

# ABSTRACTS OF ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS

## WESTERN EUROPE

### France

*Archives et Bibliothèques*, 1939, No. 2

RABUT, J., [*Ingenieur consultant*, Paris], La construction des dépôts d'archives et la défense passive (The construction of archives depositories and passive defense). Pp. 89-97.

The problem is part of the modern problem of housing and conservation. Construction of re-enforced concrete buildings with floors of the same materials, interior walls strong and fireproof, few exterior openings, carefully installed electric lighting, and air-conditioning (as in the United States and Czechoslovakia) form not only the best protection against the elements and other destructive agents but also against man-made destruction. It is best to house all possible archives at some distance from large cities, and to have, for those that must be kept in the city for constant use, a subterranean depository similar in principle to the construction indicated above, with special attention to inter-communicating exits. The possible evacuation of archives must be well planned in peace, since war conditions mean reduced or new personnel, shortage of transportation, etc. The adoption of metal boxes, fitting the shelves, not too heavy for handling by one man, capable of being covered and locked, distinguished by label and color, used in regular routine would greatly facilitate quick, fool-proof transfer and reopening of archives.

### *Les archives*

BALENCIE, G., [*Archiviste des Hautes-Pyrénées*], Un déménagement moderne d'archives (A modern transfer of an archives depository). Pp. 98-100.

The author explains how, by months of careful planning, he was able on short notice to move his entire deposit in eighteen days at a daily rate of 250 to 280 m. of shelf space per day. Bundles were made uniform in all dimensions, numbered serially, and transferred in order to shelves already arranged in proper heights and depths.

The remainder of this section is devoted to brief news notes on Babylonian clay tablets, French archives in Indo-China, the *Fourth Annual Report of the Archivist of the United States*.

### *Les bibliothèques*

DU BOIS-VERLIÈRE, MME. LE DR., [*Chef du laboratoire à l'Hôpital Cochin*], La contagion de la tuberculose par les livres (Transmission of tuberculosis by books). Pp. 104-111.

H[enri] L[emaître] briefly introduces this reprint of the essential parts of an article that appeared in the *Bulletin du Comité national de défense contre la tuberculose*, 1938, pp. 3-13. Under the most unfavorable conditions artificial contamination caused a danger period of twelve hours, the most favorable, two or three weeks. Normal exposure of books carried no danger. Sterilization by vapors is effective only if pages are opened and separated. The same results can be obtained by allowing the book to lie unused for three weeks. "Normal contagion is therefore virtually non-existent. . . . There are, therefore, no dangerous books in circulation." A bibliography of ten titles is appended.

The remaining items are brief notices on library statistics in Indo-China, on British, Swiss, and American libraries.

*La Documentation*

Pp. 117-119. The first of two brief notes reports on the Bureau d'information et d'orientation sociales, whose purpose is "(1) the classification, concentration, diffusion of social ideas; (2) welcoming French and foreign visitors and assisting their researches in sociology; (3) giving all information to administrations, industries, collective activities, etc., concerning the assistance which can be given to their personnel by the service; (4) communicating information, texts, studies relative to questions of social importance; (5) directing toward the appropriate works the persons capable of being put in charge." A detailed, analytical card catalogue, under subject headings, has already been set up. The second item notes the session of the Association of Special Libraries held at Oxford, September 24-26, 1939.

*Enseignement*

Pp. 119-122. H[enri] L[emaître] reports on the examination questions of the English Library Association, supplying translations into French of those questions least local in nature. Notes on the University of London Library School, on a brief library course (six months) at Calcutta, and on Columbia University Library School conclude the section.

*Législation*

P. 123. The official calendar.

*Bibliographie*

Pp. 123-132. A list of recent publications and leading articles in foreign journals.

*Comptes rendus*

Pp. 133-152. Many American items are examined, all of which relate to libraries.

LESTER K. BORN

## Italy

*Archivi*, N.S., VI, No. 1 (1939)

Compendia. Pp. 5-6.

CENCETTI, GIORGIO, [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Bologna], Il fondamento teorico della dottrina archivistica (The basic theory of archival science). Pp. 7-13.

