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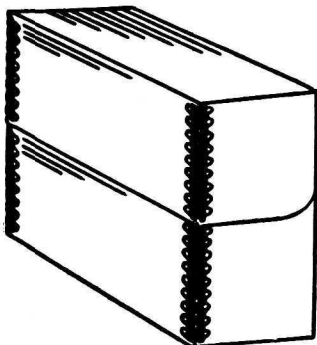
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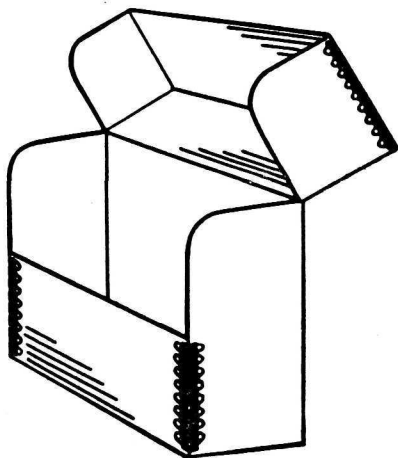
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The Third International Congress of Archivists

By ROBERT H. BAHMER¹

National Archives

THE International Congress of Archivists held in Florence, Italy, during the last week of September 1956 was the third such meeting held since World War II. The congresses have been held every third year since 1950 under the leadership of the International Council on Archives. The Council, a permanent body, was established in 1948 under the auspices of UNESCO.

Undoubtedly this Third Congress will be judged to have been even more successful than the previous two. From the standpoint of attendance it was outstanding. Unofficial figures showed that over 600 archivists attended the meeting. I should judge that the number exceeded that; certainly if one includes the attendants, visitors, wives, and photographers, there must have been many more.

Every nation in Europe with the exception of Bulgaria was represented. The delegates included the archivists of Luxembourg and Monaco. For the first time, I believe, the archivists of Eastern Europe attended the Congress. The delegation from Soviet Russia, headed by Mr. Belov, Chief Archivist of the USSR, numbered some 18 archivists and included representatives from the Ukraine and Byelo Russia as well as from Moscow. Romania, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia sent from 2 to a dozen representatives each. The Near East was represented by archivists from Israel, Egypt, and Turkey. Archivists from Africa were present from both Spanish and French Morocco, Rhodesia, the Gold Coast, Algeria, East Africa, Tunis, and the Belgian Congo. One representative was registered from Australia, one from India, and one from the island of Mauritius. Among the European delegations, those from Italy and France were the largest, as was to be expected. The published list of registrants indicated almost 150 Italian and well over 100 French archivists among the delegates.

¹ Article based on a report made at the luncheon session of the annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Washington, D. C., September 11, 1956. Dr. Bahmer, Deputy Archivist of the United States, represented the National Archives and Records Service at the congress in Florence.

The Western Hemisphere was not well represented. Including wives, there were less than a dozen registered from the United States: Dr. and Mrs. Solon J. Buck; Dr. and Mrs. Philip M. Hamer; David C. Duniway and his family; William Barrow and Randolph Church of Virginia; and my family and I. Mr. Fee of Ottawa was present — I saw him — Mr. Roy of Quebec was registered — I didn't see him if he was in attendance. Cuba and Venezuela were the only other American nations represented.

I have stressed the number and geographical distribution of the representatives to indicate, I suppose, how bewildering an affair of this kind can be to an American, particularly an American whose knowledge of spoken foreign languages is limited to about a dozen simple words of German. Bill Barrow was wise; he engaged an interpreter, and thus was able freely to mingle and communicate with the delegates. Those of us who were restricted by language were, of course, deprived of much of the pleasure that results from informal and personal discussion.

The Third Congress was opened formally at an impressive meeting in the Palazzo Vecchio on Tuesday morning. We were welcomed by Sig. Tamborni, Minister of the Interior, with considerably greater ceremony than most of us are accustomed to. Incidentally, Sig. Tamborni closed his words of welcome with a request to archivists everywhere. He said that a national commission in Italy is planning to issue a complete edition of the works and writings of the great Italian statesman Cavour, on the hundredth anniversary of his death, in 1961. The commission, Sig. Tamborni said, would welcome information from every source as to the existence of Cavour documents. If anyone has such materials among his holdings it would be a commendable act to let Sig. Tamborni know of them.

It can be taken for granted that Europeans run their meetings somewhat differently from ours. So that, added to the language difficulty, there was the frustration of not being entirely sure of what was expected of one and of not knowing how one should conduct oneself. It would be unfair of me to be critical at this point, but there were times when I thought a bit of so called American efficiency might have been helpful.

There were three working sessions of the Congress, each devoted to a particular topic of general archival interest. The meetings were held in the Uffizi Palace in Florence, best known, of course, as one of the outstanding art galleries of Europe, but also the repository of the archives of Florence. Indeed, the walls of the assembly room itself were lined with shelves containing thousands of venerable volumes of records important to Florentine history.

The basis for each meeting was a report prepared, published, and distributed before the session by a reporter. For the first session on "New Installations of Archives" (we should perhaps have said "The Construction and Equipment of Archives Buildings") the reporter was Ingvar Andersson, head of the Swedish Archives. The second session was on "The Selection of Archives for Permanent Preservation." The report on this subject was prepared by J. H. Collingridge of the British Public Record Office, but in his absence D. L. Evans, Deputy Keeper of the Records, substituted as the reporter. Count Filangieri, Inspector General of the Italian State Archives, was the reporter for the third session, on "Private Archives." I shall not attempt to summarize the contents of these reports. As I have said, they were published as pamphlets (in English, French, and Italian) and I suppose that they will in time be published in *Archivum*, together with abstracts of the comments made on them during the sessions. Every member of our society should, if he hasn't already done so, become a member of the International Council on Archives and receive this publication. The reports, broadly characterized, were general statements of each problem as seen by the reporter and a summary of policy and practice in each of the nations that responded to the reporter's questionnaire or requests for information. On the whole the practices of the United States were accurately set forth, except perhaps in the third report, on private archives.

I should make it clear, if I haven't already, that the reporters did not present their reports at the sessions. Instead, each opened the meeting with a few brief remarks supplementary to his report and then the floor was open for comment by the archivists attending the Congress. Anyone who wished to speak, or "intervene," was required to present his name to the president's office on the day before the session in which he was interested. Provision was made for simultaneous translation of the intervenor's remarks via headphones into English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, and perhaps other languages. The assembly hall was divided into language zones and I didn't count them all.

All of this sounds remarkably good, and it was. Some trouble developed in actual performance, as it turned out, because there were just too many archivists present who wanted to speak and who could not be denied. Like American archivists, the archivists at the Congress not only wanted to speak but they insisted on speaking at length. Most of the intervenors, in fact, read prepared papers. I doubt whether any one of them kept within the 5-minute limitation set by the presiding officers.

The first session, presided over by M. Braibant of the Archives Nationales (Paris), went off very well; Mr. Andersson's report on the construction and equipment of archival buildings was well received. The comments showed that the problem of archivists in this respect is basically the same everywhere: how to obtain the necessary funds to provide the physical equipment. I was much impressed to learn of the very considerable construction that has occurred since 1946. In France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Sweden, Finland, and elsewhere, new archives facilities, some central, some regional, have been provided.

European archivists are perhaps even more concerned with the possibilities of destruction by atomic and hydrogen bombs than we are. This led to a discussion of the advantages, first, of removing archival establishments from central target areas, and, second, of providing bombproof archives like that planned for the National Archives in Stockholm. This latter facility is to be blasted out of granite, leaving over 60 feet of rock as a protective top covering. The city archives in Stockholm are already housed in such a "rock room," and the archives in Finland also occupy rock premises.

