

## SHORTER NOTICES

*Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States: Inter-American Affairs, 1831-1860*, selected and arranged by William R. Manning, Ph.D., Treaty Division, Department of State. Volume XI, *Spain*. Volume XII, *Texas and Venezuela*. (Washington: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1939. Pp. xlii, 1017; xxxiv, 858. \$5.00 each.) Archivists are interested in documentary publications both for their intrinsic value and as examples of technique in a phase of archival economy. The currently published volumes of Dr. Manning's painstaking editions continue to fulfill the purpose of the Carnegie Endowment to further international understanding by increasing the availability of historical research materials. The Spanish correspondence is largely concerned with Cuban affairs; the Texan provides an important body of documents dealing with independence and annexation; the Venezuelan letters relate primarily to the Aves Island controversy.

Technically this publication is notable for accuracy and for the value of its bibliographical and explanatory data. The sources of the correspondence and the bases of its selection were explained at length in the first volume, published in 1932. The only contention one might raise with the editor and publisher is in the policy of selection, and that involves a problem which must plague the publishers of documents as long as men continue to create ever more and more written records. Ideally publication should include all the documents in a given series, without selection, and be edited so that no subjective element is added by the editor. A concise statement of this principle and the difficulties of its application is given in the "Report on Editing Modern Historical Documents," of a subcommittee of the Anglo-American Historical Committee (*Bulletin* of the Institute of Historical Research, III (1925-1926), 13-26 (London, 1926)). That ideal is so difficult and expensive to achieve that condensation must frequently be sought. Dr. Manning's solution is the selection of letters on a strict subject-matter basis, usually with summaries of omitted portions of partially printed documents. The scholar must go to the originals to be certain that he has exhausted the potential materials on any given topic. The choice between this method, full publication of smaller series, the preparation of calendars, or other devices will probably never satisfy all users. The distribution of microfilm copies of whole documentary series with explanatory additions is the most promising solution now in prospect.

PHILIP C. BROOKS

The National Archives

*Jaarsverslag van 's Lands Archief te Batavia over 1937* (Batavia, 1938. Pp. 13.) From this annual report it is apparent that the work of the state archives in the Netherlands East Indies is dominated by two main objectives,

namely, the development of its central depository at Batavia and the general regulation of archival economy for the whole Netherlands East Indies. The most important step forward in this latter field was the official published statement confirming the state's title to all government archives. A regulation also appeared for the destruction of useless or superfluous records; it fails, however, to provide for a systematic method of sorting and does not guarantee systematic or effective destruction.

Various improvements were made in the buildings of the central depository at Batavia and the government budget estimates for 1938 included an item for further improvements to extend over two years, with a view to postponing for a few years the necessity of building a new depository. Archives since 1815 are in general scattered over the Netherlands East Indies, sometimes well preserved but in too many cases in a sad state owing to the lack of capable personnel to care for them. Room should be provided in the central depository for records no longer needed for current use.

Work done during the year included the separation of unused forms from archival collections, the binding of books and the repair of old bindings, the arrangement and cataloguing of maps and drawings, and the arrangement, pagination, and inventorying of various archival collections; under this last category mention is made of an inventory of church archives of 1738. An official was placed at the disposal of the governor of West Java for six months for the sorting and arrangement of old provincial archives of Batavia stored in the attics of the governor's office. A list of useless papers of 1906 and previous years was submitted by the Resident of the west coast of Sumatra, but owing to insufficient information concerning the various categories of records in the list, the state archivist postponed action until after further study.

Accessions during the year included "old archives" of Tangerang and documents from Menado. The return of East Indian archives sent to the Netherlands in 1862 and succeeding years is still postponed.

Research activities covered such matters as a search for statistical data in church archives since 1825, the compilation of a list of ship owners in the Netherlands East Indies in the first quarter of 1808, and answers to genealogical requests. Mention is made of the number of visitors and of the types of documents consulted. Research inquiries were received from as far afield as Singapore and Australia. Courtesies were also exchanged with British India, Ceylon, and Japan.

