

Reviews of Books

GENEVA H. PENLEY, *Editor*

National Archives

MANUALS

The Management of Archives, by T. R. Schellenberg. (*Columbia University Studies in Library Service* no. 14; New York and London, Columbia University Press, 1965. xvii, 383 p. \$13.50.)

T. R. Schellenberg, former Assistant Archivist of the United States, proposes the application of archival principles and techniques to private manuscript collections and to the records of nongovernmental bodies. Because librarians are the custodians of most of these collections and because the few existing archival training courses are not reaching these librarians, he advocates the establishment of courses in archival methodology in the curricula of library schools. His new book, *The Management of Archives*, is intended as a textbook for such courses.

The major obstacle to improved administration of records, whether public or private, is the absence of a systematized, standardized set of archival definitions, principles, and techniques. In this book Dr. Schellenberg successfully undertakes to define the archival methodology that heretofore has been available only in isolated books and journals. As one who has spent three decades studying, teaching, and writing on archival methodology, he is uniquely qualified to provide the first textbook suitable for the training of custodians of nonpublic records.

The first 60 pages of *The Management of Archives* are devoted to an informative discussion of the development of both library and archival methodology. Librarians most frequently were the custodians of record materials in the 19th century and, quite naturally, handled and classified them in accordance with library techniques. Dr. Schellenberg points out the weaknesses of these techniques, and, while paying tribute to librarians for their contributions, he suggests that they now learn from that relatively new breed called archivists.

Dr. Schellenberg carefully builds his case for the systematization and standardization of archival methodology, pointing to the confusion now prevalent among archivists not only in procedures but also in definitions, a confusion that often makes impossible a meaningful dialog between archivists and reduces the effectiveness of existing archival training courses. He then outlines the principles upon which such a methodology must be based and in the last half of the book discusses fully the application of principles and techniques of arrangement and description of archival groups, private papers, and cartographic and pictorial records. Among the new procedures suggested are methods of

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preparing catalogs and guides to manuscript collections, analyzing the subject content of records, and using notations. The chapters on applications are elementary enough in their examples for the beginning student yet sophisticated enough to win the approval of professional archivists. The result is an indispensable manual, which anticipates and answers most questions that arise in the handling of nonpublic records. By demonstrating the advantages of archival techniques over traditional library methods of handling modern private collections and the records of nongovernmental bodies, the book will have a significant impact upon that large group of manuscript curators who now occupy the no man's land between two professions. Bountiful notes, indicative of the author's extensive research, and a brief selective bibliography add to the book's usefulness.

This, the first book to bring into focus the full picture of archival principles and techniques as they apply to nongovernmental records, deserves a better reception than it is likely to get from professional archivists.

Neither the title nor the text reveals clearly that the book is intended primarily for curators of private manuscript collections and other nongovernmental records. It fails to meet the needs of the fledgling public archivist because it does not contain an adequate definition of "archives" and does not fully discuss the fundamental differences between government archives and unofficial records. The author misses an excellent opportunity to correct one misconception that archivists often find distressing: the librarian's failure to understand the legal implications of custody, management, and certification of public records. Either a revision of the misleading title or the addition of chapters on the nature of public archives is in order if there is to be a second edition.

Many archivists will be troubled by the apparent reversal of Dr. Schellenberg's view of the relationships between the archivist and the records manager. In his earlier *Modern Archives: Principles and Techniques* he effectively shows the mutuality of interests between these two areas of records administration. Now, 9 years later, he writes, "Record management activities, taken as a whole, are quite as different from archival techniques as are those of a librarian or museum curator." A book review is not the place for an essay on the inseparability of archives and records management, but many members of the profession will insist that, if there is to be a marriage between the archivist and librarian, bigamy must be legalized, for a divorce from the records manager is unthinkable.