Two additional things interested me at the first session. One was the concern of many European archivists with the possibilities, advantages, and disadvantages of fitting up and occupying premises built for other purposes. There were some very persuasive comments advanced on the advantages of placing the nation's archives in historic buildings, such as the Uffizi Palace, that in themselves are national monuments. The other thing was the interest of European archivists in what are called "tight packing" systems, which have as their objective the more efficient utilization of space. Various systems are in use — the Compactus system used in the Royal Military Record Office in Stockholm, the Compact system used in the French Foreign Archives and about to be installed in the Archives Nationales, and several others. One of the first tight packing systems was devised in the 1920's by the present archivist of Iceland, Mr. Sveinsson, who was present at the Congress and reported on his invention. Primarily developed for libraries, his system, he reported, can be used for archives storage with space savings up to 40 per cent. The tight packing systems described at the International Congress achieve the same result as that obtained in the Midwest Library Center in Chicago and in the Federal Record Centers with "double shelving." All archivists should, I believe, inform themselves of the advantages and costs of these new technical innovations. I tried but was unable to obtain any literature

describing them. We were told that in the not too distant future an entire issue of *Archivum* will be devoted to buildings and equipment. Perhaps this will give us additional information.

The second session, on the "Selection of Archives for Permanent Preservation," excited the most interest if one may judge by the number of intervenors. Some two dozen, including me, asked to be heard on Mr. Collingridge's report. The session started shortly after 10 a. m. and was still going strong at 1:40 p. m., when the five remaining American archivists had to leave. Every conceivable shade of opinion could be found in the comments. There were those who deplored the necessity of discarding any records, those who wanted more time to make their selection, and those who realized that the requirements of our modern age are forcing archivists today to make disagreeable decisions concerning record values much more frequently than our predecessors. The opinions, as a matter of fact, sounded very much like those heard in any representative group of American archivists.

Almost everyone subscribed to the theory that the archivist should have a commanding voice in the matter of disposal. Many frowned on the present British proposal to allow administrators a free hand to discard records of no administrative interest after 5 years. Practically everyone uses some form of the record schedule or disposal list. Many have record centers. All were a bit puzzled about how to handle what Collingridge called "mixed classes" of records (or what we would call general correspondence or subject files). A great many felt that no records should be discarded without a careful personal review by an archivist. And unless my ears deceived me or the interpreter was in error, Mr. Pilkevitch of Kiev stated that it was firm Russian policy that no record should be discarded in the Soviet Union except after a careful and complete reading by an archivist.

My personal judgment is that our practices in the United States on the selection of archives for permanent preservation are somewhat in advance of those in Europe. But such judgments are tricky and unreliable since the current filing practices in our nation differ so greatly from those in most foreign countries.

The third session, on "Private Archives," stands out in my memory largely because of a very spirited argument that developed between two Belgian archivists, one of them our friend Dr. Sabbe, who spoke to our meeting in Detroit. I don't know exactly what the issue was between them but it was certainly emotional. I should judge that most European state archival institutions take a much

greater official interest in what we would call private archives than we do in the United States. And of course, when one considers the relative position historically of certain ecclesiastical and economic organizations and certain old families in European life, one can understand the difference in point of view. There seemed to be in some quarters a disposition to ask for intervention by the state to ensure proper retention and custody of private archives. And in some quarters there was an added disposition to encourage legislation on this point.

Count Filangieri recognized that the ultimate and correct solution of the problem of private archives is to create through "spiritual education," as he put it, a consciousness of the problem and a desire on the part of the owner of private archives to cooperate with archivists in the best interests of all concerned. Count Filangieri and many of his European associates would perhaps ask the state to assume a somewhat larger role as concerns private archives than would be practical in the United States; but again we must recognize that there are many differences in tradition, habits, and political and social development between Europe and ourselves that require different approaches and solutions to similar problems.

One final word about the Third International Congress of Archivists. The Congress is one of the principal means used by the International Council to strengthen relations among archivists of all lands to the end that there shall be friendly and mutual understanding not only of the technical and professional problems of the archivist but also of the larger problems of intellectual cooperation. I am certain that the Third International Congress fulfilled every practical hope of its sponsors. It was a pleasure for me to participate in it.

Before and during the sessions of the Congress, the Executive Committee and the Constituent Assembly of the ICA also held meetings and conducted the usual routine business. First, a new president of the Council, Count Filangieri of Italy, was elected; second, it was decided that the next congress would be held in Stockholm. In this connection it was agreed that a departure would be made from the practice of holding the congresses every third year, and instead that the Fourth Congress would be postponed one year to 1960, when the Quinquennial Historical Congress will meet in Stockholm. Certain new officers were elected, among them the writer as secretary general, to replace Lester Born, who resigned during the year. Wayne C. Grover was continued as vice president for the Western Hemisphere. Proper honor was paid to Solon J.

Buck, who did so much to establish the ICA, when he was named honorary vice president.

Every archivist who can do so ought to plan now to attend the Fourth Congress. Certainly we shall find no better hosts than Mr. Andersson and his colleagues in Sweden. I assure you personally that an international meeting is an experience that every American archivist should have.

No meeting such as the Third International Congress would be complete without its social functions. Tours of Florence, to Prato, and to Siena were arranged; we were given a reception at the Palazzo Vecchio, a visit to the Uffizi Gallery, and a concert at the Pitti Palace. To me the most enjoyable of the added attractions was the showing of a color film on Italian archives. I thought that this 30-minute film, which covered the principal archives of the Italian states and appeared to be historical as well as descriptive, was really outstanding. I regretted that I could not understand the Italian commentary. I thought how valuable it would be in advancing the cause of understanding among archivists if films like this Italian one, our own on the National Archives, and others could be made available for showing with proper language scripts to archivists in all nations of the world.

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News Notes

H. B. FANT, *Editor*

National Archives

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING

October 11, 1956

The Society's annual business meeting was called to order in the Grand Ball Room of the Willard Hotel at 9:00 p.m. by President Ernst Posner with approximately 150 members in attendance. It was voted to dispense with the reading of the secretary's minutes of the 1955 annual meeting since they had been published in the January 1956 issue of the *American Archivist* and to accept them as printed. The reports of the treasurer and the Auditing Committee were read and accepted.

Alice Smith then presented the report of the Nominating Committee: for president, Lester J. Cappon; for vice president, Herbert E. Angel; for secretary, Dolores C. Renze, for treasurer, William D. Overman; for Council member, term ending in 1961, Lucile M. Kane; and for Council member to fill the unexpired term of Dolores C. Renze, Mary G. Bryan, term ending in 1957. The president called for nominations from the floor and the name of Henry E. Edmunds for the office of president was placed in nomination by Vernon Beal. Voting on the candidates proceeded and resulted in the election of Lester J. Cappon. No other nominations for office were heard from the floor and acceptance of the slate presented was voted.

The president announced that the new editor of the *American Archivist*, effective with the January 1957 issue, would be G. Philip Bauer of the National Archives staff. The president expressed the Society's gratitude and appreciation for the distinguished service rendered by the retiring editor, Karl Trever.

The president reported that the Council had received and adopted a report on "A Program to Insure the Care and Preservation of our Archival Heritage," which could provide a basis for seeking Foundation support. The proposed program will be studied further for appropriate implementation. Dr. Posner also reported that the recommendations of a provision for "Fellows of the Society of American Archivists," which was the result of extended study by the Committee on Professional Standards, composed of all past presidents of the Society, had been favorably received by the council. The matter will be referred back to the committee for preparation and submission to the council of the necessary constitutional amendment.