The author vigorously disagrees with the theories that aim at conservation and easy finding of materials as ends in themselves. He insists on the organic unity of an archives, "not in the material body of folios and registers, but rather in the documents themselves, [which idea] allows the concept of the fascicle and the series as physical bodies which are something more than and different from the arithmetical sum of the single components." A document is part of a series from the moment of its writing, even if not so entered in a register, or housed in the same place as other items of the series. "The problem of method of arrangement does not exist. There is only one method—that imposed by the original relationship. . . . [The archivist] is no more authorized to break up this bond than, for example, the librarian is to destroy the physical coherence of the pages or of the chapters of a book so as to arrange them to his own taste." Each archives must be studied separately so as to keep it by the "historical," that is, "archival," method. Inventories should not be lists of property or, in their present form, of cross-references, but "should contain a precise, accurate, systematic, particularized study of the contents not of each single box or volume or file . . . but of the functions of the body to which those papers formerly pertained, . . . in other words, a critical treatment of

the specific determining factors of the archival bond which are found in that body and through those papers."

CAPOGRASSI, ANTONIO, [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Napoli], La più antica numerazione dei fuochi ed altre numerazioni della terra di Abruzzo finora sconosciute (The oldest enumeration of the hearths and other enumerations of the land of Abruzzo up to now unknown). Pp. 14-25.

In 1443 Alfonso I of Aragon set up a tax on hearths, an idea not original with him. "In addition to the historical interest [in these documents] many lacunae in the genealogical trees of many families can today be closed." In the twenty-two large volumes containing the enumerations of 2,858 hearths the earliest dates from 1444, but most date from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. A brief chronological list (pp. 21-24) is followed by two pages of notes to the introductory text.

CECCHINI, GIOVANNI, [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Siena], L'archivio del comune di San Gimignano (The archives of the commune of San Gimignano). Pp. 26-32.

The earlier archives have survived almost intact. Some few series were removed to Florence together with an inventory of the complete archives. This latter has just been used as the basis of an elaborate check on the files which recently were poorly kept and carelessly stored. This check revealed the presence (except for legitimate transfers, eliminations, etc.) of nearly everything that appeared in the inventory, and, in addition, some thirteen hundred parchments, without catalogue entry, but once from the chancellery of Francesco Mannini, Minister of the Census. The author, who supervised the check and arrangement, "considered it preferable to maintain the old arrangement of the archives. On the old inventory have been noted the files or series lacking, with indication of the place in which those transferred to other archives may be found." The list is given (in small type) on pp. 30-32.

TRASSELLI, CARMELO, [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Bolzano], Un frammento di calendario e necrologio del secolo XI (A fragment of a calendar and necrology of the eleventh century). Pp. 33-37.

Preceded by an introduction (pp. 33-35) which describes the physical characteristics of the fragment, argues for its use into the fourteenth century, and notes the search of other scholars for it, the author publishes the brief text.

Amministrazione degli Archivi di Stato (Administration of the Archives of the State). Pp. 38-41.

A brief statement of routine business before the Council for the Archives of the Kingdom, and personalia (decorations, promotions, transfers).

*Ricerche archivistiche per la storia dell'arte*

AGNELLO, GIUSEPPE, Pittori sicilliani dei sec. XVI-XVII-XVIII: Mario Minniti, Antonino Maddiona, Giuseppe Piccione, Francesco Callia, Mario Cordua, Antonino Calvo, Antonino Bonincontro, Mauro e Giuseppe Troia (Sicilian painters of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries . . .). Pp. 42-54.

Brief biographical sketches (pp. 42-49), annotated, and supported by documents quoted in full (pp. 50-54), that emphasize the work of these little understood painters.

*Corrispondenze*. Pp. 55-60.

As a final contribution on the National Archives of the United States the editors reprint,

in English, the pamphlet, *How the National Archives Serves the Government and the Public*.

*Archivi*, N.S., VI, No. 2 (1939)

Compendia. Pp. 61-62.

SANDRI, LEOPOLDO, [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Roma], Il Cardinale Camillo Cybo ed il suo archivio, 1681-1743 (Cardinal Camillo Cybo and his archives, 1681-1743). Pp. 63-82.

After giving a brief summary, annotated, of the life of the cardinal (pp. 63-67), the author states that "because the life of Cybo has aspects of general historical interest, the importance of the archives goes beyond the mere figure of its author. . . . [It] has for us the singular importance of giving . . . an almost complete picture of the private and public life of a great nobleman and a great prelate of the . . . eighteenth century." The items in this archives were arranged by subject and time, each grouping put in a box, each box lettered with its subject matter, and marked (in roman capitals and arabic numerals) with its location in bookcases and shelves. The private accounts were kept separately. Three lists were prepared giving (a) the items of the general archives, (b) the papers of Castel Gandolfo, (c) the papers relating solely to the House of Cybo. All of these items are now scattered in the secret archives of the Vatican, the State Archives at Rome, the Victor Emmanuel Library at Rome, and the State Archives at Modena. A list of the items at each site is given (in small type) on pages 73-82.

LIBRINO, E., [*del R. Archivio di Stato*, Palermo], Il carteggio del ministro e patriota siciliano Matteo Raeli conservato presso l'Archivio di Stato di Palermo (The correspondence of the Sicilian minister and patriot, Matteo Raeli, preserved in the Archives of the State at Palermo). Pp. 83-91.

After a summary of the patriotic activities of Raeli (1812-1875), the author describes the nature of the public papers, now state property, concerning him or emanating from his offices. About three thousand in number, collected in 590 fascicles, these papers deal mostly with the Sicilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the years 1848-1849, but also contain much of importance in later years. "The direct consultation of such a collection can, among other things, make a notable contribution to the history of the *Risorgimento*."

FEDERICI, V., Il restauro del libro e l'Istituto di Patologia del Libro (The restoration of the book and the Institute of Book Pathology). Pp. 92-95.

After summarily stating previous scientific efforts, especially those of Alfonso Gallo, as set forth in his book, *Le malattie del libro, le cure, i restauri* (Diseases of books, cures, restorations), the author describes the institute which was established by royal decree on June 23, 1938. It contains biological, chemical, physics laboratories, a museum of book pathology, a library, a film library, and a laboratory for book restoration. It is planned to make three photographic copies of all manuscripts earlier than the eleventh century, one to be deposited with the library of origin, one with the Ministry of Education, and one in the film library of the institute.

Amministrazione degli Archivi di Stato. Pp. 97-103.

The three parts of this section report variously (1) the opening of the remodeled and enlarged Archives of the State of Naples, attended by the Crown Prince and Princess, (2) the appointment of a committee to examine into the archival sources of the history of Malta, and (3) the usual personalia.

*Corrispondenze*

SZABÓ, STEFANO, *La crisi degli archivi* (The crisis of the archives). Pp. 104-112.

In the earlier centuries, archives were simple organizations, usually housed with the administrations that gave them origin. By the nineteenth century there had been established many central, "old" archives. "With the advent of positivist thought among historiographers, the archives became the most important factors in the national organization of historiographical work." When the archivists were the most usual research scholars among their documents, the usual course of study was both suitable and requisite. Now, when, because of the great pressure for space, materials of more and more recent date are transferred to the central archives, it is necessary for archivists (who are compelled to spend more of their time in the care and technical study of their archives) to be well versed in current governmental administration. Valuable old records are buried under masses of "new" archives. The system of provenience resulted from the mass which flooded depositories without allowing opportunity for a breakdown by subject matter, e.g., in the new Hungarian archives building (30,000 m. of shelf space), the medieval (ante 1526) items fill only 400 m., the materials between 1526-1867 fill 20,000 m., and one minister requested for his department alone 1,000 m. for the records between 1896 and 1915. The problem of weeding out nonessential materials is serious. "The conservation of all documents up to the end of the century is required neither by practical interests nor by those scientific ones of historiography." Not only is modern material pre-empting all space in archives but most investigators use it, thereby posing a serious problem in physical service to readers. "The disproportionment of materials, the overflowing of administrative activity, the physical work—that is the shadow which obscures the horizon of archives and which delineates the outline of the actual crisis which started with the flood of recent documents." The final outcome must be two types of archives depositories: (a) old, detached from current administration, scholarly, perhaps in conjunction with an historical institute and school; (b) containing recent items, run in a highly efficient, mechanical way, in close harmony with the present living state.

*Archivi*, N.S., VI, No. 3 (1939)

Compendia. Pp. 113-114.

