

Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Archivmitteilungen, VOL. 10 (1960), NO. 1.

BRACHMANN, BOTHO, *Zur Entwicklung des sozialistischen Archivwesens der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik* (The development of the communistic archival system of the German Democratic Republic). P. 1-11.

The development of the communistic archival system has kept pace with the development of the German Democratic Republic. The system has three functions. The first (politico-ideological) is described under four subtopics: the place of archives in a communistic state, the organization of a state archival system and archives, the ideological and methodological foundations of archival work, and working relationships. The second (professional-cultural) requires the archivist to assist actively in stimulating an awareness of communism in the populace, to guide research and teaching in history and the traditional basic disciplines in order to reach the present international level, and to fight against West German imperialism. The third—the practical function—requires the archival system to assist in the attainment of the Republic's economic goals, and to plan and work in accordance with state goals prescribed by the Seven Year Plan, 1959-65.

LÖTZKE, HELMUT, *Bericht über die von der UdSSR an die DDR seit 1957 übergebenen Archivbestände* (Report on the transfer, since 1957, of archives from the U.S.S.R. to the German Democratic Republic). P. 12-15.

Since 1948 about 2½ million file folders were transferred. Most of the article comprises lists of records recently transferred to the German Central Archives and to Land and city archives.

SCHMIDT, GERHARD, *Ordnungsarbeiten am Bestand des sächsischen Ministeriums für Volksbildung* (Arrangement of the records of the Saxon Ministry of Popular Instruction). P. 15-21.

During 1959 the arrangement of the records—26,000 file units—of the Saxon Ministry of Popular Instruction was completed. This ministry, which from 1831 to 1923 was known as the Saxon Ministry of Science, Ecclesiastical Affairs, the Arts, and Public Education (Ministerium des Kultus und öffentliches Unterrichts), was in charge of all religious and educational institutions in Saxony. The registries of the ministry are listed, and the several procedures of recording file units and for their retirement to the Main Archives of Land Saxony are described. Because the rigid registry arrangement and description of the records was found to be impractical for reference use, the records were rearranged and redescribed. The problems, solutions, approaches, methods, and procedures of this work are discussed. The records are now in great research demand.

BAŃKOWSKI, PIOTR, *Verluste der polnischen Archive und Handschriftenabteilungen der Bibliotheken im zweiten Weltkrieg* (Losses of archives and manuscript divisions of libraries of Poland during World War II). P. 22-26.

The losses of records, repositories, and libraries in Poland during World War II are immeasurable. Before September 1939 Warsaw had six Central Archives, the largest city archives in Poland, and some of the largest libraries containing manuscript collections of prime importance; these were all lost or seriously damaged. The Ar-

chives of the Ministry for Popular Instruction (Archiv des Ministeriums für Volksbildung) and much of the Financial Archives (Finanzarchiv) were destroyed by the Luftwaffe in September 1939. From the surrender of Poland in 1939 to the Warsaw revolt in 1944 German authorities seized archives for transport to Germany and Austria. Massive destruction of records reached the apogee late in 1944 when German troops crushed the revolt. The entire Old Records Archives (Archiv der Alten Akten), comprising 600,000 file units, perished. Old Records Main Archives (Hauptarchiv der Alten Akten) were burned by "Fascist," i.e. German, troops; only five percent of the 1,750,000 file units survived. The Current Records Archives (Archiv der Neuen Akten) survived the fighting, but were burned in November 1944; only three percent of the records survived. The Warsaw city archives (Stadtarchiv Warschau), comprising 400,000 file units, met the same fate. Most of the files in the city archives of Posen, Danzig, Breslau, Stettin, and many other cities were destroyed. Destruction of Polish libraries was just as vast; of 22,500,000 volumes existing in August 1939 only 7,500,000 remained in 1945. The slight, sole hope left is that the small number of Polish records which yet survive after their exodus from Poland will now be returned to their native land.

HAHN, ALFRED, *Das Dresdener Stadtarchiv und sein Schicksal im zweiten Weltkrieg* (The city archives of Dresden and its fate during World War II). P. 26-30.

The administration of the archives is traced from the end of the seventeenth century through 1954. During 1939, with Germany at war, several branches of the combined city archives and library were moved to seven different locations outside Dresden and two additional locations within the city as a precaution against air attack. For over four years no attack came. During the night of February 13, 1944, the city hall, which contained the main city archives, was destroyed. Ninety percent of the library volumes were burned. Most of the records in the basement of the city hall were believed to have been saved; all the records in the two annexes were burned along with the buildings. The vast destruction of the city did not permit access to the records in the basement until the beginning of 1946. Rain and snow had fallen on the records, the basement floor was flooded with water, and the high humidity had brought mildew and other fungi to the records. Looting had added to the losses. From 1946 through 1951 the local archival staff worked on procuring space, saving and repairing records, and bringing back the records evacuated in 1939. There followed a survey of the records to determine specific losses, rearrangement and reindexing of records that survived, accessioning of the current records created by the new government during 1945-52, and an active reference service program.

