preserved than those of public men or belletrists. Relevant materials in the National Archives are the records of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, the meteorological records of the Surgeon-General's Office, the cartographic records of the General Land Office, and related materials of the Office of the Chief of Engineers. Dr. Bell inquires whether the logs of naval vessels and the records of naval medical officers will prove worth investigation by historians of science. He calls attention to the value of university archives ("of which the Harvard University Archives are both richest and best organized") for those studies of individual colleges that he desires, and to the papers of the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, now arranged and preserved in the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania. Examples of European sources are the papers of William Cullen, preserved at the Royal College of Physicians at Edinburgh, which document his American influence, and the letter books of Allen and Hanbury, still in possession of that company in London, which include their correspondence with American pharmacists. Each of the 50 biobibliographies contains information on manuscript sources when any are known.

It is worth noticing that in Philadelphia there are major collections for 27 of these men and minor collections for 9 more. To some extent this information reflects the special knowledge acquired by Dr. Bell in preparing his dissertation, "Science and Humanity in Philadelphia, 1775-1790" (University of Pennsylvania, 1947; Publication No. 2499 of University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, 1951); even more it mirrors the special position of Philadelphia as the then largest and most progressive of American cities. In some instances Dr. Bell would doubtless have given fuller references if he had had more space at his disposal, but the volume as it stands is an admirable realization of its purpose. Apropos of the difficulty of being precise in every sphere, it is misleading to speak of "the chieftainship of the Cherokees" (p. 13); G. H. E. Muhlenberg signed himself Henry, not Gotthilf (p. 13); and no student of our early national coinage would call the directorship of the United States Mint a sinecure (p. 33).

DONALD H. MUGRIDGE

Library of Congress

The American Bibliography of Charles Evans; a Chronological Dictionary of All Books, Pamphlets, and Periodical Publications Printed in the United States of America From the Genesis of Printing in 1639 Down to and Including the Year 1800, With Bibliographical and Biographical Notes; Volume 13, 1799-1800, by Clifford K. Shipton. (Worcester, Mass., American Antiquarian Society, 1955. Pp. 349. \$25.)

To say more in appraising the volume under review than that it is a credit to its series seems superfluous. Mr. Shipton has brought to conclusion the project of the late Charles Evans for a bibliography of American imprints from 1639 to 1800. This is the terminal date Evans himself had selected for the work he had originally hoped to bring down to 1820. Mr. Shipton's preface is good reading and merits attention. His tribute to the magnificent personal accomplishment of Charles Evans presents some new facts on Evans' working methods. (Where the accomplishment is so large, method is of perennial interest.)

The compiler has made some changes in the Evans system, in which we observe the values of the scholar, the bibliographer, and the practicing librarian (Mr. Shipton is all three) exercised in nice equilibrium. These changes are the adoption of more rigorous criteria for inclusion of titles, improved practice in the entry of anonymous and pseudonymous works, more fully quoted imprints, indication of size without regard to fold, and the inclusion of all locations useful to scholars or booksellers. At the same time, in view of mounting printing costs, titles have been shortened, with omissions carefully noted. And, while the compiler has himself examined the majority of titles, he has quite sensibly not felt obliged "to retrace the steps of competent and reliable bibliographers even though they might use a somewhat different system of describing pagination."

Negotiations are under way for the preparation of a supplementary and

index volume, as projected by Evans. This volume would include titles omitted from their proper place in the series and a master index. It would correct Evans' weakness in entering anonymous titles under doubtful author headings.

What of the period 1800-1820? Mr. Shipton is of the opinion that the product of the American press for this period can best be studied and recorded in small segments, preferably by city or press. It is to be doubted that there is better opinion available, since he has in progress in the library of the American Antiquarian Society an imprints catalog that already covers perhaps 70 percent of the books and pamphlets published in those two decades.

It is appropriate that the appearance of the present volume should so nearly coincide with the announcement by the American Antiquarian Society that it will publish in microprint the full text of all the titles listed in Evans. Nonserial titles will be reproduced first, and it is hoped that this part of the project will be finished within 10 years. The availability of such a resource, like Evans itself, is a contribution of the first order to American scholarship.

