

Reviews of Books

HENRY P. BEERS, *Editor*

National Archives

Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States, Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1957; Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, January 1 to December 31, 1957, comp. by the Federal Register Division, National Archives and Records Service. (Washington, U. S. Government Printing Office, 1958. 939 p. \$6.75.)

This is the first volume of an annual series begun in response to a recommendation of the National Historical Publications Commission. The series will serve a most useful purpose in bringing together for ready reference the public papers of the Presidents, beginning with 1957. The authorized scope of the volumes is stated in the rules governing publication as follows:

The basic text of the volumes shall consist of oral utterances by the President or of writings subscribed by him. All materials selected for inclusion under these criteria must also be in the public domain by virtue of White House press releases or otherwise.

Documents are arranged in chronological order without regard to subject, but the use of the material is facilitated by a list of items and an index of subjects and persons mentioned.

The editors have wisely decided to keep the volumes within reasonable size and number by omitting certain documents that have little historical value or that are readily available elsewhere. A guide to much of this material is given in appendixes listing White House press releases, Presidential documents published in the *Federal Register*, and Presidential reports to Congress.

Some other documents might well be omitted and covered merely by reference to official published sources. Such are veto messages and memoranda of disapproval for private bills, which in most cases have little general public interest. These relate chiefly to bills for relief of individuals. The *Congressional Record* could be cited for such documents.

A few items included seem rather trivial for printing as official papers and are of little or no interest from the standpoint of public policy. Examples of these are the President's remarks on his arrival at Old Colony House, Newport, and his letter regarding the Eisenhower cracker barrel presented to the Augusta National Golf Club by George Humphrey.

A class of Presidential papers that are not covered in this publication but that might well be included are the remarks of newly appointed Ambassadors to the United States upon the presentation of their credentials to the President and the President's replies. Though these are largely ceremonial in nature they are at times significant. The texts of the remarks are generally released by the Department of State.

In looking over the papers in this volume one is impressed by the wide range

of subjects, big and little, foreign and domestic, with which the President must deal. It may be assumed, however, that the large majority of the papers are drafted by Presidential aides and that signing by the President, in many cases, is pretty much a matter of routine.

The papers most revealing of the President's own personality and thinking are the minutes of his press conferences, of which 25 are recorded in this volume, covering about 328 of the 853 pages of actual documentation. The subjects covered include such matters of international interest as nuclear tests and other defense problems; the crisis in the Near East; relations with the Soviet Union and with Communist China; and domestic issues regarding economic conditions, the farm program, the budget, Federal aid to education, civil rights (with special attention to desegregation of the schools and the Little Rock affair), succession in case of disability of the President, and various other political questions.

A matter of some difficulty, which deserves exploration, is the possibility of printing additional important documents that are not made public currently but that could appropriately be declassified for inclusion in the official record for the year. If this should prove feasible, it would greatly add to the value of the series by making available papers of real historic interest, access to which might otherwise have to await the researches of historians in Presidential libraries many years hence. The rules as to scope would seem to allow this, as the President certainly has full authority to declassify any Presidential document.

The legal provisions for this series provide for authorization of the publication of similar volumes covering specific calendar years before 1957. It is to be hoped that the Administrative Committee, in consultation with the National Historical Publications Commission, will authorize such publication of earlier records.

E. R. PERKINS

Department of State

In Support of Clio; Essays in Memory of Herbert A. Kellar, ed. by William B. Hesseltine and Donald R. McNeil (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1958. 214 p. \$5.)

That Herbert A. Kellar is deserving a volume of this kind is without question, and in so honoring him the authors not only confer an accolade upon a deserving scholar but open to the reader broad avenues of useful information. The authors set forth in their essays nine fields of endeavor, in most of which Herbert Kellar participated. Although the historical fraternity knew Dr. Kellar as the curator of the McCormick collection, first at Chicago and later at Madison, Wisconsin, he was interested in many movements that would forward the cause of Clio.

David L. Smiley's essay describes Kellar's able support of the Historical Records Survey under the leadership of Luther Evans, where Kellar was particularly interested in a manuscript survey. Lucile M. Kane describes in her essay some of Kellar's adventures in manuscript collecting. G. P. Bauer de-

scribes Kellar's place in the movement for public archives in the United States. George L. Anderson brings to the foreground an explanation of the new "mechanical Messiahs" designed to aid Clío's minions and tells of Kellar's part in their application, especially his role in microfilming British records during World War II. Historians may recall the operations of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, but Richard G. Younger tells of the efforts of other foundations in the historical field. David D. Van Tassel and James A. Tinsley discuss the role of various historical organizations as aids to the Muse and show how Kellar gave impetus to the founding of the American Association for State and Local History. No treatise on agricultural history would be complete without Kellar's part in that movement, and Wayne D. Rasmussen does not slight him in his treatment of the subject. It is always a pleasure to hear from Lester J. Cappon, and his remarks will be a revelation to those historians concerned only with writing and not with editing and publishing. Edward P. Alexander, who can speak of historical restoration with authority, expounds this subject and discusses Kellar's reconstitution of the McCormick grist mill at Walnut Grove, Virginia.

Each essay is accompanied by a bibliography, and this your reviewer applauds; but that a five-dollar book of only 214 pages has no index is a matter to be regretted.

RICHARD G. WOOD

Vermont Historical Society

Library of Congress, Reference Department, Manuscript Division. *Booker T. Washington; a Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress*. (Washington, 1958. 105 p. Processed. 80¢.)