Literaturbesprechungen (Reviews of books and periodicals). P. 30-35.

Verschiedenes (Miscellaneous). P. 35-36.

Archivmitteilungen, VOL. 10 (1960), NO. 2.

Sozialistische Gemeinschaftsarbeit im staatlichen Archivwesen (Communitistic cooperative work in the state archival system). P. 37-39.

The accomplishments of the archival staff during 1959 are enumerated; work in progress or planned for 1960 is summarized. In the state archives of East Germany a new concept has been introduced—the work is done by teams of archival employees rather than, as was traditional, by individual archivists. These teams work within the framework of the Seven Year Plan in order to achieve the goals prescribed for archival science.

ENDERS, LIESELOTT, *Veränderungen brandenburgischer Gemeindegrenzen in der zweiten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhunderts* (Boundary changes in municipalities of Brandenburg during the latter half of the nineteenth century). P. 40-42.

A study of the official gazettes (*Amtsblätter*) of Potsdam for the period 1810-1945 shows that changes in the boundaries of municipalities within Land Brandenburg oc-

curred most frequently during the latter half of the nineteenth century. The changes were invariably initiated by private real estate transactions and consummated by official action. Fifteen districts (*Kreise*) selected as examples appear on three statistical charts. The statistics are analyzed and their significance is explained.

JAHN, ROLF, *Literarisches Archivgut in Verlagen* (Literary archives in publishing houses). P. 43-45.

The publishing houses of the German Democratic Republic have performed great services by contributing to the development of a modern German national literature. They are also the custodians of belletristic archives not under state control. In the creation of a literary work of art, the published book is only the end product; equally important are the author's notes, outlines, sketches, and drafts, the manuscript submitted to the publisher, and the several annotated galley-proofs. Current East German regulations require that the publisher retain the records in his possession for five years after sale of the last printed edition. In order to preserve this valuable literary source a state Archives of Literature, to which publishers would be required to transfer all noncurrent literary archives, ought to be established.

SCHRECKENBACH, HANS-JOACHIM, *Der Amtsvorsteher. Staatliche Ortspolizeibehörden im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert und deren Schriftgut* (The magistrate. The state district police authorities of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and their records). P. 46-49.

This article is based on an analysis of the records of the magistrates in the Main Archives of Land Brandenburg in Potsdam. It begins with the initial transition of police from local to state control in 1808, proceeds to the abolition of the office of magistrate in 1948, and then describes the kinds of records preserved and their value for reference use, especially for such subjects as Hitler's preparations for air defense and for World War II, workers' movements, and local history.

HESS, ULRICH, *Die Organisation der Bergbehörden in Thüringen und ihre archivalische Überlieferung* (The organization of the mining authorities in Thuringia and their records). P. 50-61.

This study lists the many mining offices and districts which existed in Land Thuringia during the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries; gives an account of their creation, organization, relationship, merging, dissolution, jurisdiction, and subordination; and lists and describes their records.

FALD, GEBHARD, *Konferenz der Sektion Mediävistik der Deutschen Historiker-Gesellschaft* (Conference of the Section on Medievalism of the German Historical Association). P. 61.

This newly founded section held its first conference in Wernigerode, Harz, January 21-24, 1960. The two themes were "Peoples' Movements in Cities During the Fourteenth Century" and "The Citizens' Revolution in German History, 1476-1535."

LÖTZKE, HELMUT, *Zum 70. Geburtstag von Heinrich Otto Meisner* (The seventieth birthday of Heinrich Otto Meisner). P. 62.

Literaturbesprechungen (Reviews of books and periodicals). P. 63-67.

Verschiedenes (Miscellaneous). P. 67-68.

Archivmitteilungen, VOL. 10 (1960), NO. 3.

SCHTELICH, EBERHARD, *Arbeitstagung der Staatlichen Archivverwaltung mit den wissenschaftlichen und den staatlich geprüften Archivaren der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik* (The State Archival Administration's meeting with the professional archivists and the state certified archivists of the German Democratic Republic). P. 69-83.