LESTER W. SMITH

National Archives

Pictorial Americana, a Select List of Photographic Negatives in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress, compiled by Milton Kaplan, edited by Charles G. LaHood, Jr. (2d ed., Washington, Library of Congress, 1955. Pp. 68. 25c, from Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.)

Selective Checklist of Prints and Photographs, Recently Cataloged and Made Available for Reference, Lots 4121-4801. (Washington, Library of Congress, Reference Department, Prints and Photographs Division, 1954. Pp. 87. 70c, from Card Division, Library of Congress, Washington 25, D. C.)

These two publications are excellent guides to rare or unusual illustrative material. *Pictorial Americana* lists more than 4,000 items for which the Library of Congress holds copy negatives. The rather miscellaneous items are arranged by subject classification and thereunder in chronological sequence. They are primarily lithographs, drawings, sketches, woodcuts, and some photographs; many are from *Harper's Weekly*, *Ballou's*, or *Leslie's*. The period covered is principally the nineteenth century, with some earlier material, and the subjects range from Columbus to women's rights, with some interesting oddities like "Rosenberg's Great East India Horse Invigorator." There are excellent sections pertaining to the Civil War, American Presidents, and presidential campaigns and other political activities.

The *Selective Checklist* is a general inventory of more than 600 accessions described by lot, with a subject index. The lots consist chiefly of photographic items. Most important are the documentary photographs of the Civil War period, many by Mathew Brady, Alexander Gardner, and other great photographers of the time. Other lots contain printing samples, cartoons, posters,

drawings, lithographs, post cards, and some more unusual media. Some of the lots were gifts and are of rather ephemeral character. The subjects covered by the list show the widest possible variety. Most of the lots consist of American documentary items; these include, in addition to the conventional historical source material, items on social history such as marriage customs, the labor movement, migrant workers, and sports. Other subjects covered are foreign countries, foreign and domestic arts and crafts, foreign political parties and leaders, mythology, and religion.

The two publications, apart from their great value for pictorial source material, are helpful to picture librarians and archivists as useful examples for describing pictorial material that is often difficult to handle.

HERMINE BAUMHOFFER

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

Mission Abroad, 1861-1862; a Selection of Letters From Archbishop Hughes, Bishop McIlvaine, W. H. Seward, and Thurlow Weed. (Rochester, N. Y., University of Rochester Press, Micropublication Service, ca. 1954. 17 microcards, 3" x 5".)

Here are reproduced originals and typed transcripts of an important group of letters of William Henry Seward, Thurlow Weed, Archbishop John Hughes, and Bishop Charles Pettit McIlvaine pertaining to an unofficial diplomatic mission to Europe during the early days of the Civil War. These envoys for the State Department went abroad at the request of the Administration in November 1861 to enlist the sympathies of the governments and the peoples of France and England in the cause of the North and to counteract the pleadings of other emissaries representing the South. Being private communications exchanged between personal friends, the letters informally record the activities, as well as a measure of success, in lessening the tension between the nations concerned. Never before has this correspondence been grouped nor even published in full. Note again that the papers are reproduced here from both originals and typescripts numbering 616 pages in all.

For this project the letters, lent cooperatively by Kenyon College, the Archives of the Archdiocese of New York, and the University of Rochester, were published by the new micropublication service of the University's press, which limits its publication to opaque microtext. This further experiment in making scattered source material inexpensively available is done with both care and clarity and therefore will be welcomed warmly.

The cards were read by this reviewer through projection on 3 types of microprint readers. Unfortunately, the bottom margin on some cards is not sufficient to avoid conflict with the card holder used by Kodagraph Model A.

CHARLES E. RUSH

University of North Carolina

The Hoover Library Collection on Russia, by Witold S. Sworakowski. [Hoover Institute and Library on War, Revolution, and Peace, Collection Survey, no. 1.] (Stanford, Calif., Stanford University Press, 1954. Pp. 42, appendix.)

This pamphlet, the first of the *Collection Survey* series of the Hoover Institute and Library, was written by the area curator for Eastern Europe to give accurate information on the contents of the Russian collection. The plan used in discussing these holdings, which now number over 40,000 items, combines topical concentration with chronology and provides a logical approach to the vast amount of material described.