It was announced in the *Information Bulletin* of the Library of Congress for July 21, 1958 (vol. 17, no. 29, p. 1), that: "Thirteen registers of manuscript collections (totaling 316 pages) were prepared for reader service; four were published, four awaited publication, and five were typed. Drafted were 17 other registers, totaling approximately 280 pages." The four published registers referred to were of the papers of Booker T. Washington (no. 1, 105 p., 80¢), Emory Scott Land (no. 2, 7 p., 30¢), Wendell Berge (no. 3, 12 p., 30¢), and Charles Joseph Bonaparte (no. 4, 20 p., 30¢). In format, all these processed pamphlets are uniform; all have identical prefaces; and together they represent the first publication of the Manuscript Division's registers, which were described by Katharine E. Brand in the *American Archivist* (Apr. 1953 and Jan. 1955). In a general way the register method of describing massive collections of papers, which was frankly borrowed by the Library of Congress from the National Archives, was a contribution of the archivist toward the solution of one of the most frustrating problems that have confronted the librarian. Library manuscript depositories had despaired of piece-by-piece cataloging and calendaring in the face of the size of collections accumulated in the "typewriter age." In the register, an entire collection is treated as a unit, just as a book is on a catalog card; the manuscript curator describes the collection and notes its parts (series), just as the cataloger handles a single title, forgoing the

labor of chapter-by-chapter or page-by-page subject analysis. Scholars are well enough served by the register; as a matter of fact, most scholars have never expected curators, archivists, and librarians to do *all* the research for them. By publishing these model registers, the Library of Congress renders a further service to manuscript repositories scattered throughout the United States. With the L. C. registers as models, it will be much easier to attain the standardization needed to follow the preliminary *Rules for Descriptive Cataloging of Collections of Manuscripts* and ultimately to produce a national union catalog of manuscript collections.

But, of course, the Manuscript Division's primary purpose in publishing the *Booker T. Washington Register* was not to help libraries and manuscript depositories in their labors. Rather it was to make known to all scholars the general nature of the material in the papers of Booker T. Washington, some 300,000 items, which were received by the Library of Congress in 1945. The *Register* briefly notes the circumstances of acquisition and warns that literary rights have not been dedicated to the public. The scope of the papers (1882-1942, especially 1900-1915) is summarized by noting on one page their subject matter and the names of principal and well-known correspondents. A biographical sketch or chronological outline of Booker T. Washington's life is then given in three pages. Part IV of the *Register* (100 pages) lists first the 19 series in which the papers have been arranged, giving the container numbers of each series, and then lists the 1,116 containers with a brief identification of the contents of each. The *Register* as a whole is simple, clear, precise, and informative. With this register in hand a scholar in California can easily decide whether he should plan to go to the Library of Congress to search in the Booker T. Washington papers; and, if he decides to go, he will know exactly where to start and what to ask for when he gets there.

Some may wish the *Registers* were printed and bound. This reviewer is delighted that the less expensive format has been selected, keeping the cost down and — more important — expediting publication. If a suggestion is in order, the Manuscript Division might consider reprinting Katharine Brand's two articles on registers as a preliminary number in its series of registers.

ANDREW H. HORN

Occidental College
Los Angeles

Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, comp. by Vivian Wiser. (National Archives, *Preliminary Inventory* no. 104; Washington, 1958. vi, 212 p., appendixes. Processed. Free.)

Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Bureau of Animal Industry, comp. by Harold T. Pinkett. (National Archives, *Preliminary Inventory* no. 106; Washington, 1958. v, 18 p. Processed. Free.)

These inventories are the eleventh and twelfth, respectively, dealing with records originating in the Department of Agriculture. They should be used by administrators concerned with precedent in attempting to solve the farm

problem and by historians giving attention to agriculture, one of the subjects most neglected in the profession.

The inventories under consideration bracket two major aspects of the development of the present-day Department of Agriculture — the establishment of a bureau to carry out long-time research and regulatory activities in a particular scientific area and the establishment of a bureau to carry out research and regulatory activities in the economic area.

The records of the Bureau of the Animal Industry, according to the inventory, amount to 1,146 cubic feet and date from 1887 to 1939. The author gives the location of later and related records. It appears that records of the earliest years of the Bureau are not available. This guide to the records indicates, however, that enough material is available to undertake a definitive history of the Bureau. Although the Bureau was not abolished as a separate agency until 1953, the most recent study of its organization and activities appeared in 1927. It is hoped that the inventory may inspire a new assessment of this major agency.

Work in economics in the Department of Agriculture did not become formalized until 1922, when the Bureau of Agricultural Economics was established. Just as the organization of the Bureau of Animal Industry marked a new approach to scientific and regulatory work, so the organization of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics marked a new approach to the economic problems of the farmer. No new major field of research and regulation in agriculture has been developed since its establishment.

The records of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics described in the inventory amount to 3,012 cubic feet and date from 1912 to 1953. The author indicates the location of related records. The National Archives, working in close cooperation with record management officers in the Department of Agriculture, has ensured the preservation of unusually complete records for this Bureau. The records have been very useful to many historians; the present comprehensive guide will make them even more useful. The author gives a factual history of the Bureau in her introduction, and the notes describing the records are clear and full. The appendixes, which include lists of subjects covered by the major series of records and a comprehensive bibliography, combine to make this inventory an outstanding contribution.

WAYNE C. RASMUSSEN

Agricultural History Society

State Papers of Vermont. Volume Ten. General Petitions, 1793-1796, ed. by Allen Soule. (Montpelier, Vermont, Secretary of State, 1958. xx, 469 p. \$5.)