The 1960 meeting of the State Archives Administration was held at Sellin on Rügen Island for 54 state certified archivists (*staatlich geprüfte Archivare*), February 11-20,

and for 52 professional archivists (*wissenschaftliche Archivare*), February 22-March 2. The meeting concerned itself primarily with overall planning for the continued development of the archival system in the first German worker and farmer state, and with the practical archival work required by the Seven Year Plan, which extends through 1965. At the end of 1959 there were more than 196,000 linear meters of records and 197,888 legal documents, all registered, in the large state archives of the Republic. The records are especially useful for administrative and historical research, for current political questions, and for studies of civilization. During 1959 a total of 2,885 visitors used the records and 7,700 letters were written in answer to inquiries received; 482,054 microfilm frames and 88,014 paper prints were made. The goals for the immediate years ahead are the completion of the merging of the aspirations of communism with the work of archival science and the expansion of archival work. A concrete example of the latter is the plan to provide each of the 14 districts (*Bezirke*) of East Germany with its own archives repository. An example of the former is the orientation of users of records in the historical materialism of Marx and Lenin and the evaluation of records for retention or destruction as best serves the interests of communism. "Central theme" lectures were given twice, once at each session of the meeting; the main themes were the assignments given to state archives by the Seven Year Plan, the assignments given to management groups to meet the goals of the Seven Year Plan, historical materialism as the foundation of archival and historical research, the history of the German workers' movement, special methods for organizing and cataloging state records of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, problems in arranging estate and family archives in the Main Archives of Land Brandenburg at Potsdam, and research in the agrarian history of the Republic. The report continues with the subjects and discussions of the "special theme" lectures given at each of the two separate sessions of the meeting.

HESS, ULRICH, *Spezialmethoden bei der Ordnung und Verzeichnung von staatlichen Akten des 19. und 20. Jahrhunderts. Aus der Arbeit des Thüringischen Landeshauptarchivs Weimar und seiner Landesarchive* (Special methods for arranging and cataloging state records of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as used in the Main Archives of Land Thuringia at Weimar and its branch Land Archives). P. 83-96.

Archival science has taken prodigious strides during the past century and we must draw from the experience of the past to solve current problems. The principle of provenance is the cornerstone of archival science; it is rule number one for archival work in the state archives of Thuringia; but there are many instances when, working with the state records of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the application of this principle would be impractical or inefficient. In such instances the archivist must devise his own special methods of arrangement and description. Numerous examples are given to show that historical, political, territorial, organizational, or administrative changes required the introduction of new methods in arrangement and description. Eight special methods are discussed. Before the selection of a method, it is most important to know thoroughly the administrative history of the records under consideration. Special consideration must be given to making the records speedily and completely available for reference use. Time and manpower are weighed against work goals. Traditional work policies and procedures are discarded where new work methods are more productive.

ENDERS, LIESELOTT, *Ordnungsprobleme bei Guts- und Familienarchiven im Brandenburgischen Landeshauptarchiv Potsdam* (Arrangement problems in estate and family archives in the Main Archives of Land Brandenburg at Potsdam). P. 96-106.

In arranging estate and family archives those files not of correct provenance must be withdrawn. Estate and family files invariably are so disorganized that the archivist must select his own internal filing scheme, which may be a subject arrangement or, more frequently, a structural arrangement paralleling administrative functions. Most of the article is devoted to explaining the latter plan, which divides the items into three

main groups: registries of patrimonial nobles, registries of the economies of landed estates, and family archives. The first two groups are handled in much the same manner as are official files, while the last is regarded in the same light as are personal files. Subgroups within each of the three main groups are listed and examples are given. Procedures for cataloging, appraisal, and disposal are discussed briefly.

GRINGMUTH-DALLMER, HANNS, *Archive und Heraldik* (Archives and heraldry). P. 107-111.

The official seals of the German Democratic Republic, used by authorities from the highest state office down to the smallest village, are all of identical design. The issuance of coats of arms for subordinate governmental units such as districts, cities, or towns is sanctioned, although rigidly controlled, by the Ministry of the Interior. Prior to authorization a coat of arms must meet criteria prescribed by the Ministry, suggest a satisfactory blending of the old with the new, contain nothing offensive to the central government, and have the approval of state archival authorities. The criteria to be met are listed and examples of proper and improper selections are given. The article covers primarily the period 1945-58.

Literaturbesprechungen (Reviews of books and periodicals). P. 111-116.

Archivmitteilungen, VOL. 10 (1960), NO. 4.

LÖTZKE, HELMUT, *Zur Planung und Organisation der Archivarbeit* (Planning and organizing archival work). P. 117-120.

