

Reviews of Books

GENEVA H. PENLEY, *Editor*

National Archives

Bibliografia delle pubblicazioni italiane relative all'archivistica, [comp. by] Renato Perrella. (*Quaderni della Rassegna degli Archivi di Stato*, no. 24; Roma, 1963. 207 p. L. 1,000.)

Mezinárodní archivní bibliografie, 1955-1962. (*Sborník Archivních Prací*, vol. 14, no. 2; Praha, 1964.)

Lacking any cumulative bibliography in the English language of writings on archival economy, American archivists, who one day will compile a bibliography expressly for their use, are concerned nevertheless with the classifications into which they must organize the vast professional literature essential to their work. The "select bibliographic guide" approach used by Frank B. Evans in a new work soon to be reviewed in these pages may answer the needs of most American archivists; in any event, this reviewer has an interest in these two European bibliographies chiefly from the point of view of their organization. The Italian bibliography, confined to works published in Italy, was needed because—as is true in the United States—"non esisteva finora alcun repertorio bibliografico generale di archivistica, nè antico, nè recente." It lists works published in Italy by both Italian and foreign authors, but it specifically excludes archival inventories, which the compilers believe should be listed in a separate bibliography. The bibliography compiled in Czechoslovakia and issued as a number of *Sborník Archivních Prací*, on the other hand, though restricted to the indicated time period, is international in scope and does list selected finding aids and published discussions of particular *fonds*.

The works listed in the Italian bibliography are grouped in 28 classifications 2 of which are further subdivided. (The bibliography, though preponderantly of the 19th and 20th centuries, begins with the 1632 work of Bonifacii, *De Archivis liber singularis*.) Within each classification (or further subdivision) titles are entered chronologically—a real advantage, as the foreword notes, in future work of preparing revisions—and there are an index of authors and one of subjects. The classification scheme is as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Bibliografia generale (repertori). | 3. Periodici. |
| a) Bibliografia delle bibliografie. Periodici. | 4. Archivistica generale. |
| b) Bibliografia delle bibliografie. Pubblicazioni aperiodiche. | 5. Diritto. |
| c) Bibliografia generale. Periodici. | 6. Storia dell'archivistica e degli archivi in generale. |
| d) Bibliografia generale. Pubblicazioni aperiodiche. | 7. Biografie e biobibliografie. |
| 2. Bibliografia archivistica (repertori). | 8. Organizzazione e riforme. |
| | 9. Personale. |
| | 10. Scuole |

Books for review and related communications should be sent to Miss Geneva H. Penley, Room 303, Library, The National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 11. Prolegomeni. | d) Scritti occasionali e vari. |
| 12. Lavori archivistici. | e) Stati esteri. |
| 13. Gli archivi e gli studi. | 20. Biblioteconomia. |
| 14. Documentazione e fotodocumentazione. | 21. Archivi di stato (archivi singoli e gruppi regionali). |
| 15. Edilizia, scaffali, attrezzature servizi. | 22. Archivi di uffici statali. |
| 16. Materiale scrittorio. | 23. Archivi notarili. |
| 17. Fauna e flora. | 24. Archivi dei comuni, province ed opere pie. |
| 18. Conservazione e restauro. | 25. Archivi ecclesiastici. |
| 19. Varie. | 26. Archivi privati. |
| a) Miscellanee. | 27. Archivi economici e sindacali. |
| b) Studi archivistici vari. | 28. Archivi vari. |
| c) Congressi, esposizioni, visite. | |

An explanatory note (*premessa*) provided for each classification defines its scope, relates it to other classifications, and states the criteria used in the selection of titles.

