

Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

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FRANCE

La Gazette des Archives (The Archives Gazette) is the quarterly publication of the Association Amicale Professionnelle des Archivistes Français. It contains articles and reports on archival practices, techniques, and theory; administrative and personnel news; and book reviews.

La Gazette des Archives, n. s. NO. 28 (1960).

Le "mot" du président (Remarks of the president). P. 3-4.

Jacques Monicat, president of the association, stresses the need to eliminate the inequalities and prejudices that exist between archivists employed in the central (or national) archives and the provincial archivists by promoting, as far as possible, complete unity of spirit within the association and by providing more occasions for conferences.

BAUDOT, MARCEL, *Les travaux personnels des archivistes* (Personal research by archivists). P. 5-12.

The paucity of personal research by present-day archivists is attributable not to the fact that today's archivist is less scholarly or conscientious but to the changing demands of his profession, which force the archivist to spend more time in meeting the administrative needs of his job and less time in classification, arrangement, inventorying, and research. Personal research projects undertaken by an archivist should benefit a great number of people and should also result in the archivist's acquiring a greater knowledge of the records in his keeping, the agencies that produced them, and the history of the *département* or province to which the records relate. The archivist should not undertake personal genealogical research or withhold records from others for his own exploitation. Today's archival specialists should be encouraged to undertake on-the-job research; they should be allowed time to increase their knowledge of their specific fields; and young archivists, if so inclined, should be given time to develop specialties. The problem of organizing the archivist's work so as to expedite routine and administrative tasks and thus permit time for archival research on a limited budget remains unsolved. A suggested solution is the employment of sub-professionals or archives assistants for routine tasks. The archivist is an informant, whose mission should be to extend his knowledge and experience in order to render better service to others, particularly to historians.

LACOUR, RENÉ, *L'archiviste et l'université* (The archivist and the university). P. 13-21.

Nearly all French archivists collaborate with institutions of higher learning by giving lectures on the organization of the national, departmental, and communal archives and on the bibliography and the manuscript sources of local history; by giving archival assistance to academic personnel engaged in scholarly research; by cooperating with academic authorities, principals of secondary schools and academies, heads of museums, and libraries in assisting members of graduating classes to complete research on assigned topics; by selecting documents of historical significance for publication and circulation; by assisting in a limited way in the research projects of the National Research Center; by participating in conferences and seminars through membership in learned societies; by personal research and collaboration in editing studies for publi-

cation; and by interesting students in the career of archivist. Association with universities is beneficial to the archivist and should be continued. Teaching courses in archival history and techniques benefits the archivist. Knowledge of French history and association with persons engaged in research develop the archivist's knowledge of the *fonds* in his charge and his perception of their potential usefulness in various fields of research.

Huitième congrès annuel des archivistes français (Eighth annual congress of French archivists at Strasbourg-Colmar, Sept. 23-26, 1959). P. 22-24.

Alsace was chosen as the meeting place of the congress (whose theme was the scientific aspects of archival activities) so that members could become acquainted with the recent rearrangement of the departmental archives of Bas-Rhin and with the new location of the departmental archives of Haut-Rhin. Some of the foreign countries and organizations represented were Canada, Spain, Denmark, Belgium, Hungary, Finland, Unesco, and the Vatican.

Chroniques (News). P. 25-40.

Information about new buildings, accessions, and classification and inventorying of records in the central, ministerial, and overseas archives; circular letters issued; and movement of personnel at the various archival establishments.

Association Amicale Professionnelle des Archivistes Français. P. 41-44.

Minutes of the general assembly of French archivists, Sept. 26, 1959.

Question mise à l'étude pour 1960: Les archives d'entreprises (Study question for 1960: business records).

La Gazette des Archives, n. s. NO. 29 (1960).

Le "mot" du président (Remarks of the president). P. 49-50.

A tribute to André Lesort, past president of the association, who died Jan. 29, 1960. In the course of his 40-year career as an archivist, Lesort was director of the archival services in four *départements*, took an active part in the intellectual life of the community, was a member of learned societies, and contributed many articles to scientific journals.

BÉGUIN, MAURICE, *Adresse à M. Charles Braibant*. P. 51-52.

Text of tribute given at the eighth annual congress of French archivists, Sept. 21, 1959, to the Director General of French Archives.

MAHIEU, BERNARD, *L'archiviste et les recherches du public* (The archivist and the searches of the public). P. 53-62.