The introductory chapter explains the history of the collection, which began shortly after the close of World War I with the narrow field of Russia's role in that war and the 1917 revolution. Since that time the scope of the collection has gradually been widened to cover political, social, and economic developments in the country during the nineteenth century and in some cases as far back as the medieval period. The result has been to create a source of research material of incomparable value, one of the five leading collections on the subject in the United States.

The main part of the pamphlet discusses the holdings in five parts. The first evaluates general reference works, regardless of place of publication. Then follow four sections that treat in turn the following subjects: the Tsarist period; the Provisional Government to November 7, 1917; the Soviet period; and the Comintern, Cominform, and related organizations. In each section the holdings are described under categories such as documents, books, pamphlets, manuscripts, periodicals, and newspapers. The author evaluates each group as to size, completeness, or special strength, so that the reader can gauge its importance at once.

A selective checklist of significant periodicals and newspapers, given in the appendix, will serve as a useful reference tool. Most items except serials, newspapers, and restricted papers are available through interlibrary loan.

MARY G. CARY

Swarthmore College

Libraries and Archives in Sweden, by Gösta Ottervik, Sigurd Möhlenbrock, [and] Ingvar Andersson, [translated] from the Swedish manuscript by Richard Cox. (Stockholm, Swedish Institute, 1954. Pp. 217. Kronor 10:)

This is one of a series of volumes on Sweden that the Swedish Institute of Stockholm has been publishing in foreign languages since 1951. A bibliography (pp. 205 and 206) lists 10 titles in English, 9 in French, 2 in German, 1 in Italian, and 5 in Spanish. The range of topics covered in these popular publications is broad, including agriculture, architecture, climate, history, education, the press, social security, the theater, and music.

The greater part of the book under review is devoted to libraries. This part need not detain us here except to remark that a number of Swedish libraries, like those in other countries, have manuscript collections. The li-

brary of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science contains the papers of Swedenborg and a large number of letters to and from Linnaeus, J. J. Berzelius, and other prominent scientists. It is not surprising to learn that in a country as old as Sweden the Royal Library and the libraries of the great universities of Uppsala and Lund have custody of valuable medieval manuscripts in addition to others of later date. Though the library of the Riksdag administers the Riksdag's archives, the greater part of the legislative records are on deposit in the National Archives.

Ingvar Andersson's discussion of "Archives in Sweden" (pp. 169-201) covers the National Archives (Riksarkivet), the provincial or regional archives, the Royal Archives of the Army and Navy, the archives of several central administrative boards (each administered by its own staff), and private archives. The public records system in Sweden is under the Ministry for Ecclesiastical Affairs and Education. It consists of the National Archives, seven provincial and county archives, and two municipal archives. The National Archives, which corresponds to the Archives Nationales in Paris and the Public Record Office in London, "exercises supervision over the formation, listing and preservation of the records of the country's civil administration." The Royal Archives of the Army and Navy, under the Ministry of Defense, performs similar service with respect to the records of the military establishments; it is housed in a fine modern building in Stockholm.

With some exceptions the Swedish public records are accessible to the public. The public records system cannot boast of such devices as the book railbus, the special library boat, and bookmobiles (see pictures, pp. 126, 127, and 147), but it does what it can to encourage the use of records by private persons. The three central research buildings of the National Archives in Stockholm are generally open from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. (9 a. m. to 4 p. m. in the summer), and the main building is also open on certain evenings from 7 to 9 p. m. Yet the number of research visits to the National Archives has not kept pace in recent years with the number of visits to the provincial archives. Owing to increased interest in genealogy and local history, the number of visits to the provincial archives rose from less than 6,300 in 1920 to more than 23,300 in 1950. For 1950 the National Archives reported 20,000 visits.

Our Swedish colleagues, Mr. Andersson reveals, are ground between the upper and nether millstones of mounting masses of modern records and shrinking space in which to house them. The National Archives has not been able for several years to receive new accessions. A royal commission is studying the question of "weeding" the files, and many of its proposals have already been put into effect. More "weeding" is in prospect.