This is the third volume of "General Petitions" in the series of the *State Papers of Vermont*. The earlier volumes covered the periods 1778-87 and 1788-92. Although the term "petitions" seems to imply little, there is much of interest here to historians and other scholars. In the formative period of Vermont statehood, as in the early days of the English parliament, the right of petition was paramount and made every man equal before the law. In this vol-

ume we find the aggrieved, the unfortunate, the disgruntled, the ambitious, and even the fighter for human rights and public betterment exhibiting their facts and their logic. Along with each petition goes a statement of conditions; and this, though perhaps a bit distorted from a factual point of view, is the stuff of social history. The editor has supplied appropriate notes that tell the fate of the petitions, thus giving a key to legislation.

From the preface we learn that over a quarter of the petitions deal with matters of communication — requests for a land tax to support the building of roads and bridges and their repair, for rights to build toll bridges or to operate ferries and stage routes, and for lotteries to raise funds for such purposes. These petitions are important in showing how serious was the need in new areas, where the poor settlers were willing to tax themselves to obtain means of communication. Other petitions deal with court matters, permission to sell the lands of deceased persons, the adjustment of town lines, and costs in suits and prosecutions. Here, too, are requests for indemnity for the care of indigents (usually "foreigners"). Then there was the matter of State printing, which the struggling newspapers sought to monopolize or to share as a very necessary means of support.

Economic conditions are revealed in petitions to set up locks in the Otta-queechee River, to establish a gristmill, to subsidize a post rider, and even to obtain a 30-year monopoly in the mining of gold and silver. Schools and libraries sought support, as did religious groups. A lottery was proposed to erect a meeting house. Finally, we have an eloquent appeal against supporting ministers of the gospel by taxes. Citing Locke, Isaac Watts, and Thomas Paine, the signers of this petition upheld the freedom of religion and the separation of church and state. Surely this is a cross section of social history.

The volume has a pleasing format, is well printed, and includes a good index. It is a valuable addition to the official publications of Vermont.

MILTON W. HAMILTON

Division of Archives and History
New York State

Guide to Special Collections in the Library of the University of California at Los Angeles. (UCLA Library Occasional Paper no. 7; Los Angeles, University of California Library, 1958. 86 p. Processed.)

This *Guide* is another reminder of the speed with which UCLA is catching up with Berkeley. In some areas the UCLA Library is now well within hailing distance of its elder partner — not a Bancroft in the manuscript field, of course, but already possessing a wealth of important and unique material and growing at a rapid rate.

The library founded its department of special collections a dozen years ago to care for "unusual and valuable library materials." The *Guide* was produced to establish a means of control superior to the "ability of a single person to remember the assembled riches." Compiled by James V. Mink, this handy, streamlined finding aid points the way to use and service of the department's 299 collections in accordance with a broad but explicit divisional arrangement.

The divisions are history; literature; bibliography, printing, and the book trade; the arts; philosophy and religion; science and engineering; pictorial materials; maps; and the university's archives and history. The *Guide* lists the collections within the divisions in alphabetical order, specifies the date span, number of pieces, and donor's name, and indicates in a necessarily sketchy way something of the contents. As to size, the collections range from two letters, a reel of microfilm, and a single journal, to 500,000 pieces of business papers and the 10,000-volume Sadleir collection of nineteenth-century fiction.

The arrangement and classification of the department's holdings show the procedures of library and archives coming together and overlapping. First there is "arbitrary" segregation of materials from the general library, more the librarian's than the archivist's method. On the other hand, the "group" is the structural concept of the collections; most of the collections were brought in readymade, a few have been assembled in the department; some are "closed," others "open." The staff has kept "rearrangement" to a minimum and, for the most part, has preserved group "integrity." The *Guide*, however, includes a comprehensive index to names.

As a primary-control and first-study device, the *Guide* appears well enough constructed to increase considerably the practical worth of the department.

W. N. DAVIS, JR.

California State Archives

The Southeast in Early Maps, With an Annotated Check List of Printed and Manuscript Regional and Local Maps of Southeastern North America During the Colonial Period, by William P. Cumming. (Princeton University Press, 1958. ix, 275 p., 67 plates. \$12.50.)

"This is a study of the historical cartography of the southeastern region of the North American continent before the American Revolution. It attempts to analyze the manuscripts and printed maps of that area, showing the expansion of geographical knowledge through the periods of discovery and colonization, and at times relates these maps to other primary documents of the period" (p. vi). This significant contribution to the historical cartography of North America is a product of more than 20 years of research in and visits to a large number of archives, libraries, and other depositories in the United States and in two European countries. The final product does justice to the long effort, and the Princeton University Press and the Meriden Gravure Co. have combined to produce a first-rate book.

The volume is divided into three principal parts: (1) "The Early Historical Cartography of Southeastern North America: An Introductory Essay," (2) "Reproductions [and descriptions] of [representative] Maps," and (3) "List of Maps of the Southeast during the Colonial Period." Dr. Cumming's "Introductory Essay" brings together for the first time a wealth of information as highlights in the history of the mapping of the Southeast. This essay is especially helpful because of its voluminous footnotes and the three appendixes of references. The second part is a descriptive list and photoreproductions of 67 representative maps arranged in chronological order to cover the period. The

reproductions are unusually clear and legible, considering the great reduction of many of them. The third part, which comprises more than half of the volume, is a detailed, annotated description of 450 different maps, arranged as nearly as possible in chronological order, presumably by date of publication or issue. Each descriptive entry generally includes: title tag, title, size, scale, wherein published, etc., inset, description, references, reproductions, and the depositories in which copies may be located. The descriptions are very detailed and perhaps should be characterized as commentaries. The references, which include a great deal of information and reflect the large amount of research done by the author, are very helpful.