The policy governing the archivist in his relations to the research problems of private searchers was the subject of a questionnaire circulated among the directors of the departmental archival services and was also discussed at the Archives Round Table held in Lisbon in June 1959. The number of searchers using the Archives Nationales has grown over the years; the background of the searchers has changed; there is a trend for more university professors, secondary school teachers, and candidates for advanced degrees to make use of archival resources; and, most recently, archives are used by groups of searchers such as those from the National Research Center. Although personal conferences are the best form of collaboration between archivist and searcher, the clientele of the Archives Nationales is so large that this method is neither possible nor feasible. Instead, through the use of a searcher's registration card, re-issued each year, the Bureau of Information tries to learn as much as possible about a searcher and his research problems. If the searcher's questions cannot be answered from bibliographical tools the questions are circulated among the divisions. An index to searches has been maintained since 1840. The limitations on the type and amount

of service the archivist can give make it essential that the archivist produce better tools to enable searchers to help themselves. This can be done by informing universities about archival sources most susceptible of exploitation by candidates for degrees or status; by producing improved inventories, lists, and indexes; by developing a general card index modeled on an international format; by establishing an inventory room near but separate from the searchrooms; by opening to the searchers the Archives Nationales' 150,000-volume library, now limited to use by the archivists; and by adopting a single *carte de lecture*, issued and honored by all French archival depositories, which would acquaint the archivist at a glance with information about the searcher and his research subject.

QUÉGUINER, JEAN, *L'archiviste et les sociétés savantes* (The archivist and learned societies). P. 63-68.

Future progress of the archival profession in France appears to be closely allied to that of French historical societies, of which there are some 400, publishing 200 bulletins. Many hold their meetings in archives buildings; some departmental archives house the libraries and archives of the societies and assist them with distribution of their bulletins and sale of their publications. Many archivists hold offices in the societies. By serving on publication committees or as editor, by submission of his own contributions, and by encouraging university graduates in the community to participate in the societies' activities, the archivist can raise their publication standard. The growth of learned societies in France is a sign of the healthy condition of historical research. The role of the archivist is an important one since he has custody of source materials and can control the manner in which they are used. The participation of the archivist should not be considered his personal work but a part of his administrative duty and one of the most fruitful of his normal tasks.

Chroniques (News). P. 69-96.

Departmental archives in 1957-58 and 1958-59 (Ain to Lozère), p. 69-89; administrative news, p. 90-95; personal news, p. 96.

Comptes rendus (Book reviews). P. 97-100.

La Gazette des Archives, n. s. NO. 30 (1960).

Le "mot" du président (Remarks of the president). P. 103-104.

Of the 18 students admitted to the École des Chartes in 1960, there were 13 women and only 5 men. M. Monicat acknowledges the special aptitudes of women for the archival profession and their contributions to it (particularly in the Archives Nationales, where women comprise the majority of the staff), but he pleads for more young men to pursue archival careers.

BOYER, PIERRE, *Les chartistes et l'Algérie* (The chartists and Algeria). P. 105-116.

The regional archivist of the departmental archives of Algiers lists by name and class the many graduates of the École des Chartes who, while serving in Algeria as archivists, librarians, governmental administrators, and educators, have made great contributions to cultural development.

Chroniques (News). P. 117-142.

Departmental archives in 1957-58 and 1958-59 (Maine-et-Loire to Yonne, Alger to Réunion, Guadeloupe, and Guyane), p. 117-138; administrative news, p. 138-142; personal news, p. 142.

Bibliographie des inventaires répertoires et guides d'archives publiés du 1^{er} juillet 1959 au 30 juin 1960 (Bibliography of inventories and guides to archives published from July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1960). P. 143-147.

A bibliography of finding aids produced at the Archives Nationales and in ministerial, departmental, and communal archives.

Comptes rendus (Book reviews). P. 148-150.

A review by Michel Duchein of Salvatore Carbone's *Gli archivi francesi* (The French Archives), published in Rome in 1960.

HOPE K. HOLDCAMPER

National Archives

THE NETHERLANDS

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 64 (1960), NO. 1.

Mededelingen van het bestuur (Communications from the executive committee). P. 1-28.

Lists of officers of the Netherlands Society of Archivists and its divisions, p. 1-2. ¶ Report of the 78th general meeting, p. 2-4. Business reports and revision of certain articles of the constitution and bylaws. A proposal of De Vey Mestdagh, consisting of a completely new draft of both constitution and bylaws, was referred to the constitution revision committee, which was directed to report at the next meeting. ¶ Presidential address, p. 5-24. This report, by G. W. A. Panhuysen, covers 16 months. Provisions of the archives law revision now pending in Parliament are discussed at some length. The definition of archival documents was not precise enough in its first version; it now has been formulated (in agreement with the Secretary of Education, Arts, and Sciences) so as to leave no doubt as to the meaning of the term; henceforth such materials as books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers, and clippings, if received or sent by government offices, are not to be considered archives unless they form a part of regular archival documents. Provision for the supervision of the management of municipal archives in their original offices pleased the archivists as well as the Secretary of Education, Arts, and Sciences. Despite strong protests against it from the Association of Netherlands Municipalities and from the Rural Contact-Organ for Municipal Secretaries, the measure had been steered successfully through the Second Chamber of Parliament and sent to the First Chamber. Two other important points in the proposed archives law have received thorough consideration in the Second Chamber: the need for storage space and the need for improving the salary scale for all grades of archivists. The Secretary of Education, Arts, and Sciences is fully aware of the necessity to overhaul the salary structure. Participation in the Archives Round Table in Lisbon, June 1959, in the Netherlands Historical Congress in The Hague, May 1959, and in the Netherlands-Oxford Historical Conference, Jan. 1959, are briefly reported, as well as other events in the Netherlands archival world and in the association. ¶ The report of the Division of Archivists in the National Archives, p. 25-27, concerning primarily the reelection of the presiding officer, van der Poest Clement, for another term, on the ground that continuity is important while negotiations concerning status and salary scale of personnel are being carried on. ¶ The report of the Division of Archival Officials of Municipalities and Water Districts, p. 27-28.