CARL L. LOKKE

National Archives

New Zealand, National Archives. *Preliminary Inventory No. 5, Archives of the Provinces of Otago and Southland*. (Wellington, Department of Internal Affairs, April 1955. Pp. 16.)

This inventory describes the records of two provincial governments in the southern part of South Island, New Zealand, for the years 1853 to 1877. When New Zealand was divided into six provinces by the Constitution Act of 1852, this area became the province of Otago with its capital at Dunedin. As in all the provinces, the freeholders and leaseholders elected a superintendent and a provincial council for a term of 4 years, with power to legislate on local matters subject to the veto of the Governor of New Zealand. The provincial council established an executive council to advise the superintendent in the exercise of his executive power. The most important administrative functions in the hands of the provinces related to immigration, public works, education, public health, jails, and police.

After the settlers around Invercargill had sought independence from Otago for several years, their request to be recognized as the province of Southland was granted in 1861 under the New Provinces Act of 1858. In 1870, however, chiefly because of dwindling revenue, Southland was forced to reunite with Otago. During the 1870's, when the General Government of New Zealand inaugurated a large-scale program of road, railroad, and telegraph improvement and encouraged more immigration, there was less need for provincial governments. All the provinces were abolished in 1876 by the Abolition of Provinces Act, and their place was taken to some extent by counties and municipalities.

The records of the province of Otago passed into the hands of the General Government in 1877 and are still arranged according to office of origin and function. They consist of the journals and papers of the provincial council, the minutes of the executive council, the correspondence of the superintendent, and some fiscal and legal files. Soon after the reunion of Southland with Otago, the archives of the former province came into the custody of the provincial council of Otago, and the council ordered their rearrangement and cataloging by subject. The result is that the records of governmental units similar to those of Otago are filed under such subject headings as "Cemeteries," "Financial," and "Gold Fields." Unfortunately, about a third of the Southland archives are missing and are represented in the inventory only by titles.

The introduction includes an administrative history of New Zealand and of the two provinces for the period as well as a short history of the archives of each province. In the body of the inventory the records are described in series entries, each of which gives the title, date span, volume, and a brief description. An appendix lists the official publications of both provincial governments.

To the researcher, this inventory will be useful because it will enable him to determine which records are likely to contain the information he desires. As was the case with the four previous inventories, the compiler in the National Archives (formerly called the Dominion Archives) is left completely

anonymous. It would be interesting to hear a comparison of the problems of reference which must arise on these two groups of records—the one arranged according to provenance and the other in an artificial order created by later custodians.

FRANCIS J. HEPPNER

National Archives

Lancashire Record Office Report for 1954 [by R. Sharpe France (?) for the Lancashire County Council]. (Preston, T. Snape & Co. Ltd., 1955 (?). Pp. 24.)

The Civil War in Lancashire. [Lancashire Record Office "Materials of History," pamphlet no. 5]. (Preston, T. Snape & Co. Ltd., 1955. Folded sheet, unpagged.)

Lincolnshire Archives Committee, Archivists' Report, 25 March 1954-30 March 1955, by Joan Varley and Dorothy M. Williamson. (Lincoln (?), W. K. Morton and Sons, Sleaford and Bourne, 1955. Pp. 67.)

Report for 1954, by M. F. Bond. [House of Lords Record Office memorandum no. 12]. (Westminster, 31st December 1954. Processed, pp. 10.)

Enough predecessor publications of these vocal but fundamentally dissimilar British record offices have been reviewed in this magazine to justify waiving any long introductions. For their most recent reporting year the record offices compare in number of searchers served about as follows: Lancashire, 1,350; Lincolnshire, 957; and the House of Lords, 402.

In Lancashire's streamlined annual report, the county Archivist has elected to distinguish his accessions only by brief subject titles, listed alphabetically by name of depositor. Major space is devoted to a discussion of the records of the western deaneries of the Archdeaconry of Richmond and to the collection of Kenyon correspondence. The report is printed on glazed paper, with four full-page illustrations and a colorful cover.

Besides arranging for frequent lectures, about two each week throughout the year, the Lancashire Record Office sponsors a series of inexpensive but neatly printed leaflets designed for distribution when the contents of portable showcases are being exhibited around the county. Pamphlet No. 5, the latest in this series, is entitled *The Civil War in Lancashire*; and though merely a single sheet folded into eight columnar pages, it provides space for an introduction, a list of the exhibited documents, an explanation of local aspects of the Cromwellian period, and a select bibliography.