This reviewer is surprised to note that the author makes only one reference to maps in the National Archives (p. 202); and that is to a photostat of the Moseley map of 1733, which he saw in the Map Division of the Library of Congress. This is a shortcoming because there are in the Archives several hundred maps, some manuscript, that would be of particular interest to him. For example there are seven different editions or versions of John Mitchell's map of the British Colonies in North America, 1755, which the author characterizes (p. 47) as "politically and historically, if not cartographically, . . . the most important in American history," and which he describes in detail as map 203 in his descriptive list (p. 223-224). These editions of the Mitchell map are priceless records since they were submitted as evidence with the several treaties between the United States and Great Britain.

It is, of course, inevitable that in a work of such magnitude a few errors of fact will have slipped in. For example the author on page 63 (footnote 4) records that the U. S. Coast Survey was organized in 1807 and began publishing charts soon after. The Coast Survey did not become an active map-publishing agency until the 1840's. The author's statement on page 63 (footnote 4) that the cartographic method of De Brahm and Romans "did not change until aerial surveying became practical" is far too sweeping a statement and does not bear up in the face of thousands of cartographic records in the National Archives that prove the contrary. The nineteenth century witnessed a considerable improvement in the precision and detail with which topographic and other maps were made; and there was great improvement in the medium of presentation, achieved through the use of the copying camera, color overprinting, the establishment of a detailed national geodetic network, the development of a generally acceptable set of standard symbols for showing terrain features, and the use of contours in showing relief on topographic maps.

This publication is a major contribution to the history of the cartography of the southeastern United States, and it is an excellent example of painstaking research and professional competence in the special field of cartocataloging.

HERMAN R. FRIIS

National Archives

"I. Actes du III^e Congrès International des Archives (Florence, 25-29 septembre 1956)." "II. Bâtiments d'archives." "III. Bibliographie." *Archivum; Revue Internationale des Archives*, publiée sous les auspices de l'UNESCO et du Conseil International des Archives, vol. 6, 1956. (Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1958. vii, 282 p., illus. 1,000 fr.)

Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato; fascicolo dedicato al III Congresso Internazionale degli Archivi (Firenze, 25-29 settembre 1956), vol. 16, no. 3, settembre-dicembre 1956. (Roma, Libreria dello Stato, Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato, 1956. [ii, 242] p., illus. 300 l. it.)

The Society of American Archivists at its 1956 meeting in Washington heard a report by Robert H. Bahmer on the Third International Congress of Archivists and has had an opportunity to study the paper based on that report published in the *American Archivist* (Apr. 1957). The impatient member of the American archival profession, who in these critical times may have considered himself entitled to receive immediate and detailed accounts of the proceedings, possibly regretted Dr. Bahmer's disinclination to summarize the contents of the principal reports but might have supposed, with him, that they would "in time be published in *Archivum*, together with abstracts of the comments made on them during the sessions."

If the International Congress is to have effective results, three conditions must prevail: (1) the archivists attending but not actively participating must be provided with an opportunity to register at once their opinions on the subjects discussed; (2) the archival profession as a whole, worldwide, must take immediate cognizance of the deliberations; and (3) the profession of a given country must discover, as soon as possible, the extent and nature of its own representation. Since these conditions cannot exist in the absence of disseminated reports, the volume of *Archivum* that is one of the subjects of this review is both hailed for its appearance and deplored for its tardiness.

The issue of the Italian *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* devoted to the Third Congress, although published almost 2 years before the volume of *Archivum* under review, affords an appropriate opportunity for comparison. Both journals print the reports upon which the oral interventions of the three working sessions were based — "New Installations of Archives," by Ingvar Andersson (Sweden); "The Selection of Archives for Permanent Preservation," by J. H. Collingridge (England); and "Private Archives," by Riccardo Filangieri (Italy). *Archivum* renders the first two of these articles in English and the third in French, with no abstracts in other languages, while *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* gives them all in Italian. The remarks of archivists intervening during the working sessions are abstracted (in French only) in *Archivum*; they do not appear at all in *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* except with respect to the Italian delegation, whose remarks are printed in full. Taking advantage of the earlier appearance of the Italian journal, *Archivum* cites *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* and thus avoids printing the inaugural address by Fernando Tambroni, the Italian Minister of the Interior, and the greetings extended on behalf of Italian archivists by the president of the Congress, Count Filangieri.

The serious student of this Congress must therefore be forewarned that the proceedings as published in *Archivum* may not be complete enough for his purpose. The *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* names as having spoken or intervened, in the course of the three working sessions, eight delegates whose remarks, inexplicably, are not abstracted in *Archivum*. These were, at the first session (on new installations), Ines Torreblanca (Spain) and Robert Henri Bautier (France); at the second session (on disposition), Vicente Salavert (Spain), V. M. Chvostov and G. A. Belov (U. S. S. R.), and R. H. Bahmer (United States); and, at the third session (on private archives), Marc André Fabre (France) and Guedrghé Ungureanu (Rumania). Although, regrettably, the Italian publication contains no abstracts of the remarks made by delegates foreign to Italy, its list of speakers is seen now to have a usefulness beyond that intended. In contrast, however, *Archivum* abstracts the remarks of seven interveners whose names are not listed in the *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato*. These are, for the first session, W. Winckler (Germany) and Kjartan Sveinsson (Iceland); for the second session, David L. Evans (England), Gaetano Ramacciotti (Italy), and M. I. Paraschiv (Rumania); and, for the third session, Etienne Sabbe (Belgium) and, again, Gaetano Ramacciotti. Mr. Evans had also read the report of Mr. Collingridge, who did not attend. Neither journal contains a list of the delegates attending or of the countries represented; but the Italian publication includes a good panoramic photograph and other views of the Congress and its activities, in which many in attendance may be identified.