ARTHUR H. LEAVITT

The National Archives

*VIII<sup>e</sup> congrès international des sciences historiques, Zurich, 1938. Communications présentées.* [Comité international des sciences historiques.] Tome 1. (Paris, Presses universitaires de France. Pp. 285.) The third section (pp. 50-72) deals with the auxiliary sciences, archival economy, and the organization of historical sciences; it is there that archivists will find material of interest.

The abstracts have been marked \*, \*\*, and \*\*\* to show which are in German, French, and English, respectively.

Certain abstracts dealing with general or theoretical problems will be of greater interest to American archivists and historians than others of a more restricted subject-matter. In this class fall the following: an \*abstract dealing with the general inventory of the Vienna Haus-, Hof-, and Staatsarchiv, pointing out the difficulties created by the organization of collections on the basis of attempted universal schemes, artificially designed; \*discussion of the problems of publishing historical source materials, emphasizing the need for objectivity, selection, international co-operation, and the provision of translations; \*description of the very far-reaching Czechoslovakian law for the protection of archives and manuscripts, including regulations applying to private collections; \*\*discussions of archival problems in cases where territorial changes have necessitated the handing over of archives to new sovereigns; \*abstract dealing with methods and problems in diplomacy, which points out that the earlier problems, centering upon authenticity, having been solved, should give way to a new approach in which diplomacy is no longer a special discipline but a tool of medieval historians as such. There is also included a very neat and precise \*\*\*summary of the activities of the National Archives by Dr. Solon J. Buck, its director of publications.

Other more specialized contributions deal with \*modern forgeries (of older records); with \*\*\*diplomacy in Hungary and in Byzantine history; with \*the *Liber Diurnus*; with \*western influences upon Polish archival material; with \*\*the difficulties of archival research into Rumanian history; and \*\*\*with the value of family archives, especially for social and economic history.

PAUL LEWINSON

### The National Archives

*A Primer to Bookbinding*, by Francis W. Grimm. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1939. Pp. xiv, 66. \$1.75.) One of the foremost of living binders of books has written, "There is no such thing as the absolute ownership of a work of art or of a document of historical value. . . . The owner is at the most in the position of a life-tenant, with the implied duty of handing on the property to the next tenant in as good or in better condition than it was when it came into his possession." The hand repair and preservation of historical documents has reached a remarkably high standard not yet approached by machine processes. Now, the problem of hand binding is occupying our most progressive archival institutions as it has always occupied the principal private collectors and the specialized libraries. The latter have ordained that rare papers and books be repaired and bound by hand on the premises be the equipment on ever so modest a scale. Therefore, any new book relating to hand binding becomes of increasing interest to those who are fully aware of their responsibilities as "tenant-owners" of historical documents.

In the present unassuming little volume, well illustrated with photographs

and drawings, Mr. Grimm seeks to interest hobbyists, scout leaders, and librarians in the handicraft of lacing together pamphlets, loose sheets, and the like into elementary, though very presentable, bindings. His purpose is to provide "an introductory text for the use of young people who are interested in bookcraft." Eleven simple projects are clearly described, culminating in a scrapbook or album binding, with commendable stress on the grain of papers and binders' boards. The present Boy Scout pamphlet on this subject, difficult and generally ignored, might well give way to a manual such as this, with happy results for those indefatigable seekers after merit badges. But, due to the irreparable damage to the material for binding caused by holes punched for the lacing—which Mr. Grimm unfortunately terms sewing—or actual *nailing* of the pages, the methods of the *Primer* are obviously not intended for direct application to valuable archival material. The *Primer* has virtue in its development of precision, neatness, and a skillful dexterity. Should it inspire the budding archivist to pursue the hand binding processes described so well by Cockerell, Matthews, and others, the "tenant-owners" of rare books and historical documents may well offer congratulations to Mr. Grimm.

G. ALBERT SCHEIRER

One of the recent publications of the Pennsylvania Historical Records Survey is an *Inventory* of the archives of Fayette County which is Number 26 in the state series. The volume has been vari-typed and bound in book form. Pennsylvania's Fayette County is significant for its role in the history of the trans-Allegheny frontier, and records preserved date from 1761 to the present. It is reported that the greater part of the documents are in excellent condition. Most of the unbound records have been arranged and stored in steel closets, and bound volumes are laid flat on steel roller shelves. However, prior to the completion of the new building which now houses the records, some of the county's earliest ones were damaged by water. The number destroyed before removal to the new quarters is unknown.

## NEWS NOTES

### THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN ARCHIVISTS

Dedication of the archival work of the Alabama Department of Archives and History in the new Alabama Memorial Building, two panel discussion sessions, and an exhibit of publications related to archives and historical manuscripts are among the unusual features scheduled for the fourth annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists, which will be held at Montgomery, Alabama, November 11-12. Plans have been completed by Mrs. Marie B. Owen, chairman of the local arrangements committee, and Lester J. Cappon, chairman of the program committee, who are ready to receive the members of the Society and guests at the Jefferson Davis Hotel, meeting headquarters. The dedication is to be held on the afternoon of Armistice Day, November 11, and will include a paper on the development of archival institutions in Alabama and the South. Subjects of papers at other sessions are announced in the program which has been mailed to all members of the Society.

### THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The archivist of the United States announces the appointment of Fred W. Shipman, formerly chief of the Division of State Department Archives, as director of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library at Hyde Park, New York. Coburn B. Kidd of the Division of Commerce Department Archives has resigned to practice law, and Robert A. East of the Division of Classification has resigned to accept a teaching position in Brooklyn College. Wayne C. Grover of the Division of War Department Archives has been transferred temporarily to the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense, and George F. Ashworth of the Division of Justice Department Archives has been given leave of absence for military service.

National defense and wartime problems are reflected in various groups of records that have recently been received by the National Archives. Included are the records of the Adjutant and Inspector's Department and the Quartermaster's Department of the Marine Corps, 1798-1930; photographic negatives of naval vessels in process of construction, testing, and repair, 1860-1917; accounting records concerning the Civil War loans of 1861; the Justice Department's files pertaining to the World War, 1914-1939; the records of the Alien Property Custodian's office, 1917-1934, and of its successor, the Alien Property Bureau of the Justice Department, 1934-1938; the Signal Corps' collection of motion pictures portraying activities of the American Expeditionary Forces and other events at home and abroad during the World War; and material relating to a grain-trade investigation by the former Bureau of Markets and the Federal Trade Commission, 1918.

Important groups of records pertaining to the public lands have recently been transferred to the National Archives. These include correspondence of surveyors general in the Old Northwest, 1797-1856; the "miscellaneous" letters received by the General Land Office, 1805-1909; and the records of the Division of Lands and Railroads of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, 1849-1907.

Research materials relating to problems of public administration are to be found in other recent accessions of the National Archives. Among these are the records of the former Federal Co-ordinating Service, 1921-1933, including records of its ten co-ordinating boards and seven field districts; inspectors' reports relating to the administration of United States diplomatic and consular posts, 1906-1939; and records pertaining to the purchase of sites, and the construction, repair, alteration, equipment, and maintenance of federal buildings, 1850-1934.

Among other records recently received by the National Archives are the accounting records concerning the bond issues for the construction of the Pacific railroads, 1862-1878; maps of railroads, oil pipelines, and telegraph lines, 1878-1913, used by the Justice Department in connection with investigations and litigation; the general files of the former Bureau of Soils, 1918-1927; and the records of the special committee of the Senate to investigate campaign expenditures, 1938-1939.

#### THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Among recent accessions to the Division of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress the following may be noted: six portfolios of papers of the Read family, 1568 to 1906, chiefly correspondence of George Read (signer of the Declaration of Independence), John Meredith Read (jurist), and John Meredith Read, Jr. (diplomat); additional copies of letters of George Washington, including five written to Gouverneur Morris, 1778 to 1792 (photostats); a typewritten copy of a letter from William H. Crawford to Captain James Hamilton, commenting on President Madison's message to Congress, January, 1810; a photostat of a page from *Livre d'Or* of the Bibliothèque de la Ville at Ghent, containing entries for July and August, 1814, with signature of John Quincy Adams; twelve portfolios of additional papers of the Breckinridge family, 1750 to 1925, chiefly of William Campbell Preston Breckinridge, Desha Breckinridge and Mary Curry Desha Breckinridge; microfilm copy about 165 letters of Samuel F. B. Morse and other members of the Morse family, 1816 to 1869; photostats of two additional papers of Samuel F. B. Morse, 1844, relating to the opening of telegraphic service from Washington to Baltimore; two papers of the Marquis de Lafayette, dealing with the sale of his Florida lands, 1825 and undated; two boxes of papers of George Washington Ewing, I, and George Washington Ewing, II (business men), 1829-1910; photostats of two additional Benjamin Harrison

letters, 1854 and 1855; one box of letters and diaries of Bela Taylor St. John (soldier, 46th Illinois Volunteer Infantry), 1861 to 1866; letter from Wade Hampton to E. Ham, 1877, refuting charges made in an article in *The New York Times*; three additional portfolios of papers, two volumes of scrapbooks, and other material of Richmond Pearson Hobson, 1894 to 1901; two volumes of newspaper clippings relating to Robert G. Ingersoll, 1895; additions to the Woodrow Wilson Collection (available to those whose applications are approved by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson), including microfilm copies of Wilson's letters to Edwin Anderson Alderman and Richard Heath Dabney, 1897 to 1922 (92); to Cyrus Hall McCormick and others, 1891 to 1924 (64); to Edward W. Bok, 1900 to 1929 (37).

To meet the rapidly growing need, a program for the training of archivists in Washington, D.C., has been offered by the American University School of Public Affairs and Graduate School in co-operation with the National Archives. Courses have been prepared in the problems of archival administration, in administrative history, and in historical methods appropriate to modern history with particular reference to the United States. Offering these courses are Drs. Ernst Posner and Louis C. Hunter of the American University; Miss Helen Chatfield, archivist, United States Department of Treasury; and Dr. Solon J. Buck, director of publications, the National Archives.

The preparation of a manual for American archivists has been undertaken by Dr. Ernst Posner of the American University and Dr. Solon J. Buck of the National Archives. They expect that it may require several years to complete this manual.

Dr. Lewis Hanke, director of the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress and editor of the *Handbook of Latin American Studies* has recently returned from a three months' visit to archives, libraries, and other centers of research in South America.

Death came suddenly to Mrs. Flora Lima, widow of Dr. Manoel de Oliveira Lima, on August 10, 1940, after twelve years devoted to her husband's dying wish that she manage the famous library he donated to Catholic University. Her husband, who was first secretary to the Brazilian legation in Washington from 1896 to 1900, died here in 1928. In 1924 he gave to Catholic University his library of over 40,000 volumes, together with many paintings, engravings, prints, photographs, manuscripts, and other rare items relating to Portugal and Portuguese America. The manuscript holdings are divided into four groups: "Portuguese diplomatic papers, official and private, of the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries"; "Portuguese genealogy"; "Indian and Brazil"; "Miscellaneous papers." The Lima library is housed in the Mullen Library Building on the Catholic University campus.



The following appointments are noted: *Hayes Memorial Library*, Dr. James H. Rodabaugh, formerly an instructor at Ohio State University, and more recently an assistant director of the Historical Records Survey of Ohio; *Brown University Library*, Miss Edna Worthington, in charge of special collections, and Mr. Carl L. Cannon, visiting associate in bibliography; *University of Texas Library*, Miss Eugenia Hash, as assistant in the archives collection; *The Library of Congress*, Mr. Thomas J. Cave, assistant to Miss Grace G. Griffin, in charge of reproductions, Project "A"; *University of California*, Dr. Herbert E. Bolton retired as director of the Bancroft Library on June 30, 1940, and was succeeded by Dr. H. I. Priestley. Mrs. Eleanor Ashby Bancroft became assistant to Dr. Priestley.

The Peabody Museum Marine Associates announce the proposed publication of *The American Neptune*, a quarterly journal devoted to the many aspects of marine research. The field of action is to include the Americas, North and South, and the journal, although to be published in the United States, will include studies of the maritime history of Canada and Hispanic America. Significant unpublished manuscripts, and reprints of very rare tracts and photographs are also to be included. It is proposed that *The American Neptune* be published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. If sufficient response is received, the first number will be issued in January, 1941. Further information may be had upon application to the editors of *The American Neptune*, in care of the Peabody Museum, East India Marine Hall, Salem, Massachusetts.

#### HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

At one of the sessions of the Committee on Archives and Libraries at the American Library Association meeting in Cincinnati, May 26 to June 1, 1940, the national director of the Historical Records Survey, Mr. Sargent B. Child, was present in person to report on the present status and plans for the completion of the inventories of local archives. He outlined the transition that had been made during the past year when the Survey ceased to be a federal project and passed to local support as a unit within the Research and Records Section of the Work Projects Administration. Progress in the work is indicated by virtue of the fact that inventories of over 350 counties have now been issued and another seventy-five have been approved for publication. Inventories of fifty towns and cities in New England have appeared and another twenty-five have been approved for publication. Greater progress has been made during the past year with the preparation of the inventories of church archives due to the availability of local assistance in the work.

Miss Margaret Sherburne Eliot, the Survey's editor of manuscripts, reported on the inventories and guides that are being prepared to historical manuscript collections in the United States. Miss Eliot stated that the Survey has deter-



mined upon three series of publications as the best means of making available information concerning manuscript materials: a guide to depositories; a guide to collections; and calendars or inventories of single collections of sufficient importance to justify such treatment. Depository guides have already been prepared for publication for Florida, Nebraska, and Tennessee; and guides for California, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York City, New York, North Carolina, and Vermont have been drafted. The guides to collections will contain detailed descriptions of certain outstanding research libraries and depositories, such as the one at Duke University and at Louisiana State University. Individual blocks of material in specially significant manuscript collections are also being described by means of calendars and for inventory.

The national director of the American Imprints Inventory, Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie, in a report on progress made in his division of the Survey, indicated that an extraordinary amount of new material is being discovered even in states in which it was formerly thought that complete information was available concerning early imprints. Editorial offices for the work are centered in Chicago, and copies of all of the new titles that are reported are made up for the union catalogue at the Library of Congress.

In addition to the numerous inventories of archives in the various states which are being compiled by the Historical Records Survey projects, the following publications of the past quarter will be of particular interest to archivists:

*Town Government in Maine*, which is designed to be both a comprehensive handbook on the local government of that state and a compendium of the background material necessary for the comprehension of the record keeping systems of the towns.

*Calendar of the Ryder Collection of Confederate Archives at Tufts College*, describing a few documents from the office of the president, the secretaries of state, war, navy, treasury, and the congress of the Confederate government, which were recently discovered under a pile of sand and gravel in the basement of Miner Hall at Tufts College. The field reports of military engagements by commanding officers constitute the bulk of the collection. Not the least interesting part of the calendar are the quoted comments written on documents by contemporary custodians.

*Municipal Archives of Ohio, City of Cleveland*, Volume v, which is the first inventory of the archives of a large municipality. This volume on the city of Cleveland is being dedicated to the memory of the late Professor Robert C. Binkley.

The first meeting of the National Advisory Committee of the Historical Records Survey was held in Washington on June 4-5, 1940. Dr. Herbert A. Kellar was elected chairman. Others in attendance at this conference, which was for the purpose of planning the future program of the Survey, were Dr. Julian P. Boyd, Dr. Waldo G. Leland, Dr. Luther Evans, Dr. C. C. Critten-

den, Miss Margaret C. Norton, Mr. John Clement, Dr. Philip M. Hamer, and Mr. Douglas C. McMurtrie.

A complete list of 942 publications of the Historical Records Survey, the Survey of Federal Archives, and the American Imprints Inventory, as of August 1, 1940, is in the process of publication and will soon be sent to libraries which are national depositories for the Survey publications.

A number of changes in personnel within the Historical Records Survey have recently occurred. Mr. George M. McFarland and Mr. Dan Lacy have been appointed assistants to the director of the Survey. On March 25, 1940, Mr. Richard G. Wood ceased to be state director of the New Hampshire Historical Records Survey project and became state supervisor of the new research and records project for that state. Dr. Kathleen Bruce, who had been regional director of the Survey of Federal Archives in Virginia since September, 1936, became state supervisor of the new Historical Records Survey project when it was formed on January 1, 1940. Mrs. Helen D. Bullock has recently been appointed assistant state supervisor of the Historical Records Survey of Virginia. Mrs. Bullock was archivist of the Williamsburg restoration until 1939, when she left to enter the graduate school of the University of Virginia. There she prepared a catalogue and calendar of the Jefferson papers in the Alderman Library collection.

"Accomplishments and Future Program of the Historical Records Survey," was the title of an address delivered by Karl Goedecke, state supervisor of the Pennsylvania project, before a meeting of the state Federation of Historical Societies on April 11, 1940, in Harrisburg.

#### FLORIDA

The executive council of the Florida Bar Association recently authorized the appointment of a Committee on the Preservation of Public Records and Documents. In compliance with this authorization, J. Velma Keen, president of the association, has appointed a committee to make a survey of present archival conditions in Florida and to recommend to the association what action, if any, should be taken to insure the proper care and preservation of archives on a state-wide basis. Milton D. Wilson is chairman of the committee. Copies of the proposed uniform state public records act, which appeared and was discussed in *THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST* (April, 1940), were sent to this association.

#### GEORGIA

The state historian and director of the Georgia Department of Archives and History, Mrs. J. E. Hays, announces that many of the manuscript books and documents in the department's state, county, Confederate, and Indian collections have recently been typed, indexed, and bound and are now available to researchers. The originals of these records had been withdrawn from use

previously because of disintegration. *Georgia's Official & Statistical Register* for the year 1939, compiled by the department, is ready for publication. Mrs. Hays also stated that the entire second floor of the department's building and one of the stack areas on the first floor have been greatly improved by painting, plastering, and papering of the walls and ceilings.

#### INDIANA

Mr. Reid Nation, acting chief of the Archives Division of the Indiana State Library, reports that a large deposit of records from the office of the secretary of state will be available for public use about November 1, 1940. This collection includes election returns, military appointments, pardons, paroles, appointments of notaries and justices of the peace. Work on a catalogue is nearly complete for three divisions of the nine state governmental departments, and an index to World War draft records is being produced on micro-film.

#### LOUISIANA

Dr. E. A. Davis, archivist and head of the Department of Archives of Louisiana State University, and Dr. William R. Hogan, assistant archivist, are the recipients of a Rosenwald Foundation grant for the study of the free Negro in Mississippi. The department has published within the year a *Guide* to its manuscript collection, and announces that a name and place index to its holdings is in progress. More than forty important accessions have been added to the department since February of this year.

#### MARYLAND

The Maryland Hall of Records has recently received the papers from the office of the adjutant general, 1785-1865; the Gist family papers, 1775-1895; and the Bowie family records, 1750-1890. Dr. Morris L. Radoff, the director, reports that the sixth deck of the stacks is expected to be completed by November 1, 1940.

These articles in recent issues of the *Maryland Historical Magazine* may be noted: "Notes on Baltimore County Land Records," Vol. XXXIII (June, 1938) 183-186, and "Early Annapolis Records," Vol. XXXV (March, 1940) 74-78, by Morris L. Radoff; and "A Note on the Minutes of the House of Delegates, February 10—March 13, 1777," by Elizabeth W. Meade.

#### MICHIGAN

Dr. Lewis G. VanderVelde, director of the Michigan Historical Collections of the University of Michigan, reports that the executive board of the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies of the University of Michigan recently appropriated a faculty research fund for the study of the Dutch settlements in western Michigan. Dr. Harry DeVries spent the summer months

supervising the microfilming and cataloguing of significant material already collected in local depositories.

Recent accessions to the Michigan Historical Collections include the following: the papers of William A. Comstock, governor of Michigan, 1933-1935; a substantial addition to the papers of Henry Howland Crapo, banker, lumberman, railroad man, and governor of Michigan, 1865-1869; the complete file of the Civil Service Study Commission for the state of Michigan, received through the courtesy of Professor James Pollock of the University of Michigan; a collection of letters of Warner Wing, onetime member of the Michigan supreme court and chief justice of that court, 1851-1856; a small collection of papers of Colonel John Anderson, who was in charge of certain frontier forces in Michigan at the time of the War of 1812; and some papers of John Monteith, the first president of the University of Michigan, 1817-1821, and the organizer of the first Protestant Society in Michigan.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Dartmouth College Library has recently acquired by purchase and by loan the letters and unpublished literary manuscripts of Richard Hovey (1864-1900), an American poet.

#### TEXAS

Miss Winnie Allen, the archivist of the University of Texas library, announces the publication of a *Guide to the Archives Collection of the Texas University Library*.

#### VIRGINIA

A number of county records, Confederate items, and several eighteenth century account books have recently been accessioned by the Virginia State Library. Dr. William J. Van Schreeven, principal archivist, reports that changes in the existing state archives law providing a more uniform system of record transfers and destruction, and a law pertaining to the use of microphotography by the state agencies have recently been enacted. The Archives Division plans to move and occupy quarters in the new Virginia State Library building early this fall.

#### WASHINGTON

The University of Washington Library recently received from Miss Bernice Redington a large collection of letters of her father, Colonel J. W. Redington, who was active in the Nez Percé and Bannock Indian wars of 1877 and 1878 and in the Sheepeater Campaign of 1879. During the later years of his life he corresponded with many officers and men, who had served with him in these wars. Colonel Redington, who was the author of numerous magazine and newspaper articles, kept up an active correspondence also with a number of noted American authors. This collection, which comprises some

450 items covering the period from 1879 to 1935, contains letters from Owen Wister, James Russell Lowell, Walt Mason, Will Rogers, General O. O. Howard, C. E. S. Wood, William Dean Howells, Hamlin Garland, Edgar Rice Burroughs, George H. Himes, E. A. Brinstool, and many others.

Dr. Charles M. Gates of the University of Washington department of history is the author of "The Preservation of Historical Records," a chapter to appear in a volume of essays on Washington state history to be published in the autumn of 1940 by the Washington State Historical Society. Dr. Gates has also edited for publication by the University of Washington Press the *Messages of the Governors of the Territory of Washington to the Legislative Assembly, 1854-1889*.

#### CANADA

Mr. James F. Kenney reports that the Paris branch of the Public Archives of Canada has been closed as a result of the German invasion of France. Of the staff of ten persons, four fled from Paris on June 10, 1940, and escaped to England, whence they returned to the head office at Ottawa, Canada. The other six persons were presumably still in France though their whereabouts were not known at the time of this report.

#### AUSTRALIA

Recent archival happenings in South Australia are recorded in the 1938-1939 annual report of the archivist of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery in Adelaide. The archivist, Mr. G. H. Pitt, reports that centenary celebrations in various parts of the state have aroused interest in the early history of many of the country centers, and that the archives has assisted in supplying extracts from documents and newspapers. Considerable indexing has been done during the past year and a number of important new accessions were reported.

Mr. Pitt is the author of an historical sketch of the South Australian Archives, which appeared in "Historical Studies," April, 1940, and was also reprinted. It is understood that the South Australian Archives has recently become an independent agency.

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