

# Abstracts of Foreign Periodicals

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## BELGIUM

*Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique/Archief- en Bibliotheekwezen in België*, vol. 39 (1968), No. 3-4.

LOHSE, G., *La loi allemande du droit d'auteur du 9 septembre 1965 et son importance pour les bibliothèques scientifiques* (the German copyright law of September 9, 1965, and its importance for research libraries). P. 221-228. The new West German copyright law concerns itself with modern techniques of reproduction (microfilm, Xerox, radio, and television), areas in which the previous laws were wholly inadequate. The new law stipulates that authors have a right to remuneration if part of or all their works are used for professional purposes and extends to 70 years the period of time for legal protection of authors. The accepted time period in international practice has been 50 years. Paragraphs 53 and 54 state that reproductions of the whole or parts of a work can be supplied for personal uses without compensation to the author, and define, with considerable elasticity, the nature of personal uses. If there is definite knowledge that professional use is to be made of the reproduction, however, the law requires that the author be compensated; the person requesting the reproduction (not the library supplying the photocopy) pays the author. German librarians appear satisfied with the provisions of this law.

KOOPS, W. R. H., *Documentreproductie en Auteursrecht in Nederland* (Document reproduction and copyright in the Netherlands). P. 228-238. Reproduction, now big business and very useful for libraries, still comes under the Dutch copyright law of 1912, when copying was largely manual. Under the auspices of several ministries a commission composed of a number of professional bodies has been studying a 1965 draft of a new law. American "fair copying" is discussed, and exemptions under the new law are recommended for internal use by libraries and documentation centers. Publishers must realize that reproduction has a big place in the world of scholarship and business alike. Questions raised: What about OP items in broken sets? Time limit? Higher subscription rates to serials for libraries, which then would have the right to copy?

LAMBERT, J., *La nouvelle loi du droit d'auteur en Allemagne orientale* (The new copyright law of East Germany). P. 239-244. This report is based primarily on an article by Heinz Werner of Berlin that appeared in the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, vol. 80 (1966). Article 22 of the Constitution of the German Democratic Republic guarantees that the creative works of authors, inventors, and artists enjoy the legal protection, promotion, and care of the Republic. The rapid development of techniques of reproduction and the need to define socialist juridical standards so as to eliminate conflicts of interest between authors, publishers, and the socialist community fostered the adoption of the copyright law of September 13, 1965. Until the beginning of 1966 the East German Government had not adhered to the terms of the 1886 International Convention of Berne on copyright or its revisions of 1948. The new law accords protection to foreign authors and their works. The length of the legal protection is 50 years after the death of the author, but the Government can extend the period of protection for works of an important author if it wishes to honor him. The author has the exclusive right to exploit his work; he decides if the work will be published, produced, or exhibited. In the interest of the socialist community, the author shares with the librarian the right to determine who will consult or receive reproductions from a work. Because of the importance of the law to libraries, the East German Association of Librarians played an active role in phrasing the provisions of the act that relate to libraries. The law permits making reproductions for both personal and professional purposes without remuneration to the author, provided the reproductions themselves are not then published.

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It prohibits libraries from making or furnishing copies of unpublished works without permission of the author in advance, or of entire works that are still available commercially. It also prohibits the taping of copyrighted material that is still in print. It does permit libraries to place at the disposal of users apparatus for making reproductions. Libraries are allowed to make copies to replace damaged pages, to copy entire books that are out of print, or to make copies to avoid the use of particularly valuable originals. To prevent abuses of these privileges, the libraries are forbidden to build up their collections in the form of copies of books that can still be purchased.

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# BULGARIA

*Izvestiia na Dürzhavnite Arkhivi*, VOL. 16 (1968).

SLAVOVA, STEFKA, *Klasifikatsiata v nai-novite Búlgarski skhemi za sistematischen arkhiiven katalog i niakoi vuprosi na logikata* (Classification in the newest Bulgarian schemes for a systematic catalog of archives and certain problems of logic). P. 3-31. (Résumé in Russ., Fr.) A discussion of the general problems of classification and the specific classification of individual documents; the "natural" effect of schemes based on logic, the "artificial" character of other schemes; and a critical analysis of the unified classification scheme used in the systematic card catalog of the State Archives and of documents in the Central Archives of the Party up to 1944, from the point of view of logic.