Olney W. Hill presented the report of the Resolutions Committee. The

secretary was directed to prepare letters of appreciation to those responsible for the success of the meeting.

The proposed amendment to Article 6 of the Constitution circulated by mail to the membership was read by Solon J. Buck, who announced it had been approved by the Council and was therefore to be submitted to the vote of the membership: "Article 6 on dues shall have added, after the phrase 'of an institutional member, \$10.00 a year,' the additional phrase 'of an institutional member in the sustaining category, \$100 to \$500 a year'." The amendment was accepted unanimously and without discussion.

The outgoing secretary gave his report, which was accepted and ordered transmitted to the editor of the journal for publication.

The new president was then invited to take the chair. Dr. Cappon expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred and announced that the next annual meeting, in October 1957, will be held at Columbus, Ohio.

He announced appointment of the following as the Nominating Committee for the coming year: Mary G. Bryan, chairman; Robert H. Land; and Robert A. Schiff.

The president announced that the new officers and Council would meet at 2:15 p.m. on October 12 in Room 801.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

DOLORES C. RENZE, *Secretary*

Approved: LESTER J. CAPPON, *President*
January 10, 1957

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER, 1956

Receipts for the year ending June 30, 1956, were \$6,967.88. Of this amount \$4,471.97 was received from membership dues of various kinds; \$1,965.25 from subscribers to the *American Archivist*; \$156.64 from the sale of advertising space in the journal; \$403.75 from the sale of back issues; \$23.27 net surplus from the annual meeting in Nashville; and \$47.00 from interest on bond, savings bank deposit, and other sources.

Expenditures for the fiscal year were \$5,124.70. Of this total \$620.01 was charged to administrative expense; \$4,318.78 went to the Torch Press for printing the *American Archivist*. The other items of expense charged to the editorial office, for reprints, purchase of back issues, postage of committees, I. C. A. dues, etc. amounted to a total of \$185.91. Of the money appropriated in the budget last year for special projects, including the publication of an up-to-date directory of members, some \$300 has been obligated so far but actual payments have not been made as yet.

The net gain to the treasury as of June 30, 1956, was \$1,843.18, as compared to \$1,779.41 in the previous year. A savings account opened in 1955 with an initial deposit of \$2,000 drew \$20 interest for one-half year, and an additional deposit of \$1,000 was added to it during the fiscal year 1956. These deposits, together with the E Bond (\$1,000) and the balance in the checking

account, June 30, of \$3,797.06, represent the present capital worth of the Society.

If we subtract the number of members dropped from the mailing list for various reasons from the number of new members gained, we find a net increase of 62. This gain, plus an increase of 25 new subscribers to the *American Archivist*, now requires the printing of 1,100 copies or more of each issue of the quarterly. This quantity provides for a supply of some 50 copies of each to add to our inventory of "back issues" for sale.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM D. OVERMAN, *Treasurer*

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

The Auditing Committee has checked the accounts of the treasurer, William D. Overman, and finds that moneys received and spent have been properly accounted for and that the books of the treasurer and the bank are in agreement.

The treasurer is to be congratulated on his orderly and accurate bookkeeping and on his careful management of the funds of the Society.

FRANCES T. BOURNE

HELEN L. CHATFIELD, *Chairman*

October 6, 1956

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Resolutions Committee submits the following resolutions for consideration by the membership of the Society of American Archivists:

Whereas, this twentieth annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists has proved to be one of unusual interest, inspiration, and fellowship; and

Whereas, the members of this Society are greatly indebted to the Program Committee, which, under the chairmanship of Sherrod E. East, has presented such an effective and comprehensive program; and

Whereas, the Local Arrangements Committee, under the chairmanship of Wayne C. Grover and his untiring deputy Albert H. Leisinger, Jr., has given extremely valuable and helpful service in connection with registration, sightseeing, and the other varied jobs necessary to make the meeting a success; and

Whereas, the officers and various committees of the Society of American Archivists have rendered efficient management and wise planning during the past year; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Society of American Archivists express its grateful appreciation to the officers and members and all participants in the program who have played such an important role in making this meeting.

Whereas, Karl L. Trever has served as editor of the *American Archivist* for the past six years; and

Whereas, under his editorship the *American Archivist* has been one of the world's outstanding professional journals in the field of archival science; and

Whereas, this distinguished editor is now giving up his post as of January 1957; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Society of American Archivists extend its deepest thanks and appreciation to Karl Trever for his inspiring and devoted efforts as editor of the *American Archivist*.

Whereas, Theodore Schellenberg, Director of Archival Management of the National Archives, has recently had published a distinguished and scholarly work on archival science entitled *Modern Archives: Principles and Techniques*; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Society express its congratulations to the author for the publication of this work, which brings together the basic information so necessary to the teaching of archival principles and practices.

Whereas, there has been considerable increase in interest and activity in all fields of archival practice and record management in government on all levels and in private business and industry; therefore, be it

Resolved that this Society increase its educational and promotional activities so that the interest and safety of archives and records in the United States shall be protected and so that they shall be made more readily available.

The Committee respectfully submits these resolutions to the Society and urges their adoption and recommends that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Society and that the secretary send letters of appreciation to the individuals and groups mentioned herein.

OLNEY W. HILL, *Chairman*

Adopted, October 10, 1956

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

December 29, 1956

The meeting was called to order by President Cappon in his room at the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel at 2:30 p.m., with the secretary, treasurer, editor, and Council members Wayne Grover and Mary G. Bryan in attendance. The secretary had mailed the agenda to all Council members before the meeting.

The minutes of the annual business meeting and the subsequent Council meeting were approved, the Council minutes to be published in the January 1957 *American Archivist*; the business meeting minutes and the current Council minutes to be published in the April 1957 *American Archivist*.

The secretary announced that microfilm copies of the first 18 volumes of the *American Archivist* are available on 35 mm microfilm on order through the treasurer's office.

A report was heard on the Society's accumulating records; and on motion of Wayne Grover, seconded by William Overman, it was unanimously voted to authorize the secretary to set the records in order and assemble any fugitive materials for proper archival processing, looking to the time when a place can be selected for their permanent deposit and preservation. An estimated budget for the secretary's office was presented and referred to the Finance Committee for approval as submitted.

The treasurer reported on the finances of the society. The order for the January issue of the *American Archivist* was for publication of 1,200 copies. A contemplated surplus in excess of current operating funds and budget commitments was authorized to be placed by the treasurer in the Society's saving account or invested in a savings bond.

The editor reported on the status of the Society's proposed membership directory. After extensive discussion it was voted to limit the data to the name, address, position, and special interests of each member. The secretary was instructed to lend every possible assistance to the editor. On motion of Wayne Grover seconded by Mary Bryan, with unanimous concurrence of the Council, the desire was expressed that the directory shall be ready for distribution at the 1957 annual meeting. The editor was directed to handle the matter of any advertising in the directory and the secretary was instructed to prepare a brief foreword concerning the Society.

A report and discussion on the proposed index to vols. 1-10 for the *American Archivist* ensued. At this point it is bogged down by the difficulties of subject indexing. The editor was authorized to explore means for expediting preparation of a 20-year index and to report on his findings at the spring Council meeting.

The question of a "proposed citation or award for writings on archives" was discussed. The proposal had been withdrawn at the May 1956 Council meeting, but the withdrawal was not made a matter of record until the present meeting.