Lincolnshire's sizable annual report is conservatively printed and appropriately jacketed. Again the Archivist and his assistant have collaborated to good effect in their year's work and in their type of reporting. Half the available pages are analytic essays on new gifts and deposits. Also developed are such other topics as further work on existing deposits, local authority records, diocesan records, dean and chapter records, parish records, and records in other custody. The titles of articles and books published by users of the records at Lincoln continue to show a heavy interest in the Middle Ages.

At Westminster the accessioning of judicial records is growing; and, according to House of Lords Record Office Memorandum No. 12, the nineteenth century is outrunning the seventeenth in popularity for research. The Lords failed in efforts to purchase certain parliamentary records for sale by Lord Bray, and their record office has had to be content with photographs of these records made by the Air Ministry before the originals passed to American ownership. During the year more than 800 plans, presumably plats and maps, were cleaned, repaired, and backed with linen. The flattening and repair of rolled parchment original statutes continues. The upper floors of the Victoria Tower, now renovated, provide space for about 24,000 additional cubic feet of records. This pamphlet reveals the nature of two issuances that have not been noted before: Memoranda no. 9, a catalog of a special display of parliamentary manuscripts, and no. 11, a discussion of the Lord Bray sale.

H. B. FANT

National Archives

Colony of Mauritius. *Annual Report of the Archives Department for the Year 1954*. (Port Louis, Mauritius. J. Eliel Felix, Government Printer, Mauritius, 1955. Pp. 32. 50c.)

This report, like its predecessors, opens with a statement of the functions of the Mauritius Archives and provides a summary of official holdings. In the first part of the year the Chief Archivist A. Toussaint spent 5 months overseas, and in September the Assistant Archivist, awarded a bursary by the Government of the French Republic, left to study archival techniques at the Archives Nationales. There are only two archivists on the staff; other employees are clerks, typists, a plans officer, a photostat operator, a binder, and messengers.

Acquisitions for the year consisted in part of registers of births, deaths and marriages, Port Louis, 1953; municipality, town, and district council records, 1952-1954; 29,677 original deeds; and 211 publications for the library. Lists of the publications are contained in the report. During the year, 300 deeds were calendared and the cataloging of maps and plans previously arranged were completed. A new section for special material was opened; this includes reproductions, currency, and stamps. The archives were used by 1,410 persons, an increase over last year.

The very informative volume, *Early American Trade With Mauritius*, was among the publications issued this year. Copies of some of the documents contained in the volume were furnished by the Archivist of the United States. Plans are being made by the Mauritius Publication Fund Committee for other publications. The bibliographical survey which began in 1951 with the object of tracing and recording all materials relating to Mauritius has progressed; there are now 1,962 entries.

It appears that most of the public archives are still held by the various departments, and if these are accessioned another repository will be needed.

The year 1954 marked the completion of 10 years of service for Dr. Toussaint with the Archives. In a general review of this period he lists the following accomplishments: the separation of the Archives office from that of the Registrar General, 1950; the enactment of new legislation on archives, 1952; the insurance of departmental control, 1953; the establishment of reproduction services, 1949; the bibliographical survey, begun in 1951; and the addition of stacks, the transfer of some Mauritiana from the libraries to the Archives, and the establishment of the Publication Fund in 1951.

Dr. Toussaint has accomplished much, and he has every reason to feel optimistic about the future of the Mauritius Archives.

SARA D. JACKSON

National Archives

Classification of Records, Pakistani System, Progressive Plan, by S. M. Jaffar. Peshawar, [West Pakistan], S. Muhammad Sadiq Khan, 1955. Pp. 20. Illus.)

This pamphlet, prepared primarily for those in charge of records of the government of West Pakistan, contains a system of classification of current records. It lays down the policy, principles, and procedure to be followed in classifying records in all types of offices and institutions of the government. Examples are given to explain and elucidate the system.