DREI, GIOVANNI, [*del R. Archivio di Stato, Parma*], *L'Archivio Storico Comunale di Parma* (The historical communal archives at Parma). Pp. 115-123.

The communal archives before 1860 have just been transferred to the Archives of the State, where the seven thousand boxes and volumes have been kept together in their original order. Many items have been lost in the various fires and plunderings to which they have been subjected. In 1520 four persons were first appointed to systematize the collection. "The frequent successive provisions for the conservation of the documents show that these provisions were but little efficacious, and that the order that no document should be extracted from its place by any person was in vain." The principal series are listed in small type (pp. 117-123): ordinances and related papers (pp. 117-118), which begin in 1442; municipal statutes (pp. 118-119), which start in 1216; statutes relating to the arts and crafts (pp. 119-121), which begin in 1418; privileges and other miscellaneous documents, which start in the thirteenth century.

MONTENOVESI, OTTORINO, *L'archivio antico della città di Cortona* (The ancient archives of the city of Cortona). Pp. 124-126.

The author, who brought order out of chaos in the archives during his vacation in 1939, lists the various series according to the inventory previously prepared in 1901, and adds that he has numbered serially, 1-2331, all volumes in the collection.

CECCHINI, GIOVANNI, [*Direttore della Biblioteca Augusta e Conservatore dell'Amico Archivio del Comune*, Perugia], Il fondo Gardone nell' Antico Archivio del Comune di Perugia (The 'Gardone' collection in the ancient archives of the Commune of Perugia). Pp. 127-134.

In 1922 the Italian government took over, as former enemy property, the villa of Alexander Günther at Brescia in which were housed over one thousand volumes, distributed in 212 bundles, of archivalia. Such items as had formerly belonged to Perugia "had been sold in 1853 by the Commune . . . for the price of 243 scudi and 83 baiocchi, a sum which was employed by the administration in the acquisition of some paintings by the Perugine painter, Domenico Alfani." In 1871 a dealer offered the lot to the city for 9,000 lire, i.e., his purchase price plus interest, but the city had no money for the purpose. Since then much has probably been lost, and no list of original holdings is available for check. In 1923 the state turned the pertinent materials over to the Commune of Perugia (which kept the collection intact) and loaned several state archivists as cataloguers. The final catalogue was started in 1931, and four years' work (as of 1938) still remains before the minutiae of cross-references can be completed. Most of the items are private documents of the fourteenth century, so that intimate details of daily town life in that century can now be ascertained fully and with certainty. Amministrazione degli Archivi di Stato (Administration of the Archives of the State). Pp. 135-155.

"The vast and complex work accomplished in the year XVI [i.e., 1938] by the Archivi di Stato can be summarized as follows: numerous valuable publications prepared by the archival administration and, privately, by the archives officials; important systematizations and rearrangements of ancient collections within certain archives; valuable new materials received in the archives through gift or deposit; noteworthy accomplishments in the field of a new systematization of building in the depositories themselves; gradual and continuous transformation of the old and unsuitable wooden shelving into more modern and rational form; and, finally, intensive activity in the field of self-sufficiency of documents, so that through carefully considered sifting nothing out of the multitudinous superfluity which time has piled up in the archives may be withdrawn from maceration, without, on the other hand, allowing documents of historical interest to be lost." Specific examples, under the names of the cities, of this "activity of the Archives of the State in the year XVI" (pp. 135-146) are followed by the second section entitled, "publications of the officials of the Archives of the State during the year 1938 (XVI)," an alphabetical author list (pp. 146-150), and by the third section composed of statistical tables showing the number of readers, items supplied, copies made, number of requests public and private, and the number of students (251) enrolled in the eight schools of paleography.

#### *Ricerche archivistiche per la storia dell'arte*

PIACENTINI, MICHELANGELO, Documenti per l'arte barocca: gli artisti in Roma nel 1634 (Documents for baroque art; artists in Rome in 1634). Pp. 156-183.

The author publishes the first part of a list "of painters, sculptors, architects . . . and other workmen" compiled in 1634 and found in the Archivio dell'Accademia Romana di San Luca. "Very many names . . . and almost all habitations are inedited notices." After the document itself (pp. 159-166), the author supplies an alphabetical author (pp. 166-180) and a topographical index (pp. 180-183). In the former he notes certain corrections he is able to make in previous records.

*Corrispondenze*

VARGA, ANDREA, [Budapest], *Il principio di provenienza* (The principle of provenience). Pp. 184-203.

The end of the seventeenth, the start of the eighteenth century saw the rise of modern archival science. Very old collections frequently had to be rearranged to conform to the new ideas. In certain great new archives items were deposited for the sole end of enlightened absolutism and were therefore grouped, by content, from various sources, a fact which resulted in great confusion. Since statesmen as well as archivists were responsible, "the arrangement of the archival materials went beyond the limits of the registries, ceased to interest only the technical archivist and was subjected to the variations of the predominant ideas of that epoch." In the last decade of the eighteenth century there was a new impetus among archivists to find a more rational arrangement.

Le Moine, in 1765, led the list of others who more or less followed him. "Their books, with little regard for the particular exigencies of the separate archives, wished to fix the general and rational scheme of all archivalization. They advised regrouping the documents, without regard to their organic character and their natural order, in series constituted according to content, and they designed these series, respectively, on the basis of a logical arrangement of the presumptual archival materials, or on that of an order useful to the specific ends of the archive in question." These views reflected the ideas of the time: systematization, encyclopedic interest, and rationalization, which "caused irreparable damage in European archival materials." This system, best seen in the Archives Nationales in France (from whence it was imitated by all French archives), is known as the *méthode par matières*, *Betreffsprinzip*, *ordinamento per materie*, and was the last word in eighteenth century archival practice.

Subsequently a new idea developed simultaneously in several countries because of the need, but it was Duchâtel, French minister of the interior, who first (April 24, 1841) committed the idea to writing in an order affecting the archives of his department. This was called *respect des fonds* or *respect pour les fonds*, and safeguarded only the various main parts of the archives, stopped only the mixing of items of diverse provenience, while it still allowed changes within subdivisions. This idea spread so rapidly without notice in books or periodicals that its development is difficult to follow. It appeared in Belgium in 1851, in Italy in 1875, and was independently arrived at in Denmark in 1870. The bad results from this arrangement by subjects—the great labor involved in rearrangement, the impossibility of handling the rapidly increasing influx, the problems of arrangement in artificial categories, the difficulty of orientation in rearranged archives, and dissatisfaction among historians whose interests had changed—led to the discovery that archives are an organic whole.

The first complete execution of that discovery was in the Geheimes Staatsarchiv at Berlin, where a decree of July 1, 1881, required "Achtung vor jeder ursprünglichen Ordnung, vor jeder ursprünglichen Signatur" (Respect for every original order, for every original indication). The word *Provenienzprinzip* first appeared in that decree.<sup>1</sup> The next great use of this principle was in Holland. Since the Berlin decree of Sybel did not appear in archival literature, "it is therefore probable that its reforming concept,

<sup>1</sup> In his note seven the author gives a useful polyglot list: *Provenienzprinzip* or *Provenienzgrundsatz* and *Herkunftsgrundsatz* (German), *herkomstbeginsel* (Dutch), *principle of origin* (English), *proveniensprincip* (Swedish) *principio dell'origine* or *principio di provenienza* (Italian), *principe de provenance* (Belgian), *procedencia* (Spanish), *Zasada proveniencji* (Polish), *princip provenienci or zásada puvodu* (Czech), and concludes by suggesting, since this term does not signify exactly the same thing in the practice of the various countries, an international phrase such as *principio di registratura* (registry principle).



without the intervention of the Dutch archivists, would not have exercised a lasting influence on European archival questions . . . and there would not have been the rapid diffusion of the principle of provenience, or, at any rate, not in so speedy a manner." The *Handleiding*, the result of the extensive study by the Association of Dutch Archivists, "in addition to being a scientific treatment of the norms deriving from the application of the principle of provenience, was the first general work on archival science."

The principle of provenience saves the labor of rearrangement, and constitutes a sound reference point for the reassembling of scattered items. "The respect for the genuine order is, therefore, the only principle of arrangement which can be applied in the larger archives, it is the only one which excludes the problems connected with the other criteria of arrangement, or which permits of resolving them organically, and, finally, leaving for the last one of the most important advantages, it is the only one which allows the use of the old registers, indices, etc., a point which is a great advantage if the personnel of the archives in question is in a position to prepare, in addition to the original registers, only loose-leaf entries, etc." The discussions at the International Congress of Archivists and Librarians held at Brussels in 1910 revealed universal acceptance of the principle, considerable diversity in detail.

Of the various reactions to the strict rule (restoration of dossiers, Dewey decimal system, etc.) the most recent is that of Weibull, archivist at Lund, who expressed the view that "the Prussian-Dutch school, in combating the arrangement by subject, has fallen into the opposite excess: exaggerating the respect for the organic unity of the material has rendered it an end in itself, forgetful of the true purpose of the archives which is of a practical character, [namely,] to satisfy with the greatest possible facility all the involved requests from the authorities and from private individuals. . . . For the service of such practical exigencies . . . it is much better for the materials that have a primitive and illogical registry order . . . to be rearranged in a system constructed by a competent archivist after an accurate examination of the administrative processes of the authority whence the collection in question originated."

This idea has been vigorously attacked by the Dutch, and somewhat less violently opposed by the Germans, who are willing to yield in some part. "It is impossible, at this time, to measure the true significance and the future of the tendencies expressed above. It will be known only by the succeeding events whether in these we have the last and definitive phases of the development of the principle of provenience, or whether there are, rather, concealed therein the germs of a new change in direction. . . . Orientation in the material of the large collections of archives is undeniably hindered, and in a large measure, by the diverse systems of registry. . . . To our notion, however, the remedy is [to be] found not in the rearrangement proposed . . . but in the perfection of the registry methods of the authorities." Notes (pp. 200-201), and an extensive bibliography (pp. 201-203) conclude the article which "was submitted by the administration of the National Archives of Hungary."

LESTER K. BORN



## Spain

The nature and purpose of the periodical, *Revista de la biblioteca, archivo y museo*, published by the city of Madrid, is best understood through the introductory statement of the editors which appears in the first number (January, 1924). "The rapidly increasing importance of the municipal centers of culture referred to in the title . . . demands the existence of a medium of communication between these institutions and the general public. . . . To facilitate the labor of . . . students, and to increase their number through the attraction of frequent public notices of the bibliographic, archaeological, or artistic collections which are at their disposition . . . is a prime function of this review. . . . As a consequence of what has just been set forth, and of its great desire to further the general work of Spanish culture, and, in particular, that of Madrid, the City of Madrid ordered . . . the publication of a review intended to assemble monographic works related, directly or indirectly, to the history of the city. Articles of historical and literary investigations, interesting documents from the archives and the library, archaeological studies based on the collections of the Municipal Museum, various catalogues . . . will constitute the principal content of the review." In effect, each quarterly number contains major articles, short contributions, book reviews, a bibliography on Madrid, and may also contain necrologies and lists of books received. Each number has a classified table of contents. Each volume, containing something over four hundred pages, has a reprint of these, and an alphabetical author index.<sup>1</sup>

*Revista de la biblioteca, archivo y museo*, XII No. 45 (January, 1935)

DE BALLESTEROS, MERCEDES GAIBROIS, Un recuerdo de los Infantes de la Cerda (A note on the Infantes de la Cerda). Pp. 1-10.

A biographical statement on the two grandsons of Alfonso el Sabio, with special emphasis on their unsuccessful struggle for the throne. Four documents (pp. 8-10) illustrate the character of the young princes.

GÓMEZ MORENO, MANUEL, Las crisis de Goya (The crises of Goya). Pp. 11-13.

"I bring nothing new; at the most, comments on what is already known, arguments on the data which others have published, some artistic experience, perhaps greater than usual among literary critics."

MARTÍNEZ, EDUARDO JULIA, Del epistolario de Don Nicolás Antonio (The collection of letters of Don Nicolas Antonio). Pp. 25-32 + 33-38.

A brief introduction precedes the complete text of the letters of the seventeenth century literary figure. The whole is copiously annotated.

HERVIÁS, E[LOGIO] VARELA, Indice general del Archivo de la Secretaría (General list of the Archivo de la Secretaría). Pp. 89-102.