The president presented an invitation from the vice chancellor of the University of London to the Society to nominate delegates to attend the Sixth Anglo-American Conference of Historians to be held at the Institute of Historical Research July 8 through 13, 1957. The Council authorized President Cappon to make the nominations and appointment.

The Foundation plan proposal adopted by the Council and reported at the business meeting in October 1956 was reviewed and discussed at length. It was voted to submit the plan to Waldo Leland for review and criticism. Copies of the approved draft of the program as submitted by Ernst Posner were ordered distributed to the members of the Council.

A constitutional amendment will be necessary to provide for the new category of membership, "Fellows of the Society of American Archivists," as approved by the Council and reported at the 1956 annual business meeting. The matter was authorized for referral to the chairman of the Committee on Professional Standards, with instructions to have the proposed amendment drawn up for submission to the spring Council meeting.

Correspondence relating to the 1957 annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio, was presented by President Cappon and approval was voted for coordinating the meeting of the Society with that of the American Association for State and Local History, October 4, 5, and 6. It was suggested that the president and secretary act to coordinate the tentative plan presented by Erwin Zepp, chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee, and that final coordinated clearance be effected through the program chairmen for the American Association for State and Local History and the Society of American Archivists and Mr. Zepp. It was suggested that October 4 should be for the Society of American Archivists' meeting; October 5, or part of that day, for joint or overlapping sessions; and October 6 for the American Association for State and Local

History meeting. On motion of Wayne Grover, seconded by Dolores C. Renze, the plan as submitted was approved in principle.

The president reported that the Council had voted affirmatively by mail to accept the invitation to hold the annual meeting in Salt Lake City in 1958. The secretary was directed to clear with the Salt Lake City hosts and the American Association for State and Local History the feasibility of selecting either the early part of September or, preferably, the third or fourth week in June. The president reported receiving an invitation dated November 26, 1956, from the Milwaukee Association of Commerce, concurred in by the Wisconsin State Historical Society, to hold the 1959 annual meeting in Milwaukee. The invitation was referred to the secretary to hold for consideration at the spring Council meeting.

On motion of William Overman, seconded by Wayne Grover, the Council voted to commend the chairman and Committee on State Records for the excellent work completed during the past 2 years, which resulted in publication of its findings. Special gratitude was expressed to Mary G. Bryan for her work, done with the support of the Georgia Department of Archives and History.

The Council adjourned at 5:45 p.m., with the decision to hold its next meeting after May 8 in Washington, D. C.

DOLORES C. RENZE, *Secretary*

January 21, 1957: The foregoing minutes have been circularized among the officers and Council and reflect additions or corrections as expressed in writing to the secretary.

The secretary announces the following committee appointments for 1956-57:

Administrative Committees

Auditing: Vernon Santen, chairman; Dorothy Gersack, Orville Liljequist.

Local Arrangements, 21st annual meeting: Erwin Zepp, chairman; Hermine Baumhofer, Lewis C. Branscomb, Watt P. Marchman, Jacob R. Marcus, Walter R. Marvin, William D. Overman, Jesse H. Shera, John A. Skipton, John H. Weatherford.

Nominations: Mary G. Bryan, chairman; Robert Land, Robert Shiff.

Program, 21st annual meeting: Lola Homsher, chairman; Chester Conner, Olney Hill, Herman Kahn, Carl Lokke, Watt P. Marchman.

Membership: James Fuchs, chairman; Vera Avery, Robert H. Bahmer, Seymour V. Connor, John P. Harrison, Philip D. Lagerquist, Albert Leisinger, Jr., Robert Nesbit, John Porter, Emil Pubols, Darrell Swinney, Henry Young.

Technical Advisory Committees

Audio-Visual: To be announced.

Bibliography: Lester W. Smith, chairman; Ernst Posner; others to be announced.

Archival Buildings and Equipment: Victor Gondos, chairman; Leon deValinger, Jr.; others to be announced.

International Relations: Robert H. Bahmer, chairman; others to be announced.

Microphotography: Dorothy Taylor, chairman; Martha B. Curtis, Leon deValinger, Jr., William L. Rofes.

Preservation: Gust Skordas, chairman; others to be announced.

Professional Standards and Training: Ernst Posner, chairman; others to be announced.

General Promotional Committees

Church Records: Edmund L. Binsfeld, chairman; Arthur J. Riley, Thomas T. McAvoy.

Municipal Records: Charles E. Hughes, Jr., chairman; James Katsaros, Elaine H. Stones.

Publicity: George E. Warren, chairman; others to be announced.

Records Management: Rex Beach, chairman; William Benedon, Louis J. Darter, S. J. Pomrenze, Robert Shift.

State Records Committee: Mary Givens Bryan, chairman; Robert Brown, LeRoy DePuy, Philip Mason, Gust Skordas.

Special Committees

Joint Committee on Historical Manuscripts: Philip M. Hamer, chairman; Lucile Kane, Alice Smith.

Civil Defense Microfilm Program: Leon deValinger, Jr., chairman; Philip C. Brooks, Mary G. Bryan, David Duniway, Morris Radoff, Dolores C. Renze, Dorothy Taylor.

The following new members have joined the Society since November 1956:

Abraham B. Feldman, City of Philadelphia Records Center; Howard B. Gotlieb, Yale University Library; Almer K. Johnson, NARS, GSA, Atlanta; Karl Karsten, Bethesda, Md.; Robert H. Land, Library of Congress; Trusten Polk Lee, Regional Director, NARS, GSA, Chicago; William Ready, Marquette University Library; William L. Rofes, Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp., New York; Betty A. Standifer, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Kansas City, Mo.; Robert D. Stevens, Library of Congress; H. J. Swinney, Idaho Historical Society; Albert West, State Archives, Mass.; and Richard N. Wright, Onondaga Historical Society, Syracuse, N. Y. New members from FEDERAL RECORD CENTERS: Alexandria—Edwin R. Flatequal, Donald M. Zahn; Atlanta—William R. Coleman, Mary Connally Frost, Warren R. Wilson; Kansas City—Francis S. Vickers; New York—Vincent J. Mazzarino, Harry M. Silver, Hardin C. Waters. From the DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY: John Holte Hagen, David H. Lockhart, Kenneth W. Munden. From the NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE in Washington: Frances Helen Beach, Terry Beach, Albert U. Blair, E. G. Campbell, Donald R. Gruver, Anne H. Henry, Sara D. Jackson, Lawrence L. Jacobs, Gaiselle Kerner, Barbara Ann Kessler, James W. Moore, Josephine Motylewski, John E. Nolen, George J. Olszewski, James E. Primas, Charles A. Sterman, Joe Doan Thomas, George S. Ulibarri, Philip R. Ward.

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS: Brigham Young University Library; Cedar Falls (Iowa) State Teachers College Library; Dakota Microfilm Service, Denver; Eleutherian Mills—Hagley Foundation, Inc., Wilmington, Del.; Nevada State Library; U. S. Military Academy Archives. MEMBERS ABROAD: Bibliotheek der Staatsmijnen, Jaleen, Holland; J. Bird, London; Institute for Administrative Affairs, U. S. O. M. Iran; Jackson Sons & Co. Booksellers, Ltd., Glasgow; and Koninklijke Shell Laboratorium, Amsterdam.

At its meeting last October 10, the Society's Church Records Committee decided that the bibliography it is now preparing should be restricted to printed materials containing information about church archives in the United States and Canada. All the items listed must relate to archives *per se* and not be mere historical accounts. They may include critical bibliographies or essays that are parts of larger works provided they contain pertinent information

about archival materials. Each entry should include as complete a citation as possible of the work referred to and a very brief description of its contents. The Committee urges all members of the Society of American Archivists to contribute entries for inclusion in the bibliography.