HARDENBERG, H., *Moderne archiefproblemen* (Modern archival problems). P. 29-36.

The widespread misunderstanding between archivists and keepers of current records is traced mainly to two sources: to Fruin, who warned archivists as early as 1915 to stay away from registry problems; and to Noordenbos, who recently insisted that only the administrator can determine the proper order of current records. The chief hindrance to understanding lies in the fact that experts in modern administration generally have an inadequate concept of the nature of archives. A cooperative arrangement—as there is in the U. S. A., Australia, and Sweden—is essential to insure the best system in current recordkeeping. There is danger, on the one hand, of compact reporting suggested by some administrators and, on the other, of too mechanical a subject classification—both anathema to the historian, who tends to become ever more specialized and incapable of coping with inadequate record systems. The average record-keeper looks upon an archive as a source of documentation much like a library. The

archivist's method of dealing with archives is organic, while among recordkeepers a speculative attitude tends to postulate a more mechanical, universally applicable treatment. This is because the archivist generally has to handle archives as a whole in order to give a comprehensive account of them, while the recordkeeper almost always is seeking a specific dossier. The archivist has come to recognize that orderly archives management is possible only when three functions become a regular part of it: the making of accession or finding lists, indexing, and orderly arrangement. The making of accession or finding lists, practiced as early as 1449 in Nuremberg, was introduced generally after the French Revolution; a simpler method of recording incoming and outgoing documents than copying them was needed and introduced. This was the *indicateur general*, which listed all incoming pieces according to sender and subject under successive numbers, showing the date of acknowledgment and the location. This system has been in use in the Netherlands since 1823. Indexing, practiced long before the end of the eighteenth century, has slowly declined in quality, with the result that some departments ultimately abandoned it. Nevertheless, top government planning has attempted twice to decree order among the individual documents of an archive: the decree of 1823 required all general administrative departments to arrange their archives chronologically, without reference to subject; the resolution of the Ministry of Postal and Archival Affairs in 1950 demanded an exactly opposite arrangement, according to a decimal plan.

Experience has shown that an archive cannot be forced into an arbitrary system. The needs of administrators called for creation of dossiers on a variety of subjects, in spite of instructions, throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. An archive cannot be split into arbitrarily chosen classes without disturbing the mutual relationship among the documents forming it. Muller-Feith-Fruin knew this and stated the principle, although the phenomenal growth of modern archives has complicated effective arrangement more than the archivists of their generation could anticipate. Functional arrangement is necessary when the functions are confined to a specific administrative unit. A universal scheme is impossible. A system of universal classification will render the organization of an archive unnecessarily complicated. Various chronological arrangements applied to series of dossiers, with name and subject indexes, as practiced in Australia, show practicable alternatives.

VAN DER POEST CLEMENT, A., *Verzoek* (Appeal). P. 37.

The Study Circle for the History of Agriculture, which has set up a committee to gather material for an authentic history of the land measures used in the Netherlands, with stress on the period around the turn of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, appeals for cooperation of archivists in locating pertinent archival data.

Kroniek (News). P. 37-42.

Abstracts of *Archivalische Zeitschrift* (1959), *Archeion* (1958), and *Journal of the Society of Archivists* (1958). Plans for publications as well as the status of works in progress, reported by the Federal Commission on National History in its report for 1956-58, are discussed. Contents of the *Tijdschrift voor Overheidsdocumentatie* (1959-60) and publications of members in other magazines are listed.

Boekbespreking (Book reviews). P. 43-47.

Berichten (Reports). P. 47-52.

The 1960 budget for archival purposes showed a slight increase over the previous year. The personnel was increased in the Central Archives and in a number of provincial offices. ¶The Central Archives Office is cooperating with the International Council on Archives in the preparation of a guide to sources for the history of Latin America. ¶Reports of municipal and water-district archives. ¶Short notes on archival events in Afghanistan and Israel. ¶An account of the first Brabant Archivists' Day held in Sept. 1959 at Antwerp, where 50 representatives from the Dutch-Belgian border, embracing the area of the medieval duchy of Brabant, met for lectures, discussions, exhibits, and excursions.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 64 (1960), NO. 2.