Finally, many archivists will be disturbed because the book gives the erroneous impression that Dr. Schellenberg advocates the training of *all* archivists by librarians. Some members of the profession, of course, will object to the suggestion that even curators of private papers be trained by library schools, because they are still sensitive to the librarian's traditional (and, until 1956, official) notion that the work of the archivist is simply a sideline for the librarian. With the growth of the stature of the archivist in the past decade, this view has been largely dissipated. It is to be hoped that *The Management of Archives*, by citing the contributions of librarians in the preserva-

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tion of manuscript resources while emphasizing the immaturity of the archival profession, will not revive the myth. More than one reader will note that the Society of American Archivists is mentioned just once in the text (and then only to identify the group before which a librarian spoke in 1951—and that reference is incorrectly indexed), while, on the other hand, the American Library Association is mentioned on 11 different pages.

The book will undoubtedly spark a discussion concerning the proper institutions for the training of archivists. Because our profession has failed to develop and offer adequate training courses for the preparation of administrators of manuscript resources, Dr. Schellenberg suggests that library schools fill the void. While conceding the inadequacy of present training, this reviewer prefers to see a concerted and joint effort on the part of well-established archival institutions—particularly the National Archives and the stronger State archives—to organize and sponsor comprehensive archival-records management training courses in conjunction with graduate departments of history, political science, and public administration in the major universities. A multiplication, lengthening, and strengthening of courses such as those pioneered in by The American University, the University of Denver, and Wayne State University, the reviewer believes, will better serve the needs of the archival profession—including private manuscript curators—than the abdication of even a portion of its training responsibilities.

N.C. State Department of Archives and History

H. G. JONES

FINDING AIDS

Guide to Genealogical Records in the National Archives, comp. by Meredith B. Colket, Jr., and Frank E. Bridgers. (*National Archives Publication* no. 64-8; Washington, 1964. x, 145 p. 50c.)

It is now recognized that most of those who consult archival records are in search of information about individuals or specific localities, for genealogical, biographical, or local historical purposes.

Realizing this, the National Archives issued in 1964 a *Guide* to the principal sources of such information in its holdings. Under headings corresponding generally to record groups are enumerated records of the census, passenger arrivals, military and naval units, veterans benefits, the Confederacy, Indians, passports, civilian personnel, naturalizations, claims, and other subjects. Under each heading is a brief description of the records, giving their beginning and termination dates, analyses of their contents from the viewpoint of genealogical or local historical value, and other information to help the searcher determine whether it will be advantageous to examine the records. Under the headings also are listed known research aids. The booklet thus becomes a convenient reference work; reading one of the suggested volumes may make a search unnecessary.

The booklet makes available detailed information as to what may or may not be expected to be found in the National Archives. No genealogist should be without a copy, for with this *Guide* searches may be intelligently directed.

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That this is recognized is shown by the fact that, with no special announcement or advertisement, over 30,000 copies have been sold during the past year, and the demand is increasing.

Every State Archives and every reference library also should have a copy. It may well be that the information developed for the largest group of researchers, the genealogists, will bring to the attention of the research scholar sources of information heretofore unknown to him.

Washington, D.C.

JEAN STEPHENSON

"A Preliminary Guide to the Collections of the Archives of American Art."
(*Archives of American Art*, vol. 5, no. 1, Jan. 1965. 20 p.)

The Archives of American Art (AAA) was founded in 1954, to develop "a systematic program of gathering papers reflecting American art history." To mark the end of its first decade, AAA has published a guide to its holdings. During this period it has acquired papers from artists and their relatives and friends, collectors, critics, and organizations; and it has pursued an energetic program of microfilming other papers in libraries, museums, and private collections. One of its new projects, in conjunction with the Winterthur Museum, is to microfilm every known art auction catalog.

The preliminary guide was compiled by Garnett McCoy, chief archivist. It includes an introduction, descriptions of collections, information on the oral history program, and an index. The introduction, which defines AAA's objectives, states that the guide covers the majority of the collections and that a future guide will describe the remaining papers.

The brief descriptions are arranged alphabetically by name of artist, critic, organization, or collector who accumulated the papers or to whom the papers relate. Each description includes information on the collection's source, types of documentation, subjects, inclusive dates, and quantity. The collections concern such notables in American art as Mary Cassatt, Lyonel Feininger, Winslow Homer, Frederick Remington, Ben Shahn, James M. Whistler, and Edward Bruce (administrator of the New Deal art projects). The names of the persons interviewed in connection with AAA's oral history program and for its project on "The New Deal and the Arts" (conducted under a Ford Foundation grant) are included. Although the interviews are being transcribed, access to the transcriptions must be obtained from the person interviewed.

AAA's valuable sources for the study of U.S. civilization and the American artistic heritage are here, for the first time, conveniently made known. The guide's descriptions of the collections are brief; nevertheless, the guide is an important contribution to the field of art history and should stimulate scholars interested in American art to avail themselves of these excellent sources. AAA should follow this guide and the projected guide with more detailed descriptions of the significant collections.

National Archives and Records Service

D. T. GOGGIN

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The French & British in the Old Northwest: A Bibliographical Guide to Archive and Manuscript Sources, by Henry Putney Beers. (Detroit, Wayne State University Press, 1964. 297 p. \$11.50.)

This reference aid will be permanently useful and will increase Dr. Beers' fine reputation as a compiler of archival guides and bibliographies of American history. It is an ample account of the provenance of records of French and British officials in the Old Northwest and the publication of these documents. The bibliography in this volume is not one on the history of the region during its possession by the French and British; it is an admirable bibliography on original and published sources and is nearly a third as long as the narrative treatment of these materials.

This work is similar to and somewhat overlaps Dr. Beers' *The French in North America: A Bibliographical Guide to French Archives, Reproductions, and Research Missions*, published in 1957. As its title implies, the earlier work dealt primarily with reproductions from French archives possessed by institutions in the United States and Canada, how these were procured, and how they have been exploited. In the present volume little attention is paid the uses made by scholars of the archives and personal papers described. It concentrates upon giving information on the location and description of records (originals and reproductions) and noting their publication. A brief administrative and ecclesiastical history of the region and a characterization of the records created by church and state are provided. The personal papers of officials and traders and the records of trading and land companies are also described. Through no fault of the compiler, there is disparity in the accounts of materials from different repositories. For instance, the papers of Gov. Frederick Haldimand, who served long in Canada, are delineated in detail in different parts of the guide, but we are told only that "the large Charles F. Gunther Collection" has material on Indian trade and land transfers in early Illinois and correspondence about New France.

Because of the general excellence of this work there are only picayune defects. It would have been helpful if a person's full name had been given the first time mentioned. Though the papers of Jonathan Carver are referred to on p. 134, for instance, it is not until p. 136 that his first name is supplied in the text. It is difficult in bibliographic works to avoid repetitious phrases, but passages such as the following on p. 135 could have been improved in the editing: "Materials relating to Indiana are even less plentiful. A small collection of documents relating to the French settlements on the Wabash relates chiefly to land titles there . . ."

Items that interest me particularly are that the Institute Généalogique Drouin in Montreal has photocopies of birth, marriage, and death records of French Canada totaling 61,000,000 documents (p. 72); that the Provincial Archives of Quebec has produced the largest body of calendars of any archival institution in North America (p. 77); and that the registers of the Anglican Christ Church at Montreal record vital statistics on other Protestants, some Roman Catholics, and Jews (p. 192).

Library of Congress

ROBERT H. LAND

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DOCUMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

Naval Documents of the American Revolution, Volume I, ed. by William Bell Clark. (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1964. xliii, 1,451 p. \$9.)

Before I write another word, let me get "massive" out of my system, for such this volume is: 1,358 pages of text; 50 pages of index; 39 pages of appendixes; 15 pages devoted to listing and describing the illustrations; and 49 depositories credited for assistance!

In this volume the Department of the Navy renews its interest in documentary publications and adds this series to *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion* (31 vols., 1894-1927), followed by (to give short titles) *Quasi-War with France* (7 vols., 1935-38) and *Barbary Powers* (7 vols., 1939-44). For this new series the Navy Department had already done some collecting, as illustrated by Record Group 45 in the National Archives. The Naval History Division was fortunate in the choice of an editor. William Bell Clark, a retired businessman, had long been known as a naval historian of the War of the Revolution, but it turned out that he had ransacked the archives of two continents in collecting transcripts of naval history. Once he was engaged, the collection policy continued apace and work began on the present volume. From this vast cornucopia of research the Navy has poured a variety of documents: newspaper reports, diaries, ships' logs (frequently shreds and patches to show the movements of vessels), minutes of committees of safety, legislative journals, reports of naval officers, proclamations, broadsides, petitions, bills of lading, intelligence reports, public and private correspondence, reports of customs officers, and depositions—to list adequate samplings.