The joint annual luncheon session with the American Historical Association was held in the Ivory Room of the Sheraton-Jefferson Hotel on Saturday December 29, 1956, at St. Louis, Missouri. Señor Javier Malagon Barcelo of the Pan American Union presided, and John P. Harrison, formerly of the National Archives and now with the Rockefeller Foundation, read a paper entitled "The Latin American Archives and the Scholar in the United States."

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE

Two announcements made in the last issue of News Notes for the National Archives and Records Service need correction: (1) Orders for prints of the motion picture entitled "Your National Archives" should be sent to the Exhibits and Publications Branch, National Archives, Washington 25, D. C., with checks or money orders for \$74.70, made payable to the Office of Information, Department of Agriculture; and (2) The date of issue of the *Federal Register* containing the first revision of the "Guide to Federal Record Retention Requirements," was August 28, 1956.

A second revision of the "Guide" (Appendix A to Title 1 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*) is to be published about the same time as this issue of the *American Archivist*. It will contain digests of all requirements of Federal law and regulation relating to the keeping of records by the public, in effect on January 1, 1957. Retention periods will be included, as well as references to the full text of the requirements.

The first complete revision of the *General Index* to the *Code of Federal Regulations*, published by the Federal Register Division, is now available from the Superintendent of Documents at \$4.75 per copy. This 1012-page volume replaces the original 1949 edition of the index, which has hitherto been kept up-to-date by annual pocket supplements. It provides a single point of reference for finding any part of the text of the 50-volume *Code* as it was in effect on January 1, 1956. As in the case of the earlier edition, annual pocket supplements will be issued.

The "Annual Report on the National Archives and Records Service" for the year ending June 30, 1956, reprinted from the *Annual Report of the Administrator of General Services*, is now available as a separate. Records accessioned by the National Archives during the same year are described in *National Archives Accessions No. 53*. This issue also contains an article on "Record-keeping Practices of the House of Representatives," by Buford Rowland. Both these publications are available on request from the Exhibits and Publications Branch.

Early in February the Office of Records Management held in the National Archives building a series of correspondence management workshops, each lasting a week. These workshops are to be duplicated in all the major cities

in the Nation. As their name implies, they are intensive training courses emphasizing practical work assignments. Participants work together for a week on the practical problems involved in improving the quality and reducing the cost of Government letter writing. Specifically the workshops demonstrate practical methods of reducing reading time, writing time, typing time, reviewing time, filing time, planning time, and supply and equipment costs.

In the broad reorganization of the General Services Administration that has been going on for some months, the following changes in the organization of the National Archives and Records Service should be noted: Robert H. Bahmer is now Deputy Archivist of the United States; T. R. Schellenberg, Assistant Archivist of the United States for the National Archives; Herbert E. Angel, Assistant Archivist of the United States for Records Management; and Karl Trever, Special Assistant to the Archivist. Other changes, not part of the reorganization, are as follows: Victor Gondos has become Archivist in Charge of the Old Army Branch (succeeding Richard Wood); Robert W. Krauskopf, Acting Archivist in Charge of the Air Force and Modern Army Branch; Meyer H. Fishbein, Acting Archivist in Charge of the Business Economics Branch; and Albert H. Leisinger, Jr., Archivist in Charge of the Exhibits and Publications Branch.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Some 75,000 papers of "Fighting Joe" Wheeler, Confederate Army officer and U. S. Congressman from Alabama, have been deposited in the Library by his granddaughter, Mrs. John Le Grand of Chapel Hill, N. C. Other papers recently received are the manuscripts of 24 of Maxwell Anderson's plays, the manuscript of a volume of his poetry, and a group of unpublished poems and accounts of his interviews with notables; 200 papers, 1919-44, of Leonard P. Ayres, economic advisor to the American delegation of the Dawes commission on German reparations; 3,000 of the papers of Edward Otto Taber of Pittsburgh, dealing principally with Czechoslovak-American sympathies and exertions, 1918-48; 1,500 papers, 1931-54, of Irwin Edman, Columbia University philosopher; and 1,200 papers, 1851-1953, of Edward Williams Morley, Western Reserve University teacher of chemistry. Existing collections of papers of the following men have been augmented: Nelson Wilmarth Aldrich, by 5,000 items, 1779-1906; Herbert Corey, by an unpublished biography and other papers; Whitelaw Reid, by various letters, 1830-1912; and Harvey W. Wiley, by 5 volumes of personal diaries.

Institutional collectors will find a deft expression in their behalf in an address given by David C. Mearns last year at the University of North Carolina, "The Very Essence of a Library," published in that university's *Bookmark* for August 1956. Mr. Mearns' assistant, Robert H. Land, has been chosen president of the Chesapeake Chapter of the American Studies Association; during the December annual meeting of the Modern Language Association in Washington, he presided at a joint luncheon of ASA and MLA. Michael Z. Vinokourov has retired from the Descriptive Cataloging Division;

to him is assigned chief credit for having obtained for the Library nearly a quarter of a million papers, 1774-1917, of the Russian Church in North America.

As the sequel to a gift of \$10,000 by Mary Pickford to George Eastman House, Inc., Rochester, N. Y., the Mary Pickford collection of motion picture films in the Library of Congress will probably be converted from nitrate to acetate base. A special despatch to the *New York Times* from Hollywood, November 28, 1956, announced that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, because of a shortage of funds, would be forced to suspend its financing of a program for aiding the Library of Congress in the reclamation of paper film prints of newsreel or documentary motion pictures originally filed with the Library for copyright purposes. More than 260,000 feet of such paper film have already been transferred to more lasting base.

The Card Division can now supply for 35 cents a selected list of references about the Library, "descriptive of its background, the nature and extent of its collections, and its many and varied activities and services." Paul M. Angle, director of publications for the Chicago Historical Society, has undertaken to compile a brochure on the Library, to be published by the Kingsport Press for free distribution as an example of artistic printing.

SUMMER TRAINING COURSE

The January 18, 1957, issue of the *News Letter from the Institute of Early American History and Culture* announces that the fourth annual summer institute on historical and archival management will be held at Radcliffe College June 24 — August 2 of this year, again under the direction of Lester J. Cappon. The course is open to 15 college graduates and employees of archival agencies, historical societies, and museums. Two full-tuition scholarships are available, applications for which must be received by May 15. Address inquiries to the Institute on Historical and Archival Management, 10 Garden St., Cambridge 38, Mass.

TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Arbee Co., 95 Summit Ave., Summit, N. J., has announced a new laminating machine built on the clothes-wringer principle. The platens of the standard machine measure 24" x 27½", but machines can be manufactured to custom requirements.

The National Audio-Visual Association, Inc., 2540 Eastwood Ave., Evanston, Ill., has published the 3d edition of the *Audio-Visual Equipment Directory*. It is advertised to include specifications, photographs, and prices for more than 525 models of all types of audiovisual equipment.

Lester K. Born, formerly special assistant to the Keeper of the Collections, Library of Congress, but more recently cultural affairs officer of the U. S. Information Service of Manila, has digested, in a single article in the July 1956 issue of *American Documentation*, "The Literature of Microreproduction, 1950-1955."

The School of Library Science of Western Reserve University, in conjunction with its Center for Documentation and Communication Research, will present at Cleveland, Ohio, April 15-17, 1957, a comprehensive demonstration of systems at present in use for the organization, storage, and retrieval of recorded information, together with a symposium on information-handling problems and techniques.