Experience of the last decade has proven that the traditional concept that an archivist works best alone is fallacious. Maximum efficiency and production can be obtained best through concerted group effort. The Communist states have made tremendous strides in rebuilding their archival systems by applying the principle of concentration of records and centralization of administration. The state political authorities prescribe the goals and general assignments. Archival authorities prepare the concrete work plans, methods, procedures, and standards; and they supervise the daily work in order to obtain the optimum in quality and production within the time limits set. The Deutsche Zentralarchiv (German Central Archives) at Potsdam, with its four *Abteilungen* (divisions), is organized as a *Referatsystem*, as are also the Bundesarchiv (Federal Archives) of West Germany at Koblenz and the Staatsarchiv (State Archives) of Austria at Vienna. The total personnel strength is 129, of which 24 are professional archivists to each of whom is given a *Referat* with an allocation of a designated number of record groups and of employees.

THIEME, GEORG, *Archivarbeit im Bezirk Gera* (Archival work in the district of Gera). P. 120-126.

The archival work of the last several years in Bezirk Gera—one of the 14 administrative districts into which the German Democratic Republic is now divided—is discussed under four headings: city archives (*Stadtarchive*), of which there are 22 with records aggregating 2,500 linear meters; county archives (*Kreisarchive*), holding 1,300 linear meters of records; administrative archives (*Verwaltungsarchive*), semicurrent records depositories; and archives of the industries belonging to the people's economy (*Betriebsarchive*), comprising 8,000 linear meters.

CORDSHAGEN, HUGO, *Das Mecklenburgische Landeshauptarchiv Schwerin unter Hermann Grotefend (1887-1921)* (The Main Land Archives of Mecklenburg at Schwerin under the direction of Hermann Grotefend, 1887-1921). P. 126-133.

A biography of the official career of Hermann Grotefend, who worked in archives for 51 years, of which 33 (1887-1921) were spent as Director of the Main Land Archives of Mecklenburg. Grotefend is credited with liberalizing reference service, winning more autonomy for archival management, reorganizing the archives along

modern lines, introducing the principle of provenance to govern the internal arrangement of records, and having a new archives building erected.

Verschiedenes (Miscellaneous). P. 133.

MEISNER, HEINRICH OTTO, and WOLFGANG LEESCH, *Grundzüge einer deutschen Archivterminologie. Referentenentwurf des Ausschusses für deutsche Archivsprache* (Outline of German archival terminology. Draft report by the Committee for German Archival Language). P. 134-152.

This outline of archival terminology is a revision of the original one published in *Archivmitteilungen*, vol. 5 (1955), no. 4. It comprises 190 archival terms arranged under 6 topics: archives and registry systems, kinds of documents, physical storage of records, technical handling of records, finding aids, and reference service. An alphabetical index is included.

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Archivi: archivi d'Italia e rassegna internazionale degli archivi (Archives: archives of Italy and international review of archives), an independent quarterly publication of the Biblioteca d'Arte Editrice, Rome, is the organ of the National Union of Friends of Archives and Libraries. In addition to articles on historical research it carries book reviews and the recommendations of the Union for legislation and regulations affecting the State Archives. The abstracts presented relate only to articles about archives; this periodical seems to contain chiefly historical studies based on archives and probably will not be abstracted here in the future.

Archivi, 2d ser., VOL. 25 (1958), NO. 1.

LODOLINI, ARMANDO, *Congregazioni di cui non si acquisirono gli atti nell'Archivio di Stato di Roma* (Orders whose records were not deposited in the Rome State Archives). P. 29-37.

List of religious orders that according to legislation of 1870 should have deposited their records in the State Archives but did not do so.

Archivi, 2d ser., VOL. 25 (1958), NO. 2/3.

PECCHIAI, PIO, *Regesti dei documenti patrimoniali del Convento Romano della Trinità dei Monti* (Digests of property records of Trinity of the Hills Monastery in Rome). P. 131-224.

A chronological list of 488 documents (1524-1712) in the archives of the French establishments at Rome is presented, with an index of the names appearing in the records. An introductory essay explains the role of the French in the famous monastery, which was a center of French influence at the Holy See. This monastery accumulated important urban lands from which it derived income by granting perpetual leases to artisans, artists, and builders who settled in and around the city in order to participate in its development as religious capital of the world.

Archivi, 2d ser., VOL. 25 (1958), NO. 4.

PIUS XII, *L'Archivio Vaticano e gli ecclesiastici* (The Vatican Archives and the clergy). P. 258-264.

Speech delivered by the late Pope, November 5, 1957, reprinted from *Osservatore romano*, November 14, 1957.

LODOLINI, ELIO, *Nota sul "metodo storico" e sui primi due commi dell'art. 68 del Regolamento per gli Archivi di Stato* (Note on the "historical method" and on the first two sections of article 68 of the Regulations for the State Archives). P. 335-342.