Mededelingen van het bestuur (Communications from the executive committee). P. 53-59.

Report of the 79th general meeting. Permission for translating the *Handleiding* into Portuguese for use in Brazil has been granted.

Staat van het Nederlandse archiefwezen c. a. (The state of the archives of the Netherlands). P. 59-74.

A list of archival personnel in the Netherlands—professional, administrative, and technical.

BERENDS, W. N., *Praktische samenwerking* (Practical cooperation). P. 74-76.

Under a cooperative arrangement between the registry division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the regional offices of the Federal Archives, the division keeps the administrative document files in immediately accessible order, while representatives of the Federal Archives give advice on and assistance with files no longer in use and stored in various places.

Kroniek (News). P. 77-86.

Archivists are beginning to show an interest in the creation of the official records eventually to come under their care. It is pointed out that active participation on the part of archival management in the pre-archival process postulates special training in government organization and in methods of administration. ¶At the annual meeting of the national archivists the durability of microreproductions was questioned, the purchase of cheap reading machines declared unwise, the anticipated purchase of a laminator reported, the organization of specific types of archives discussed, and standardization of their treatment recommended. It was suggested that security of archives is best provided in a permanent location; a study of this problem was recommended. ¶Many provincial archivists are concerned with building problems. A central archival storage place at The Hague becomes continually more urgent. ¶An inventory of the archives of the *Staten-Generaal* is soon to be finished. In progress are inventories of the General Accounting Office archives, the arrangement and description of the navy registers, and inventories for a number of family, provincial government, court, church, and notarial archives. ¶Abstracts of *Archives* (1959), *Der Archivar* (1959), and the *American Archivist* (1959).

Boekbespreking (Reviews). P. 86-91.

Berichten (Reports). P. 92-96.

Notes on personnel, chiefly in the Central Archives; notes on municipal and water-district archives. The little house of the Pilgrim Fathers, located on the premises of the Leiden archives and opened to the public in 1958, is dedicated to the display of photographic copies of archives relating to the sojourn of the Pilgrims in Leiden, 1609-20. Indexing of newspapers in Groningen (family notices in newspapers of Groningen and Ommeland for 1794-1811) and in Rotterdam (names of persons and their occupations in the *Rotterdamsche Courant* for 1770 and later) is reported.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 64 (1960), NO. 3.

HARDENBERG, H., *In memoriam Jhr. Dr. D. P. M. Graswinckel*. P. 97-101, with photograph.

Graswinckel (1888-1960) was one of the ablest archivists of the Netherlands. He served in various archival positions, 1920-46, and from 1946 until his retirement in 1953 he was Chief National Archivist. Graswinckel served in both world wars; during and after the second war he did much for the security of Dutch archives in and out of the Netherlands. He was one of the founders and first officers of the International Council on Archives and was its president in 1953.

VAN SCHILFGAARDE, A. P., *In memoriam Hendrik Leonardus Driessen (1888-1960)*. P. 102.

Driessen started his career in 1906, became Chief Archivist of the National Archives Office in Gelderland in 1924, and remained in that capacity until he retired. He did much spadework in organizing, inventorying, and publishing.

VAN DER GOUW, J. L., *Mededelingen van het bestuur* (Communications from the executive committee). P. 103-121.

The 80th general meeting was specially called on July 6, 1960, to hear a report of the chairman, G. W. A. Panhuysen, on the archives law of 1959 in the First Chamber, and to take steps to get Parliament to change its decision against the proposed legislation. Panhuysen alluded to the practically universal recognition of the detriment to society from unorganized and unprotected archives, and stated that there is now agreement generally and internationally about the effectiveness of two particular techniques—transfer of government archives to official archival storage places as soon as these archives no longer need be consulted frequently and regular and periodic inspection by professional archivists of the state of records in administrative offices. The United States (1934) and France (1936) have shown the way in this field, especially in the matter of nineteenth- and twentieth-century archives. Archivists of the Netherlands have now recognized that they must pay attention to recent records, but such an extension of their functions requires a general reorganization of the archives system. Such a revision had been drafted in 1959, under approval and in cooperation with the Department of Education, Arts, and Sciences, and had been approved by the Second Chamber of Parliament, to the great satisfaction of archivists. Rejection of the draft by the First Chamber had been a serious blow to archival aspirations and to the future welfare of the Dutch citizenry. Members of the First Chamber were not aware of the importance of records which possess an administrative value that they do not lose and which for this reason must be kept continuously in good order, well protected, and accessible, if they are to fulfill their functions in the general interest.

J. L. van der Gouw, expressing himself at length, brought the plight of the archival system and of the archivists in the Netherlands into vivid perspective with humor, irony, and occasional sarcasm. The association should take a bold attitude and proceed to action, in the knowledge of its important public assignment and responsibility. The personnel situation is outrageous: the volunteer system of aspirants, the extra-curricular nature of the training system, the poor salary and promotion schedule, the inadequate examination procedures. Improvements expected from the proposed archives law, he thought, were largely fictitious; the same improvements could be secured under the old law if it were properly implemented.

VAN HOBOKEN, W. J., *Het Vierde Internationale Archiefcongres* (The Fourth International Archives Congress). P. 122-127.

Dutch archivists were well represented at Stockholm, furnishing 35 of the 354 delegates. The relatively high cost of Swedish living probably kept others from going. Hope is expressed that the government will find it possible and advisable to pay travel and maintenance costs for future professional delegates. The report of Sabbe (Brussels) on national archives, which was earmarked for publication in *Archivum*, mentioned that the Netherlands was the first country to have an archives law (1918). The magnificent provision for research and teaching in the new City Archives building at Stockholm is unique and worthy of imitation in other countries. Even more than the meeting at Florence this last one suffered in the sessions devoted to professional deliberations: they were too long-drawn-out, the acoustics were bad, and the convention technique was poor. Remedies suggested are acoustically reliable meeting rooms; individual telephones for simultaneous translations, or no translations at all; smaller groups for effective discussion and exchange of views.

NOORDENBOS, P., *Moderne Archiefproblemen* (Modern archival problems). P. 128.

Expresses satisfaction with Hardenberg's apparent acceptance (*Nederlands Archievenblad*, 64:29-36) of the value of and need for archival management of noncurrent and current records. In view of Hardenberg's former views on such records, Noordenbos doubts that wholehearted cooperation is likely between archivists and recordkeepers right from the start.

VAN 'T HOFF, B., *Regels voor het beschrijven van kaarten in archieven* (Rules for description of maps in archives). P. 129.

The author refers to his paper of the same title (*Nederlands Archievenblad*, 57:58-68) in which he pointed out that maps do not arrive in archives in the condition in which they come to libraries. The rules for the description of titles of maps (chapter VI of the Catalog Code published by Nijhoff in 1959 for the National Committee on Library Matters) should be compared with his proposals with a view to integration of the two for archival use.

Aanvulling en correctie staat van het Nederlandse archiefwezen c. a. (Additions and corrections to the personnel lists of the National Archives Administration of the Netherlands). P. 130.

Kroniek (News). P. 131-135.

West European archival literature is abstracted—*Archivum* (1958), *Archives, Bibliothèques et Musées de Belgique* (1959), and *Archivmitteilungen* (1959). ¶The annual report for 1959 of the Permanent Committee on Postal and Archival Matters in the National Administration shows that various ministries have requested advice on the establishment and revision of record systems, archival documentation, and the use of ball-point pens and washable ink.

Boekbespreking (Book reviews). P. 135-139.

Contains one lengthy descriptive and critical review by A. Johanna Maris of the first volume of the long-awaited survey of the Archives of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Berichten (Reports). P. 139-144.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that all its archives (except documents relating to living members of the Royal House and dossiers on other persons) may be consulted by the public under the same conditions as the archives in the Central National Archives. ¶The trend toward regional archival depositories and offices continues. ¶Inventorying of the ancient archives (to 1591) of Nijmegen has reached the final stages. Numerous *polder* archives have been or are being inventoried. ¶The Economisch-Historisch Archief has an impressive collection of archives concerning the industrial area of Twente. ¶Belgian and Dutch archivists, including the two national archivists, Sabbe and Hardenberg, met in Breda on Sept. 9 and 10, 1960, with the purpose of cultivating closer contact among archivists in the area of the former Duchy of Brabant. The next meeting will be at Brussels in 1961.

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 64 (1960) NO. 4.

Mededelingen van het bestuur (Communications from the executive committee). P. 154-159.

At a meeting of officials of the Division of Municipal and Water-District Archives, Oct. 6, 1960, the chairman mentioned personnel changes in the Dutch archivists' world and, apropos of the recent treatment of the proposed archives law in the Upper Chamber of Parliament, he pointed out that insistence on municipal autonomy in 1919, coupled with language specifically charging municipalities with responsibility for proper archival management, had left this responsibility to the communities. Improvement had occurred along all lines of archival economy; there was, however, no reason to be complacent. There was complete agreement with the Central Office for Higher Officials regarding the need for improvement of the salary scale in municipal archives

services. The proposal by the executive committee for integrating the divisions for national and municipal archives officials was approved. The possibility of introducing job-analysis techniques and merit-system salary scales in order to achieve more satisfactory salaries for archival personnel was discussed without result.

VAN DER KLOOSTER, L. J., and A. E. M. RIBBERINK, *Studiedagen voor archiefambtenaren 1960* (Seminar for archives officials 1960). P. 150-152.

Sixty-six persons attended the fifth annual seminar for archives officials on Sept. 20 and 21, 1960, at which the chief topic was house and family archives. The papers read are abstracted below.