The system, known as the progressive plan or the Pakistani system, devised by S. M. Jaffar, Director of Archives, North West Frontier Province Government, was first used for the classification of books in libraries. The author has developed it to be equally applicable to the classification of current records of the government. Three fundamentals of record classification are considered: (1) the *base*, (2) the *plan*, and (3) the *notation*. The *base* is neither limited nor fixed, so that it can easily accommodate any number of subjects. The *plan* corresponds to accepted classification of information or knowledge, each main head to be divided and subdivided as many times as needed. The *notation* consists of Arabic numerals, the oblique (/) and the dot (.), which are common symbols in all languages. The oblique separates the subject or class number from the title (file) number, and the dot distinguishes one division from another, both under subject classification and title (file) classification.

According to the progressive plan the various subjects dealt with in the current records are classified and assigned Arabic class numbers. Number 1 is reserved for general correspondence. The first number of each group is reserved for papers too general in character to be assigned to a specific head as well as for papers too few to justify the opening of a separate head. Such subjects common to all offices and such subjects as are special to specific institutions are to be classified and their numbers assigned in advance with due regard to administrative requirements in each case. A register of the numbers assigned is to be kept in each office or institution. Old numbers, new numbers, and any cross-references are to be kept in the register of files.

Examples of broad classification and close classification are given. The symbols (or numerals signifying subjects) placed before the oblique are called

class numbers and those placed after the oblique are called *file numbers*. The two together are *call numbers*. Location marks, for records accommodated in several blocks, rooms, or racks, are added to the call number for the sake of convenience.

The progressive plan is a scientific system of classification of current records, lending itself to standardization of subjects and symbols, signifying them as easily in relation to a group of offices as in relation to a single office. The author contends that "such standardization will not only be possible but positively profitable in West Pakistan when all the Provinces, etc., are merged and made into one Unit."

He also says: "Though the *Progressive Plan* and the relevant notations are perfect in every respect and permit of unlimited expansion, there is always, in actual practice, a point up to which classification can be carried with advantage and beyond which it begins to become more and more cumbersome. What is that point? It will differ in different cases and will be determined in each case, by the record-keeper concerned, keeping in view the bulk of records and the nature of their contents."

S. M. Jaffar, Director of Archives, North-West Frontier Province Government; member of the Pakistan Historical Records and Archives Commission, corresponding member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, convener of the Regional [Records] Survey Committee for N.W.F.P. and Frontier States, formerly professor of history at Islamia College, Peshawar, and the author of works on the classification of books and record keeping, is well qualified to devise and establish a system of classification for current records.

EMMA M. SCHEFFLER

Illinois State Library

The Rolls and Register of Bishop Oliver Sutton, 1280-1299, vols. 1-3, edited by Rosalind M. T. Hill. [Lincoln Record Society Publications, vols. 39, 43, and 48.] (Hereford, England, 1948, 1950, 1954. Pp. i, xxvii, 295; xix, 205; lxxxvi, 250.)

This review is concerned with the three volumes published so far in a series dealing with the records of Oliver Sutton's episcopate. Sutton was Bishop of Lincoln from 1280 to 1299. In each volume the text is preceded by a section on abbreviations and notes and by an illuminating introduction. Following the text there are in each volume an index of subjects, an index of persons and places, and an index of counties and countries. Volume 3 contains also a short list of corrections for volumes 1 and 2 and an itinerary of Sutton during the years of his episcopate.

The introduction to volume 1 gives a careful description as a whole of the Sutton manuscripts, which are preserved in the Diocesan Record Office at Lincoln. They include one large volume and six rolls. During the first 10 years of Sutton's episcopate the records were kept in rolls. The memoranda and institution rolls for the archdeacons of Oxford, Huntingdon, and Buckingham have disappeared. The institution roll for the archdeaconry of

Leicester has been mutilated. The institution rolls for the archdeacons of Lincoln, Stow, Northampton, and Bedford are complete and cover the years from 1280 to 1290.