The "historical method" for arranging archives gained general acceptance in Italy during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Legislation of 1875 prescribed that "the records of each section shall be arranged separately by ministry, bureau, office, corporation, notary, family, or person, according to the historical order of the affairs or of the records." The same principle was reenacted in the Regulations of 1911, still in effect. The requirement that all records be separated primarily into three "sections"—judicial, administrative, and notarial—has led to certain practical difficulties, since governmental offices sometimes have two or more of these functions simultaneously.

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U. S. Tariff Commission

THE NETHERLANDS

Nederlands Archiefblad, orgaan van de Vereniging van Archivarissen in Nederland (Archival Journal of the Netherlands, organ of the Association of Archivists) has been published since 1893 and without a break during either World War. A cumulative index to volumes 1-45 (1893-1938) was issued in 1938.

Nederlands Archiefblad, VOL. 63 (1958/59), NO. 1.

Verslag der zes en zestigste algemene vergadering (Report of the 66th general meeting). P. 2-13.

The meeting—actually the 76th, as explained in vol. 63, p. 101—was held September 19, 1958, in 's-Hertogenbosch. The minutes proper, p. 2-6, record the replacement of the editor, W. S. Unger, after 13 years of service, by W. J. Formsma, and summarize criticism of content and methods of instruction in the Institute for the Study of Documentation and Administrative Organization of the Government (S.O.D.). A motion for reorganization of the association lost, after spirited discussion, for want of the necessary two-thirds majority.

In President G.W.A. Panhuysen's annual report (p. 6-13) he discusses two meetings attended by members: the Fourth Archival Round Table, held in May 1958 at Wiesbaden, Germany; and the 35th German Archival Meeting, held in Koblenz, September 10, 1957. Panhuysen's chief comment on the first (which dealt with archives as sources for the study of literature and geography) is that the archivist's duty extends to inventories and control lists but not to special guides for subject studies. The Koblenz meeting (which dealt with the problem of separating "permanent" archives from those eventually to be destroyed) should greatly concern Holland's archivists, in view of the anticipated influx of materials into archival establishments as the result of archival legislation now pending. Panhuysen further reports that archives were recognized by the Netherlands Government through establishment of a special section (II) in the Subdivision for Archeology and Conservation of the Ministry of Education, Arts, and Sciences; and that W. A. M. Lasonder, one-time National Archivist of the Netherlands and Archivist of the Dutch Reformed Church, also editor of *Nederlands Archiefblad*, 1920-36, died at the age of 79. The membership of the Society stood at 211.

Verslag over de cursussen archiefverzorging C. A. georganiseerd door de Studiekring voor Overheidsdocumentatie (S. O. D.), 1958 (Report on the courses for archival care organized by the Institute for the Study of Documentation and Administrative Organization of the Government). P. 13-15.

These courses, begun in 1938, were at first held for municipal officials only; in 1948 a parallel course was organized for personnel of nonmunicipal archives; a third was added later to train higher personnel. The courses furnish definite knowledge about older archives and their importance, especially to registry personnel in the provincial

and municipal archives; the problems due to exposure of records while being transferred; the inadequate nature of archival establishments, generally in regard to storage; and the meaning of the principle of provenance (*herkomstbeginsel*) as introduced by the handbook prepared by the association.

Verslag over de examens archiefverzorging C. A., georganiseerd door de S.O.D., 1958 (Report on the examinations on archival care organized by the S.O.D.). P. 15-16.

The report on the success of the courses and the outcome of the examinations as printed in *Overheidsdocumentatie*, vol. 12, p. 286, is implemented with criticism directed primarily to the disappointing response in the group of registry personnel. Inadequate preliminary training is thought to be the chief reason for this failure.

Afdeling van Rijksarchiefambtenaren (Division of archivists in the National Archives). P. 16-17.

This report deals largely with the relationship between the Division and the Centrale van Hogere Ambtenaren (Central Office of Higher Officials) and with other matters potentially affecting the archival profession and the advancement of its members.

Afdeling Gemeente- en Waterschapsarchiefambtenaren (Division of Archival Officials of Municipalities and Water Districts). P. 17-19.

This, too, registers largely societal undertakings and concerns such as status and better salaries.

Interrogatorium—Leden van de Familie Adams in Nederland (Question box—Members of the Adams family in the Netherlands). P. 20.

L. H. Butterfield's appeal for documents relating to the Adams family, primarily to John and John Quincy, both of whom were Ministers at The Hague.

Studiedagen voor Archiefambtenaren 1958 (Institute for Archivists 1958). P. 21-47.