In contrast, the fewer (12) main classifications employed in *Mezinárodní archivní bibliografie* require that most of them be subdivided into specific groups, and the international character of this bibliography presents a special problem that is solved by further subdivisions by countries in which the items listed were published or to which they pertain. Within each subdivision, at whatever level, the order of entry is alphabetical by author. Both a geographical and a topical index are supplied, but there is no author index. The classification scheme is as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| I. Archivní bibliografie. | 2. Vlastní edice. |
| 1. Mezinárodní. | 3. Archivní pomůcky. |
| 2. Národní. | 4. Archivní časopisy. |
| II. Dějiny archivnictví a archivů. | VII. Využívání a propagace archivního materiálu. |
| III. Archivní organizace a archivy. | 1. Studium archivního materiálu, studijní řady. |
| 1. Mezinárodní vztahy a styky. | 2. Metody využívání archivního materiálu. |
| 2. Archivní právo. | 3. Výstavy. |
| 3. Archivy obecně. | 4. Propagace archivů a archivní práce. |
| 4. Mezinárodní archivy. | VIII. Archivní technika. |
| 5. Archivní organizace a archivy jednotlivých zemí. | 1. Všeobecně. |
| 6. Archivní sjezdy, konference a zasedání v jednotlivých zemích. | 2. Archivní budovy a jejich vybavení. |
| 7. Výchova archivářů. | 3. Ukládání a ochrana archiválií. |
| IV. Archivní teorie a praxe. | 4. Konzervace a restaurace archiválií. |
| 1. Archivní teorie všeobecně. | 5. Reprodukční technika. |
| 2. Archivní terminologie. | IX. Spisová služba. |
| 3. Zpracování archivního materiálu. | X. Pomocné vědy historické. |
| 4. Hodnocení a skartace písemností. | 1. Všeobecně. |
| 5. Doplnění fondů. | 2. Paleografie. |
| V. Archiválie a archivní fondy. | 3. Diplomatika. |
| VI. Ediční činnost. | 4. Nauka o pramenech. |
| 1. Vydávání historických pramenů, archeografie (všeobecně). | |

5. Chronologie.
6. Sfragistika.
7. Heraldika.
8. Metrologie.

- XI. Dějiny správy.
- XII. Archiváři.
1. Všeobecně.
2. Jednotlivě.

The 3,603 entries in the Czechoslovak bibliography are consecutively numbered; one totals the more ingeniously numbered entries in the Italian work—a combination of class, subclass (if any), and entry number, as 12/3 or 19/B/4—to arrive at 1,306 listed titles. So far as can be seen by this reviewer, both bibliographies are remarkably free of error. *Mezinárodní archivní bibliografie* is made considerably more useful by occasional annotations and by frequent references to published reviews or abstracts of the books and articles listed.

National Archives and Records Service

KEN MUNDEN

FINDING AIDS

Inventaire des Archives des Sociétaires et de la Société Civile des Usines et Mines de Houille du Grand-Hornu, par Hubert Watelet. (Bruxelles, Ministère de l'Education Nationale et de la Culture. Archives Générales du Royaume, 1964. 216 p.)

Inventaris van Het Archief der Abdij Maagdendaal Te Oplinter, door Hendrik Delvaux. (Bruxelles, Ministère de l'Education Nationale et de la Culture. Archives Générales du Royaume, 1965. vii, 484 p., illus.)

These two inventories reflect the social orders prevailing in Europe from about A.D. 1215 to date. For illustration one may parallel no. 566 (also no. 61 of the "Regesten" on p. 121) in Hendrik Delvaux's splendid presentation of the remaining archives of the former abbey Maagdendaal (a nunnery in Oplinter near Tienen, east of Brussels, which existed from 1215 to 1796) with the personnel records listed under nos. 1574–1610 in Hubert Watelet's inventory of the manufacturing and mining company Grand-Hornu, which has operated near Mons-Cuesmes (southwest of Brussels) since 1778.

Delvaux's document no. 566 is a parchment in which Geraard, master of Geten, announces the presentation of Aleidis and Ida, daughters of Jan le Cler and the late Isabella his wife, and their progeny, previously Geraard's property, to the Church of St. Marten's in Geten, in return for an annual fee of one penny. The group of documents cited from Watelet contains workers' records of an industrial family empire in the heart of Belgium's mining districts, "practically the last of the private mining societies of Belgium" (p. 6).

Both collections presented problems to the archivists in making them accessible.