Volume 1 contains records of the institutions relating to the archdeaconry of Lincoln. Normal entries have been calendared in abbreviated form. In the case of an unusual entry such as a disputed presentation, a license for the appropriation of a church or an election in a religious house, a transcription in full has been made and is preceded by a short summary in English. This volume with its records of routine administration throws light on the personality of the bishop as well as on certain conditions of the times. It reveals a man who insisted on maintaining the canon law inviolate. He was meticulous about the use of proper form and procedure in all documents. He would allow nothing that might prejudice the rights of his see. Furthermore he was careful in providing that vicars should have adequate dues. In the archdeaconry of Lincoln papal provisions to livings were extremely rare. The men instituted to benefices were with few exceptions of English birth, generally from the surrounding counties. A dispute about a presentation was settled in the king's courts.

Volume 2 covers the institutions in the archdeaconry of Northampton (the counties of Northampton and Rutland). As in the archdeaconry of Lincoln the same emphasis is found on the enforcement of canon law and on regularity of procedure. Elections are often quashed by the bishop because of faulty procedure, but the candidate nominated is frequently duly appointed and instituted by the bishop on his own responsibility. The parochial clergy are predominantly English and generally from the neighborhood. There is no evidence of an undue amount of papal provisions. We find interesting regulations laid down for the founding of chantries and the endowment of hospitals for the sick or the poor.

Volume 3 contains the memoranda for the period 1290-99. The memoranda cover a variety of topics such as sentences of excommunication, indulgences, commissions, letters dimissory, dispensations, appeals, and proxies. The introduction to this volume is in two sections. The first is a discussion of the bishop and his family. The second deals with the bishop and his diocese. This introduction is a significant contribution in that it presents a well-rounded and detailed picture of the role of an English bishop in the late thirteenth century. The editor has made skillful use of her massive materials and with judgment and discrimination has written an account from which the reader gains not only a familiarity with the manifold duties of the bishop but also an insight into the personality of the man himself. The able editing of these volumes is an outstanding example of how an accumulation of apparently dry records can come to life in the hands of an editor who is both highly trained and gifted with sound historical imagination. Those who have profited by these three volumes will await with interest the concluding issues in the series.

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Official Publications of the Colony and State of North Carolina, 1749-1939; a Bibliography, compiled by Mary Lindsay Thornton. (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1954. Pp. [x], 347, front.)

The culmination of the work of a quarter century is this checklist of more than 4,000 publications of the State of North Carolina, from colonial to modern times. Miss Thornton, librarian of the North Carolina collection at the University of North Carolina Library, undertook her study of the State's documents in 1921 and with pardonable pride presented her completed work to the scholarly world in March 1954.

In the tradition of Bowker or Hasse, the present work offers an alphabetical author list, with full cataloging information, appropriate references, and a serviceable index. With the symbols made familiar to us through their use in numerous union lists, the holdings of nine libraries in North Carolina and nine elsewhere are indicated. The record of holdings of the Huntington Library, the University of Chicago Library, and the Public Record Office in London indicates the extent of Miss Thornton's researches. The Public Record Office holds copies of 12 publications (nos. 464, 836-838, 1818, 1819, 1821-1823, 1825, 2088, and 2095) — all, as might be expected, belonging to the colonial period.

A useful feature is the brief administrative history of each department, preceding the description of its publications. Such histories are sometimes given for agencies which issued no publications before the bibliography's terminal date of 1939.

It may be said that the bibliography displays at the same time the advantages and disadvantages of the alphabetical over the classified list. For the librarian, publication in hand, it performs its intended function admirably.

The archivist might prefer a classified arrangement that would reveal administrative organization or hint at chronology. A kind of classification is achieved in the handling of entries for *General assembly*, *Governor*, *Laws*, *statutes*, etc., and one or two other such entries, where by the device of ignoring in filing the parenthetical "Colony" — as in (*Colony*) *General Assembly* — it has been possible to list together all publications of the colonial and statehood periods.

The lack of entry under *State Department of Archives and History*, whose splendid reports are well known in the archival world, must not disturb the archivist. This department was known as the *Historical Commission* until 1943, when its name was changed by act of the General Assembly; and its publications until the end of 1939 are entered under the earlier name.

Such information has been given in a supplementary checklist, issued in mimeographed form by the documents department of the University of North Carolina Library from January 1940 to December 1946 and resumed in August 1952.

DOROTHY V. MARTIN

Burton Historical Collection
Detroit Public Library