

Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

LESTER K. BORN, *Editor*

Library of Congress

CANADA

Canadian Archivist, VOL. I (1967), NO. 5.

Published annually by the Archives Section of the Canadian Historical Association, the *Canadian Archivist* contains articles relating to archival matters, news, and position listings.

RUIGH, ROBERT E., *Aspects of records publication*. P. 3-6. The historian regrets the decline, largely for financial reasons, of extensive publication of original sources. Preparation and wide distribution of lists and indexes are a *sine qua non* for the pursuit of historical research on a worldwide scale. Microfilming of original documents, instead of publication in letterpress, presumes adequate training in paleography on the part of historians.

JOHNSON, J. K., *The archivist's role in the publication of documents*. P. 7-11. The archivist, with adequate historical training, is the best qualified person to edit documents, because he has access to all documents, including peripheral items, is informed in depth on the papers in his custody, is capable of deciphering the hands with which he deals on a daily basis, is concerned for accurate presentation of his materials, and will be aware of, and conscience-bound to indicate, gaps in the published series.

L. K. B.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Slovenská Archivistika, VOL. I (1966), NO. 1.

KUŠÍK, MICHAL, "*Slovenská archivistika*" a jej program (*Slovenská Archivistika* and its program). P. 5-16. This new periodical, the first in the history of Slovak archives and published at Bratislava, complements the two Czechoslovak archival journals, *Archivní časopis* and *Sborník archivních prací*, issued by the archival administration at Prague under the Ministry of the Interior. Slovak archival work has reached the point where publication, in part as essential support to scholarly research, has been considered by many government intellectual entities as eminently justified. "The principal objective of this third journal is to fill a lacuna in archival work in Slovakia, to raise its level from the point of view of publication, and, finally, to push exploitation of Slovak archives, which are very rich from the point of view of history." This journal, appearing twice yearly, will contain four departments: (1) studies, embracing archival administration, auxiliary sciences of history, codicology, analyses of important *fonds*, and related matters; (2) reports, shorter notes, examination of pertinent world literature; (3) news notes on domestic and foreign archival activities, studies, publications, etc.; and (4) calendar of meetings, congresses, and symposia and information on personnel. Major articles are followed by extensive *résumés* in a west European language.

SEDLÁK, FRANTIŠEK, *K základným otázkam archívnych fondov rodov a panstiev, Časť I* (On the basic questions of archival *fonds* of families and estates, Part I). P. 73-94. This part concerns itself with terminology, experience with family archives in other countries, types of archives found in family collections (especially those of the higher nobility), including those relating to estate management. Examples are given, and the interrelated problems of archives of collateral branches are discussed.

Slovenská Archivistika, VOL. I (1966), NO. 2.

SEDLÁK, FRANTIŠEK, . . . (On the basic questions of archival *fonds* of families and estates,

Materials for abstracting and related communications should be sent to Lester K. Born, 3210 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016.

Part II). P. 204-228. Detailed discussion of central administration of estates and their archival collections, business and manufacturing on estates and their archives, and collections. The varied responsibilities, including public administration and judicial functions, of the higher nobility in earlier centuries are thoroughly covered along with purely family matters. The miscellaneous section, collections, relates to records of varied provenience, maps, plans, manuscripts, and special groups of medieval items.

L. K. B.

THE NETHERLANDS

Nederlands Archievenblad, VOL. 69 (1965), NO. 1.

PANHUYSEN, G., *Structuurbeginsel contra beginsel van herkomst*. Principle of structure as opposed to the principle of provenience). P. 13-33. In this discussion, prompted by the report given at the Fifth International Archives Congress, Brussels, 1964, by J. Papritz of Marburg, Germany, Panhuysen demonstrates that Papritz has produced an artificial argument by attempting to elevate a secondary principle of archival organization to the plane of first principles. Papritz observed that the "principle of structure" was independently, and probably simultaneously, defined and named in the Netherlands and in Germany; the practical application of this concept had been a fact for many years, probably wherever archives were organized. All 79 replies to Papritz' questionnaire, on which his report at Brussels was constructed, in respect to the application of the principle of provenience were in the affirmative. Papritz' report helps to reemphasize the need for a much more thorough study of the history of record-producing offices and establishments.

POLAK-DE BOOY, E. P., *Centraal register van familiearchieven* (Central index of family archives). P. 50-51. A circular explaining the newly established Office for Family Archives in the Dutch National Archives, reproduced here, was sent to about 5,000 addressees, including a number of genealogical and historical organizations. The records and reports are assembled in Utrecht.

University of Illinois

ICKO IBEN

PERU

Revista del Archivo Central, VOL. 1 (1966), NOS. 1/2.

This new periodical, sponsored by the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in Lima, will appear twice yearly and will publish "documents basic to the history of the University of San Marcos and of the other Peruvian universities At the same time it will try to provide information on the Peruvian and continental archival movement, on international conferences on archives, and on other special notices on repositories and specific and documentary publications."

VALCÁRCEL, C. D., *El Archivo Nacional* (The National Archives). P. 135-139. This discourse on the centenary of the establishment of the National Archives of Peru reviews the losses from depredations during the colonial period, enumerates the scattered but important archival repositories in contemporary Peru, and discusses the vicissitudes of budget, personnel, and location endured since the Archives was founded in 1865 as a part of the National Library. It has been an independent agency for some years. Present tasks include training of professional archivists, obtaining adequate funds, design and construction of a national archival repository, and publicizing the historical sources available for use.

L. K. B.

POLAND

Archeion, VOL. 45 (1966).

PAŃKÓW, STANISŁAWA, *Przewodniki archiwalne* (Archival guides). P. 15-27. After discussing the problems inherent in preparing guides and after comparing some Polish guides with some well-known examples in other countries, the author lists three essentials of a satisfactory guide: introduction giving the history and organization of the entity whose records are described; contents of the several record groups and method of description; list of finding aids, especially inventories, indexes, and bibliographies.

LEWANDOWICZ, LEAZEK, and BOLESŁAW WOSZCZYŃSKI, *Przebieg prac nad pomocami*

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

archiwalnymi w Centralnym Archiwum Wojskowym w latach 1960-1964 (Archival inventories compiled by the Central Military Archives in the years 1960-64). P. 109-118. After a brief description of the preliminary inventories prepared in the 20 years between world wars the author concentrates on the inventories of the larger, more important record groups, including some for the Polish Peoples Army, recently prepared. Some are on cards, some in books; only one has been printed.

KARCZOWA, HELENA, *Museum Słowa i Fonoteka Narodowa w Paryżu* (Museum of Speech and the National Record Library in Paris). P. 151-160. A report, with two photographs and a brief bibliography, on the Musée de la Parole founded in 1911 and the Phonotèque Nationale founded in 1939 in Paris, to preserve oral history, with special attention to the development of their operations, and the classification scheme for the collections.

TOMCZAK, ANDRZEJ, *W sprawie polskiej bibliografii archiwalnej* (On the bibliography of Polish archives). P. 161-173. A detailed study, with numerous footnotes, of national and international archival bibliographies followed by a historical outline of Polish bibliographical activity related to archives.

L. K. B.

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

S. A. Argiefblad/S. A. Archives Journal, NO. 8 (1966).

LEVERTON, B. J. T., *The archivist and the genealogist*. P. 44-46. "It is the duty of the archivist to refer all . . . general genealogical enquiries to the nearest library, . . . pointing out that the archives is not . . . a centre for 'information' and that the secondary duty of the archivist is the encouragement of 'research' of the genuine variety."

CILLIERS, J. H., *Doelstelling en funksies van rekordbeheer in Suid-Afrika* (Purpose and function of records management in South Africa). P. 47-51. The archival law of 1962 made the Director of Archives responsible for records management as well as archives. The records management section is charged with seeing that (a) the creating agencies can make the best possible use of their records, (b) ephemeral items are weeded out quickly, and (c) permanently useful records are maintained in the best possible arrangement. Details of dossier arrangement, inspections, and intermediary repositories are given.

L. K. B.

UNITED KINGDOM

Archives, VOL. 8 (1967), NO. 37.

GORTON, L. J., *Arrangement and cataloguing of modern historical papers in the British Museum*. P. 2-7. The collections usually consist of correspondence and papers of politicians, diplomats, and other public men—essentially, private material in which semiofficial or official documents are sometimes found. Processing includes rough sorting and arrangement, if necessary; estimating the number of volumes to be required, so that a block of numbers in the series of Additional Manuscripts can be assigned; temporary binding; detailed arrangement, with establishment of dates and identification of writers, as needed; description of the entire collection; indexing, which is fairly detailed and includes the names of all letter writers; and permanent binding. "The collections do not normally appear in separate, independent catalogues, but have to conform with the conventions of the *Catalogue of Additions*."

L. K. B.

Journal of the Society of Archivists, VOL. 3 (1966), NO. 4.

ROADS, CHRISTOPHER H., *Film as historical evidence*. P. 183-191. The value of film as historical evidence depends upon the user's grasp of the circumstances surrounding its creation, preservation, general character, accessibility, and relation to other types of records. All film can be divided into five classes: original unedited version; semiedited, with technically inadequate footage cut; edited record film, such as newsreels; documentary films; feature films, such as "All Quiet on the Western Front." The author discusses the diverse natures of all categories, their respective values as "evidence," the physical nature of film as opposed to other records; and the special problems that film creates for custodian, indexer, and exploiter. The computer is reputed to be the only solution to indexing film;

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the author has done much successful work with punched cards and an electronic scanner. Longevity of film base, permanence of images, and similar technical matters are briefly mentioned.

Journal of the Society of Archivists, VOL. 3 (1967), NO. 5.

LANGWELL, W. H., *Accelerated ageing tests for papers*. P. 245-248. Causes of impermanence in paper are both chemical and mechanical; the one affecting the permanence, the other, the durability. "It is . . . not possible to reproduce in an accelerated aging test all the factors which will affect papers during normal aging; the results of such tests must therefore be accepted with reserve and be carefully interpreted."

L. K. B.

VENEZUELA

Codex, VOL. 1 (1966), NO. 1.

This new periodical, published by the School of Library Science and Archives at the Central University of Venezuela in Caracas, will appear quarterly and contain articles written at the school and by specialists elsewhere, reprints of articles of major importance and not readily accessible, texts of documents, bibliographies, reviews, and booklists.

TINOCO RICHTER, CÉSAR, *El archivero, los archivos y el desarrollo administrativo* (The archivist, archives, and administrative development). P. 25-29. There is ample evidence in law and practice that both governmental and private enterprises require accurate maintenance of records and frequent detailed study of them. By implication, but not by legal requirement such as exists for doctors, lawyers, and engineers, such records should be kept and analyzed only by professionally trained archivists.

Ley de Archivos Nacionales (Law on the National Archives). P. 30-33. The text of the law passed in June 1945, currently in force, on the functions, responsibilities, and authority of the National Archives with respect to archival materials and archival training.

Escuela de Biblioteconomía y Archivos (School of Library Science and Archives). P. 101-103. The 4-year curriculum, of which the first 2 years are the same for library and archives candidates, is open to those holding degrees in the sciences or the humanities and leads to the certificate of *licenciado*. Years 1 and 2 cover history of culture, philosophy, psychology, Venezuelan history, American history, English language, Spanish literature, bibliography, reference work, history of the book, and library practices. For archival candidates years 3 and 4 embrace Spanish and Ibero-American administrative organization, theory and practice of archivology, paleography, diplomatics, audiovisual aids, English language, auxiliary technical services, bibliography relating to archives, Venezuelan literature and bibliography, Venezuelan administrative organization, transcription of documents, and practical archival work.

L. K. B.

Correcting the Record

At the Republican convention of 1912 in Chicago, Theodore Roosevelt came out of retirement to make another bid for the Presidency. Some of his detractors passed around handbills reading: "At 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, Theodore Roosevelt will walk on the waters of Lake Michigan."

Of course, he didn't walk on water. . . .

—THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS at the Ceremony for the Dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial, Roosevelt Island, October 27, 1967.