The Maagdendaal collection was the more difficult to manage. The many attempts at creating order had ended only in complete confusion, resolved at last by Delvaux. Former efforts had indicated two main divisions; these became the basis of the order adopted. The volume begins with a list of all extant letters of privilege and conveyance, followed by the longest chapter, listing all extant records relating to the properties of the abbey. The first

hundred pages represent the inventory of all documents preserved at Mons. Among them are no inventories, registers, bills, or correspondence files, but substantial complements are in the archbishopric of Mechelen-Brussels, and another group is in the National Archives at Brussels. The most valuable part of Delvaux's book is the chronologically arranged abstracts ("Regesten," on p. 103-358) of the inventoried archives, which include those listed in the "Register van de pitantiedienst," 1383, preserved in the National Archives at Brussels. Further useful features are a detailed index to persons and places (p. 361-465), lists of seals and of 10 plates found in the book, and a concordance of the Delvaux numbers and those found on the documents themselves.

The Grand-Hornu records are incomparably more complete, and their original arrangement is much more satisfactory from the archivist's viewpoint. The arrangement was largely predetermined by the creators of the *fonds*; and the archivists applied, as they say (p. 9), the concepts regarding family records set out by Mlle. E. Lejour in "Les archives de famille" (in *Archives, Bibliothèques et Musées de Belgique*, 21: 11-27). This volume, too, is provided with an index to persons and places referred to in this rich inventory.

University of Illinois

ICKO IBEN

DOCUMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

Guide to Microforms in Print 1965, ed. by Albert James Diaz. (Washington, D.C., Microcard Editions, Inc., 1965. vi, 106 p. \$4.)

List of National Archives Microfilm Publications, 1965. (Washington, D.C., National Archives, 1965, xii, 97 p.)

The accessibility of sources through publication in photocopy has made scholarship infinitely more pleasant. Granted possession of a suitable reader, the scholar now views exact replicas of the documents in comfort at his desk or in his den. Reading the source in photocopy spares the expense of travel and the discomfort that frequently accompanies reading original material in the cold or the dusty heat of library stacks and stalls. More vital to the scholar whose institution's resources are meager or nonexistent is the opportunity now to know and to have available vast resources hitherto denied him.

Two new useful lists of photocopied sources are available for the researcher: a publishers' list of recent reproductions in microform and the list of publications in microfilm of the National Archives.

The *Guide to Microforms in Print*, edited by Albert James Diaz in 1965, is the fourth edition of this most useful guide. It is a comprehensive list of the catalogs of some 54 publishers of microform. Its purpose is to fill a gap in the information available to librarians and scholars.

Each year this guide will grow in size as the publishers' lists increase. Arranged alphabetically, not according to the individual publisher's lists, the *Guide* gives the name of each item, its price, the name of the publisher, and the microform in which it is published. The reader will not find a description

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

of the item's content, or any critical analysis of the item, or the number of reels or cards on which it is microcopied. Each publisher is identified, however, by an appropriate symbol.

Although the list is comprehensive, it is not complete. For example, it is noted that works edited by Georg Martens are published on microcard but not that they are also published on microfilm. The failure to note the publication on microfilm may be due to faulty listing by the microfilm publisher. There are undoubtedly many items not listed because they have not found their way onto publishers' lists. To obtain a complete list one would have to consult the catalogs of leading repositories in this country.

Unfortunately the alphabetical listing does not lend itself to easy search for items when a topical search is being made. One must know the name of the author or the title of the article to make efficient use of this guide. This criticism, however, is not unfavorably intended. The publisher had in mind only the gathering together and listing of the items microformed in the course of each year and of continuing to do so. The editor, Albert James Diaz, has done signal service to scholars, archivists, and librarians. He has also served his industry well in bringing together in one publication items that might otherwise be ignored or remain unknown if the only way to learn of their publication were through the tedious reading of 54 catalogs.

