

Abstracts Of Foreign Periodicals

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Der Archivar, VOL. 16 (1963), NO. 1.

Der 40. Deutsche Archivtag 1962 in Mannheim: Protokolle, Berichte, Referate (The 40th German archives conference, 1962, in Mannheim: minutes, reports, papers). Col. 1-58. The papers given at the seven sectional meetings—state archives, archives of cities and other areas, church archives, private archives, business archives, parliamentary archives, archives of press, radio, and film—cover such diverse topics as archival preservation and reproductions, picture files in business archives, recent documentation in a press archive, security microfilming, disposal, newspaper microfilming, and registers in church archives.

GANN, L. H., *Archivwesen in Rhodesien und Njassaland* (Archival administration in Rhodesia and Nyasaland). Col. 85-90.

After giving a brief history of the background legislation, the political situation, and the varied sources of the present records, the author reports on the modern building (1961), built of glass and reinforced concrete, that houses both the National Archives and the National Library. The archival part contains an administrative block and storage block, reading room, microfilm and sound film rooms, workrooms, staff room, and stacks with steel shelving that occupy 13,000 sq. ft., are airconditioned, and are provided with special fire protection equipment. At the time of writing the staff consisted of the director, 21 European and 4 African officials, and 19 African assistants.

Der Archivar, VOL. 16 (1963), NO. 2.

HARDENBERG, HERMAN, *Zur Frage der Ordnungsprinzipien* (On the question of principles of arrangement). Col. 113-118. The Netherlands employs seven principles of arrangement, of which the classic ones of provenance and pertinence are minor.

SZEDÖ, ANTAL, *Das ungarische Archivwesen* (Hungarian archives). Col. 117-126. Law no. 29 of 1950 centralized Hungarian archival administration: 1 Central Archive, 1 Central Economic Archive, 22 territorial archives. Church records, except those related to civil questions, are under church control. There is much microfilming, primarily for security. All archives except the two central ones and that of Budapest are grouped into six inspectorates, the heads of which visit the archives annually at least and advise on but do not control practices. The main functions of archives are to arrange, dispose of, and inventory records; other tasks are provision of assistance to users, teaching courses in records management to agency personnel, and setting up exhibitions of records.

GRIESER, RUDOLF, *Staatliche Archivbauten in Niedersachsen* (State archival repositories in Lower Saxony). Col. 125-138. New buildings have been constructed or

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extensive restorations and enlargements have been completed in the last 15 years at Hannover, Osnabrück, Wolfenbüttel, Oldenburg, Aurich, and Stade. Details and drawings.

DÖRFFELDT, SIEGFRIED, *Der Erwerb staatlicher und kommunaler Archivalien durch Privatpersonen* (Acquisition of state and community archives by private persons). Col. 153-162. Wartime dispersals and losses in transit cause many public documents still to be in private hands. German laws, noted in detail, make the legality of such retention extremely unlikely.

ZIMMERMANN, FRITZ, *Archivstatistik* (Archival statistics). Col. 161-178. These should not be concerned with the number of users, but only with the internal operation of the archive and therefore useful for administrative review and planning for the future.

BOBERACH, HEINZ, *Dokumentation im Archiv* ("Documentation" in the archives). Col. 209-218. Archives should not be confused with or operated as documentation centers because of the costs involved and the conflicts with the basic responsibilities and functions of archives.

Der Archivar, VOL. 16 (1963), NO. 3.

SCHÖNINGH, WOLFGANG, *Das Emden Stadtarchiv* (The Emden city archive). Col. 337-339. A very brief history of the collections from the 17th century to the present.

MÖHLMANN, GÜNTHER, *Das Niedersächsische Staatsarchiv in Aurich* (The Lower Saxony State Archive in Aurich). Col. 339-342. A brief statement of the origin of the archive in the 15th century, the frequent changes of sovereignty over the area with resultant effects upon the records and their administration, the vicissitudes of World War II, and the present situation.

WEISE, ERICH, *Die Neugründung des Niedersächsischen Staatsarchivs in Stade* (The new establishment of the Lower Saxony State Archive in Stade). Col. 343-350. A brief history of this archive, which goes back to the 17th century, now embraces the once-Swedish territory under the Peace of Westphalia, has undergone various changes of administrative control, suffered important losses in the last war, and currently is installed in a completely new structure.

Der Archivar, VOL. 16 (1963), NO. 4.

BELOV, GENNADIJ A., *Die Organisation des Archivwesens in der Union der Sozialistischen Sowjetrepubliken* (The organization of archival sciences in the U.S.S.R.). Col. 417-434. Trans. by Heinz Buttkus. Because of the nature of the U.S.S.R. almost all documents are state property and the problems of ownership, custody, and control do not exist as in other countries. On August 13, 1958, the Council of Ministers issued an ordinance, dealing with the archival *fonds* of the U.S.S.R., which embraced all aspects of archival science, changed and expanded older regulations, and defined materials covered: usual state papers, laws, drawings, official correspondence, manuscripts of scientific and artistic works, memoirs, diaries, musical manuscripts, and other categories that were in the possession of the state. Earlier decrees of June 1, 1918, and March 31, 1919, dealt, respectively, with reorganization and centralization of archival administration and the period of "current" retention of records in ministries, which was set at 5 years although in practice the usual time is now 10-15 years. In 1929 the Central Archival Administration was established under the Central Executive Committee of the U.S.S.R. In 1938 general supervision was given to the Main Archival Administration, which was under the MVD until January 1960, when it was made directly dependent from the Council of Ministers, with responsibility for general administration, protection, development of theories and techniques

of archival science, evaluation of Russian and foreign archival practices, editing of documents, and related duties.

Soviet archives fall into three main categories: (1) papers of state organizations, courts, various republics, armed forces, educational—art and socio-cultural—organizations, press, industry, transport, and business; (2) materials of the Czarist and provincial Revolutionary regimes; (3) cinema films, manuscripts and typescripts of scholarly and cultural value on the history of the peoples of the U.S.S.R., law, art, literature, etc. Directly dependent from the Main Archival Administration are nine central state archives, 277 state archives of the republics, 4,015 state archives of cities, and the archives of ministries, agencies, and businesses numbering in the thousands. Since 1956 construction has been completed on 22 state archives, 60 repositories for republics, districts, and other large governmental units, and more than 1,000 accommodations in lesser units. Construction usually is fireproof. More than 59 microfilm laboratories were established between 1957 and 1963. The Main Archival Administration is concerned with restoration; proper boxing of archives; a research program on temperatures and humidity, shelving systems, fumigation, and instructions for arranging and inventorying; expertise on value of archival materials for various uses; the general exploitation of technological developments for archival purposes; and exhibitions and relations with foreign archives.

All noncurrent and nonrestricted records are available to all Soviet citizens. Extensive publishing projects are underway. A central card file of all *fonds* in the state archives of the U.S.S.R. is located at the Main Archival Administration. Archival councils, found in all central state archives and in all archival administrations on all levels, consisting of the directors and professional staffs of the archives, the administrative heads of academies, research institutes, universities, libraries, and museums, meet regularly to discuss and plan with respect to organization, archival methods, research schemes, publications, finding aids, and allied matters. Archivists are trained in the Moscow State Historical and Archival Institute and at some of the universities in a 5-year course, which is followed by a prolonged period of practical training. Specialists must take an additional 3-year course at the institute.

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