VAN SCHILFGAARDE, A. P., *Huis- en familiearchieven* (House and family archives). P. 152-160.

The definition of house, family, and personal archives in the Muller-Feith-Fruin handbook is inadequate. House archives, as distinguished from family archives, include records resulting from administration of extensive and important landed possessions and from the rights pertaining to these. Numerous examples of house and family archives are given. It is often impossible to apply the principle of provenance; the author evolved his own system of organization and stuck to it in spite of criticism. For manorial archives he segregated the executive from the merely administrative documents; feudal registers formed another category; and still another was records of rent collectors and other officials.

VAN EEGHEN, I. H., *Amsterdamse familiearchieven* (Family archives of Amsterdam). P. 160-164.

Methods of discovery and acquisition of the records; arrangement and description; publication of inventories; content; and publication of family archives. The author visualizes many more publications of Amsterdam house and family archives, continuing the impressive series already brought out during the past 60 years by the society Amstelodamum.

EVANS, DAVID L., *Family archives*. P. 164-176. In English.

British experience in preserving family archives, in which the author includes the records of family business. The work of the Historical Manuscripts Commission is discussed at length.

VAN DER POEST CLEMENT, A., *Heeft de overheid een taak ten aanzien van de zorg voor de niet-publiekrechtelijke archieven?* (Has the government a responsibility with regard to nonpublic archives?). P. 176-186.

The new archives law possibly will ignore nonpublic archives altogether, though many archivists have wished for an extension of the paragraphs in the law of 1918 that provided for the professional care of such records if deposited in public archival establishments. Historians have ever more need for records beyond those in public repositories. Church societies and parishes take care of their records. Publication of more finding lists, such as those the Reformed Church has begun to issue, or analyses on card files, which might be copied by anyone, are desirable. Most private archives should be safeguarded and cared for by their owners. Business records have eminently practical value to their owners—especially those of the immediate past—but older business records have often been left to deteriorate because the owners had no historical interest. If institutions and plants insist on placing their archives in public custody, the Netherlands Archives for Economic History ought to be first choice.

Many valuable private archives may be lost permanently, since the government has so far deliberately kept from interfering. The Historical Society in Utrecht attempted to cope with the problem and submitted the matter to the Federal Commission for National History, which took counsel with the Royal Netherlands Society for Genealogy and Heraldry and with the Central Bureau for Genealogy. This statement resulted: "Central registration of archives in private ownership, especially of the older

family archives, is urgently needed; this can best be initiated not by official agencies, but by institutions and persons . . . ; it is better not to publish the data secured, but to place them in a central place upon cards . . . The English National Register of Archives may serve as an example . . . *It is not intended to persuade the owners to transfer the ownership or usufruct of their archives to public institutions.*" The initiative in the construction of a proposed private-archives register must come from the government, which will set up a permanent commission immediately to study which archives registered should be preserved. The commission should have as members, besides the Chief National Archivist and the Director of the Bureau for National History, private citizens and directors of learned and scientific societies.

BEYERMAN, J. J. *Bewaring van plaatselijke belastingkohieren* (Preservation of local tax lists). P. 187.

Should all types of local tax lists, including those levied on dogs, amusements, sales, and other things, be preserved ad infinitum as presently provided? No good reason for saving such tax lists longer than 20 or 30 years has appeared.

Kroniek (News). P. 187-191.

The 1959 annual report of the National Institute for the Documentation of the Second World War. ¶ Abstracts of the first issue of *S. A. Argiefblad* and of *Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato* (1959) and *Archeion* (1958).

Boekbespreking (Book reviews). P. 192-193.

Berichten (Reports). P. 193-196.

A general note on the national budget for 1961, with figures concerning archives and history. ¶ In the Province of Utrecht a district archives office has been formed. ¶ Final separation of so-called "new" and "old" archives, a measure long overdue because of a geographic adjustment of 1942 between the municipalities of Breda and Nieuw-Ginneken, will apparently bring about a more reasonable period division for the transition from the Napoleonic era. ¶ There are many reminders of the need for archival storage and workspace and new buildings all over the Netherlands.

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Istoricheskii Arkhiv, 1959, NO. 2.

BELOV, G. A., and V. V. MAKSAKOV, *Arkhivnoe stroitel'stvo SSSR na novom etape* (A new stage in archival work in the U.S.S.R.). P. 169-183.

According to the decree of the Council of Ministers of Aug. 13, 1958, on the State Archives *Fonds* and the Network of the State Central Archives (*Polozhenie o Gosudarstvennom Arkhivnom Fonde Soiuz SSSR i seti Tsentral'nikh Gosudarstvennikh Arkhivov SSSR*), as published in the Official Register of the Soviet Government (*Sobranie postanovlenii Pravitel'stva SSR*), 1958, no. 14, p. 393-404, and signed by N. Khrushchev, the State Archives *Fonds* (*GAU-Gosudarstvennyi Arkhivnyi Fond*) represents the "collectivity of records of the Soviet State having scientific, political, or common significance." The *Fonds* is divided into two groups: the first embraces all records related to the history of the U. S. S. R. and Soviet society; the second, all other records that originated in the pre-Soviet era, as well as those created by non-Soviet governments or administrations in any territory now part of the Soviet Union. The second therefore includes the records of the German occupation forces from 1941 to 1945.

The already existing Main Archives Administration (*GAU-Glavnoe Arkhivnoe upravlenie*) is in charge of the nine central state archives. Archival establishments on state and local level are supervised by GAU only through "the archives administrations of the Ministries of Interior of the federated republics." The Main Archives Ad-

ministration is primarily "a scientific educational center in the field of archival science," entrusted with the organization and study of the theory of archival science, the coordination of archival activities among various archives, and the planning of archival publishing in cooperation with the Academy of Sciences and other institutions.

The "bourgeois archival principle . . . that the administrator is the only agent in selecting and discarding records" is denounced. In the U. S. S. R. the Main Archives Administration and other state or local organizations do this. The decree specifies varying retention periods for different types of records instead of the former generally applied five-year retention period. The records of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the All-Union Geological *Fonds* of the U. S. S. R., All-Union State *Fonds* of Motion Pictures, A. M. Gorki's papers, and some other groups are detached from the Main Archives Administration.

An archival *fonds* is defined as "a body of records, which originated from the activities of an organization, enterprise, or person." The *respect des fonds* is reaffirmed, since "an archival *fonds* cannot be divided and must be kept in only one establishment." The main purpose of the new decree is to bring more clarity into archival theory and practice. Until recently "archives were considered by all departments as organs of administrative management." The new decree especially emphasizes the scientific-educational functions of archival institutions. The article concludes with an all-out attack on domestic as well as foreign enemies of centralized archival systems. Epstein's article in the *American Archivist* (20: 131-145; Apr. 1957), comparing American with Soviet archival science, only sees "the desired as a fact." Posner's article in the *American Archivist* (18: 207-216; July 1955) shows how American archivists are handicapped by the lack of archival centralization in the United States.

PARASKIV, ION, *Arhivnoe delo v Rumynskoi Narodnoi Respublike* (Archival work in the People's Republic of Rumania). P. 184-196.

By the end of the sixteenth century the registry system appeared in the offices of various principalities. The first state archives were organized in 1831 in Bucharest under the Department of Interior and, the next year, under the Department of Justice. After the union of the Walachian and Moldavian principalities both archives came under the Ministry of Education and Religious Confessions. The decrees of July 23, 1863, and Aug. 24, 1864, required the archives to accept custody of monastic records. Shortly afterwards more archival legislation was enacted, and this remained in force until 1925. Then a new law established four regional archives administrations and prescribed a 30-year retention period for all governmental records. The decree of Jan. 27, 1951, transferred the archives from the Ministry of Education to the Ministry of Interior. The decree of the Council of Ministers of May 29, 1951, established the State Archives Administration, which issued new instructions for archival work and organization in 1954. Another decree at the same time also established the communist system of a single state *fonds* and provided for its management and organization.

The first Rumanian archival training was available in 1924 in the Practical School of Archivists-Paleographers, established and conducted by the Main Administration of the State Archives. Later it was reorganized as a Superior School of Archival Studies and Paleography, to which was added in 1942 the Scientific Research Institute of Archival Studies. In 1948 the school was reorganized into what was called simply the Archives Institute; this, however, was short lived and closed in the fall of 1950. Since then professional training has been available at the School of History in Bucharest University. The Main Archives Administration, situated in a former monastery, publishes *Revista Arhivelor*. The whole archival system is strictly based on Soviet experience. The article is illustrated and is furnished with footnotes on original archival literature in Rumanian. One picture shows the interior of the museum of the Main Archives Administration; another is a scene in the stacks. The records appear to be stored in cardboard boxes of approximately the same size as those in American record centers.

BOGUSLAVSKI, G. A., *Iz istorii arkhiva Oruzhenoi Palaty* (From the history of the Armory Archives). P. 215-223.

The archives of the Armory Palace grew gradually as a result of various mergings with other institutions. The records are divided into two groups: rolls (1613-1705); and some 1,200 volumes and registers, together with some 1,500 other records. The history of these records is discussed in detail.

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YUGOSLAVIA

Archivist, VOL. 8 (1959), NO 3/4.

BILJAN, FRANJO, *Vanredna skupština Saveza društava arhivskih radnika Jugoslavije* (Extraordinary assembly of the League of Yugoslav Archivists). P. 7-10.

The League of Yugoslav Archivists, established in 1953, was at first organized as a trade union of workers in the archival profession. After the recent reorganization of the whole Yugoslav trade union system the league became an independent, professional organization, and all its former trade union functions were assumed by the Trade Union of Cultural and Educational Workers. Professional papers read at the meeting are abstracted below.

Pravila Saveza društava arhivista FNR Jugoslavije (Bylaws of the League of Yugoslav Archivists). P. 11-14.

STULLI, BERNARD, *O kulturno-prosvjetnoj djelatnosti arhivskih ustanova* (On the cultural and educational activities of archival establishments). P. 15-30, abst. in French.

An elaborate discussion of the necessities and purposes of archives in a communist society based "on ideological foundations of socialist humanism," made possible only by following "the Marxian critical view in respect to cultural creativity."

PETROVIĆ, DOBRILA, *Fondovi vrhovne državne uprave i neki problemi stručnog rada sa njima* (The *fonds* of the State Administration and some problems related to their arrangement). P. 31-43, abst. in French.

The main problem in arranging Yugoslav governmental records appears to be establishment of correct dates for the cessation of various agencies, creation of new ones, and their takeover. This problem stems mainly from the apparent continuity of functions on the part of many agencies, especially ministries, which first originated in the Kingdom of Serbia, were continued in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, somehow functioned during the Axis occupation and the Independent Croat State (1941-45), and are still part of the postwar government of Yugoslavia. The transition from one agency to the other was often gradual and occurred at different times in different places. Not less handicapping are the considerable gaps caused by wartime destruction of records. The compilation of a complete up-to-date list of destroyed or deported records would considerably facilitate the work of arrangement.

JOVANOVIĆ, LIDIJA, *Služba konzervacije i mikrofilmovanja* (Record preservation and microfilming service). P. 44-51, abst. in French.

This branch of archival services is relatively young in Yugoslavia and was first fully discussed in 1950 during the first consultative session of the Main Archives Council. So far, progress has been slow and few archival establishments are fully equipped for the purpose. The best equipped seems to be the Institute of History of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences in Zagreb, which also has a home-designed and -built laminator, "Impregnator." Microfilming was started in 1950 with two cameras providing service to archival establishments according to their needs. The first job of

this kind was done in the historical archives of Dubrovnik. Other archival establishments later provided for their own microfilming services. Some microfilming of records in foreign archives has been accomplished but not systematically. Plans for future development of record preservation by microfilming are proposed.

ŽIVKOVIĆ, DUŠAN, *Dokumenti za istoriju SKJ u arhivima Hrvatske, Slovenije i Sarajeva* (Documents on the history of the Yugoslav Communist Party in the archives of Croatia, Slovenia, and Sarajevo). P. 52-66.

A review of the records related to communist activities in prewar Yugoslavia, supplementing data published in no. 1/2 of this volume.

Izveštaji i vesti (Reports and news). P. 67-78.

Milorad Dželebdžić reports on the activities of the "Archives Sunday" (*O "Nedelji arhiva" 1959 godine*, p. 67-72), an annual event held in November and aimed toward promoting broader interest in archival documentation and propagandistic advantages of primary sources. ¶ Kasim Isović reviews the annual general assembly of the Society of Archivists of Bosnia and Herzegovina (*Godišnja skupština društva arhivskih radnika Bosne i Hercegovine*, p. 72-74). New rules and bylaws were adopted. ¶ Majda Smole reports on the same event in Slovenia (*Poročilo o obćnem zboru društva arhivskih delavcev LR Slovenije*, p. 74-75). The main discussion was centered on the old problem of a satisfactory building for the Slovenian State Archives. ¶ Milan Spasojević discusses administrative and functional changes in conjunction with the reorganization of the Yugoslav trade union system (*Povodom reorganizacije u SSSJ*, p. 76-77). ¶ F. B. reports on the Archival Round Table held in June 1959 (p. 77-78).

Prikazi i kritike (Digests and reviews). P. 79-101.

Abstracts of *Archivum* (1957) and *Der Archivar* (Dec. 1958, Mar. 1959) are included.

Nekrolozi (Obituaries). P. 103-104.

Milivoj Korlević, the first Croat Chief Archivist of the State Archives of Rijeka and vice president of the National Council of Rijeka in 1918, died at the age of 70 on Oct. 25, 1959. ¶ Margita Radović, founder and member of the Historical Archives in Čačak, died on Nov. 26, 1959.

Bibliografija (Bibliography). P. 105-127.

Andrija-Ljubomir Lisac continues his contributions to the Yugoslav Archival Bibliography (*Prilozi Jugoslavenskoj arhivističkoj bibliografiji*).

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Sanctioned and Blessed

. . . whatever the lacunae there may be in American [church] archives, or whatever the shortcomings of their keepers, there is much that we archivists can and must do to preserve those that remain. Our Society has sanctioned and blessed the effort to preserve church archives, and thereby given us a standing that will assure attention when we speak disinterestedly and *pro bono publico*.

— Henry L. Savage, review of W. E. Tate's *The Parish Chest . . .*, in *American Archivist*, 10: 310 (July 1947).