This third institute, held July 9-10, 1958, at The Hague and attended by over 60 archivists, was devoted to discussion of the use of archives for historical research. The first subject, presented by the chief archivist of Belgium, Étienne Sabbe, concerned the problem of sources for the study of Dutch history in the Belgian archives. The second, presented by A. J. Veenendaal, dealt with aspects of editing historical texts; this paper is printed in full (p. 25-34), as is the third essay (p. 36-47), read by Dr. B. H. Slicher van Bath of the Agricultural University at Wageningen—see abstracts below. The discussion of this last paper led to a serious deliberation about the extent to which the archivist should go in content analysis. The moderator, H. Hardenberg, pointed to the strong plea made at the latest archival meeting in France for the utmost in husbanding the intimate knowledge of the archivist concerning the records he handles. The fourth major topic, presented by Hardenberg, dealt with professional archival terms used in the Netherlands. Of the points mentioned in the discussion, the observation that legal terminology is of little help in defining all sorts of documents is significant.

VEENENDAAL, A. J., *Enkele aspecten van het uitgeven van historische teksten* (Some aspects of the editing of historical texts). P. 25-35.

The author discusses the whole editorial procedure under the following points: (1) planning an edition; (2) finding the original documents; (3) selecting documents for inclusion in entirety, in summary, or in footnotes; (4) choosing the best rendering; (5) writing a resumé; (6) copying; (7) standardizing the text; (8) collating; (9) arranging the individual pieces; (10) annotating; (11) correcting the galley proof; (12) writing the introduction. With respect to standardizing the text, in some other countries practices are not so liberal as in Holland. For instance, in the U. S. A. standardization is rejected altogether. (Clarence E. Carter's *Historical Editing*, 1952, is cited.) The author suggests that this is due to the relative recency of American materials, and says that the standardization followed for older Dutch materials is not rec-

commended for Dutch historical texts of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He concludes that editing is an onerous task requiring knowledge of a number of disciplines auxiliary to historical studies such as paleography, chronology, and diplomatics, as well as of languages. It also demands certain qualities of character in the editor such as exactness, a sense of responsibility, patience, perseverance, objectivity, and self-effacing service.

SLICHER VAN BATH, B. H., *De archieven als bronnen voor de agrarische geschiedenis* (Archives as sources for agricultural, agrarian, rural history). P. 36-47.

The alternative adjectives shown in the translated title reflect semantic difficulty, about which the author discourses at length; *agrarische geschiedenis* is a term used to designate studies embracing all three aspects as they are understood in England and France, and even to include additional areas—legal, economic, geographic, philological, and anthropological. The economic and social aspects of agricultural history (which has come to the fore in the last 25 years) have produced most valid results so far. The Department of Agricultural History of the Agricultural University is the only organization in Holland pursuing major research in the field. The various approaches practiced by the department are discussed, along with their implications for understanding the economic and social conditions of Western Europe. The application of photocopying and of Hollerith machines in the analysis of voluminous statistical data is mentioned parenthetically.

Kroniek (News). P. 48-50.

W. Moll reports on activities of the U. S. National Archives and Records Service, 1954-57.

Boekbespreking (Reviews). P. 51-54.

Book reviews and abstracts.

Berichten (Reports). P. 54-56.

These include a report on the Gemeente- en Waterschapsarchieven (Municipal and Water-District Archives). The Amsterdam city archives employs university students and other lay workers, under supervision of the chief archivist, for making various indexes—sometimes without remuneration. A survey of the records in the various offices of the city government revealed deplorable conditions of storage and illegal destruction of archival materials. This prompted a demand on the part of the archivists for immediate centralization of the archives of all municipal offices and activities over 40 years old.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 63 (1958/59), NO. 2.

HARDENBERG, H., *Het restauratiebeginsel* (The principle of restoration). P. 57-65.

The Netherlands archival handbook (*Handleiding*) does not employ the term "principle of restoration," but its paragraph 16 deals with the principle of creating order (*ordeningsbeginsel*), which means essentially the same. Hardenberg presents a lengthy analysis of the terms *organisatie* (organization), *restauratie* (restoration), and *herkomstbeginsel* (principle of provenance) and of their relationship, particularly as they were intermingled inadvertently by the father of Dutch archival management, Samuel Muller. The principle of restoration cannot always be applied easily. An example is the archives of the Nedemaas District, which were restored by the author to the order they "probably" had at the end of the French occupation in 1814, without any attempt to reestablish the previous six or seven systems forced upon the archives since 1794. The principle of restoration applied too rigorously has led to confusion in handling nineteenth century archives. (Incidentally, we learn that as early as the fourteenth century administrators distinguished between archives and current records.) The principle of restoration was recommended by the makers of the *Handleiding* as a guide rather than as a fixed rule. The revision of the handbook now underway may help to remove

the widespread impression that the *Handleiding* establishes dogma rather than aids in choosing useful solutions of the problems of organizing archives.