In view of Dr. Bahmer's impression, in his summary for the Society of American Archivists, that on the whole the practices of the United States "were accurately set forth, except perhaps in the third report on private archives," an examination of that report is illuminating. *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* prints the questionnaire used by Count Filangieri to collect data for his report, which is organized generally to correspond with the grouping of questions put to the participating countries. Among the topics covered are (1) definition of the term "private archives," (2) legislation, (3) public interest and utilization, (4) alienation, (5) relinquishment to government, (6) arrangement and disposition, and (7) publication. As rendered by *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato*, the report specifically includes the United States among democratic nations outside of Europe that give wide latitude to the meaning of "private archives," extending it to describe not only personal archives but archives of families; of banking, insurance, welfare, and cultural institutions; of religious bodies; and of business. The version (in French) appearing 2 years later in *Archivum*, omits specific reference to the United States but by implication includes it among the *pays à régime démocratique, hors d'Europe*. Elsewhere in his report Count Filangieri refers to the absence in the United States of legislation pertaining to private archives, except as affecting the papers of high officials; its leaving the care of private archives to private initiative; the influence, beginning about 1930, of the Historical Manuscripts Commission of the American Historical Association; the publication of inventories of private papers, the most important being those produced by the Works Projects Administration; the current activities of the

National Historical Publications Commission; the frequent acquisition of private archives by the Government and by public institutions such as libraries, of which the Library of Congress is the notable example; and the lack of legal restrictions on the transfer of ownership, the exportation, and the publication of private archives.

Archivum annexes to the proceedings (1) the text of the intervention by Lisa Kaiser (Germany), as a commentary on the Collingridge report, concerning the "Selection of Statistical Primary Material"; (2) the statement by Roger Ellis on the work of the British Records Association for private archives; and (3) a statement prepared for the Congress by UNESCO to show its activities in behalf of archives. With respect to the last, the Italian delegate Nicolò Rodolico, at the closing session, criticized the inadequacy and imprecision, so far as archives are concerned, of the "Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict," concluded at The Hague on May 14, 1954. It should be significant to those who study the work of the Congress that *Archivum* reports merely as a *proposal* Rodolico's motion (*ordine del giorno*), but *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* reports it as having been approved (*che è stato approvato*) by the delegates. This motion I translate (from the Italian) as follows: "The Third International Archival Congress expresses the hope that, in the superior interest of culture, the archival heritage of every country may be respected by the belligerents, and that it may not in any case be considered spoils of war."

The Italian contribution to the Third Congress, as befitted the host nation, was considerable. The presentation, in this number of *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato*, of the full texts of the remarks of each of Italy's speakers amounts virtually to a handbook of new archival experiences and ideas. The breadth of the solidarity of Italian archivists thus revealed is impressive. Sig. Carbone's discussion of disinfecting processes is a valuable addition in that area; and the provocative questions raised by Sigi. Giordano, Lombardo, Loddò-Canepa, and Speranze on the criteria for disposition and preservation touch the roots of archival doctrine. The Italians show also an enviable appreciation of archival work outside their country, as demonstrated by Elio Lodolini's presentation, on behalf of the Comisión de Historia del Instituto Panamericano de Geografía e Historia, of information on structures housing archives in Latin American countries other than the Dominican Republic and Venezuela, which had been covered in Dr. Andersson's report. If there could now be forthcoming similar compilations of the contributions of other important national delegations to the Third Congress, its benefits could be shared by archivists throughout the world.

The second section of *Archivum* contains five papers, most of them not previously printed, on archival buildings and their construction, supplemented as appropriate by abstracts in English, French, and Spanish. T. R. Schellenberg's paper, "American Archival Buildings," is an informative and useful statement of recommended and acceptable practices; it makes important distinctions between the requirements of archival buildings and record center structures. A paper by Sam. Hedar is concerned primarily with engineering

problems of construction; and one by Georg Winter discusses the influence that the archivist can exert on the architect. Notes by Ivor Collis on modern archival buildings in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, and a detailed survey by Michel Duchein of archival buildings in the departments of France (showing many photographs and building plans) complete this section.

To supplement bibliographies published in volumes 2, 3, and 4, this volume of *Archivum* contains the *Bibliographie analytique internationale des publications relatives à l'archivistique et aux archives*, 1954-56. Since the listing of foreign archival publications in the annual bibliography compiled under the auspices of the Committee on Bibliography of the Society of American Archivists is necessarily selective, the bringing of the international bibliography at least through 1956 fills an essential need. Because they differ in organization, criteria for selection, and related fields of coverage, the continuation of both bibliographies is to be encouraged.

KEN MUNDEN

National Archives

Fundación John Boulton. *Informe de Actividades y Proyectos*. (Caracas, 1958. 49 p., illus.)

This small volume is a report on the program and activities of the Fundación John Boulton of Venezuela, which was established in 1950 to carry on scientific investigations and has directed its energies in the first instance to dealing with "archivalia." The first project was the acquisition of microfilm copies of records in the National Archive of Colombia relating to Venezuela for the years 1810 to 1831.

The first part of the report, dealing with the mission to Bogotá, gives details regarding the mission's object and extent as well as the methods it used in locating the materials and acquiring copies, which have been transferred to microcards. Although copies were secured from various sections of the Colombian Archive, they have been organized by the Fundación into what is termed "The Venezuelan section of the Archive of Colombia and its organization in Caracas." The details of the designations placed on the copies and a full description of the system of classification devised for them are presented. It may be added that the location of all documents in the Colombian Archive is given. This appears to be a most useful and ingenious arrangement for materials proceeding from so many groups.

The second part gives an account of the purchase of papers of Sir Robert Ker Porter, an English diplomat who spent much time in Venezuela during the early days of the republic. It indicates the character and amount of the materials and points out their importance for Venezuelan history.

The final part explains the proposed program of publication. The plan includes critical editions of unpublished documents, papers from the archive of Gen. José Antonio Páez, and a twelfth volume of the Letters of Bolívar. The report includes reproductions of numerous interesting documents. The Fundación John Boulton is to be congratulated on its achievements thus far,

and those interested in Venezuelan history will wish it every success in its program for the future.

ROSCOE R. HILL

Washington, D. C.

Inventário dos Documentos Relativos ao Brasil, existentes na Biblioteca Nacional de Lisboa. In *Anais da Biblioteca Nacional*, vol. 75. (Rio de Janeiro, 1957. 358 p.)

The National Library at Lisbon contains many documents relating to the history of Brazil. The National Library at Rio de Janeiro has secured index cards of many of these documents, and in this issue of its *Anais* (vol. 75) has published a calendar of those from the royal chanceries of the several kings covering the years 1534 to 1692, the great majority of the items being for the seventeenth century.

Many of the entries are of letters and give dates, places, and names of writers and recipients but no indication of subject matter. The other documents include royal orders; letters patent, giving appointments and grants of land; charters; licenses for various purposes but especially for sending ships to Brazil and for collecting debts; confirmations of grants; and many other items. For these groups all data as to dates, persons, places and subject are given. The location of each item in the collections of the library at Lisbon is given. The calendar serves a most useful purpose, revealing the wealth of documentation in Lisbon, and it is thus a valuable contribution to Brazilian historical studies.

ROSCOE R. HILL

Washington, D. C.

"First Conference on Business Records: The Records Requirements of Industry," by H. R. Mathys; "Business Records and the Archivist," by Rupert C. Jarvis. (*Aslib Proceedings*, 9: 155-176; London, June 1957). "The Work of the Business Archives Council," by R. S. Sayers; "Business Records and the Historian," by J. Simmons. (*Aslib Proceedings*, 9: 193-207; London, July 1957).

"Second Conference on Business Records: The Records to be Kept for Business Purposes," by E. W. Ivey; "Business Records for the Historian," by J. W. Blake. (*Aslib Proceedings*, 10: 211-226; London, Sept. 1958). "Preservation of Records: Staffing, Storage and Costs," by S. A. Tasker; "Record Offices and Record Services in England," by Roger Ellis; "Record Repositories in Great Britain: Their Use," by B. R. Crick. (*Aslib Proceedings*, 10: 235-250; London, Oct. 1958).

The Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux of Great Britain is to be congratulated for sponsoring these conferences on business records and for publishing the addresses delivered. Something of the scope of the conferences can be gained from the titles of the papers, and further identification of the speakers reveals how many interested groups were represented. Thus, the problems of business firms in relation to records were presented, at

the first conference, by H. R. Mathys, Director, Courtaulds, Ltd.; and, at the second, by E. W. Ivey, The Wellcome Foundation, Ltd., and S. A. Tasker, Unilever, Ltd. Mr. Ivey was the only speaker to suggest wholesale destruction, and the subsequent discussion brought out that he was referring mainly to routine or housekeeping records. The interests of the historian and archivist were ably presented by R. C. Jarvis of the Society of Archivists and J. Simmons of the University of Leicester, at the first conference; and by J. W. Blake of the University College of North Staffordshire at the second. What may be called the "where-to-turn-for-aid approach" was covered at both conferences by the remaining speakers; they discussed the contributions being made by local archivists, the Business Archives Council, and the British Records Association.

Besides learning of the present status of business records in Great Britain, the reader may note certain details of interest. For instance, Tasker found that 8 percent of the available office space at Unilever was taken up by records; Ivey recommended microfilming if records were to be kept 5 years; Tasker extended that period to 9 to 11 years. A few general impressions also arise from reading these talks. One is that the speakers appreciated the importance of having able persons work on the filing and weeding of records; another, that it is possible to develop a "feeling" for records — for what is significant and what is not. A few obstacles, which might perhaps be met more often in England than here, were suggested by B. R. Crick, who represented the survey of sources for American studies in Great Britain and Ireland. He advised against excessive emphasis on secrecy and exclusiveness and put in a plea for the opening of some records less than a hundred years old.

The discussion following each session is also printed, and this seems a useful practice. At the end of the first conference, Sir Hilary Jenkinson made extensive remarks about the need for further consideration of problems and for greater cooperation.

ROBERT W. LOVETT

*Baker Library
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Aufbau und Aufgaben des Stadtarchivs Zürich; ein Bericht, von Hans Waser. (Kleine Schriften des Stadtarchivs Zürich, Achtes Heft, Zürich, Buchdruckerei Berichthaus Zürich, 1958. 35 p.)

Since 1951 the City Archives of Zurich, Switzerland, has been publishing a series of archival writings designated as *Kleine Schriften*. The publication here reviewed, no. 8 in the series, was prepared by Hans Waser, the City Archivist.