In the two introductory pages of this first installment the author says: "We now publish the general guides of the Archives so as to reveal its wealth of documents, and to facilitate the consultation thereof by investigators." The archives is one of three sections which together constitute the Archivo de Villa, established in 1840 according to the system of provenience. To the lists, published in two columns to the page, the author has added terminal dates.

<sup>1</sup> I have been able to examine only volume one, and the two numbers (the latest I could obtain) analyzed below.

*Misceláneas* (Miscellany)

VERHESEN, FERNAND, Nuevos autógrafos de Calderón (New autograph manuscripts of Calderon). Pp. 103-105.

The author, who discovered in the Biblioteca Municipal at Madrid a volume containing ten autographed plays of Calderon announces his discovery and adds that he is at work on an edition.

CARLO, AUGUSTÍN MILLARES, Otros documentos acerca de León V de Armenia, señor de Madrid (Further documents about Leon V of Armenia, Lord of Madrid). Pp. 106-110.

Three documents, newly discovered by the author since he published six in the *Revista* (9:5-7), are given in full.

DE MENESES, AMADA LÓPEZ, Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo, traductor del "Corbaccio" (Gonzalo Fernandez de Oviedo, translator of "Corbaccio"). Pp. 111-112.

The author contributes an opening and closing paragraph around the letter, written to Oviedo by the king, January 19, 1526, which he discovered in the Archivo general de Indias at Simancas.

*Reseñas* (Reviews)

Pp. 113-121. Few of the titles relate to archives; none to theory.

*Revista*, XII, No. 46 (April, 1935)

CASTRO, AMÉRICO, Perspectiva de la novela picaresca (Brief survey of the picaresque novel). Pp. 123-143.

A prospectus of a much longer study.

FINKE, ENRIQUE, Las cartas reales diplomaticas del Archivo de la Corona de Aragón en Barcelona (The royal diplomatic papers of the Archives of the Crown of Aragon, in Barcelona). Pp. 145-156.

The papers, which begin in the twelfth century, are stored in 261 boxes or book cases. The author describes the papers, their condition, and expresses his disappointment over missing items.

CARLO, AUGUSTÍN MILLARES, Notas sobre la cursiva visigótica (Notes on the Visigothic cursive script). Pp. 157-161.

"We plan to form a list of those codices . . . of varied periods which present, both in their text and in marginal notes and explanations, a peculiar cursive script." One photograph of the script is given.

CASTAÑEDA, VICENTE, Etiquetas de encuadernadores (Bookbinders' labels). Pp. 163-177.

The author, who has furnished two photographic plates of various labels, states that, except for one individual in the seventeenth century, the custom of bookbinders' labels dates from the early nineteenth century. He describes various bindings, remarks on the places where they were made, and, in passing, outlines the history of the towns.

SUBIRÁ, JOSÉ, El operetista Manuel García en la Biblioteca Municipal de Madrid (The player of light operas, Manuel Garcia [from materials] in the municipal library at Madrid). Pp. 179-196.

The author deals with the life and works, quoting many songs, of this eighteenth century composer and singer.

HERVIÁS, E[LOGIO] VARELA, Índice general del Archivo de la Secretaría. Pp. 197-206.

The second installment of the material begun in the last number and to be concluded later.

*Misceláneas*

GREEN, OTIS H., Documentos para la biografía de Don Francisco de Moncada (Documents for the biography of Don Francisco de Moncada). Pp. 207-209.

Four documents, found in the Archivio di Stato, Naples, dating from the seventeenth century, to which are added the author's introductory statements.

ARRIBAS, F., Algunos sellos de la Villa de Madrid (Some seals of the city of Madrid). Pp. 210-212.

A detailed description, accompanied by one plate, of the various seals, starting with that of 1498.

ARTILES, JENARO, Dos nuevos documentos en el Archivo de Villa (Two new documents in the Archivo de Villa). Pp. 212-213.

The full text of two items relating to Isabella, 1499.

H., E. V., Algunas estrofas de Jorge Manrique en un memorial del siglo XVI (Some stanzas of Jorge Manrique in a memorial of the sixteenth century). Pp. 214-217.

The text of one letter and seven poems.

*Reseñas*

Pp. 219-232. Reviews.

LESTER K. BORN