WILLEMSSEN, J., *De materiële archiefverzorging; het begrip archiefrestauratie* (The physical care of archives; the concept of archival restoration). P. 65-68.

To save is better than to replace. All restoration should leave the essential character of every document intact. Archives of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries often present V-shaped indentations in the backs of bound volumes, accompanied by tears and loose boards; the text close to the inner margins is often not legible. This situation can be remedied only by resewing the signatures onto suitable strips. Weak backs develop also from the narrow parchment strips which, in the book-hinges, are drawn through the parchment cover; the best remedy for this condition is to omit the strips altogether when rebacking the volume. The cord ribs in so-called French binding often cause creases and folds over the entire length of the back of a book. Substitution of so-called "false" ribs retains the peculiar appearance of this binding without the obvious drawbacks of the true French binding.

PRINS, ELISABETH C. M., and T. J. NAUDIN TEN CATE, *In memoriam Dr. L. W. A. M. Lasonder*. P. 69-72.

Lasonder (1879-1958) was on the staff of the National Archives from 1913 to 1924. From 1919 to 1944 he was archivist of the Netherlands Reformed Church. He published many inventories, lists, articles, and book reviews. He was editor of *Nederlands Archivenblad* from 1920 to 1936.

HÖPPENER, RÉNE, *Het ontwerp archiefwet 1959; memorie van antwoord* (The draft of the archives law of 1959; explanatory memorandum). P. 73-87.

The Secretary of State for Education, Arts, and Sciences shows how the provisions of the proposed archives law differ from those of the law of 1918. The criticism of the proposed law centers chiefly about the following questions: Shall the archives law concern itself with systems of archive formation? What is the place of the provinces in archival legislation? Should an Archives Council be established? Höppener shares the view of many experts that the Archives Office ought not to dictate to governmental units on organization of their offices. The principal objective of transfer is to make public records accessible to the public. In the matter of record disposal the proposed law is only suggestive. A thorough study is necessary to determine which records may be destroyed without detriment to administrators and historians; decisions in this urgent area require close cooperation with departmental experts. Although a trend toward increased activities on the provincial level has been noticeable, resulting in bulkier records, the provinces overwhelmingly have objected to the establishment of provincial archival repositories. The provisions of the old law, therefore, have been retained in the draft, but provincial archives inspectors of professional rank (who also have certain supervisory functions over municipal and water district archives) are provided for. The proposed Archives Council (Archiefraad), primarily advisory in function, is to be constituted of representatives from the Permanent Commission for Postal and Archival Matters of the National Government, the Conference of National Archivists, and the National Commission of National History, and from public bodies including experts in political science and administrative law. Comment concerning specific articles and paragraphs of the draft law (p. 80-82) are followed by the draft itself, consisting of 8 chapters containing 44 articles (p. 82-87).

Kroniek (News). P. 88-92.

A report on the National Institute for Documentation of the Second World War. The activities of the institute were scheduled in 1955 to be concluded in 1961, but projects started will not be finished before 1964. ¶ Abstracts of archival periodicals (*Archivale Zeitschrift*, *Archives*, and *Archeion*).

Boekbespreking (Book reviews). P. 93-96.

Berichten (Reports). P. 96-100.

Personnel changes at the National Archives; construction of repository buildings in the provinces; preparation of inventories for provincial, municipal, and ecclesiastical archives; transfers to the National Archives; activation of disposal schedules; reports on conditions in archives; microfilming projects; protection of documents and seals; space problems; organization of records; establishment of a cooperative archival center by five municipalities; and the report (1957) of the inspector for church archives.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 63 (1958/59), NO. 3.

Verslag der zeven en zeventigste algemene vergadering (Report of the 77th general meeting). P. 101-104.

The chairman reported at length on the events leading to withdrawal of the Archivists' Society from participation in the project of the Studiekring voor Overheidsdocumentatie (S. O. D.) concerning courses for archival care. The second important topic, presented by W. J. Formsma, was the proposed revision of the *Handleiding* (handbook). It was agreed to place this topic on the agenda of the next meeting.

FORMSMA, W. J., *De nieuwe handleiding. Opzet en uitvoering* (The new handbook; objective and execution). P. 104-110.