FOREIGN NEWS

Argentina

At Buenos Aires, the Archivo General de la Nación, now under the direction of Roberto Etchepareborda, has acquired the manuscript section of the Biblioteca Nacional, and the sección de protocolos of the Archivo de Tribunales.

Australia

The inventorying of state archives and historical manuscripts is under consideration by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services as an objective for the Australian Bibliographical Centre newly established in the Commonwealth National Library. That institution's New York liaison officer, Ira D. Raymond, will be head of the center.

Brazil

The new Museu Histórico e Diplomático do Itamaraty will collect and display both artifacts and documents pertinent to the diplomatic history of Brazil and will encourage diplomatic research and publication.

Through the cooperation of the Brazilian foreign service, steps are proceeding for the indexing of the documents in the archives of Lisbon and Madrid bearing on Brazilian history. The Comissão de Estudo dos Textos de História do Brasil will decide what documents will be copied and the manner of reproduction; and after the reproductions arrive at Rio, it will make recommendations as to their publication or preservation.

Canada

The Canadian press, cited in the *New York Times* for Jan. 15, 1957, reports that since the opening last April of the new Records Centre of the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa, 36,310 square feet of storage space around Ottawa has been cleared and the contents have been removed to the new building. It is estimated that 2 years more will be required to move the records from an additional 500,000 square feet of storage space.

Colombia

Gaston Litton, Archivist of the University of Oklahoma since 1948, has been appointed director of the Escuela de Bibliotecología at the Universidad de Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia, beginning Jan. 1, 1957. This appointment represents a collaborative effort for the training of librarians, archivists, and manuscript curators, in which the Rockefeller Foundation, the U. S. Department of State, and other American agencies are cooperating with the university of the department of Antioquia.

Cuba

Capt. Joaquín Llaverías, Director of the Cuban National Archives and dean of Latin American archivists, died on Nov. 23, 1956. His successor is Dr. Felix Lizaso.

Finland

Several years ago Archivist John E. Roos and State Archivist Yrjö Nurmio helped draw up a long-range program, sponsored by the American Historical Association and the Library of Congress, for the reproduction of certain historical documents. A sequel is the recent granting by the Ford Foundation of 500,000 Finnmarks for the microfilming of diplomatic notes in the Finnish State Archives addressed by the Secretary of State of Finland to the Tsar of Russia, 1809-1917. A copy of the microfilm will be deposited in the Library of Congress.

Great Britain

The British Association for American Studies is undertaking a survey of sources, both printed and manuscript, for American studies in the United Kingdom. The project is made possible by a generous grant from the United States Information Service in the United Kingdom. It is hoped that a reference work will result which will be a definitive guide to the location and general nature of all possible British source and research materials connected with the history, politics, economics, and literature of the United States and of any other British material that bears on them. American scholars who have worked in British libraries and archives and know of previously uncataloged material containing relevant matter are asked to write to the director, H. L. Beales, or to the Assistant Director, B. R. Crick, Survey of Sources for American Studies in the United Kingdom, c/o Institute for Historical Research, University of London, London W. C. 1.

After 9 years of negotiation, the Essex wills, 1400-1858, have been brought back to Chelmsford from Somerset House in London; they are now available to searchers in the Essex Record Office.

At one of the sessions of the Fifth Anglo-American Conference of Historians, July 12-14, 1956, M. F. Bond, Clerk of the Records, House of Lords, read a paper on "Record Offices Today; Facts for Historians," dealing primarily with archival developments around England.

Italy

Riccardo Filangieri, after 45 years of scholarly endeavor, is retiring from the post of director of the Archivio di Stato at Naples and from the archival superintendency of Southern Italy. Some of his colleagues and professional friends have organized a special committee, under the chairmanship of Prof. Ernesto Pontieri of the University of Naples, to collect appropriate cultural essays to be published in a volume honoring Sig. Filangieri.

Mexico

The Banco de Mexico has custody of most of the papers of Matías Romero, diplomat and financier in the latter half of the 19th century during the administrations of both Benito Juárez and Porfirio Díaz. The papers have recently been microfilmed in 72 reels, a set of which has been acquired by the Bancroft Library of the University of California.

The International Convention for Protection of Cultural Property, initially signed by 50 countries including the United States, did not come into force until August 7 last, 3 months after Mexico had become the requisite fifth state to add its ratification. The earlier states to ratify were Egypt, San Marino, Burma, and Yugoslavia.

Poland

Volumes 1-4 of Katalog Microfilmow cover the microfilming of rare books and manuscripts accomplished by the Polish National Library, 1950-55. Of the total entries 3,800, well over half, deal with manuscripts.

U. S. S. R.

A short account of the collections and services of the Leningrad library of the U. S. S. R. Academy of Sciences, written by G. A. Cebotarev, the librarian in charge, appears in the October 1956 issue of the *Unesco Bulletin for Libraries*. The second volume of the transactions of the academy's Moscow and Leningrad libraries discusses the academy's map and manuscript collections and its specialized library research facilities in Leningrad.

CALIFORNIA

Occidental College has acquired the F. Ray Riden collection of Lincolnia, said to be the most extensive Lincoln collection on the West Coast.

Stanford University has acquired, with the library of the late Bernard DeVoto, his manuscripts and personal papers.

The Bancroft Library has acquired 74 volumes of the records of the Elk River Mill and Lumber Company at Falk, Humboldt County. During the summer of 1956, George P. Hammond visited England and Holland in the interest of extending the library's microfilm coverage of British documentary sources relating to 19th-century Mexico and Dutch material on colonial Latin America.

Arrangements have been made to house the records of the California-Nevada district of the Lutheran Church in the fireproof basement of the St. Paulus School in San Francisco. The part-time archivist for the past 5 years, the Rev. August Hansen, has been succeeded by the Rev. Theodore De Laney.

The photostating for the Academy of American Franciscan History of letters of the Catholic missionaries of California, 1769-1849, has drawn attention to a collection of more than 2,550 letters now in the archives of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. The collection initially formed a part of the archives of the Spanish and Mexican governors at Monterey.

CONNECTICUT

James Brewster retired as State librarian on Jan. 1, 1957; his successor is Robert C. Sale. The archives department of the library continues in the charge of Mary E. Smith, State Archivist.

Public act no. 339 of 1955, "An Act Concerning Management of State Records," has now been in effect a number of months. This act provides for a State record management committee consisting of the commissioner of finance and control, the attorney general, and the State librarian. The commissioner of finance and control is, ex officio, chairman of the committee.

Yale University Library's fine collection of manuscripts relating to Peru is described by Jerry E. Patterson in a bibliographical article in the May 1956 *Hispanic American Historical Review*.

DELAWARE

The University of Delaware and the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum have again announced a Winterthur program in early American culture, to initiate for the academic year 1957-58 five 2-year fellowships for graduate study.

GEORGIA

The Georgia Department of Archives and History, under the direction of Mary Givens Bryan, is housed in the former Rhodes mansion at 1516 Peachtree St., N.W., in Atlanta. Mrs. Bryan's headquarters are several miles distant from the State Capitol; but the State has now acquired for \$450,000 a complete 6-story warehouse near the Capitol for use as an intermediate record center.

ILLINOIS

The mature experience of Margaret C. Norton as Archivist of Illinois is reflected in her 12-page article, "The Archivist Looks at Records Management," in the October 1956 issue of *Illinois Libraries*. The essay, she tells us, grew out of preliminary attempts to crystalize the thinking of the Illinois officials who were responsible for letting the contract for the recent record survey in Illinois.

Clyde C. Walton, formerly reference librarian at the State University of Iowa, has been appointed State historian of Illinois, to succeed the late Harry E. Pratt.