In this publication, Dr. Waser discusses the general nature of the city archives, their protection and arrangement, the preparation of descriptive aids, the problem of an ever-mounting volume of records, and the program of supplementing the archives by accessioning related materials.

The city archives are divided into 10 groups according to provenance or character of the records. Among these groups are the following:

Urkunden of the city and of individual real estate properties, covering the years 853 to 1958.

Records of the *Gemeinskammer*, *Stadtrat*, and municipality, beginning in 1798. Pre-Helvetian archives, excluding the *Urkunden*.

Records of various city offices.

Archives of 19 suburbs before they merged with the city of Zurich.

88 special collections, including records of the Fraumünster Abbey (going back to 883

A. D.), the Zurich theater archives, and records of many different private associations. Plans and picture archives.

Parish registers, census lists, citizens rolls, genealogy tables, etc.

The archives of the city are housed principally on the fourth floor and in the attic of the city hall. Since the building is not fireproof, the City Archives has taken all kinds of practical measures to protect the records. In addition, as a security measure, the microfilming of certain important records has been undertaken. To date, 440,000 exposures have been made.

In the archival arrangement of records Dr. Waser adheres primarily to the principle of provenance, although he justifies, under certain circumstances, observing the principle of pertinency (putting together, from several registries, documents that are similar in content or subject).

To cope with the flood of documents and the shortage of record storage space, the City Archives advocates a variety of measures: constant attention to the destruction of valueless records, especially while they are with the agency of origin; keeping permanent documents separate from temporary ones while they are being created; resorting to microfilming if it is not too expensive; working out efficient storage systems and erecting compact archival buildings; and establishing intermediate archival depots. Dr. Waser pays tribute to Theodore Schellenberg's contributions in the appraisal field.

To enhance its archival holdings, the City Archives has been carrying out a program of accessioning related documentary materials. In this connection, it has established a library containing writings on the history of the city and canton, communal politics, genealogy and heraldry, and local institutions and families. The City Archives has also a collection of 20,000 seals of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and it procures contemporary *Kleinliteratur* — that is, political posters, pamphlets, biographies of prominent citizens of Zurich, and annual reports and periodicals of commercial and cultural associations.

The appendix of the publication prints the administrative and archival regulations issued by the City Archives on March 25 and 31, 1949.

PHILIP P. BROWER

National Archives

Les Archives de Yougoslavie, rédaction Olga Jelisavetov, Igor Karaman, Jovan Marjanović, Sergije Vilfan; direction technique Dušan Papadopolos. (Belgrade, Imprimerie "Kultura," [1956]. 35 p., illus.)

In this guide to archives in Yugoslavia, a wealth of condensed information on the essential facets of the subject is made available to the reader who is not familiar with the variety of languages spoken by the peoples of that country. Yugoslavia, now a federation of six republics, looks back on a complex and tempestuous history, in the course of which the country's various nations followed their own historical development, often under the domination of foreign

powers. This fact explains why many of Yugoslavia's documents of the past were written not only in the native languages, but also in Italian, Turkish, and German.

The introduction to the guide points out that even in earlier times much attention was paid to archival documentation of the history of these peoples. For instance, the noted historian Ivan Kukuljević was appointed chief archivist for Croatia and Slovenia in 1848, and Mihailo Gavrilović served as first director of the State Archives of Serbia from 1900 to 1911. The Slovenian poet, Anton Aškerc, occupied for some time the position of City Archivist of Ljubljana.

In the period following World War II the organization of archives underwent substantial changes in Yugoslavia, and much of the booklet under discussion is devoted to a survey of those changes. Early in 1945 a federal law formulated the principle that the organization and preservation of archival resources was a responsibility of the government. Subsequently, legislation was passed by the federal government and the governments of the constituent republics to carry out this general principle.

The first part of the guide presents in brief the major aspects of present-day archival affairs in Yugoslavia. It deals with the legislation underlying the organization of archival resources, the systems and administration of archives, and the professional association, publications, and training of archivists. It also treats such operational matters as buildings and equipment, budgets, classification of archival materials, microfilming facilities, conservation, and restoration.

The main kinds of current archival repositories in Yugoslavia are given: the Federal Archives, which house primarily documents pertaining to the whole of Yugoslavia; republic archives, located in the respective capitals of the republics; regional archives; archives of the Institute for Military History; war archives, in the Museums of National Liberation; archives of academies of sciences; and archives for local history.

The second part of the guide gives a specific listing of the principal archives by federated republics, with brief data on the establishment of the archives and the characteristics of the resources in their custody.

The guide further contains illustrations of several archives buildings and of outstanding materials held by them, as well as a map showing their location. The survey was sponsored by the Federation of Societies of Archivists in the People's Republic of Yugoslavia.

PAUL L. HORECKY

Library of Congress

Indian Historical Records Commission. *Proceedings of the Thirty-First Session, Mysore, January 1955*. Vol. 31, part 1. (New Delhi, Albion Press, n.d., 169 p.)

National Archives of India. *Index to the Foreign and Political Department Records. Vol. I, 1756-1780*. (New Delhi, Manager of Publications, Government of India, 1957. xii, 548 p. Rs. 15 or 23s. 6d.)