MINTSEV DIMITÜR, *Ekspertiza na nauchnata i prakticheskata tsennost na dokumentalnite material i uchrezhdeniata, organizatsiite i predpriiatiiata v Búlgaria* (Examination of the scientific and practical value of documentary materials in departments, organizations, and enterprises in Bulgaria). P. 33-65 (Résumé in Russ., Fr.) The author tries to establish criteria for determining the research and administrative values of documents and suggests organization of practical work in this field: lists of types of records to be kept or discarded, the elimination of nonpermanent records before transfer to archives, and the importance of advice from the archival agency to the recordmaking agency on records management. He also advises preparation of necessary legislation, accelerated preparation of manuals, and raising the professional level of personnel concerned with disposal. An accurate analysis of the activities of each agency, business, or other record-making body is the *sine qua non* for recommendations concerning its records.

L. K. B.

# FRANCE

*Gazette des Archives*, N.S. No. 63 (1968).

CHOMEL, VITAL, *Les problèmes du personnel scientifique des Archives de France* (Problems of professional personnel in the French Archives). P. 235-260. Returns from 151 archivists to a questionnaire circulated among members of the Association of French Archivists showed all agreed that the changes that will take place in the techniques and methods of Government administration in the next 10 years require an overhaul of the methods and curricula taught at the École des Chartes. Heretofore, emphasis has been placed on the training of archivist-paleographers. Problems resulting from the massive accumulation of records and from the application of electronic techniques to management have produced a crisis in the recruitment of archivists. The evolution of the archival profession depends not on archivists themselves but on the evolution of techniques of management and administration. Young persons attracted to the profession must be trained to cope with and resolve modern archival problems. To accomplish this the chartists' course should be extended to 4 years, and some of the fourth year should include seminar courses taken at institutions of higher learning or the Sorbonne. The chartists should be encouraged to develop an interest in contemporary history, i.e., the period 1815-1940. In addition to the traditional courses, they should study sociology, economics, constitutional law, and modern administrative history, and also become familiar with the techniques of microfilming and automatic data processing. Following their appointments, young archivists should continue their training. They should produce and publish inventories, special lists, and new types of finding aids through which the contents of the modern *fonds* can be made known. The closest cooperation should be maintained between archivists and centers of historical research, the National Center for Scientific Research, and the university. After consulta-

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tion with historians and other researchers, a publication program of the French archives (national and regional) should be undertaken to serve the needs of research.

LACOUR, RENÉ, *Les archives du Québec* (The archives of Quebec). P. 261-268. The author, Conservator-in-Chief of the Archives of Rhône and visiting professor at Laval University, Quebec, in 1967, describes the archives of Quebec and suggests means for improving their administration. Comprised of (1) the Provincial archives, (2) archives of registries and counties, (3) ecclesiastical archives, and (4) municipal archives, the essential characteristic of these records is their great dispersion and the absence of any overall plan for their organization. The Provincial archives include four main series: (1) the archives of the French period dated before 1763 (only 60 meters); (2) the archives of the intermediate period, 1763-1867 (about 200 meters); (3) archives dated after 1867; and (4) copies of the official archives of France and Great Britain and archives of religious, cultural, and commercial organizations, and memoirs and private papers. Conditions of research, preservation, classification, and inventorying vary with each depository, but conditions in each could be improved. At present most of the archival assistants are women trained in one of the schools for medical archivists. Basic legislation needed to improve archival administration throughout the Province should establish definite liaison between the Provincial administration and the Provincial Archives, require the transfer of records more than 100 years old from registries and counties to the Provincial Archives, and provide a functional building and a school for training archivists.

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#### ROMANIA

*Revista Arhivelor*, VOL. 11 (1968), NO. 2.

MĂRCUȘ, I., *Sensul arhivistice al unității de păstrare și necesitatea definirii acestuia pentru activitatea de prelucrare a materialelor documentare* (The archivistic significance of "archival unit" and the necessity of defining this for the activity of working over documentary materials). P. 287-295. Because current terminology has been expanded to cover a number of meanings under "archival unit," the author decides that, in order to classify, inventory, and discard, it is necessary to differentiate between the content of an archival unit and an inventory unit. The former is determined by form, ease of handling, protective materials, and can be modified according to circumstances. One archival unit can embrace several inventory units, which are characterized by their registration in the inventory under a number. From the point of view of content, an archival unit generally contains a complete action, formed during the creating of the *fonds*. The inventory unit is at the center of work on classification, inventorying, and disposal.

L. K. B.

#### SPAIN

*Boletín de la Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas*, NOS. 102-103 (1968).

*VI Congreso Internacional de Archivos* (Sixth International Archival Congress). P. 2-76. This is an extensive report on the meetings held in Madrid, September 3-7, 1968. Working sessions dealt with liberalization of access to archival documents, microfilm and its use as a publication form, restoration, printing of archival documents, xerography in archival and library practice, sigillography, methodology of the history of archives, salvaging damaged records in Italy, and living administrative archives. In addition, there were meetings of the General Assembly, the Executive Committee, and various special committees.

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#### UNITED KINGDOM

*Journal of the Society of Archivists*, VOL. 3 (1969), NO. 9.

ELLIS, ROGER H., *Origins and Transformations*. P. 441-452. This article, published on the 100th anniversary of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, traces not only the history and development of that body but the events leading to its creation. After the Public Record Office Act became law in 1838 and the public records were accessible, there remained a vast body of historically valuable documents in the hands of private individuals,

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as in cathedrals, colleges, and various foundations. Owners of papers often were reluctant to allow examination of documents that they felt might reflect unfavorably on their ancestors or on the organization that held the papers. For many years proposals put forward to take some sort of action on the subject came to nothing. On April 2, 1869, however, a Royal Warrant was issued establishing the Commission, which began its work in close connection with the Public Record Office and continued in this way until 1958. Most of the work had been the preparation of calendars. After 1958, however, the Commission began to work in close collaboration with other bodies in the same field, greatly widening its field of publication.

RANGER, FELICITY, *The National Register of Archives, 1945-1969*. P. 452-462. The purpose of the Register is to provide a general guide to the existence and whereabouts of material of interest to historical workers and to provide information that would serve as the basis for legislation. The work is done with the collaboration of other groups, principally county historical or archeological societies. The amount of valuable material discovered has been great; in many cases owners of large accumulations of archives were willing to deposit them if a County Council would establish a county record office. At times owners offered holdings or even requested help in arranging, preserving, and housing them. A tremendous amount of useful material has been cared for and in some cases saved from decay and loss. The papers are not always deposited in archives but may be entrusted to libraries, record societies, or other bodies that will provide proper care. Publications of the National Register include guides, lists of sources, a *Bulletin*, and, since 1954, the *List of Accessions to Repositories*. The work load has grown so great that the use of computers is being closely studied.

ELLIS, ROGER H., *Out of Control?* P. 470-475. The author points out that the export of manuscripts and archives is becoming more and more important and expresses the hope that the Society of Archivists will make useful contributions to the solution of the problem. What should be allowed to be exported, and what, on the other hand, constitutes such a valuable part of the English heritage that it should be permanently retained? Price and age should be considered but the true criterion must be inherent value. In 1940 a law was passed prohibiting the export without a license of articles manufactured or produced more than 75 years before the date of exportation. The principal antiquarian booksellers were given bulk licenses to export anything in their line without further specific permission, provided that it was not sold for more than £50. A committee was formed to study the matter and its report in 1952 forms the basis of the present system of control. The author feels that conditions have changed to such an extent that a new approach should be adopted. And that the solution might be, particularly for archival material, the adoption of a system of control by groups and categories: starred, listed, and unclassified. The starred categories would be subject to an almost total ban on sales, even within the country; the listed categories would carry a limited ban allowing time for an attempt to find a public repository for them; unclassified archives could continue to be sold or otherwise disposed of without limitations.

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