

# Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

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## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

*Sborník Archivních Prací*, VOL. 17 (1967), NO. 2.

KOLMAN, JOSEF, *K problematice nadprodukce písemného materiálu—Meziarchivy* (The problem of paper explosion—Record Centers). P. 446-496. The archivist is particularly concerned with the difficult task of managing the records produced in ever-increasing quantity by offices of all kinds. The author discusses various causes leading to the modern paper explosion and the means of solving this complex problem, which became particularly acute after World War II. Microfilming cannot eliminate the archivist's responsibility for management of original records, even though it may ease the space problem; the answer lies in establishing records management programs, which include creation of records centers, disposal of records, and transfer of historically important records for permanent retention in archives. The survey investigates the historical development and present state of records management programs in the United States (17 pages); Great Britain, East Germany, France (7 pages each); Soviet Union (4 pages); West Germany (2 pages); and Canada (1 page). Emphasis is placed on government records, although in his extensive study on records centers in the United States, the author mentions a profitmaking company that provides record center facilities to private firms. The author compares the achievements and shortcomings of practices regulating records management programs in the countries surveyed and concludes that in a scant 20 years of existence the records center has fulfilled expectations and will remain a permanent institution.

SVOBODA, JAN, *Fotografické metody v archívech* (Photographic methods in archival repositories). P. 497-538. Starting with Karl Krumbacher's suggestion in 1906 that archives be equipped with photo laboratories, the author outlines the photographic practices in modern archival institutions. He mentions the literature on the subject and describes various processes and equipment available for archival uses from simple cameras to Xerox machines and sophisticated automatic information retrieval devices (Miracode).

## *Archivní Časopis*, 1967, NO. 4.

BĚLOV, G. A., *Archivnictví v SSSR v předvečer padesátého výročí sovětského státu* (The condition of Soviet archives at the 50th anniversary of the USSR). P. 189-200. In 1918-19 all archives legally became the property of the state—included were the manuscript collections of deceased Russian writers, composers, artists, and scientists. The Glavarchiv created at that time supervised all archival activities. Complete centralization of archives was not achieved until 1938. For some time after World War II the main effort was aimed at safeguarding and relocating the records that had survived the war, but in 1958 a more precise approach toward archival management was outlined. The archives of the Soviet Union were defined as all documentary materials belonging to the state regardless of age that were of importance for their research, political, or practical content. In addition to official records of central and local governments, the archives of the USSR also include the records of businesses, cultural organizations, and learned societies, as well as records created by individuals. The Central Archives Management Bureau, which directs all archival activities, became in 1960 an independent department responsible to the Council of Ministers. The author describes the organization and activities of local archives (of republics, territories, districts, counties, and cities) and specialized archives, touches upon the present records management policies and the education and training of archivists, and outlines the current problems yet to be solved.

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*Archivní Časopis*, 1968, NO. 1.

CHALUPA, ALEŠ, *Archiv Národního muzea v jubilejním roce* (The archives of the National Museum in the jubilee year). P. 1-6. The Czech National Museum in Prague celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1968. The main purpose of the Museum Archives, promoted at the inception of the Museum by the historian Palacký, was the creation of a collection of sources for the study of the history of the Czech regions. The collected and sometimes transcribed documents were arranged without regard to their origin. After 1954, when the new directives about the organization of archives were issued, most of the materials (which had been carefully indexed and cataloged by the archives' staff) were assigned to the newly created State Central Archives and dispersed to various archival repositories according to the principle of provenance. In the future the Museum Archives will be concerned chiefly with the materials created or received by the various branches of the National Museum but will also serve as a repository for the papers of individuals active in public life.

HORSAKOVÁ, MAGDA, et al., *Vědeckotechnická revoluce a problémy kvalifikace v podnikových archivech Severomoravského kraje* (Technological revolution and problems of personnel qualifications in industrial archives of the North Moravian region). P. 15-24. The article embodies the results of a survey undertaken for the evaluation of training courses for archivists employed in industrial archives in Northern Moravia. About 50 percent of the staffs have had only a basic education and experience as industrial workers; 70 percent of the personnel in this group are over 40 years of age. About 10 percent of the personnel has a university education; two-thirds of them are in the 26-40 age group. The need to attract younger people with sound education for industrial archivists' positions is the most important element for a reversal of the present situation. Ideally, the minimum educational requirement should be technical training on the high school level. It has been shown by written tests that experience is no substitute for education; as a rule, those with more education achieved better results regardless of their experience. The authors suggest that, though conducted only on a regional basis, the survey is probably a good indication of the situation prevailing in industrial archives of other regions.