INDIANA

The papers of Thomas Taggart and Harry S. New, inadvertently mentioned in the preceding issue of this magazine as having been acquired by the Archives Division of the Indiana State Library, are private manuscripts, housed in the State Library's Indiana Division, which has the custody of such private papers of Indiana citizens as are turned over to the library. This division has

recently received the private papers of the late Will Hays, U. S. Postmaster General and chairman of the Republican National Committee.

The Archives Division of the Indiana State Library is receiving 3,500 sets of plans of public buildings approved by the State Board of Accounts. The older plans will be microfilmed immediately, and the recent ones as they become 3 years old. Since 1951 all plans and improvements of public buildings costing more than \$5,000 must be officially approved by the Administrative Building Council. The council may designate the Indiana State Library as the custodian of all such records.

KANSAS

The following members of the staff of Kansas State Historical Society contributed chapters to *Kansas; the First Century*, edited by John D. Bright, chairman of Washburn University history department, and published by the Lewis Publishing Co. of New York: Nyle H. Miller, the society's secretary; Edgar Landsdorf, assistant secretary; and Robert W. Richmond, State Archivist. The society has acquired 150 letters and documents of the Topeka physician Andrew J. Huntoon, certain materials related to the history of Iowa Point and Highland, and photostatic copies of significant George A. Custer papers privately held in Michigan.

LOUISIANA

The Department of Archives and Manuscripts of Louisiana State University has received official and family papers of Senator Edward J. Gay, his grandfather, Representative Edward J. Gay, and related families, sugar planters and commission merchants, 100,000 pieces, 1800-1925. Other significant accessions include papers of Orramel Hinckley, steamboat master; the Lanaux-Andry-Johnson families, sugar and rice planters; and the Southern Pine Association, principally 1915-48; and professional papers of François Delsarté of Paris, originator of a widely recognized system of calisthenics, 1830-99. Felix Kurtz has given to the university papers of Joseph Lakanal (1762-1845), French Revolutionary free-thinker and Louisiana college president; and to Tulane University documents and manuscripts pertaining to early Louisiana history.

MARYLAND

Vernon Tate, sometime member of the National Archives staff but more recently director of libraries at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has returned from a visit to Italy and is now librarian at the Naval Academy, Annapolis.

The *Twenty-First Annual Report of the Archivist* for the fiscal year, June 30, 1955, to July 1, 1956, is now ready for distribution. Other publications in progress are a new edition of the *Maryland Manual*, a revised edition of the *WPA Maryland Guide*, and a catalog of the county records of Maryland. This last work will also contain a history of the various courthouses and will be illustrated.

A vigorous effort is being made to collect all the surviving records of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Maryland, both for the colonial period and after. This work is now almost complete for the Diocese of Easton.

The microfilming of county probate and land records is continuing. All of the major probate series for all of the counties have now been filmed. The land records were filmed through the year 1850 by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The filming of later records is being carried on in several counties and has been completed for Calvert and Caroline counties.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Jacob Sieberg Museum, 64 Sigourney St., Jamaica Plain, Boston, announces that it preserves documents, publications, and other materials on the history of American Latvians.

MICHIGAN

A special dispatch from Dearborn, Dec. 17, 1956, to the *New York Times* announced a gift by the Ford Motor Co. and the Ford Motor Co. Fund of cash and acreage amounting in value to about 10 million dollars, for the establishment of a Dearborn center of the University of Michigan. The acreage includes the Henry Ford estate and mansion of Fair Lane, which has for the past several years housed the Ford Archives. The archives are scheduled to be moved soon to a new location in the north wing of the Ford rotunda.

The extensive source material assembled for the region of the Catholic Diocese of Marquette has encouraged the formation of the Baragaland Historical Society, the name deriving from that of Frederic Baraga, first bishop of Marquette.

MINNESOTA

Bruce C. Harding of Berkeley, Calif., has been appointed to the newly-created post of field representative of the Forest History Foundation, Inc. of St. Paul, Minn.

Among his special services Mr. Harding will help scholars and writers of business and economic history to obtain access to primary sources of forest history not now available to them. The work program of this nonprofit organization, supported by private contributions from individuals and corporate groups in both Canada and the United States, is now in operation throughout the continent. Questions concerning the program should be sent to the Forest History Foundation, Inc., 2706 West Seventh Blvd., St. Paul 16.

MISSOURI

The program arranged for the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, held in St. Louis at the end of December 1956, included several topics identified with archival activity. At a session on the writing of lumber history, Elwood R. Maunder, executive director of the Forest History Founda-

tion, presented a paper about the foundation's work. At a session on the Vatican Library, four papers were presented about research opportunities in the Knights of Columbus Vatican Film Library at Saint Louis University, by Lowrie J. Daly and Edward R. Vollmer of that university's faculty, Stephen Kuttner of the Catholic University of America, and Paul O. Kristeller of Columbia University. At the luncheon conference of the Asiatic History Society, David Rowe of Yale University reported on new archival collections in modern Chinese history. John P. Harrison's paper at the luncheon conference of the Society of American Archivists is noted elsewhere.

Concordia Historical Institute at St. Louis coordinates the activities of a number of Lutheran district archivists and historians: 29 in the United States, 3 in Canada, 1 in Argentina, and 1 in England. The fourth conference of these archivists and historians was held about 3 years ago; and the fifth conference is scheduled to be held in October of this year.

NEW YORK

The 1956 convention of the American Documentation Institute was held in New York City at the end of December in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Museum of Modern Art Film Library has succeeded in raising \$50,000 to transfer from nitrate to triacetate film some of its film classics most threatened with decay.

At the 1956 annual meeting in Buffalo of the New York State Historical Association the Canal Society of New York was formed. DeWitt Clinton, a Buffalo lawyer and direct descendant of the governor, heads the new society, which welcomes members interested in the history, folklore, engineering, or other aspects of canalization in the State. The secretary and treasurer of the Canal Society of New York, to whom communications may be sent, is Richard Wright, Onondaga Historical Association, 311 Montgomery St., Syracuse 2, N. Y.

The Association of Records Executives and Administrators, formed in November 1955, adopted a constitution and bylaws at its regular monthly meeting of Jan. 9, 1957. Robert A. Schiff, president of the National Records Management Council, addressed the gathering on the protection of vital records. A printed brochure publicizing the activities of the association may be had from its secretary, Robert W. Humphrey, New York Stock Exchange, 11 Wall St., New York City.

NORTH CAROLINA

Two sessions of the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association, at Durham, November 15-17, 1956, require special mention in this magazine. Philip M. Hamer, executive director of the National Historical Publications Commission, presided at a session the theme for which was "Editing the Papers of Great Men." Three panelists, Robert L. Meriwether of the University of

South Carolina, James F. Hopkins of the University of Kentucky, and William H. Runge of the University of Virginia, discussed their aims and experiences in assembling and arranging for publication the papers of John C. Calhoun, Henry Clay, and James Madison, respectively. At a joint session of the association and the North Carolina State Literary and Historical Association Gilbert Stephenson, president of the North Carolina association presided, and Christopher Crittenden, director of the State Department of Archives and History, led the discussion. D. J. Whitener of Appalachian State Teachers College and Henry S. Stroupe of Wake Forest College discussed respectively the history of the literary and historical association and the Department of Archives and History; and Richard Walser of North Carolina State College spoke on the North Carolina literary and historical awards.

An 8-page leaflet describing the services to the public available at the archives of the State Department of Archives and History has been released by H. G. Jones, State Archivist. One of the objectives is to disseminate knowledge that, as in most similar institutions large and small, the staff has not the time to do detailed genealogical research.