But such abundance brings problems, one of which is arrangement. The first division is that of areas of operation: American Theatre, December 1, 1774–May 20, 1775; European Theatre, December 6, 1774–June 26, 1775; American Theatre, May 21, 1775–September 2, 1775; and European Theatre, June 29, 1775–August 9, 1775. Under each of the above headings the records are arranged day by day, with special notation for Sunday. When more than one document is printed relating to the same day, they are subject to a geographical arrangement beginning for the American Theatre with the Canadian area and extending down the coast to the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. For the European Theatre the range is from northern to southern Europe. To assist here the index must exercise rigid control. For instance, Benedict Arnold (largely in the Champlain Valley) appears in 69 different places and Ticonderoga in 66 places. Yet, at the risk of being provincial, I note that "Vermont" and "New Hampshire Grants" do not appear in the index.

The Navy in its policy of documentation in this volume is not committed to deep blue water alone. It is willing to consider other events such as Lexington and Concord, since the British Navy lent support to this troop movement 12 miles inland, and the capture of Fort Ticonderoga by Ethan Allen and his

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Green Mountain Boys, since this is considered in the nature of an "amphibious operation." Yet many minor events are included, as witness the case of one Benjamin Hallowell, a customs commissioner, who accosted none other than Vice Admiral Samuel Graves, called him a "dammed scoundrel," and, backed by a sympathetic mob, took away the admiral's sword—but not before the admiral had bloodied Hallowell's nose.

Three excerpts spell out the exile of a royal governor:

August 23, 1775, John Wentworth to Theodore Atkinson, Secretary of the Governor's Council (p. 1211):

"Sir—I find it necessary to go to sea for a few days, and must desire that in the mean time you will use your best endeavours to preserve peace . . ."

August 24, 1775, remarks on Board ye *Scarborough* (p. 1219):

"... came on board his Excellency Govr [John] Wentworth; Saluted him with 17 guns"

August 25, 1775, Portsmouth Committee of Safety to Matthew Thornton (p. 1229):

"We beg leave to inform the Honble Provincial Congress that yesterday his Majesty's Ships *Scarborough* & *Canso* [*Canceaux*] sailed from this Harbour 'tis said for Boston with Governor [John] Wentworth & His Family on board . . ."

Although this is not an archival work within the usual purview of our learned journal, the volume under consideration is dedicated to the use of archives on the widest possible scale. This calls for a salute to the Naval History Division for a comprehensive presentation.

Vermont Historical Society

RICHARD G. WOOD

France. Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, Commission de Publication des Documents Relatifs aux Origines de la Guerre, 1939–1945, *Documents diplomatiques français, 1932–1939, 1^{ère} série, 1932–1935; tome 1, 9 juillet–14 novembre 1932.* (Paris, Imprimerie nationale, 1964. lxiii, 743 p.)

This volume, the first in its series, is the second to be published for the interwar period. The documents printed cover a little more than 4 months—July 9 to November 14, 1932—from the end of the Lausanne Conference, which terminated Germany's reparations payments, to the publication of the French disarmament plan. In this short period three major problems occupied the chancelleries of the major European powers: (1) the German demand for equality of rights regarding armaments—a demand that gave the disarmament conference a different aspect; (2) the end of German reparations payments, pointing up once more the problem of inter-Allied debts and its connection with the overall reparations settlement; and (3) the Japanese occupation of Manchuria, the founding of Manchukuo, and the Chinese-Japanese conflict—grave threats to the principle of collective security. In addition to an extensive documentation on these subjects, there are also a number of documents on the German internal crisis, the approaching end of the Weimar Republic, and the coming to power of the National Socialist regime.

Unlike the previous volume, this volume is drawn from diplomatic archives that are quite complete. Besides the papers from the Quai d'Orsay, the edi-

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tors have printed also documents from the Ministry of War for the disarmament question and from the Ministry of Finance for the problems of reparations and inter-Allied debts. They have also made use of documents from private collections, especially from the papers of Herriot, Massigli, and Germain-Martin. The documents are printed in chronological order, with a subject list at the beginning of the volume. The annotation is held to a minimum and no references are made to other documentary collections or secondary works.

To the American student of diplomatic history a comparison of this volume with the pertinent volumes in the U.S. *Foreign Relations* series is of considerable interest. The extent of coverage of the main topics mentioned above naturally varies in the American and French publications. American preoccupation with German disarmament and German internal affairs was far less than French interest in these subjects, while the problems of reparations and inter-Allied debts and Japanese aggression on the Asian mainland were considered as at least of the same if not of higher importance in Washington than they were in Paris. As a result a rough comparison of the U.S. and French documents covering the same event reflects some of these differences in attitude. On German internal affairs and disarmament the French documents are usually more detailed than the American documents, and in some cases no American documents on these subjects have been printed at all. On the other hand, on the Far Eastern crisis and to a less extent on reparations and inter-Allied debts, the situation is almost exactly reversed.

For a comprehensive view of the diplomatic scene for this period the interested reader will of course have to consult the published British documents and—in the not too distant future, it is hoped—the published German documents as well. There is no doubt, however, that this volume, like its predecessor, is a welcome addition to the growing collection of diplomatic documents of the interwar period.

Washington, D.C.

GEORGE O. KENT

Selections from Ochterlony Papers (1818-1825) in the National Archives of India, ed. by Narendra Krishna Sinha and Arun Kumar Dasgupta. (Calcutta, University of Calcutta, 1964. xxxviii, 489 p.)

Sir David Ochterlony was born in Boston, Mass., in 1785. He went to India as a cadet, and in 1803 he was appointed Resident at Delhi. For meritorious service in the Nepal War (1814-15) he was rewarded with his baronetcy, and for further military competence and his successful conclusion of the important Segauli treaty in 1816 he was created C.B.E. In 1818 Ochterlony was appointed Resident at Rajputana, which was subsequently combined with the Residency at Delhi. His 1825 clash with Lord Amherst, Governor-General in Council, caused him to resign his post. His death in July of that year may in part have been due to his bitterness at Lord Amherst's apparent lack of confidence in him, seemingly unmerited after his years of competent military and civil service.

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This selection of letters from Ochterlony's official correspondence, now housed in the National Archives of India, comprises about 250 letters printed in full and in approximate chronological order. Each was selected by Professor Sinha for its importance to an appraisal of Ochterlony's diplomatic career and for such new light as it may shed on British colonial policy and problems in India during this period. There appear to be no Ochterlony papers as a separate collection in the Archives; these letters were transcribed from originals bound in the Rajputana Residency record volumes and from the Foreign Department Political Consultations and Proceedings volumes. The letters selected for inclusion here appear to cover quite well and fairly the highlights of Ochterlony's sometimes controversial career.

There is no alphabetical index, but a detailed descriptive inventory of the letters printed, in the 15-page contents section, should serve the user adequately. Professor Sinha's introduction is also useful, giving a synopsis of events and personalities for these particular years in India under British protectorate. A nonalphabetized short "notes" section at the end (p. 485-89) gives some additional helpful information about persons, places, and events and lists for each entry the pertinent letters printed in the text.

This printing of original material, sponsored by the Indian Historical Records Commission, will be of interest to India and British Colonial scholars and students; it is a welcome addition to the sources in these fields.

Oregon Historical Society

JEAN B. BROWNELL

TECHNICAL STUDIES

Collection of Materials on the Preservation of Library Resources, nos. 2 and 3 (Sbornik materialov po sokhrannosti knizhnykh fondov). Translated from the Russian. (Published for the National Science Foundation and the Council on Library Resources, [1964]. 258 p. \$2.75.)

New Methods for the Restoration and Preservation of Documents and Books (Novye metody restavratsii knig). Translated from the Russian. (Published for the National Science Foundation and the Council on Library Resources, [1964]. iv, 130 p. \$4.)

These two paperbound books provide an informative glimpse into Russian preservation practice and research. Available from the Clearing House for Federal, Scientific, and Technical Information, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, Va. 22151, the volumes were published by the Israel Program for Scientific Translations for the National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C., and the Council on Library Resources.

The two works contain an abundance of detailed information in their 45 technical reports and instructions on the care of books and manuscripts. In appraising them, however, the translator cautions the reader that the authors do not "describe fully the types of testing machines used, the number of samples tested for an average value and the method of sampling employed." Despite this, the papers reveal an astonishing variety of interests in the tech-

nical aspects of preservation and make it doubtful that a comparable collection could be compiled in the United States today.

The variety of subject matter also makes it difficult to single out those papers deserving mention here. In the volume *New Methods for the Restoration and Preservation of Documents and Books* (*Novye metody restavratsii knig*), published in Russian in 1958, are presented papers from the Laboratory of Conservation and Restoration of Books of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. Topics covered are disinfection of books and documents by high-frequency electromagnetic fields, restoration of books and documents with thermoplastic film (a survey of methods used internationally), improving faded texts by photographic and radiographic methods, and the general problems encountered in restoration.

The *Collection of Materials on the Preservation of Library Resources* contains a series of articles from the Research Laboratory of the Department for Book Preservation and Restoration of the U.S.S.R. State Library im. V. I. Lenin. It is divided into two sections, the first having been published in 1953 and the second in 1958. Though listed as no. 2 and no. 3, respectively, no. 1 was not published. The first section, no. 2, includes papers on the prevention of aging in books and newspapers, measures to counteract mold fungi and insects, and regulations for the preservation of collections of books and manuscripts in the Lenin State Library. In no. 3 are investigations carried on by the laboratory from 1952 to 1956. Included are studies on the aging of paper, reinforcement of papers and documents, softening leather, removing dyestuffs from paper, an antiseptic that prevents mold growth in glued paper, short-wave ultraviolet irradiation that disinfects the atmosphere, and insect and mold fungi control.

These two books reflect the Soviets' intense interest in preserving their books and manuscripts. They should stimulate the American archivist to improve his technological skills in the field. This alone makes them valuable additions to the growing literature in preservation.

Mayo Clinic

CLARK W. NELSON

BIOGRAPHY

Harriet Beecher Stowe, the Known and the Unknown, by Edward Wagenknecht. (New York, Oxford University Press, 1965. 267 p. \$6.)

This biography is a timely study of the most popular New England writer of the 19th century. It also represents the increasing academic focus upon Mrs. Stowe after decades of neglect by scholars as well as readers in the 20th century. The centennial of the Civil War and the movement for civil rights have intensified the renewal of interest in the author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. Wagenknecht has benefited from specialized intellectual studies, including Charles Foster's *The Rungless Ladder* (1954), Edmund Wilson's *Patriotic Gore* (1963), and Kenneth Lynn's new edition of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1962). He has also utilized the extensive biography, *Crusader in Crinoline*,

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by Forrest Wilson (1941). Mr. Wagenknecht himself, however, has repeated neither the structure nor the emphasis of the volumes of his predecessors. Rather he has produced a fresh and appreciative interpretation of Harriet Beecher Stowe in her multiple roles of daughter, sister, wife, and mother.

To create this historical portrait the author examined a vast range of published and unpublished materials in libraries and historical societies all over the country. Most important in his interpretation, he states, was "the incomparable collection of Stowe papers which the late Lyman Beecher Stowe presented to the Women's Archives at Radcliffe College."

The Beecher-Stowe Collection to which Mr. Wagenknecht refers has been available to qualified researchers since 1961. Centering on Harriet Beecher Stowe, the collection includes about 450 of her letters—to her husband, her son Charles and his wife Susie, and, most important, 234 letters to her twin daughters, Hattie and Eliza. There are also substantial numbers of letters received from her father, Lyman Beecher; her favorite brother, Henry Ward Beecher; her older sister, Catherine Beecher; and her husband, Calvin Stowe. In addition there is correspondence with the transatlantic community of writers and social leaders, especially with George Eliot, the Charles Kingsleys, Florence Nightingale, and Lady Byron.