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*Slovenská Archivistika*, VOL. 3 (1968), NO. 1.

KUŠÍK, MICHAL, *Archivnictvo v klasifikácii vedy* (Archival "science" in the classification of science). P. 3-17. Professional "archival science" (*archivistique, Archivistik*) is a true science, belonging among the auxiliary sciences of history in the larger class of social sciences, whereas "archival practice" (*archives, Archivwesen*) is not. Both are an integral part of the work in an archival repository. The former embraces historical studies, administration, diplomatics, publication of source materials, evolvement of theory, and the like; the latter is concerned with techniques. The word "service," which is nonprofessional, should not be used in association with "archives," "research," or "registry" but should be replaced by "assistance," "collaboration," etc.

KOŠTÁL, MILOSLAV, *Rozbor archivního fondu* (Analysis of archival funds). P. 53-64. There are four points of view for analysis: history of administration, archival theory, diplomatics, and interpretation of content. In Slovakia the first is the oldest and best developed; the second, the least.

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## GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC

*Der Archivar*, VOL. 21 (1968), NO. 1.

HERBERHOLD, FRANZ, *Der Archivar als Historiker* (The archivist as historian). Col. 1-8. The opening address of the 44th German Archival Conference held at Freiburg i. B. during October 1967. Because archives originate in administration, their juridical and administrative function predominates. From the 16th to the 18th centuries the archivist was a "practical" man; in the mid-19th century he emerged as a scholar who wrote history based upon the records in his custody. For this the political climate in Europe was partly responsible. The point of view is exemplified by the title of the Berlin school, Institut für Archivwissenschaft und geschichtswissenschaftliche Fortbildung.

*Die Arbeitssitzungen der Fachgruppen: Berichterstattung über Referate und Diskussionen*

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

(The working sessions of the subject groups: report on papers and discussions). Col. 15-28. Reports, as in other years, by various persons on state and municipal archives and other governmental archives; church archives; noble and other private archives; business archives; parliamentary archives; and archives of press, radio, and television.

KAHLENBERG, FRIEDRICH P., *Bibliographie zum Archivwesen für die Jahre 1965 und 1966, 1. Folge* (Bibliography on archives for the years 1965 and 1966, Part I). Col. 79-96. Mostly, but not entirely, German titles on international archival matters; archival administration, training, responsibilities; special types of archives; and archival theory, history, and law.

*Der Archivar*, VOL. 21 (1968), NO. 2.

LEESCH, WOLFGANG, *Sozialwissenschaften und Archive* (Social sciences and archives). Col. 105-134. A discussion of sociology, social history, methods and techniques, electronic data processing, and administrative records in relation to sociological studies.

SCHAFFNER, HANS GEORG, *Satzungen, Verordnungen und Richtlinien für kommunale Archive von 1954 bis 1967* (Statutes, ordinances, and general directions for community archives from 1954 to 1967). Col. 157-168. Continuation of earlier listings published in 1955 and 1956.

KAHLENBERG, FRIEDRICH P., *Bibliographie zum Archivwesen für die Jahre 1965 und 1966, 2. Folge* (Bibliography on archival practice for the years 1965 and 1966, Part 2). Col. 183-206. Continuation of the listing published in the previous issue.

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SPAIN

*Boletín de la Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas*, NO. 100 (1968).

MATILLA TASCÓN, ANTONIO, *Primer Congreso Boliviano de Archivos* (First Bolivian Archival Congress). P. 18-21. At the Congress held December 13-17, 1967, in Caracas, Venezuela, at which Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, the United States, Peru, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela were represented, three principal topics were discussed: cultural and educational function of historic archives, documentation of independence, and Bolivian documentary objectives. The seminar on the cultural and educational function of historic archives: ratified all parts of the Declaration of Principles of the First Interamerican Conference on Archives held at Washington in October 1961; recommended that universities of the participating countries offer courses leading to professional archival degrees, that a professional degree be required of all archivists, that archives expand their activities of a cultural nature and sponsor conferences, publications and audiovisual media, that a common bibliographical fund of the Bolivarian countries for specialized academic study be established, and that the International Council on Archives establish a worldwide Archivists' Day; encouraged better care of archives by calling for adequate buildings, installations, and protection and, specifically, encouraged the construction of a new building for the archives of Venezuela; suggested that the universities of the Bolivarian countries establish archival schools modeled on the Escuela Biblioteconomía y Archivos of the Central University of Venezuela, that universities seek additional grants and scholarships to encourage investigation in the field of archival science, and that Spanish-speaking countries establish courses in linguistics and paleography; stressed the significance of archives in the promotion of cultural history and trustworthy administrative and social acts of the peoples; and recognized the contribution of various individuals and associations to the advancement of archival science.

*La Unesco y los Archivos* (Unesco and Archives). P. 22-23. In 1954 the general conference of Unesco authorized the establishment of a microfilm unit to reproduce selected documents chosen by officials of countries requesting this service. Local personnel are also trained to carry on this work. Copies of the 2 million pages on Latin American subjects can be obtained from the Unesco Commission in Mexico City; of the 1½ million pages relating to the Near East, from the Scientific Documentation Center of the Manuscript Institute in Cairo; and of the 700,000 pages from various Far Eastern sources, from the Oriental Library in Tokyo. In 1965 the International Council on Archives published a guide to European historical sources on Latin America. A technical manual adapted to conditions in the tropics appeared in English and French in 1966. In 1967-68 a program was being prepared for the professional training of archivists in underdeveloped countries. During the last 15 years Unesco has furnished grants to the Pan American Institute of Geography and History that have resulted in the publication of *Documentary Sources on the History of American Independence*, of

which the first volume was published in 1961. The interchange of microfilm, photographs, and bulletins has been encouraged. An international register of manuscripts, books, scientific collections, and other items of artistic, historic, or cultural interest to be safeguarded in time of war is in the custody of the Director General of Unesco.

*National Archives*

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# UNITED KINGDOM

*Journal of the Society of Archivists*, VOL. 3 (1968), NO. 8.

CUNNINGHAM, J. K. H., *The protection of records and documents against fire*. P. 411-417. A brief outline of the causes of fire; precautions against fire such as strongrooms, safes, fire-resistant file rooms; general preventive measures such as proper ventilation, heating, lighting, storage equipment, and warning devices; extinction methods; and staff training.

COOK, MICHAEL, L. J. McDONALD, and EDWIN WELCH, *The management of records: report of the symposium held in Cambridge, 11-13 January 1968*. P. 417-422. The four sessions, attended by 68 persons, covered definitions, selection and disposal (appraisal), layout and operations of a record center, and computers and information retrieval. "Selection is the nub of records management," and personal tastes and prejudices must not intrude. The authorities for selection, retention schedules, documentation plans, appraisal, access, security, costs, and future planning were discussed.

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# YUGOSLAVIA

*Arhivist*, 1966-67, NOS. 1-4.

This combined volume, in only 127 pages, brings the delayed publication up to date and on schedule again.

LEKIĆ, BOGDAN, *Metodologija prikupljanja i vrste memoarske građe* (Methodology in collecting memoirs and their various types). P. 7-14. In the absence of an established method for collecting oral memoirs, the author sets forth his own approach: preliminary preparation by the interviewer; narration by the interviewee; and transcribing, editing, and authenticating the text. Stenography, magnetic tape, and written materials all may be employed.

LEKIĆ, BOGDAN, *Neke osobenosti dokumentarne i memoarske građe* (Certain particulars concerning memoirs and documents). P. 15-19. The industrial revolution—technological and economic progress since the 19th century—has increased greatly the amount of accumulated documentation. It has also changed the nature of that documentation to such an extent that [oral] memoirs are often essential to the understanding of the written record, which tends to be condensed or understandable only in relation to the economics and politics of the society in which it was created.

ZONTAR, JOŽE, *Novo arhivsko zakonodavstvo u Jugoslaviji* (New archival legislation in Yugoslavia). P. 58-76. New legislation began with laws in three republics in 1962-63; in 1964 the national Government enacted laws concerning archival materials, the Archives Council, and the Archives of Yugoslavia. Federal regulations govern general principles, activity and competence of the federation, the Archives Council, and the Archives of Yugoslavia; regulations of the republics deal with implementation, in detail, of the Federal regulations and with the organization of the protective service in the republics. Material still in the registries, as well as archives proper, is covered under certain conditions, as are collecting, safeguarding, disposal, and servicing records for administrative and cultural purposes. Protection is, according to law, the primary function of the various archives.

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