The reports of the annual sessions of the Indian Historical Records Commission continue to show the encouraging progress being made in such matters

as the provision of greater facilities for research students in the National Archives; the microfilming of materials for Indian history in the British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale, and the Algemeen Rijksarchief; and the search for historical treasures among privately owned manuscripts, especially the records of mercantile firms that have long been associated with India. It is perhaps a welcome sign that so many students are consulting the national records that more seating accommodation must be provided for them, but it is somewhat alarming that there still seem to be some restrictions on pre-1901 records. These discussions in 1955, however, indicate that such restrictions are in process of removal. The volume contains less information than usual about the progress of the search for historical records in private hands, perhaps because of the space (45 pages) devoted to the description of the truly remarkable exhibition of historical documents from every part of India brought together at Mysore on the occasion of this session. The exhibition mingled the very old with the very recent — the Mysore Department of Archaeology's lithic records side by side with the National Ministry of Defence's maps and photographs of World War II campaigns in Assam, Burma, Italy, and North Africa.

The appearance of the first in the series of indexes to the Foreign and Political Department records in the National Archives will be welcomed by all students of India's modern history. This is a very comprehensive index, the product of much painstaking labor. It covers the Bengal Select Committee, 1756-62 and 1765-74; the Secret and Separate Department, 1761-62 and 1773-74; the Secret Department, 1763-65 and 1768-80; and the Secret Department of Inspection, 1770 and 1778. The citation by dates will make the index of value to students working among the former India Office records in London as well as to those working in New Delhi.

HOLDEN FURBER

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Archives Report for 1950. ([Accra, Gold Coast], 1951. 6 p. Typed.)

Archives Report for 1951. ([Accra, Gold Coast], 1952. 2 p. Typed.)

3rd Archives Report, 1952. ([Accra, Gold Coast], 1953. 9 p. Processed.)

4th Annual Report on the National Archives, 1953. ([Accra, Gold Coast], 1954. 4 p. Photostated.)

Government Archives Office, Fifth Annual Report, 1954. (Accra, Gold Coast, 1955. 7 p. Processed.)

Sixth Annual Report on the National Archives, 1955. (Accra, Gold Coast, Government Printer, 1956. 16 p.)

Seventh Annual Report on the National Archives, 1956. (Accra, Gold Coast, Government Printer, 1957. 9 p.)

The National Archives of now-independent Ghana was originally established in 1950 as the Government Archives Office of the British colony of the Gold Coast. These reports, all prepared by J. M. Akita, the founding archivist, cover mainly the institution's formative early years, before the passage late in 1955 of the colony's first organic archives law.

The problems encountered by the Archives Office during its first years were

typical: unsuitable quarters; inadequate space and equipment; lack of trained personnel; the scattered, disordered, and physically deteriorated state of many of the noncurrent records; and, perhaps most serious of all, the inadequate authority of the Government Archivist to inspect or control the disposition of public records.

Despite a delay of almost 6 years before such authority was granted by the Gold Coast legislature, Mr. Akita and his staff made considerable progress in solving some of the problems that faced him at the outset and in developing both the archival establishment and its holdings. Throughout the period the Archives Office was housed in cramped temporary quarters, but a site for a permanent building was finally acquired in 1955. Because of the shortage of trained personnel the professional staff was held to two (the Archivist and his assistant, who were trained abroad), clerical personnel was used for routine archival operations, and local undergraduates were employed during summer months to supplement the regular staff.

Accessioning was hampered by lack of space and inspection authority, but the Archives Office nevertheless succeeded in taking into its custody what appear to be sizable quantities (although footages are not given in the reports) of the records of the Secretariat at Accra, the legislature, the courts, and the regional and district offices. Some of these records date from the eighteenth century. In accordance with his objective of preserving "all written matter . . . bearing on the history of the country," Mr. Akita did not limit himself to public records; he also acquired the papers of private persons and organizations (such as churches and missionary groups). When outright acquisition was not feasible, he borrowed and photographed private records. Similarly microcopies of documents relating to the Gold Coast in European archives were ordered.

Within the limits of available personnel the arrangement and physical condition of accessioned records were much improved. Records were grouped by class (for instance, ADM. 1, Original Correspondence; ADM. 5, Sessional Papers; ADM. 10, Treaties; and SC. 6, Private Papers of John Sarbah, Merchant) and were listed individually thereunder for control and finding purposes. So great was the problem of physical deterioration in the country's tropical climate that almost from the beginning more than half of the Archives personnel (22 of a staff of 38 in 1955) have been full-time binders and repairers. Although Mr. Akita foresaw the need for controls over record disposal in his first year's work program, little appears to have been accomplished in this area before the passage of the Public Archives Ordinance of 1955.

Probably the greatest accomplishment of the period under review, this organic legislation (based on British and Rhodesian models) had been vigorously promoted by Mr. Akita since 1951. The ordinance, which legally established the National Archives of the Gold Coast, defines "public archives" to include both governmental and private historical materials, empowers the Archivist to examine all records "in the custody of any Government office," requires periodic transfers of such records to the Archives, and authorizes the acquisition of private historical materials or copies thereof by the Archivist. A key provision of the ordinance is that establishing a permanent Committee on Public Archives consisting of the Archivist and representatives of the At-

torney-General, the Auditor-General, and the University College of the Gold Coast. Required "to safeguard the legal, financial and historical interests of the Government in [public] archives," the committee's specific functions are "to examine the requests of Government offices for the destruction and other disposition of such archives" and "to order [their] destruction, temporary or permanent retention, transfer to the National Archives or disposition."

Although these reports cast little light on the origins of the Gold Coast Archives (origins undoubtedly closely linked to the postwar intensification of nationalism in the territory), they document in some detail the rapid progress of the institution during its pioneer years. And between the lines they reveal the vital role played in this development by the energy and vision of the dedicated archivist in charge.

MORRIS RIEGER

National Archives

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