The committee decided the book should not be arranged as was the first edition, but is to reflect the present condition of Dutch archival management, and should, in addition, provide instructions for beginners. Neat separation of theoretical and practical aspects appears, however, impracticable. The first chapter is to deal with definitions, the second with the history and phenomenology of administration as well as archive formation. Then follow a discussion of the historic and scientific value of archives; an introduction to the study of archival management proper (*i.e.*, the principles and practice of archival order, the methods of describing the individual archives, the construction of the inventory, the disposal procedure); a list of professional terms, to be much larger than the old one (a special publication on old legal and administrative terminology is soon to be issued); and, finally, separate chapters dealing with registers, indexes, physical care of individual documents, and equipment.

WOLTRING, J., *Het geschil met Pruisen en Duitsland over de archieven van het Gelderse Overkwartier (1856-1898); een diplomatieke en interdepartementale correspondentie*. (The dispute with Prussia and Germany over the archives of the Upper Quarter of Geldern (1856-98); a diplomatic and interdepartmental exchange of letters). P. 111-123. Continued in no. 4, p. 143-151.

A full account of the diplomatic discussions between Prussia and Germany on the one hand and the Netherlands on the other concerning the archives of some areas in the present Province of Limburg (Netherlands) that passed to Germany through the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713.

MARIS, A. JOHANNA, *Aantekeningen omtrent het archief van het Klooster Bethlehem bij Doetinchem*. (Notes on the archives of the cloister of Bethlehem near Doetinchem). P. 123-129. Continued in no. 4, p. 151-159.

Miss Maris describes four documents, dating from 1250, concerning manuscripts donated to the cloister of Bethlehem near Zutphen in the Province of Geldern, and traces their history to explain why they are now, and rightly, in the State Archives of Kleve-Mark in Düsseldorf, Germany. In the second half of her essay she deals with the main body of archives of the cloister that are stored in the archival office in Zutphen and shows that many of the oldest records have survived. In spite of having been moved around a good deal after the Reformation they seem to have been preserved in remarkably good shape, thanks to the care of a series of faithful and capable officials doing their assigned duty.

Kroniek (News). P. 130-133.

Summaries of reports made for 1957 on the National Archives, provincial archives, and some of the new regional archives.

Boekbespreking (Reviews). P. 134-138.

Berichten (Reports). P. 138-140.

Largely reports of the Gemeente- en Waterschapsarchieven (Municipal and Water-District Archives). Included are reports from Delft, 's-Hertogenbosch, Leeuwarden, Leiden, Tilburg, and Vlaardingen. Delft has a new archives building with an air-conditioned vault, the first in the Netherlands.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 63 (1958/59), NO. 4.

SCHERFT, P., *Beginselen en methoden* (Principles and methods). P. 141-142.

The great freedom of action allowed Dutch archivists in dealing with older archives does not encourage complete disregard of basic principles, especially the principle of provenance. Various methods of restoration may and must be applied, but always in the hope of reconstructing as nearly as possible the original order. Scherft emphasizes the empirical nature of the archivist's methods in achieving the most efficient order, among which those applying the principles of analogy and function are the most useful.

BROUWER, H., *In memoriam H. Bonder*. P. 160-161.

Bonder served in the National Archives Office at Drente for 22 years before being transferred to a vacancy in the Second Division of the General Office at The Hague, from which he retired in February 1952. In each place he prepared many inventories and indexes.

Kroniek (News). P. 162-167.

A further report on the National Institute for Documentation of the Second World War. Services rendered increased during 1958, largely due to the documentation required in connection with an appropriation of an estimated 200 million guilders by the German government at Bonn for reparation of injuries suffered by the Netherlands during World War II. The dissolution of the Institute is anticipated by January 1, 1963, when all collections are to be transferred to the Royal Library. ◀ Abstracts of archival periodicals from Western Europe and of the *American Archivist*, vol. 21 (1958).

Boekbespreking (Reviews). P. 167-172.

Berichten (Reports). P. 172-176.

Notes on personnel in various offices of the National Archives; summary reports on municipal, water-district, and church archives; and notes on examinations and personnel changes. The municipal archives of Amsterdam, plagued by a workload that is continually increasing, has a small permanent staff that is hardly growing at all. Much listing, inventorying, and indexing is going on, however, in part with help such as was recruited by the agencies of the American New Deal in the 1930's.

University of Illinois

ICKO IBEN

Vignette

The veteran clerk of the Sixth Auditor's office is Rev. Matthew A. Turner. His term of service covers forty-three years. . . . In the administration of General Taylor, Mr. Turner was appointed to a clerkship in the Sixth Auditor's office, and there for nearly thirty years he has had charge of the archives. He enjoys the esteem of all his associates, who, on the fortieth anniversary of his connection with the office, presented him with a gold-headed ebony cane.

— Marshall Cushing, *The Story of Our Post Office*, p. 679 (Boston, 1893).