The biographer has read these manuscripts with care and sense. Rightly fascinated by the complexities of Harriet Beecher Stowe, he views her as a human being whose thoughts and feelings, conflicts and ideas, stemmed from the ethos and experience of her New England family:

The familial relationships came first in her life, and the next most important thing in her life was her art. Keen as her social conscience was, her services as a public servant and reformer came in a bad third. She was a natural-born story teller; she could no more have avoided writing fiction than she could have stopped her breath. If she did much for the antislavery cause, the antislavery cause did more for her, and she was never in the slightest danger of sacrificing her career to it.

She was a member of the doughty Beecher family, in which daughters as well as sons wrestled with personal salvation and theological dogma and faced practical concerns of education and moral reform. The father, vital, demanding, loving, was central to all his children's development. Lyman Beecher did not intimidate them; Harriet, like the rest, carried on a personal quest for religious truth. From her spiritual crises she emerged with her own enlightened faith and greater understanding of other forms of Christianity.

Mr. Wagenknecht is most illuminating in his analysis of the relationship between Harriet and Calvin Stowe. One sees Harriet survive the hardships of poverty and domestic routine as she learns to accept the tensions of her marriage. It is evident that she and her "rabbi" Calvin depended on one another despite their differences. From the beginning Calvin Stowe urged his wife to write; and in the end her publications reversed the Stowe fortunes. Scholarly Calvin, who hated to write, transmitted a rich store of Yankee lore to a wife who could recreate it in the pages of her books.

Despite a second and a final chapter on Harriet's role as daughter, however, one gains little sense of the process by which Harriet Beecher Stowe developed. Although the author conveys many fine insights about her, there is

no climax to his study. This, the one important drawback in his delineation of his subject, is inherent in his treatment of the separate categories of daughter, sister, wife, and mother.

Nonetheless, readers will enjoy his vivid and intelligent characterization of Mrs. Stowe. For this first time, "the little lady who made this big war," in the words of Abraham Lincoln, emerges as an appealing human being rather than as a period piece.

Women's Archives, Radcliffe College

BARBARA MILLER SOLOMON

REPORTS

City of Baltimore. Department of Legislative Reference, Records Management Division, *Annual Report, 1963; Annual Report, 1964*. (Unpaged, processed.)

The City of Baltimore is one of the few municipalities in the United States that operate formal records management offices. In reading these reports one is impressed with the broad scope of the division's functions. These include a program of forms design and control, the purchase of filing and photocopy equipment, and the normal records management activities of operating a records center, a microfilm service, and an essential records program. The attitude taken toward the historical value of the city's records is also of interest: "... this office feels it is our civic responsibility to retain and preserve certain records for posterity."

The Records Management Officer, C. Frank Poole, states in the 1963 report that proper facilities for adequate storage of records have not been provided; and, since the 1964 report makes no statement to the contrary, it is assumed the city is still using a makeshift arrangement. This is regrettable in view of the development of an otherwise outstanding program. Provision has been made, however, for the housing of essential records, and this in itself puts the City of Baltimore ahead of most of the comparable cities.

The retention and disposal schedule included in the 1963 report gives evidence of the essentially conservative nature of the city administrators: for example, keeping vendor copies of vouchers for 12 years, which is almost double the retention period used by Michigan cities. It is, of course, better to have them scheduled for disposal than to have the situation in most cities, with no schedule at all.

Mr. Poole's statistics give evidence of a continuing growth in references and records filmed, but he fails to state whether or not a balance of accessions and disposals has been achieved. It is doubtful that the city will be able to reach such a balance in view of the continuing expansion of city government.

While these reports are no doubt meant for internal consumption, any city large enough to consider creating a formal records program could make use of them. If information on staff positions, budget, and manhours devoted to each phase of the program could be included, the reports would be of even greater interest.

Michigan Historical Commission

BRUCE C. HARDING

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST