

# ABSTRACTS OF ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS

## WESTERN EUROPE

### France

The periodical, *Archives et Bibliothèques, revue de documentation générale* (Archives and Libraries, a general review for documentation), first appeared in June, 1935. It "publishes, quarterly, studies and information of a scientific, technical and administrative nature concerning archives, libraries, and offices of documentation. Opinions may be stated freely therein, except on questions of politics, religion, and personalities, on condition that the statements be courteous. . . . A section, 'Questions et réponses,' allows subscribers to submit to an extensive group of scholars bibliographic problems which are causing them difficulty. . . . A section, 'Correspondance,' is likewise open to the discussion of questions relating to archives and libraries. . . . The annual volume is composed of approximately 300 pages." In general, the composition of the volume is this: articles on theory, articles relating to French archives and libraries, a section devoted to foreign archives and libraries, notes on professional training, legislation, documentation, necrologies, book reviews and digests of learned periodicals. To make the annual volume correspond to the calendar year, six months were allowed to elapse between the last number of volume II (1936) and the first number of volume III (January, 1938) which is numbered 1937-1938. Inasmuch as the volume number is not given in the periodical, the year must be used in reference. Each number contains a detailed table of contents, as does the annual volume.

*Archives et Bibliothèques*, 1937-1938, No. 1 (1938)

KRÜSS, HUGO ANDRES, Comment on domine le savoir (How to master knowledge). Pp. 7-12.

A translation of the opening address, by the director of the state library at Berlin, in the World Congress of Universal Documentation. After stating his thesis that "the domination of knowledge is the result of a methodical enrichment reflecting acquaintance with the subject," the author shows how "we know ever less in the ever vaster domain of our casual knowledge, and know ever more in the ever narrower circle of our researches." He illustrates his points by calling attention to the fact that nearly two hundred thousand books now appear each year, that there are in existence over eighty thousand periodicals, that it is estimated that between ten and thirty millions of books have been published in the past four hundred and fifty years. The first real attempt to dominate knowledge came, the author says, with the departure of the universal historian. Encyclopaedic works composed by hundreds of specialists represent the change in attitude. In the field of science alone over one million articles appear each year. "The road which leads directly to the sources goes by way of the catalogues of the libraries and the bibliographies." It is necessary to unite all facilities: specialists, libraries, bibliographies, documentation institutes, etc., in order to meet present conditions of intellectual work.

*Les Archives* (Archives).

DILLAY, MADELEINE, [*Archiviste aux Archives Nationales*], Instruments de recherche du fonds du Parlement de Paris dressés au greffe de la Juridiction (Research documents from the collection of the Parliament of Paris arranged at the office of the clerk of the court). Pp. 13-30.

In this first installment of her long article the author defines the terms *plaidoiries*,

*du conseil, arrêts, and jugés*: "The volumes of *jugés* (judgments) and *arrêts* (decisions) record a result; the series of the *Conseil* (Council) and the *plaidoiries* (pleas) show us the Parlement at work, and . . . constitute a sort of journal of the body." The *plaidoiries* are so called because they contain the pleas of the advocates, but they also embrace decrees rendered, appointments to the council, etc. In the register of the *Conseil* are found decrees relating to various chambers, on appointments to be made, etc. The *arrêts* are the formal renderings of the minutes of the Conseil, etc. The *jugés* are the decisions rendered on cases submitted by brief and on enquiry by the Chambre des Enquêtes. A fifth group, *lettres*, "which embraces diverse acts in the form of letters," contains such items as commissions, authorizations, etc. After this brief introduction the author enumerates and discusses the lists of the various types of registers, pointing out the need to observe the evolution in the form of all of them. In her second section she discusses the old civil and criminal inventories, going into great detail on the arrangement by class, by date, by types of material, etc., so that her paper is really a carefully and copiously documented guide to the types of source material under discussion.

#### *Les Bibliothèques* (Libraries).

Pp. 31-38. This section is similar to other "news and notes" departments. It is a series of short notes, under the rubrics of the pertinent countries, which range in nature from quotations from speeches to notices of periodicals and brief original necrologies.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Enseignement* (Instruction).

Pp. 38-40. Reports on the library school of Catalonia, and on an orientation course in commercial libraries given in Holland.

#### *Législation* (Legislation).

POUTEAU, RENÉ, [*Ancien agent départemental de la Régie du Dépôt Légal en Seine-et-Marne*], Les agents du Dépôt légal dans les départements, leur nomination et leur éducation professionnelle (The representatives of the legal depository in the departments; their appointment and their professional training). Pp. 41-46.

A discussion of the problems created by the law of 1925 which requires the deposit, by the printer, of one copy of each book or magazine he issues.

#### Répertoire chronologique (Calendar). Pp. 46-47.

A mere list of official decrees and other acts affecting archives and libraries, December, 1936-June, 1937.

#### *Bibliographie* (Bibliography).

Pp. 47-68. This section is composed of three parts: a classified list of recent French books on a variety of learned subjects; tables of contents for some dozen foreign journals devoted to library and archival science; book reviews, often of foreign books, in the fields covered by the periodical.

#### *Archives et Bibliothèques, 1937-1938, No. 2 (1938)*

GODET, MARCEL, [*Directeur de la Bibliothèque Nationale Suisse*], Développement des bibliothèques et crise du livre (Development of libraries and crisis of the book). Pp. 69-75.

<sup>1</sup> Items relating to libraries are given as concisely as possible.

This represents the most important sections of the opening address, at the meeting of the International Library Committee, in which the author discusses various points of view regarding over-production of books and such "substitutes" as the cinema and the radio.

GRUNEBaum-BALLIN, P., [*Président de Section au Conseil d'État*], L'Abbé Grégoire, bibliothécaire (Abbé Grégoire, librarian). Pp. 76-81.

A eulogistic sketch of a librarian of the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal immediately after the French Revolution.

#### *Les Archives*

DILLAY, MADELEINE, Instruments de recherche du fonds du Parlement de Paris . . . , suite (Research documents from the collection of the Parliament of Paris . . . , continuation). Pp. 82-92.

This second installment deals entirely with a very detailed classification of "deposit" and "distribution" registers of the Parlement as a civil body. Each division and sub-division is carefully characterized; each point is well documented.

Archives. Pp. 92-107.

Short notes about various archives in France (pp. 92-102) and in other countries. E.g., there is a brief summary of a recent article in the *Revue des Deux-Mondes* (Dec. 15, 1937) on private plundering of archives in the Napoleonic era; a brief description of the new departmental archives at Cher; a three-page report of the transformation of a military prison at Le Mans into an archival depository that conforms in spirit to the latest ideas. The foreign notes digest from the *Archivio Storico Italiano* a recent article on private archives in Italy; a report on the activities of "juntas" in Spain for the preservation of records, artistic and vital, against destruction in the civil war; briefly mention the appearance of a *Bulletin of the National Archives*, and the *Second Annual Report*; and review a volume of Canadian archival documents.

Nominations (Appointments). Pp. 107-108.

A list of appointments to archival positions in France.

Archives départementales (Archives of the departments). P. 109.

A handy alphabetical list of archives (with their addresses) not located in the prefectures of the various departments.

#### *Les Bibliothèques.*

LEMAITRE, HENRI, [*Directeur de la documentation de l'Institut de Recherches Économiques*], Les bibliothèques d'hôpitaux pour maladies mentales (Libraries of hospitals for mental diseases). Pp. 110-115.

An analysis of reading done in such institutions, with conclusions that differ from popular preconceptions.

COYECQUE, E.[RNEST], [*Inspecteur honoraire des Bibliothèques de la Ville de Paris*], La bibliothèque des arts graphiques de la ville de Paris—collection Morin (The library of graphic arts of the city of Paris, the Morin Collection). Pp. 115-118.

A blast against the poor organisation and management of this special library on bookmaking which was left to the city some years ago.

Bibliothèques. Pp. 118-124.

This series of short notes is similar in nature and purpose to those described above.

*Documentation.*

Congrès mondial de la documentation universelle, déclaration générale et résolutions adoptées à l'unanimité par le Congrès, dans sa séance de clôture du 27 août 1937 (World Congress of Universal Documentation, general statement and resolutions unanimously adopted by the Congress in its closing session, August 27, 1937). Pp. 125-133.

After the general statement that co-operation is needed in every form of documentary activity, and that this can best be achieved by having each country organized (1) as a whole, to show in outline form all its documentation activities, (2) by subject, (3) by form, to unify all work on the same type of documentation, (4) by profession, to list all organizations whose activities relate to documentation, the twenty-one resolutions, carefully grouped, indicate the specific points and recommendations made by the congress. The essential ideas are these: the need for uniform terminology, better international exchange of documents, standardization of classification, co-operation in printed catalogues so that an international catalogue may be constructed therefrom without further editing or checking, permanent record of items in the daily press, the establishment of co-ordinating documentation centers in all countries, the organization of an international federation of documentation (since established) which would expand the activities of the present institute.

*Législation.*

Le diplôme technique de bibliothécaire (The professional library diploma). Pp. 134-139.

A statement of the conditions to be met, the details of the examination to be passed, and a list of libraries at which probationary work may be done, in order to receive the diploma.

Contrôle des bibliothèques municipales de deuxième catégorie (Supervision of municipal libraries of the second class). Pp. 139-142.

This details the arrangements in France for periodic visits by experts to libraries too small to need a graduate librarian, but possessing a few items too valuable to be neglected through inexperience.

Répertoire chronologique. P. 143.

*Bibliographie.*

Pp. 144-160. List of articles in professional journals.

*Archives et Bibliothèques, 1937-1938, No. 3 (1938)*

VAN MOË, ÉMILE-A., [*de la Bibliothèque Nationale*], Les manuscrits à peintures à la Bibliothèque Nationale (Illuminated manuscripts in the Bibliothèque Nationale). Pp. 161-169.

A discussion of the recent loan exhibition of some of the greatest treasures of the Bibliothèque Nationale, with remarks on the work done in the manuscript division of that library by its scholarly directors, and notice of some of the publications resulting therefrom.

LELIÈVRE, PIERRE, [*Archiviste-Paléographe, Directeur de la Bibliothèque de Nantes*], Un projet de bibliothèque régionale (A project for regional libraries). Pp. 170-189.

The author enumerates and analyses the various unco-ordinated library facilities of his metropolitan area, and, with that as a specific illustration, proceeds to draw up a general scheme for national regional libraries which would co-ordinate local facilities.



*Les Archives.*

DILLAY, MADELEINE, Instruments de recherche du fonds du Parlement de Paris . . . , fin (Research documents from the collection of the Parliament of Paris . . . , conclusion). Pp. 190-199.

This last installment is identical in nature and treatment with the second except for the fact that it deals with the criminal functions of the Parlement.

SZABO, ETIENNE, Hongrie: les archives d'après-guerre (The post-war archives of Hungary). Pp. 200-204.

The new national archives building, constructed in 1914 after detailed study of many of the "modern" scientifically arranged archival depositories of Europe, was not occupied until 1923. It has thirty kilometers of shelf space and is staffed by twenty-nine officials, of whom only twenty-five are permanently assigned there by law. After describing briefly the essential categories of national and local archives, and describing the complete freedom of responsibility allowed the director, the author summarizes the work. "The major part of the time of the archivists is consumed in the daily service to scholars working in the archives. . . . Among the tasks one should mention the recent creation of a collection of photographs intended to make more accessible certain documents, the originals of which are, for the most part, in foreign countries. . . . The archives also edits a bulletin of three hundred to three hundred fifty pages, *Levéltári Közlemények*, written almost entirely by the archivists and provided with summaries in commonly known languages. At first devoted largely to the publication of sources, this bulletin has become more and more the organ of pure archival science and of administrative history. . . . The personal researches of the archivists are facilitated by sabbatical leaves of one to six months accorded pretty generously."

*Les Bibliothèques.*

LEMAITRE, HENRI, Grande-Bretagne: bibliothèque nationale pour les aveugles (The National Library for the Blind in Great Britain). Pp. 205-209.

A detailed description of the service in Braille editions and in records.

Bibliothèques. Pp. 209-219.

Library news notes.

*La Documentation.*

CAMERANI, VITTORIO, Gli studi bibliografici in Italia (Bibliographic studies in Italy). Pp. 220-227.

A qualitative summary of bibliographical studies in Italy from 1609 to date, with special reference to the projected series, *Enciclopedia del libro*, which will deal with bibliography (ca. 20 vols.), bibliography (ca. 17 vols.), library economy (ca. 27 vols.), and the history of libraries.

DIEUDONNÉ, A., [*Conservateur honoraire du Cabinet des Médailles et Antiques de la Bibliothèque Nationale*], Notes de bibliographie numismatique (Notes on a bibliography of numismatics). Pp. 227-232.

Comments of a practical nature on a small working collection of references for librarians.

*Nécrologie* (Necrologies).

LEDOS, E. G., Théodore Mortreuil. Pp. 233-239.

A detailed and highly laudatory resume of the private and professional life of a man who served the Bibliothèque Nationale for nearly fifty years in an administrative capacity.

CELIER, L., Robert Villepelet. P. 239.

A brief summary of the professional career of a late *conservateur* in the national archives.

MONNERAYE, J. DE LA, René Prigent. Pp. 239-240.

A brief appreciation of the professional work and publication of the *archiviste du 2<sup>e</sup> arrondissement maritime* at Brest.

M[ONNERAYE], J. [DE LA], Jules Couët. Pp. 240-241.

A brief statement of the career of the man who, for twenty-seven years, was archivist of the Comédie Française.

MAY, L. PH., Jean Gautier. P. 241.

A eulogy of the character and publications of the young departmental archivist at Lot.

*Législation.*

Répertoire chronologique. Pp. 241-242.

*Bibliographie.*

Pp. 243-256. Lists and reviews.

*Archives et Bibliothèques, 1937-1938, No. 4 (1938)*

GODET, MARCEL, Rapports des bibliothèques et de la documentation (The connection between libraries and documentation). Pp. 257-263.

In this address delivered at the opening session of the International Committee on Libraries at Brussels, the author quotes from the definition of "documentation" given by the Union française des offices de documentation, "the establishment, the search for, the assembly, and the utilization of documents," and then defines his thesis, that "there can be no opposition between libraries and documentation, since the former are only a particular part of the second, and every library could be a center of documentation." Since documentation centers are to record, extract useful information, make inventories, etc., the main characteristics of documentation are shown to be "specialization, contemporaneity, utilitarianism, mechanization." Libraries and documentation part company because (1) large libraries house but do not analyze books and periodicals, (2) documentation exceeds the physical bounds of libraries (e.g., films, records), (3) the purpose of libraries is cultural and therefore contact with sources is an essential part of the scheme. However, they are united in the guise of "special libraries," and in American public libraries with their highly developed reference rooms, readers' advisory service, etc. Documentation is a movement "to accentuate, to complete or prolong on certain points the universal and secular activity of libraries. . . . Documentalists . . . are a little like the conquerors who occupy only a small part of the territory they claim."

FUCHS, HERMANN, [*Staatsbibliothek*, Berlin], Progrès de l'unification des règles catalographiques (Progress in the unification of cataloguing rules). Pp. 264-268.

The author briefly summarizes the situation in Germany where it has taken nearly thirty years to secure national adoption of the Prussian library rules. From this fact he sees no hope of speedy adoption of international cataloguing rules which would harmonize the best points of the three major systems: (a) German (Germany, Holland, German Switzerland, Poland), (b) Romance (France, Belgium), (c) Anglo-Saxon (England, United States, Italy, Scandinavia, the Indies, China, Japan). He agrees with the recommendation of the International Library Committee that translations into several foreign languages of all the national library rules so that they may be widely read and studied, is a first essential.

#### *Les Archives.*

Pp. 269-273. In this number the section is made up only of short notes; in particular, of summaries of Belgian, Hungarian, and American publications. Of THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST, M. Léonce Celier, *conservateur adjoint aux Archives Nationales*, says, "The program of the publication . . . is interesting. The editors plan a 'concrete and practical' job, to inform their readers of what is going on, especially in Europe. . . . The special professional periodicals will be culled, and the editors 'will be compelled to favor the interest which is beginning to be aroused in the business, church, and other quasi-public archives.' . . . We wish THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST all the success it deserves."

#### *Les Bibliothèques.*

Pp. 274-288. This section is likewise made up entirely of short notes.

#### *Documentation.*

CARON, PIERRE, [*Directeur des Archives de France*], *International Bibliography of Historical Sciences*, publiée par le Comité international des sciences historique (International Bibliography of Historical Sciences, published by the International Committee of Historical Sciences). Pp. 289-294.

After describing the genesis of the scheme in the Carnegie Institution, the composition of the international committee in 1927, the general characteristics (collective, scientific, selective, general) of the bibliography, the author tells how the cards, gathered by scholars in more than twenty countries, are sorted and prepared for the press in Paris, Berlin, and Rome, how the proofs are likewise read in these three centers, how the completed work is distributed by publishers in various countries. He concludes that the *Bibliography*, while unable to replace national and specialized bibliographies for detail, "furnishes, with a speed which apparently cannot be exceeded, the essentials for the general study of a question, and for a profound study offers some points of departure and starts one on the right path."

HUBERT, JEAN, [*Archiviste de Seine-et-Marne*], Les procédés modernes de reproduction des écrits scientifiques (Modern methods of reproducing scientific writings). Pp. 295-299.

The author summarizes in considerable detail, for French readers, the content and conclusions of Robert C. Binkley's *Manual on Methods of Reproducing Research Materials* (Ann Arbor, 1936). He says, "This work is timely. . . . There was need of a guide to indicate objectively the apparatus or the process capable of accomplishing a given task in the best way at the least expense. . . . The technical descriptions, the printing estimates, the tables and diagrams . . . constitute three-fourths of the work and

form an extremely precise documentation which eludes analysis. . . . The investigations of the Joint Committee seem to me to have been conducted with too much conscientiousness and precision to permit of serious dispute over its conclusions. . . . The new processes are too contrary to our habits to be received today with much more favor than were once printing, typewriting, or photostating. Even those most resolutely hostile to them will find profit in reading the chapter . . . in which the author indicates the formats and the types to be employed in order to secure a printed work of good legibility as economically as possible."

Un projet de prêt international (A projected plan for international lending of books). Pp. 299-302.

Prompted by the statistics on international book loans produced by Dr. Gustav Abb of Berlin at the meeting of German libraries in 1935, and moved by the slow progress in regulation of this matter in spite of its vital importance, the author of this unsigned note considers it worthwhile to publish the full text (in French) of the regulations proposed by the German delegation to the international meeting in Madrid. The briefer Swiss proposals, which were adopted, have already been published (*Archives et Bibliothèques*, 1935, 110). The eleven points in the proposal detail conditions of complete reciprocity, a uniform system of requests, the right to refuse loans of irreplaceable items, the use of photo-copying, the establishment of central exchange bureaus to obviate unnecessary international lending and to facilitate the unavoidable, the conditions of transportation, length of loan (one month, exclusive of time in transit), freedom from customs duties, insurance and indemnity (chargeable to the borrower even if the damage occurs in transit).

#### *Enseignement.*

Pp. 303-308. The first part of this section reproduces (in French translation) the section on administration from the British library examination of 1935. The second is a resume, from official publications, of the work, equipment, and curriculum at the Columbia University Library School. The last reports an experiment in documentation instruction by Margaret G. Smith in New Jersey. The section is signed by H[enri] L[emaitre].

#### *Associations.*

Pp. 308-313. Reports on the meetings of several library organizations: that of the Association pour le développement de la lecture publique, which devoted its attention to the matter of "regional, rural, and circulating libraries, and co-operation between libraries"; that of the Comité international des bibliothécaires agricoles; that of the association of librarians and archivists of Hungary, with titles of papers reproduced from the French summary in the annual volume of proceedings; that of the second Congrès international des bibliothèques d'hôpitaux, with the titles (and some comment) of the important papers.

#### *Correspondance.*

Pp. 313-315. This section is devoted to a brief exchange of correspondence between H. Lemoine, *Archiviste en Chef de Seine-et-Oise*, *Président de l'Association des Archivistes français*, and René Pouteau, who contributed an article (No. 1, pp. 41-46) on the legal depositories.

#### *Nécrologie.*

ARTONNE, ANDRÉ, A. E. Stamp. Pp. 315-316.

A brief summary of the life and works of the late deputy keeper of public records, England.

*Législation.*

Répertoire chronologique. Pp. 317-318.

Collection d'ouvrages administratifs (Collection of government publications). Pp. 318-322.

The official order from the Minister of Education ordering the establishment of a collection of all official or semi-official publications at the Bibliothèque Nationale, and the rules issued by the Bibliothèque for the preparation of a classified list of all government publications of the past year.

Commission des archives du Ministère de la défense nationale et de la guerre (Archival Commission of the Ministry of National Defense and War). Pp. 322-323.

The order of the president creating a commission "to study all questions concerning search for and recovery of the archives of the various components of the army and of the operations of the search and recovery by the historical branch of the army."

*Bibliographie.*

Pp. 323-352. Lists and reviews.

LESTER K. BORN

# ABSTRACTS OF ARCHIVE PUBLICATIONS

## EASTERN EUROPE

### Hungary

*Levéltári Közlemények*, xv (1937).

#### Articles

BANRÉVY, GYÖRGY, Az iratkezelés története Budan és Pesten 1686-1873 (The history of record handling in Buda and Pest, 1686-1873). Fourth installment. Pp. 210-222.

BERLÁSZ, JENŐ, A német lovagrend bécsi levéltára "Ungarn"-csoport (The archives of the German knighthood in Vienna; "Ungarn" section). Pp. 74-83.

EMBER, GYÖZÖ, A magyar kiralyi helytartótanács ügyintézésé. I. 1724-1783. (The proceedings of the Magyar royal vice regency council. I. 1724-1783.) Pp. 84-161.

FEKETE, LAJOS, A török levéltárügy (Turkish archival affairs). Pp. 20-47.

A study of Turkish archival affairs in four parts: (1) a historical résumé of Turkish administrations and record keeping methods from 1770 to the present time, (2) the location, conditions, and description of Turkish records and archival depositories; (3) the attempts at arrangement and inventorying of various record groups in the past; and (4) the prospects for the future of the Turkish archival service.

IVÁNYI, BÉLA, Trencsén vármegye levéltárai a vármegye multjára vonatkozó főleg középkori oklevelek szempontjából (The archives of Trencsén County mainly from the standpoint of of medieval diplomas relating to the county's past). Second installment. Pp. 223-239.

KLEIN, GÁSPÁR, A miskolci múzeumi levéltár (The archives of the Miskolc museum). Pp. 185-198.

KOSSÁNYI, BÉLA, A fényképezés a levéltár szolgálatában (Photography in archival service). Pp. 199-209.

LÁSZLÓ, K. JÓZSEF, Az 1740-ben felállított magyarországi főhadparancsnokság (The Magyar military high command established in 1740). Pp. 162-176.

MARKÓ, ÁRPÁD, Hadilevéltárak (Military archives). Pp. 7-19.

A survey of the military archives of Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, England, France, Germany, Italy, and Soviet Russia with special reference to changes in organization, status, cultural development, and political importance since the World War and their scholarly significance and relationship to other archival institutions, mainly from the standpoint of the archivist.

MIKLÓS, ODÓN, A hollandi levéltári törvény és végrehajtása (The Dutch archival law and its administration). Pp. 48-57.

A detailed discussion of the twenty-eight sections of the Netherlands' archives law of June 17, 1918, which went into effect in 1919, and its revised version of May 14, 1928, in effect since 1929.

MIKLÓS, ODÓN, and ISTVÁN SZABÓ, A magyarországi református egyház levéltárai (The archives of the Reformed Church of Hungary). Pp. 177-185.

VARGA, ENDRE, Ipari, kereskedelmi és pénzügyi levéltárak a nyugati államokban (Industrial, commercial and fiscal archives in the western countries). Pp. 58-73.

A paper read before the meeting of the Archives Section of the Society of Magyar Librarians and Archivists, held October 19, 1937, in the home offices of one of Hungary's large industries, the Rimamurány-Salgótarjáni iron works.

The article is a historical résumé of the development of business archives in the twentieth century. The example of the Krupp works in establishing the first modern private business archives in Essen in 1905 was followed by other German industries. In 1906 the *Rheinische-Westfälisches Wirtschaftsarchiv*, the first central business archives was established in Cologne for accumulating, by voluntary gift, the old business records of mining, manufacturing, banking, and shipping enterprises of the region. Similar institutions were established in Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands between 1910 and 1914. After the World War, the United States led in organizing the Business Historical Society in Boston in 1925, followed by England (in establishing a Council for the Preservation of Business Archives in 1934 in connection with the British Records Association). The development of interest and activities in France, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Austria, Poland, Italy, Hungary, and Soviet Russia is also sketched.

BAÁN, KÁLMÁN, Kisebb tiszántúli családi levéltárak (Smaller trans-Tisza family archives). Pp. 242-245.

CZERJÉSI, KÁROLY, Régi irások falun (Ancient writs in villages). Pp. 240-242.

ISTVÁNYI, GÉZA, A megyei levéltárak első nyomai a XIV században (The first traces of county archives in the fourteenth century). Pp. 245-249.

#### Reviews

BOURGIN, G., *Les Archives Nationales de France*. Rome, Commission Italienne de Coopération Intellectuelle, 1935. 125 pp. Reviewed by Albert Gárdonyi, pp. 263-269.

GALBRAITH, V. H., *An Introduction to the Use of the Public Records*. Oxford, Univ. Press, 1935. 112 pp. Reviewed by Dénes Jánossy, pp. 254-263.

PISTOLESE, S., Développement et caractère des archives du onzième siècle à nos jours (The development and nature of archives from the eleventh century to the present time). *Archivi d'Italia*, XII (1933-1934), 251-298. Reviewed by Ilona Pálffy, pp. 250-254.

*A Magyar Könyvtárosok és Levéltárosok Egyesülete évkönyve* (The yearbook of the Society of Magyar Librarians and Archivists). Budapest, 1937. 88 pp. Reviewed by József Garzó, pp. 270-272.

BANRÉVY, GYÖRGY, Az első hivatalos intézkedések a visszafoglalt Budán 1686-ban (The first official directions in reoccupied Buda in 1686). *Tanulmányok Budapest Multjából*, V (1936), 242-270. Reviewed by Lajos Glaser, p. 297.

BAUER, S. and R. LACROIX, EDs., *Die Korrespondenz Ferdinand I.* (The correspondence of Ferdinand I. Vol. II, Part I. Family correspondence 1527 and 1528). Vienna, 1937. xviii, 361 pp. (Publications of the Commission on Modern Austrian History, No. 30. Correspondence of Austrian rulers.) Reviewed by György Komoróczy, pp. 310-311.

BESCHORNER, HANS, Hundert Jahre Sächsisches Hauptstaatsarchiv (One hundred years of the Central State Archives of Saxony). *Archivalische Zeitschrift*, XLIV (1936), 6-10. Reviewed by Lajos Kovács, pp. 279-280.

BÓNIS, GY., *A bírósági szervezet megújítása III. Károly korában* (The renewal of the judiciary organization in the time of Charles III). Budapest, 1935. 175 pp. (Univ. of Budapest, Dissertations of the Ferenc Eckhart Legal History Seminar, No. 5.) Reviewed by Endre Varga, pp. 295-296.

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### Chronicle

CELIER, LÉONCE, A francia levéltárügy utolsó évtizede (The last decade of French archival service). Pp. 323-326. [Translated from French into Hungarian by György Komoróczy.]

"No organization changes have occurred in the archives administration since the law of May 11, 1921, which included the officials of the *archives départementales* in the staff of state officials. But many regulations have been promulgated which will result in a great increase in the quantity of records preserved in central *depôts*. As a result of the administrative reforms of 1926, the number of district branches and local authorities was diminished, with a resulting diminution in the number of prefectures, district tribunals, and prefectural councils. Thus all the records kept in these abolished offices or within their jurisdictions were transferred to the *archives départementales*. Other and much older records, consisting in the main of records of justices of the peace, were also transferred to these archives.

The law of March 14, 1928, authorized the notaries public in Paris to place all records in their custody which were 125 years old, irrespective of their nature or value, in the *Archives Nationales*; similar records in other parts of the country were to be placed in the *archives départementales*. The law is far from fulfillment as yet because the ministerial

archives have the right to decide within their own jurisdictions whether or not they will take into consideration the possibility of delivering the records. Most of the ministries, however, have already taken advantage of the opportunity of ridding themselves of old records no longer required in the performance of daily duties. In Paris only one-sixtieth of the notaries public have transferred old records, without renouncing proprietary rights therein, to the *Archives Nationales*. As a result documents of incalculable value, such as wills, marriage contracts, divisions of estates, trade contracts, and other documents pertaining primarily to the history of families, morals, and arts on the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, are at the disposition of investigators today.

In the absence of legislative provisions and regulations, many old records no longer needed for daily routine work were accumulated in the archives of certain administrations. These administrations also transferred records to the archives. In this way the *Archives Nationales* received the "historical" records files from the time of Louis XIII to the Revolution from the war ministry; the letters of consuls and others and records pertaining to foreign commerce during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the old records pertaining to the activities of the law faculty of the Academy of Paris; and the archives of the *Opéra* and *Opéra Comique* from the non-public administrative institutions. Almost all *archives départementales* received old cadastral plats and letterbooks—all important sources for agricultural and monetary history as well as for historical geography.

The transfers of records have become larger and more frequent since the regulation of July 21, 1936, made it obligatory for all ministries and public administrations, with the exception of those equipped with organic archives, not only to transfer records no longer necessary for the conduct of current business but also to permit archives representatives access to archives and participation in arrangement and selection procedures. The destruction of records of any nature whatsoever without the preliminary examination and authorization of the archives administration is forbidden under penalty of heavy punishment. This regulation holds much promise for future historians, provided its execution does not demand too much intermedial activity and an increase in the number of archivists, which the French government of today is not in a position to provide.

The preservation of the records placed in archival depositories by these legislative provisions requires an increase in depository space. This involves a financial problem which may meet with difficulties in solution. Recently the *Archives Nationales* has gained additional space which can be used for record depositories. This space had been occupied from 1807 by the national printing office, which was moved to more suitable quarters in another part of Paris. As the old quarters of the printing office were in a dilapidated condition, its transformation into an archival depository will entail the tearing down, reinforcing, and remodeling of parts of the building. Work is now in progress on the interior. After floor and roof repairs had been made, it was possible to equip most of the wings of the building with metal stacks in accordance with the latest archival requirements. In this building are housed the record materials of the notaries public of Paris, as well as the previously mentioned records of the War Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

About one-thirtieth of the *archives départementales* in the provinces have urgent need of space expansion. Construction work has been started and several buildings have been completed. In Nantes, Alençon, Bourges, Le Mans, Chambéry, and other cities there are modern and suitably arranged quarters. In other places the work is still in progress or only the plans for buildings have been drawn. It is hoped that within a few years all the depositories for French archives will be worthy of the country and of the wealth of records which they preserve.

The publication of inventories and *répertoires* is rather slow because of budgetary limitations. The critical *répertoire* of old archival inventories, of which a few volumes

have been issued, is worthy of mention. The first volume (*Archives Nationales*), which pertains to the general condition of the inventories, is already in circulation; the second volume (*Archives Départementales*) is in press.

Space will not permit the reporting of all changes in personnel. Charles V. Langlois, the eminent scholar who directed the *Archives Nationales* since 1912, died in 1929. Henry Courteault, his successor, was a professional archivist who for eight years placed at the disposition of that institution his high qualifications, devotion, and understanding of public administration. The issuing of regulations for the expansion of the *Archives Nationales* and the delivery of records thereto was due in the main to his untiring efforts. Upon his retirement because of age on April 1, 1937, Pierre Caron, a former archives official and a bibliographer and historian well known to those interested in the French Revolution, became his successor.

By the regulation of December 28, 1936, the title of the official who heads the French archival service was changed from *Directeur des Archives* to *Directeur des Archives de France*, a slight change, true enough, but one having the advantage of defining the position more accurately, especially for purposes of international communications."

ELEKES, LAJOS, A brit levéltárak 1936 évi munkája (The work of the British Archives in 1936), pp. 326-327.

A report on British archival activities based mainly on *The Year's Work in Archives* (London, 1937).

ISTVÁNYI, GÉZA, A görög levéltárak (The Greek archives), pp. 341-343.

"The organization of the Greek archives is still in its initial stages. In 1914 the archives law was passed by the government of Venizelos and the Greek state archives was erected in Athens. Only since that time has there been preservation of archives in Greece in the modern sense. Up to that time the handling of the rich and extensive archives was not governed by any regulations. Because of lack of space, the state authorities performed numerous selections and weeding, in which, naturally, not the scholarly but rather the practical, political, and legal viewpoints were made effective. This resulted in the almost complete loss of the archival collections of the monasteries suppressed in 1830, which were in the custody of the ministry of public education. Therefore, one of the most important tasks of the new state archives is to buy back and reconstruct, as far as it is possible to do so today, the scattered archival bodies.

The main administration of Greek archival affairs today is in the hands of the Athens state archives under the supervision of the minister of public education. The bulk of the materials consists of the records of the royal court and the more than fifty-year old records of the ministries. But the records of the Turkish authorities prior to the Greek war of independence are not here. However, the records of the Athenian and archipelagian notaries public active during Turkish rule are preserved here, the oldest of which date from the fifteenth century. The state archives has also bought the archives of several notable families (Mavro-Cordato, Coleti). The majority of these records are of the nineteenth century.

The archival materials are sketchily arranged. Indexes and inventories are entirely absent. Under such circumstances research is difficult, even though the archives are available to all. Some of the most important records have already been published by the archives through the generosity of private subscription, and the fifteen volumes so far printed are only a small portion of the total.

The best arranged archives are the Corfu archives of the Senate of the seven Ionian Islands. This material extends from the fifteenth century to the union of the Ionian Islands with Greece in 1864. In addition there is an *archiophylakion* on each of the Ionian Islands

in which are preserved the records of the notariat functioning on that island. Important historical records are also contained in the archives of the islands of Crete, Samos, Spetsai, and Hydra, and in the municipal archives of Thessalonike. The archives of the Turkish authorities remained only at Veroia in Macedonia. In other places the records of the Ottoman authorities were destroyed by Greek soldiers during the war for independence.

All archives are under the supervision of the state archives. The various municipal archives, continually augmented by the records over fifty years old, are under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior. The director of the state archives has only the illusory right to transfer to the state archives from the weeded records those which have historical significance.

The oldest records of Greece are not preserved in the public archives but in the monasteries. These are the most important sources for the medieval history of Greece and of the Turkish era. The archives of the world-renowned Mount Athos monastery are an inexhaustible treasure trove. Access to these monastery archives, however, is very difficult. The state organs have no influence over them.

The housing of the archives also corresponds to the primitiveness of the Grecian archival service. Many of the important records are preserved in dilapidated, fire-trap buildings of the period of Venetian domination. The quarters are so small and congested that records lie about in heaps in some of them. Such conditions are met with even in the state archives.

Under such conditions an enormous task awaits the Greek archivists. Nevertheless it is probable that if the hitherto small financial state support is not increased, the work of arrangement and reconstruction so well begun will come to an end."

KOMORÓCZY, GYÖRGY, *A belga levéltárügy fejlődése* (The development of the Belgian archival service), pp. 327-331.

"Prior to the World War the Belgian archival service did not occupy the position in international archival affairs to which the value of its records entitled it. Anyone with the degree of Doctor of Historical Science, though without a knowledge of the principles of record administration, of the relationships between record groups, or of the important problems of preservation of archival materials, could be an archivist and was able to obtain a position on the staff of the Belgian state or private archives. As a result of such a state of affairs, information about the origin, organization, grouping, and usefulness of records preserved in the archives was rather meager. The necessity for arranging study courses for the education of future archivists had long been felt in professional circles. These courses would outline the directions that archivists must follow if the records in Belgian archives were to be made available to meet the practical and scholarly requirements of investigators. In the opinion of leading circles, it is not sufficient for archivists to acquire the professional knowledge requisite to administration of archives in their official practice, because that knowledge should be acquired in advance. On these principles a royal rescript of December 27, 1919, organized the training course for archivists, pointing out that the university did not have facilities for the special training of archivists; and it was made mandatory for those who desired positions in the state archives to take a study course of half a year, on the completion of which an archivist's certificate would be issued.

The first study course was initiated in 1920 in accordance with the royal rescript. The subject matter of the course covered the theoretical as well as the practical problems of archival science. Within this province, the evolution of archives (general archives history) and the state and the development and organization of individual Belgian archives are taught by picked and professionally trained lecturers. The problems connected with the grouping of archival materials and the methods of preparing inventories are subjects of other lectures. That the principle of provenance is the deciding factor in the establishment of certain independent archives and in the arrangement of materials of various natures is

emphasized in the course. In addition to this theoretical training, the course is extended to practical matters by regarding the archives building and its equipment, the arrangement of storage space, the repairing of damaged records, the methods of protecting records against damage, and the preservation of various sizes and types of papers. Regarding the practical exhibits and work of the study course, the students must themselves perform the arrangement of various archives, make inventories of them, and apply the knowledge relating to modern record administration gained in the course of theoretical instruction.

The actual value of these study courses and their results are shown by the published inventories. While these inventories were prepared by candidate-archivists as practical test material of the training course, they were reviewed by the instructors. As a result of this method of working, Belgium today has systematic inventories for almost all archives. Thus the series of publications are instructive not only from the standpoint of methodology but also because they are informative regarding Belgian archival material and the origin and nature of records created by the various governmental authorities and private institutions. In comparison with the publications of the Polish archival training course, on which a report was made by Béla Bottló in *Levéltári Közlemények*, XIV (1936), the publications of the Belgian training course differ essentially in that they do not contain the theoretical lectures given in the training courses as such, but show the results of the practical inventorying work of the candidate. These are not only of invaluable use to archival science but also to scholarly research directed toward a practical knowledge of archives. Neither should the advantages be overlooked of the introductions to inventories, which explain the origin and functions of the respective governmental authorities or private institutions and are so valuable from the standpoint of administrative history.

Several inventories were published in the first volume. Mlle. Nicodème, in collaboration with J. Lefèvre and J. Bolsée, prepared the inventory of the archives of the Supreme Council of Justice (*Conseil Souverain de Justice*). The council was established January 1, 1787, by Joseph II, and its purpose was the abolition of the judicial functions of the landlords and ecclesiastical authorities. J. Germain prepared an inventory of the archives of the intendants (*Archives des Intendances*). P. Lefèvre prepared the inventory of the archives of the administration for supervising ecclesiastical and civilian estates (*Archives de la Jointe des Amortissements*), which was organized in 1753 by Maria Teresa. This administration was concerned with seeing to it that upon the death of a tenant the landlord did not appropriate his personal and real property. If the landlord desired to keep the property or place a new tenant on the land, a certain sum was payable into the treasury. This 'tax' was payable in installments. The inventory of the archives of the office established for the control of waterworks, bridges, and waterways (*Jointe des Eaux*) was prepared by J. Lefèvre. This office was active between 1772 and 1787. The archives (1784-1794) of the general civil commissariat (*Commissariat Général Civil*) were inventoried by J. Denys and Henri Nowé. The inventory of the archives resulting from the administration of the religious fund established in connection with the suppression of the religious orders (*Comité de la Caisse de Religion*) was prepared by A. Cosemans and J. Lavalleye. The inventory of the archives of the 'royal commission' established on the territories of Luxembourg and Trèves (*Jointes de Luxembourg et de Trèves et de la Commission Royale de Luxembourg*) was prepared by J. de Smet.

The second volume consists of the following inventories: Of the archives of *Vénerie du Brabant et du Consistoire de la Trompe* (which contain records from the thirteenth century), by M. van Haegendoren and E. Sabbe; of the archives of the *Foresterie de Brabant*, by M. van Haegendoren; of the archives of the *Chambre des Tonlieux de Louvain*, an authority concerned with the various market places of Louvain and active since the thirteenth century, and of the archives of a similar institution active at Tirlemont, by É. Lousse; of the archives of the superintendency of the market places of Brussels, by



É. Lousse in collaboration with Mlle. Lejour and L. van Werveke; of the archives of the orphans' and guardians' administration of Louvain, by Armand Louant. It is interesting to note that this administration (*Chambre pupillaire de Louvain*) already existed in 1564.

The third volume contains the inventory of the archives of assistance to the poor and other welfare institutions of Louvain (*Assistance publique de la ville de Louvain*), which was prepared by Marcel Bourguignon with a lengthier historical study of the development of the present welfare administration, its various forms, and the development and significance of hospitals. The archival materials date from the fourteenth century, so their importance to social history is inestimable. The fact that this whole volume is devoted to this institution testifies to its importance and role. The fourth volume (*Table onomastique de l'Inventaire des Archives de l'Assistance publique de Louvain*) by the same author is a name index to volume III.

Even this brief review is convincing proof that with the aid of these publications of the archival training course, prepared between 1920 and 1931, a picture may be gained of the whole Belgian archival service, because they contain information about Belgian governmental authorities, social institutions, and the archives that today await scholarly investigators with well-prepared inventories. It would be most useful to arrange similar training courses in Hungary, because by means of such courses, along with the theoretical and practical training of archivists, the important problem of inventorying and utilizing particular archival materials would be accomplished.

A part of the well-developed organization of the Belgian archival service is the publication of *Archives, Bibliothèques et Musées de Belgique*, the former monthly periodical of the *Association des Conservateurs d'Archives, de Bibliothèques et de Musées*, now published semi-annually. This journal directs special attention to the activities of the various subsections of the society and publishes the proceedings of the joint meetings and studies pertaining to the history of Belgian archives. The membership of the society in 1936 was 228. This journal also lists the inventories of the Belgian archives published since the above-mentioned publications of the training course. Sabbe's study, *Economic Archives*, which appeared in *Archives, Bibliothèques et Musées de Belgique*, XI (1934), 7-33, was translated in its entirety into German by *Archivalische Zeitschrift*, XLIV: 113-130. The Belgian journal reviews foreign library and archival literature and takes cognizance of and gives information regarding Hungarian archival literature. In XIV (1937), 148-149, there is a brief report on István Szabó's article on the tasks of Hungarian archival literature which appeared in the 1936 issue of *Levéltári Közlemények*. The reviewer points out that under 'the influence of István Szabó the plan and program of *Levéltári Közlemények* has been modified so that it corresponds completely to the present-day demands and endeavors of archival science.'

KOSSÁNYI, BÉLA, Az Országos Levéltár 1936-ban (The National Archives [of Hungary] in 1936), pp. 343-348.

A summary administrative report of the Magyar National Archives for the year 1936, giving information regarding the arrangement work performed on various record groups, transfers of archival materials, reference and research services, exhibitions, photographic reproduction, professional studies and investigations by the staff, changes in personnel, exchange archives internes from Poland, and other archival news notes of the year.

SZABÓ, ATTILA T., A román levéltári viszonyok (Roumanian archival conditions), pp. 336-339.

"Recent changes in Roumanian archival conditions can be understood only in the light of those endeavors which were aimed at the solution of the Roumanian archives problem after the war. The Roumanian archives received their present organization in 1922, but

this organization was not incorporated into law until 1925. According to this law the archives of every state, civil, ecclesiastical, and military authority in the country belong in a central organization, the directing organ of which is one administration (Bucharest) with four regional superintendencies (Kolozsvár, Czernovic, Kisenev, Jási). These fulfill a twofold purpose: (1) They maintain depositories for the preservation of old archival material in their districts; and (2) they administer, or, rather, supervise the administration of old and modern materials of those state institutions which are unable to place, or because of the recent origin of their records are not obliged to place, their materials in the regional archives. Otherwise, the deposit of old materials in regional archives is obligatory on state, communal, and county authorities. In the face of this uncompromisingly centralizing endeavor, the opposite effect in time resulted. In addition to the former regional archives, new local archival centers were established. Thus in Craiova, Oltenita, and Temesvár, new archival centers were established for the governorship. The old Roumanian border patrol archives were established at Naszód. The establishment of these was followed by plans for the Dobrogea and Szekler archives, the seat of the latter to be Marosvásárhely. The legislation pertaining to archives makes possible the existence in principle of independent archives in certain cultural centers where personnel and technical facilities are available for the proper handling of archival material. Thus there are separate municipal archives in Nagyszeben and Brassó in the district of the Saxon National Archives. The trend of development shows definitely that insofar as material means permit, local archives will be established for territories which in the past constituted administrative or historical units, or, in other words, which had certain characteristics of autonomy. The basis for this trend is partly the thought that local material should be kept in its original and natural environment and thus made available to local searchers and partly to avoid extreme centralization, which may be detrimental. Although it is true that centralization insures more expert administration of archival material and facilitates the work of the searcher considerably, it also makes orientation difficult in the materials and exposes the centralized collections to complete destruction by fire or by the eventualities of war or to other dangers, while in the decentralized system loss or damage would be only partial.

The archival centers mentioned above are not merely barren storage depositories, search rooms, or organs for the supervision of archives in their territories but are also cultural propaganda centers. As such they call attention to preservation of archival materials and serve as active centers of historical research. In their propaganda they work with the usual tools. The press, lectures, and exhibitions are used as possible popularizing and idea spreading media, nor is the personal element overlooked. The Bucharest administration has established an archival museum also at its central headquarters. In order to accomplish all these tasks, the state archives are collecting data pertaining to all archives including private archives. The state archives organization, in broadening its field of interest, maintains contact with societies serving similar aims, such as the Heraldry Commission, the Numismatic Society, the 'Old Bucharest' Association, and other organizations.

There is an academy of archives and palaeography which provides preparation for archival studies. Primarily, the purpose of this academy is the education of officials for the state archives and all other Roumanian archives, but it also serves to introduce university students of history to the methodology of archival research. Most of the scholarly productivity of this academy and of the personnel of the state archives found expression in the journal *Revista Arhivelor*, which, after its first appearance in 1929, was discontinued and resumed publication last year [evidently 1936] as an annual. In the interim of the suspension of its publication, various historical and archival studies were published as a result of the activity of the academy. Among the archival studies are a palaeography album, manuals of philology and of Slav-Roumanian palaeography, and a study in diplomatics with reference to Moldavian diplomas. The archival center has begun a collection of



diploma miniatures and ornamentations. The periodical publication of catalogues and inventories of extant materials has been planned. These publications are in process of preparation at present in accordance with the regulations promulgated for the state archives on the bases of post-World War experiences. All this, of course, entailed the expenditure of much effort and money. In the meantime it was necessary to perform one of the important archival duties, the selection and sorting of modern materials. This work is merely a beginning, as yet, because here, as in other countries, a satisfactory solution to this problem has not been found. What should be retained of the appalling quantity of papers resulting from modern official procedure? This question has proved to be the most difficult to solve.

Among the archival events of the past year a few of the more significant ones should be mentioned. During the past year very important manuscripts and documentary materials were returned from Moscow, which today form the most valuable collections of the Roumanian National Archives, of the Roumanian Academy, and other institutions. During the year new quarters were built for the Bucharest Academy and the library, manuscript, and documentary materials of the King Ferdinand I Foundation at Jasi. An important event was the moving of the state archives at Kolozsvár into its new quarters during the year. This is important because it has been possible to bring in only a small part of the collections from the outlying regions into the former congested quarters. In the new building a new era of transfers will begin and the important archival materials thus collected will open new perspectives to investigators in Transylvanian history.

No matter in what difficult position Roumanian archival affairs are today, the salutary development so far realized, the archival plans promising so much in their eventual realization, as well as the useful plans in preparation assure the future development of Roumanian archives."

OLEXIK, FERENC, *Az észt állami levéltár* (The Estonian State Archives), pp. 339-341.

A summary report of the activities of the *Rügi Keskarihiiv* based on its administrative report, *The Central State Archives, 1932-1937* (Tartu, 1937), published in Estonian and English.

PAULINYI, OSZKAR, Ludwig Bittner, pp. 315-321.

An account of the forty years of archival service of Dr. Ludwig Bittner, director of the *Haus-, Hof-, und Staatsarchiv* and head of the Austrian archival administration, upon the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of his birth and the conferring of an honorary degree of the University of Berlin on February 19, 1937. *Historische Blätter*, VII (1937), is commemorative of this event.

VACZ, ELEMÉR, *A Magyar könyvtárosok és levéltárosok Egyesülete* (The Society of Magyar Librarians and Archivists), pp. 321-323.

A report of the three meetings of the Archives Section of this society which were held on May 11 and December 7 at the Magyar National Archives and on October 19 at the home offices of the Rimamurány-Salgótarjáni iron works, giving the names of authors and titles of papers read.

VÖRÖS, MARTON, *A svéd levéltárügy 1934-36-ban* (The Swedish archival service in 1934-1936), pp. 331-336.

A summary report of Swedish archival activities during 1934-1936, based in the main on the official publication *Meddelanden Från Svenska Riksarkivet* of the Swedish state archives.

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