OHIO

Records of the Ohio Land Office, under the jurisdiction of State Auditor James A. Rhodes, are to be made more available to the public by microfilming.

Richard G. Salomon of the department of history at Kenyon College has been named archivist of the Ohio Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

Selma Stern-Taeubler, historian of Prussian Jewry, who came to this country in 1941 and has been archivist of the American Jewish Archives at Cincinnati, retired in June 1956 in order to continue her purely historical interests. The director of the Archives, Jacob R. Marcus, pays tribute to her effective work in the October 1956 issue of *American Jewish Archives*.

The 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Hayes Memorial Library and Museum at Spiegel Grove, Fremont, was celebrated in 1956 under the new official name of the Rutherford B. Hayes Library. The manuscript division has recently received important papers of Stanley Matthews, justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, including 3 scrapbooks, 1877-78, an unpublished biography, and various items of correspondence.

PENNSYLVANIA

Lehigh University has been given a \$170,000 collection of rare books and manuscripts, to be known as the Honeyman collection.

The Library Company of Philadelphia is sponsoring a \$5,000 fellowship for the academic year 1957-58 to enable the recipient to carry out an approved research project in the Philadelphia area.

The Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation of Pittsburgh has made a grant of \$15,000 to Harmonie Associates, Inc., to aid the Pennsylvania Historical and

Museum Commission in the restoration of Old Economy, a commission property at Ambridge. The site of important 19th-century activities of the utopian Harmony Society, Old Economy is now a museum possessing extensive records of the old society; the curator is Lawrence Thurman. The Scaife grant will be used to refurbish a document room and four administrative research rooms and will make possible the employment of a qualified indexer and archivist.

TENNESSEE

A project for the editing and publication of a selection of the papers of Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, has been initiated jointly by the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Historical Commission. The editor is LeRoy P. Graf and the assistant editor Ralph W. Haskins, both of the history faculty of the university.

Gilbert E. Govan, librarian, and James W. Livingood, professor of history, at the University of Chattanooga will administer a \$10,000 grant received from the Lilly Endowment, Inc., of Indiana, to advance the John T. Wilder collection of Civil War materials, which will be housed in the university's new library building.

The West Tennessee Historical Society has among its manuscript collections some letters and papers of several of the outstanding leaders of the Confederacy. In order to give more appropriate housing to these manuscripts and a documentary collection contingently bequeathed by Lee Meriwether of St. Louis, the society has arranged for headquarters space with the commissioners of Goodwyn Institute in Memphis.

TEXAS

The Rosenberg Library, Galveston, has published a limited edition of 200 copies of a *Samuel May Williams Book* (331 p.), compiled by Ruth G. Nichols and S. W. Lifflander, containing a brief biography of Williams and a calendar of his papers, some 4,000 items, which have been in the library's archives for a number of years. The book sells at cost for \$10.

Among the materials that the Texas State Historical Association has received from individual donors and placed in the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Center at Austin are the manuscript diary, July 25, 1876, to Dec. 31, 1878, of R. C. Beale, an attorney who practiced in the courts around Corsicana, and several boxes of family papers, chiefly concerning Llano County in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The removal of important Texas archives to questionable storage facilities 4 miles from the Capitol is continuing to stir local ire. The president of the Texas State Historical Association, Paul Adams, publicly asserted that "Texas should have enough pride in these treasures to house and preserve them in a fireproof, damp-proof structure. The indifference that state officials have had for these documents should rouse every Texan to indignation."

VERMONT

A new professional group, the North American Association of Historic Sites Public Officials, was organized at Woodstock, September 27-28, 1956. The Historic Sites Commission of the State of Vermont (of which Richard G. Wood is now an ex-officio member as director of the State historical society) sponsored the organization meeting, which was attended by about 80 persons.

Olney W. Hill, Director of Public Records, State of Vermont Public Records Commission, distributes a concisely worded *Information Bulletin to City & Town Clerks* showing progress at the grass roots. Cavendish built a brand new brick building to house the town clerk and his records on one side and the town library on the other; funds for the town offices came from taxation and those for the library from public subscription. Brandon purchased an unoccupied brick building of solid construction formerly owned and occupied by a bank and promptly turned the bank vault into a record vault. Hartford, one of the larger towns, converted an old brick grammar school into a new municipal office building, with ample record storage space above the basement level. For the accommodation of the town clerk-treasurer and his records, Moretown, a small lumber-milling village, built a new wood-frame building with a concrete floor and a suitable vault.

VIRGINIA

Russell M. Smith has resigned as a manuscript assistant in the Alderman Library of the University of Virginia to accept employment in the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress. He has been succeeded by Robert E. Stocking.

WASHINGTON

A capacious new State office building, the General Administration Building, in Olympia, was completed and occupied during the summer of 1956. The building houses a record center and several departments of the State government but not the Washington archives proper. The record center is under the supervision of Robert C. Nesbit, State Archivist.

WISCONSIN

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has announced a campaign for a \$50,000 fund to honor its late president, D. C. Everest. One of the objects is to finance a business record survey supplemental to that of 1950.

The reputation of Madison as a center for the study of American labor history was started in the days of Richard Ely and John R. Commons. About 5 years ago the State Federation of Labor and the University Committee on Studies in American Civilization joined hands to promote the expansion of the State Historical Society's holdings in Wisconsin labor history. The society now has the papers of the American Labor Education Service and of certain pioneer workers colleges. With the society, too, the American Federation of

Labor, continuing as AFL-CIO, deposits its noncurrent records such as strike and research files, the Gompers papers, and the Green papers. The International Association of Machinists has named the society as its second depository and will house at Madison its noncurrent records of historical importance as well as restricted security copies of certain current records.

WYOMING

By appointment effective July 1, 1956, Dean F. Krakel has succeeded Gene M. Gressley as archivist at the University of Wyoming.

Collaboration by the State Archivist, Lola M. Homsher, with the State microfilm administrator, the county officers association, and the office of the attorney general, resulted in the drafting of three bills for consideration at the January-February session of the Wyoming Legislature. The bills propose to clarify existing law and broaden the microfilm program administered by Dorothy K. Taylor. Miss Taylor announces that the microfilming of 1956 Wyoming newspapers is now under way. A copy of the Centralized Microfilm Department's first biennial report, just released, can be had by addressing the department, Supreme Court Bldg., Cheyenne. The report shows the makeup of the department, describes the equipment in use, and comments on the production attained.

LATE NEWS

Word comes that Margaret C. Norton, Archivist of Illinois and dean of State archivists, has retired. Members of this Society expect that her counsel and help will still be available to her juniors.

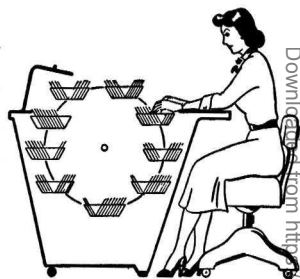
The South Carolina legislature has recently passed and the governor has approved an act appropriating \$400,000 for constructing the first unit of a State Archives Building.

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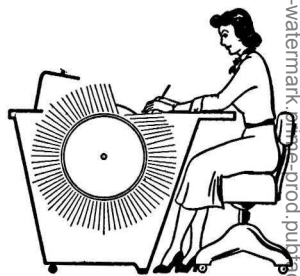


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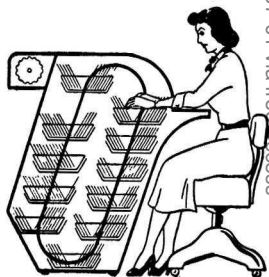


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