The list of National Archives microfilm publications for 1965 appears 4 years after the Archives' preceding list. It is in every way better than its predecessor. The publication in its present form is a model of brevity, clarity, and efficient design. The editors are to be congratulated for the improvement, for nothing has been sacrificed in the streamlined second list for the sake of brevity. It is a pleasure to read and should be easier to use than the list of 1961. This is a model for others to follow. The 1961 list was published in 213 pages. The table of contents was organized under headings such as General, Congress, Judiciary, Department of State, and other national departments. Also listed was microfilm of records of such agencies as the Veterans Administration, National Recovery Administration, National Resources Planning Board, War Production Board, and Office of Price Administration. One also finds listed the War Department's Collection of Confederate records, the records of former Russian agencies, and the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion. An appendix contains the numerical list of the National Archives microfilm publications; the publications of the National Archives and Records Service and an index complete this edition.

In the 1961 list, 260 publications are described, each by a brief paragraph or sentence; the price and number of each item are given; and then each item is identified so that the time span or subject of the documents in each roll of microfilm is identified. Anyone could use this list. It is detailed almost to minuteness in many instances. In fact, it may be too detailed for the researcher who is already acquainted with the subject or field, who knows what he wants, or who wishes to avoid time-consuming reading. It is a good list, fortunately superseded by the list of 1965.

In the 1965 list, approximately 67 million pages of documents are listed under appropriate titles. The use of the index and the titles should provide the researcher with basic documentation in American, European, Far Eastern, and Latin American history as well as in local history and genealogy. The table of contents is basically the same as in the edition of 1961, with certain additions—for example, the records of the Weather Bureau and of the Department of Labor. In short, the new list is up to date. Perforated order blanks at the back of both the 1961 and 1965 lists are useful to the scholar who wishes to purchase certain reels. The 1965 publication appears in a much more readable type than that of 1961. The space between the lines and items is greater and the whole list is infinitely easier to read.

What the editors did in 1965 was to eliminate most of the descriptive material identifying individual items and to keep only general subject headings. For example, the records of the Continental Congress in the 1961 edition are listed in 26 pages; in 1965, in only 3 pages. If the researcher wishes to see a detailed list of items he will write for the detailed and extensive list, separately published and now available. All that he need know at first is that, for example, the papers of the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1789 are identified as M-247, 204 rolls, priced at \$948. Miscellaneous papers of the Continental Congress, 1774-89, are identified as M-332, 9 rolls, at \$40. The result is broad but adequate identification and the inclusion of detailed identification only for each major heading.

The scholarly world should be delighted with this list. This review can only say to those responsible for the improvements and changes, "Well done," and ask for a general "vote of appreciation."

American Microform Academy, Purdue University ROBERT B. ECKLES

Documents of California Catholic History (1784-1963), ed. by Rev. Francis J. Weber. (Los Angeles, Dawson's Book Shop, 1965. 364 p. \$12.50.)

This compilation of 65 documents attempts to draw together into a single volume "a sampling of the fundamental *fontes* from which the story of the Church in California must be written." The materials range from Junipero Serra's factual narration of conditions at Mission San Carlos Borromeo, June 1770-July 1784, to the newspaper version of the address of welcome to the Very Reverend Francis J. Furey, coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, September 12, 1963. These very dissimilar documents are at the beginning and the end of a varied selection that includes Padre José Senan's criticism of Spanish policies in the colonies (1796), excerpts from letters written during the Gold Rush (1850), Bishop Thomas Conaty's funeral eulogy of Archbishop George T. Montgomery (1907), Father Peter Yorke's eulogy of deceased Archbishop Patrick W. Riordan (1914), the congratulatory address to Los Angeles' new archbishop, John J. Cantwell (1936), and Willard Keith's welcoming speech to James Francis, Cardinal McIntyre (1953).

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

No attentive reader will question that much labor and loyal devotion were expended in assembling this volume. He may be frustrated, nonetheless, in trying to surmise the criteria used in selecting the documents for publication. Thirty-eight of the total number have been printed previously. Twenty-one are addresses or sermons of a welcome, farewell, testimonial, anniversary, or funeral type. Some of these last are of the "60-70" type, and some are of the "60-70" type.

in the British Museum and the author's collection, and a bibliography. Unfortunately the map plates are not indexed, and many of the bibliographical entries are so brief that they are of limited value. These are relatively minor defects, however, and on the whole the book is a useful contribution to the literature of historical cartography.

National Archives

A. PHILIP MUNTZ

REPORTS

Federation of Malaysia. *Annual Report of the National Archives of Malaysia, 1963*. (Kuala Lumpur, 1964. 59 p., illus. \$2.)

Punjab State Archives and Archaeology and Museum. *Administrative Report . . . 1961-62*. (Chandigarh, 1964. 20 p.)

Federal Republic of Nigeria. *The Seventh Report of the Work of the National Archives of Nigeria 1962-63*. (Lagos, 1964. 8 p.)

A dominant theme of these three reports of archival establishments in "developing" areas is one all too familiar to American archivists. "If no relief of the present lack of space is found in the near future," reports the National Archives of Malaysia, "the ensuing stagnation of records and archives will be felt by the whole of the administration, Federal and State." "Lack of suitable functional accommodation for the State Archives has continued to hamper the growth and development of this organization," observes the Punjab State Archives; and the National Archives of Nigeria, while announcing the completion of a branch office building and the near-completion of a second branch office, admits that "the increased provision made in the current estimates falls short of the new needs of the department." The need for additional space appears to be as worldwide as the recognition of the importance of public archival institutions, and we can all sympathize with the brief account in the Punjab report under "Fresh Acquisitions" that states simply: "For want of suitable and permanent accommodation, the regular acquisition of fresh records was kept in abeyance." In many other respects these reports are similar to their American counterparts. They are arranged by major function, with appended detailed lists of additional holdings (acquisitions) or of users and uses of the holdings.

During 1963 the National Archives of Malaysia nearly doubled its holdings; it conducted, through a detailed questionnaire, a countrywide survey of public records; and it is planning as a consequence a "very modest records service." Basic to this plan is a proposed Federal Archives Act, which "makes a distinction between public documents older than twenty-five years—archives—and those of lesser age—records." The former will be concentrated in the National Archives and the latter will be routed through the proposed Records Management Centre. In the interests of "promoting historical research in the country" the National Archives has also expanded its historical documentation and reference service. The Archives staff of 29, including one position of "Gardener," operated in 1963 with a budget of about \$135,000.

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

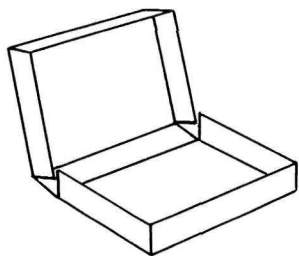
The Punjab State Archives during 1961-62 reorganized all its holdings as the result of a merger with the State of Pepsu, and the agency itself has been reorganized as the State Archives, Archaeology and Museum. Major activities included acquiring microfilm copies of records relating to the Punjab from the National Archives of India, preparing for a "National Register of Records" in both public and private possession, and planning the documentary publication of a series of volumes of "Source Materials" on the History of Freedom Movement in India.

The National Archives of the Federal Republic of Nigeria characterizes the year 1962-63 as one of "a great leap forward" in its brief history. Since the previous year its budget had more than doubled and its staff had been increased from 71 to 139, most of the additions in technical and clerical positions. It published a series of "Provisional" and "Special" lists of some of its holdings and "furnished professional advice to such countries as Egypt, Sudan, Malaya, Tanganyika and Kenya embarking on the task of developing archival services."

These three reports contain much of interest and constitute examples, however modest, of the kind of report that should be published by more American archival establishments.

National Archives

FRANK B. EVANS



CLAMSHELL MANUSCRIPT BOXES

THESE BOXES ARE CLOTH COVERED, CLOTH HINGED AND LINED WITH PERMALIFE, THE 300 YEARS LIFE EXPECTANCY PAPER. UNSURPASSED FOR STORING VALUABLE DOCUMENTS.

SEND FOR PRICE
QUOTATION ON YOUR
SIZE AND QUANTITY
REQUIREMENTS.

POHLIG BROS. INC.

ESTABLISHED 1866
25TH & FRANKLIN STREETS
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23223

"OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY"